

ST. MATTHEW'S

LIFE



NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE PARISH OF ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, HILLSBOROUGH, NC

SEPTEMBER 2019



Rooted and Grounded

I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, God may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. [Ephesians 3 (NRSV)]

Dear People of St. Matthew's,

God is at work in our parish, rooting and grounding us in love. This rooting in God when someone pays attention to us without judgment and with care, enabling us to be less anxiously in our life as it is. Grounding in God happens when we witness the ministry of Jesus to the outcast and least desirable, when we witness his self-giving life and death, and something in us is touched so that we desire that the way we relate to others and make community be more in accord with him. Our rooting and grounding in love happens when we respond to the call to a regular life of attentiveness and prayer, setting aside space and time for God in our busy lives. These sorts of things, these sorts of movements of the heart and soul by God's Spirit, and the slow changing of lives – these are already happening throughout our parish life.

Several times since the start of my tenure at St. Matthew's (I am thrilled to be among you; thank you for calling me!) I have mentioned that our first work in the parish is to grow deeper in our knowledge of God, ourselves, and each other. This fall is a time for me to build relationships and discover the shape of my ministry here, and a time for all of us to move more deeply into the word of God and become more sensitive to the movement of God's Spirit in ourselves and each other. Doing this deep work, going on this new journey together in Jesus of Nazareth, discovering that even in the most apparently hardened lives there have been glimmerings of grace, will provide the foundation, the strong and deep roots, for the new growth in our parish that is to come.

It's true, there might be some anxiety and exhaustion in the parish – how can we possibly meet the needs of this parish, this community? There might be one ministry failing to get the critical mass needed to self-perpetuate. There might not be enough people rising up through the ranks to take over long-held ministries. This is natural and almost unavoidable in our church our size as we struggle to get over the threshold to becoming a program-centered parish. **Our first step is not however to whip already tired parishioners into a frenzy of fear and guilt driven activity, but to celebrate what God is doing already and to sink our roots more deeply into that.** We go deep first, we lay good foundations, we learn to take nourishment from God, and then growth happens automatically. It is my joy to be setting out this vision for the parish, to be surrounded by an amazing staff, an incredible group of volunteers, and parishioners who love this place, and to be facilitating our journey together.

You'll see a lot of the words "Rooted and Grounded" in the months to come. It's the phrase we have chosen for our parish theme for 2019-2020, and it will inform the teaching I will be leading this fall as well and other initiatives. It captures well the journey we are on.

God is good. As Julian of Norwich liked to say, God is Goodness itself, coming down to serve us continually at the lowest level of our need. Let us learn to step back from the demands of life enough to take root in this love, this service, this care. Let us learn to put our roots down into the good soil of God's deep faithfulness.

Plant your roots in Christ and let him be the foundation for your life.

Robert Frueh

Be strong in your faith, just as you were taught. And be grateful. Colossians 2 (CEV)

**We are excited to introduce our *newest* staff member:
Interim Youth Minister, *Kim Powell***

I am a native of Oklahoma City and graduated in 2014 from Oklahoma Baptist University with degrees in Anthropology and Biblical Languages. In college, I traveled abroad to China, France, and Morocco where I worked primarily with immigrant populations and university students. Although raised Southern Baptist, I joined the Episcopal Church in 2014 and was confirmed Easter 2016. In May, I graduated from Duke Divinity School with a certificate of Theology and the Arts. As part of my program, I studied abroad in Durham, England, an experience which gave me a greater depth and love for the Anglican faith tradition and spirituality.

As a continual student of life, my current learning interests include sacred space, Christian spirituality, and iconography. In my free time, I enjoy traveling, running, playing piano, gardening, knitting, and reading. I am also a lover of period films and an avid fan of all things Harry Potter and Lord of the Rings.

I am *very* excited to join the staff of St. Matthew's as Youth minister. I am passionate about walking alongside youth, cultivating a sense of belonging, and asking deep faith questions. I look forward to meeting and getting to know you all in the coming weeks as we kickoff our program year!

-Kim



**Open House and Sunday School Teacher Commissioning
Sunday morning, September 8**

The annual Open House will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, September 8th at 9:15 am. We'll gather in plenary for a brief intergenerational service to mark the beginning of a new program year. During this time, we'll share an overview of the upcoming opportunities for the Christian formation of children, youth, and adults at St. Matthew's. We'll also introduce the Sunday School teachers and assistants of the various classes, all of whom will be commissioned during the 10:30 am worship service.

This year's Open House is held in conjunction with a Ministry Fair. Following the plenary, parents are encouraged to accompany children and youth to their classrooms to meet teachers and learn about what goes in the various classes. Others are invited to browse through the various tables set up by different ministry areas and committees. The hope is that you'll learn more about the many ways our parish is in service to Christ in our corner of the world and how you can become involved.

I hope you come out on September 8 to learn more about the formational and other ministries of our parish. And please take a moment to say a hearty "thank you" to our volunteer teachers, assistants, and ministry area coordinators for their dedicated service and commitment to serving God here at St. Matthew's.

Ministries Fair also on September 8 as part of the Open House

We invite everyone to the Ministries Fair on September 8th. We are holding this in conjunction with the Sunday School kick off. If you want to learn more about what's going on at St. Matthew's and how to get involved at all levels, come to the fair. You'll be amazed at all the opportunities there are to serve in our church and community. Watch for a NewComer Coffee Hour later in the fall as we welcome and greet visitors to our parish.

Our thanks to all parishioners for being open and welcoming and for greeting your neighbor on Sunday morning!
-Blythe & Jeff Thompson



The Men's Fellowship Breakfast, Thursday September 19

At the Men's Fellowships Group Meeting on September 19, *Bob Shelton* will talk about his experience as St. Matthew's Verger. As usual, a catered breakfast (\$7.00) will be available at about 8:00 a.m., and the program will follow. ALL are welcome. We usually have up to 20 persons attending, and the fellowship aspect is outstanding. Please consider attending this (admittedly early) opportunity to connect with St. Matthew's.

Faith Formation for the St. Matthew's Family

Faith formation for all ages continues this year with monthly intergenerational programming at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We encourage everyone, not just those families with small children, to consider joining us on the following dates:

- *October 6: Blessing of the Animals and the Feast Day of St. Francis*
 - *November 3: All Saints' Day*
 - *December 15: St. Lucia Day*
-

The Adult Bible Study

The Adult Bible Study will begin September 15th in the Graebner Room of the Ruffin House with the study of the Book of James. Anyone interested can stop by on September 8th during the Open House to ask questions of Jack and Charles who are co-facilitators of the study. The Adult Bible study is open to everyone for a weekly discussion by all of what is being read and what it means to us today as well as what James was telling the Christians in the first century. Come and share God's Word.

-Charles Thomas and Jack Troxell

Upcoming Sunday Forums

Sunday Forums for September - St. Matthew's, Rooted and Grounded in God

I pray that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love.

The Sunday Forum (formerly called the Adult Forum) will resume for the program year on Sunday, September 15. We will gather at 9:15 am in the Fellowship Hall (Hayden Building, lower floor). For the month of September, our rector, the Rev. *Robert Fruehwirth*, will lead us in an exploration of Christian spirituality as a process by which we are grounded and nourished by deep roots spread into the love of God. This three-week series will unfold as follows:

- *September 15: Rooted and Grounded in the Love of God* – In this forum, Robert+ will explore the heart of Christian spirituality as a response to a God at work in the world, and in our lives, for their redemption. We discover new character and purpose to our lives in responding to God's call.
- *September 22: The Rooting of the Rootless, and Grounding in God* – Following on the previous week's vision of Christian Spirituality, Robert+ will share how this vision became real for him, unfolding over the past 30 years of his life to offer unexpected healing, purpose, and connection.
- *September 29: Getting out the Anglican Shovel and Garden Hose: How We Support Our Rooting and Grounding in God* – In the conclusion of this series, Robert+ will share the riches of our Christian and Anglican tradition, offering principles and practices that help us to grow deep spiritual roots and become more grounded in our faith.

All are welcome to any or all of these forums. Discussion will be lively!

Youth Group resumes on Sunday Evening, September 15th, 5:00 p.m.

Mark your calendars and help us celebrate the start of a new year. This will be a time of introductions as we get to know *Kim Powell*, the new youth minister, and welcome newcomers to the group. Stay tuned to hear more as plans are made in the coming weeks!

Children's Chapel Resumes September 15; Volunteers Needed

Weekly Children's Chapel, offered as part of the 10:30 am service, will resume on Sunday, September 15. Children in grades K-5 are invited to leave with the Children's Chapel leader after the Opening Collect, and return to the sanctuary to sit with their families during the Peace. During Chapel time, children worship together in a service specially designed for children's formation and development. The goal is to make worship more accessible and meaningful for this age group. As always, child care will continue to be offered for younger children (infants through five years old) in the nursery.

We are looking for Children's Chapel volunteers. This is an especially great opportunity for those who don't have young children at home to connect with the younger members of our parish family. If you would like to volunteer, or want to learn more about Children's Chapel, please contact *Sonja Tilley* (sonja.tilley@gmail.com; 919-732-9308 x 106).

Building News

The Building Committee is very excited about the way the new Education Building is coming together. The committee has met with our new rector Robert to review progress. As you all can see, construction has been proceeding very quickly over the summer. We are almost to the place where interior walls will be installed and finishing work will begin. Current projections have the building completed and ready for occupancy in November. Thank you all for your patience; I think we are really going to like this new space!

Pledged income has continued to come in, and additional gifts are helping to close the gap between total pledges and the projected project cost. Although we have some budget for furnishings in the project, there will be ample opportunities to contribute as we rearrange ourselves into new spaces when the building is completed. Any and all further contributions are most welcome!

I would like to especially thank the Hopper family for their hard work on this project. *Jeff* has been handling much of the day-to-day interface with our contractor, Kennedy Building Company of Hillsborough, and KBC's on-site supervisor Duane Tilley. *Kelly Hopper* has been coordinating selection of finishes and fixtures between the committee and our architectural designer Erin Sterling Lewis. Please show them your appreciation as you see them around the parish. *-Jerry Workman, Committee Chair*

When Music Delivers Something...Different

Many of us experience listening to a piece of music and think, *I wasn't expecting that!* Our preconceived notions of what we should have heard were dashed, sometimes at the very first sound. We prepared ourselves for one thing, only to be confounded by music that ran so contrary to our expectations. Feelings of being surprised or disappointed ran deep enough to feel resentment and indignation, so much so that we didn't care to give the music another hearing.

The more we are exposed to music, the more we encounter twists and surprise. For example, if we see Mozart listed as the composer of a piece of music, we might expect the soothing and affirming strains of *Eine kleine Nachtmusik* and not the chromatic labyrinths of his music for the *Flötenuhr* (musical flute-clocks). I recall the anger people truly felt when Bob Dylan recorded edgy electric guitar tracks after having hooked his fans onto thoughtful, acoustical ballads. The audience at the premiere in Paris of Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring* was so incensed at the audacious pairing of savage ballet movements and violent music that a riot ensued at the concert venue. This was no Parisian Springtime to them!

It is tempting to dismiss the possibility of such music ever having any positive impact in our lives, and as a professional musician I confess that I've fallen into that temptation. But I've learned to look below the surface and beyond the first impression. I know I must give any piece of music at least a second hearing before I can judge it based on a gut reaction. I may still be apprehensive, but inevitably a deeper significance emerges, like peeling back layers of an onion. Themes, forms, patterns, and direction gradually reveal themselves. Still more details come to light with more hearings, and I'm glad I "stayed with it," realizing that this music is trying to communicate something to me far beyond what triggers my initial reactions.

I often encounter this with accounts of Jesus' teachings in the Gospels by trying to hear his words for the first time. I am often shocked that most of the time Jesus doesn't say what I expect. Little wonder that he irked the establishment and bewildered his own disciples. That's precisely when I need to stop and ask if I'm trying to set the agenda for what he should say. It's only upon reflection, prayer, and often a second or third hearing that I realize that Jesus' words may not be what I expect or want but what I need to hear. At those moments, I check my expectations at the door and endeavor to be fully open to God's will for me.

-David Arcus, Music Director & Organist

Faith & Arts

Opening Reception for *Envisioning St. Matthew's* Sunday, September 8, at 3:00 p.m.

The opening reception for St. Matthew's third **Faith & Arts** exhibit of visual art will take place on Sunday afternoon, September 8, at 3:00. Works by St. Matthew's parishioners, committees, and friends of the parish will be displayed from the 8th through the 30th. We look forward to seeing the way we see and depict ourselves, our faith, and our parish as we begin this new period: looking ahead, being informed by our past, and being alive to our present.

Come celebrate this amazing place and the amazing creative people who make this their church home.

**Racial Justice and Reconciliation
Book Discussion on September 24th**

The first book discussion sponsored by the Task Force on Racial Justice and Reconciliation this program year will be on September 24th at 7:00 p.m. in the Graebner Room. Our book and topic is White Fragility - Why it's so hard for white people to talk about racism. There is a 14-page article available in the Ruffin House or online, but the book by Robin DiAngelo is highly readable and covers the issues more fully. The book is available at the Purple Crow with a discount for St. Matthew's parishioners.

Most of us would be horrified to be thought of as racist, yet we live in a culture where white people dominate and institutions put in place over hundreds of years contribute to tremendous inequity in the distribution of resources. We associate white supremacy with being mean and bad, yet none of us is free of the influence of institutional racism. We just aren't used to thinking of it as "our" (white people's) problem. Please read, reflect, then come and participate as we consider how we can do better.

And the Racial Equity Institute Workshop coming in October

Attending the Racial Equity Institute workshop on October 25th and 26th is another great way to increase your understanding of our country's 400-year history of racism. You can register at: <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eggw98h8122dd545&oseq=&c=&ch=>

Social Ministries Committee Retreat

Members of the Social Ministries Committee would like to invite any parishioners, who are interested working with community outreach, to attend our retreat on Saturday, September 14. This year the retreat will be held at the home of *Eileen Camp & Frank Casadonte* (211 Caine Street, Hillsborough - just a couple of blocks up North Cameron Street from the church). The meeting will begin at 10:00 and end around 1:00 p.m.

-Becki Home, co-chair

fEST

September is a good time to begin thinking about **fEST**. In the past if you have made a painting, pottery piece, knitted or crocheted something, photographed something special or expressed your talents through gardening or anything else, we hope you will do the same this year. Now is the time to make jams, pickles, relishes, or jellies from the summer harvest so save some for **fEST**. We will not have an undercroft this year or nearly new yard sale items. We will express our talents and gifts through our handmade items only. The date of **fEST** this year is Saturday, December 7th.

What is **fEST**? For those of you who are new to St. Matthew's, **fEST** stands for the Festival of the Society Tree. After the Civil War, ladies sold their needlework to help people in the church and the church itself. Fast forward to 2019 and **fEST** has been going on here for over ten years.

Other than a small amount of start up money, all the money from the sale of **fEST** items supports organizations that work for our neighbors in need through the Social Ministries Committee.

So, mark Saturday, December 7th, on your calendar and help us help others through continuing to make items for **fEST**. This is such a good way to spread God's love.

Peace,

Marion Horn, Coordinator for Arts and Crafts



The 1%
Prayer Challenge:

14.4 minutes
dedicated
to God

OCIM Ingathering: September 1

The 1st Sunday is our monthly "OCIM Sunday" when we bring cans of beef stew as our parish contribution to the Orange Congregations in Mission Food Pantry. If each of us brings a can or two we'll meet the monthly goal of 175 cans.



People News

Thanks to:

- Tom Prince and Guy Massey for filling in for Pelham
- Madeline Ryan for her beautiful logo of “welcoming, engaging, grounded and growing” which we continue to use
- Angel Alexander and Bonnie Morton for coming on as Nursery Volunteers; and to Todd & Kristi Holland and Paul Enquist & Camille Izlar for signing up as Coffee Hour Hosts
- Jim & Vera Shanley, Ken & Sharon Billings, Paul Jones, Linda Carlson, and Patt Hatcher for supporting the Robin & Linda Williams Faith & Arts Concert
- Elizabeth Matheson for taking vestry member photos

New address:

- Alissa & Brendan Case: 3123 Ethel Avenue, Waco, TX 76707

Recent Hospitalizations:

- Don Harris, Peggy Williams, Champe Davis have been recently hospitalized

Recent Deaths:

- We extend our sympathy to Deb Brandon at the death of her husband, Richard, who died on August 3 and was buried in the Memorial Garden on the 9th; and to
- The family of Stuart Dyer at his death on August 17
†Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord:
And let light perpetual shine upon them.†



Invitation for September 15, after the 10:30 service

I love celebrating birthdays. For me, it's a way to think

about the gift of life and connection and to look forward together into the next year(s). And to enjoy each other. So, the fact that we get to celebrate Robert Fruehwirth's 50th birthday on **September 15** after church is an occasion of great joy. We will celebrate Robert and this new period of our life together at St. Matthew's.

Parish Life and the Welcoming Committee together with Jane Fruehwirth invite all to celebrate at the Rectory right after the 10:30 service on September 15. There will be a **bouncy house** for the kids. We will have hot dogs (thank you, Bill Kodros) and we ask all of you to bring appropriate sides. Drinks, ice, paper goods, and a cake will be provided.

The rain plan is for the Fellowship Hall. Sides can be dropped off at the rectory from 9:00 a.m. on Sunday the 15th. Please dress comfortably for church so we can picnic happily.

Please come celebrate, let us know if you have questions, Jane Cooley Fruehwirth, Jehanne Gheith (Senior Warden), Karen Ireland (Chair, Parish Life), and Blythe Thompson (Chair, Welcoming Committee). -Jehanne

Greetings from the NewComer Committee!

We hope you've had a relaxing and rejuvenating summer. The arrival of the Fruehwirth family has prompted many people to sign up for buttons and we've been busy filling orders! If you don't yet have a button, please sign up on the sheet located in the Ruffin house lobby.



Signing up.....

Many of you use our SignUpGenius platform to participate in Serve One Another, where you're able to sign up to prepare a meal for a fellow parishioner in need. It's been a good way to involve many people in caring for one another, and I would love to add you name to the list if it's not already on there. Please let me know if you'd like to participate.

In that same vein, we're working to develop a centralized way to sign up for various events in the parish, including a Health Fair in October and for **JESTC**. So be on the lookout for that. And, if for any reason you'd rather not have your email included, please let me know.

My hope is that for particular goings on in the life of St. Matthew's, we will soon be able to offer an easy and broad way for people to sign up for various events to further the work of serving Christ in one another and in the world.

-Lisa

Parish Operating Budget Status as of the end of July 2019 (58%)				
Budget Expenses:	2019 Budget	Total Spent	%	
Work Outside the Parish	\$62,716	\$31,074	50%	
Maint. & Improvements	\$67,604	\$38,133	56%	
Clergy-related	\$179,881	\$93,984	52%	
Administrative	\$87,942	\$45,683	52%	
Christian Ed. Program	\$45,365	\$23,741	52%	
Worship-related	\$46,536	\$25,800	55%	
Expenses Total:	\$490,044	\$258,414	53%	
Budget Income:	2019 Budget	Total Rec'd	%	
Plate/Gift Offerings Rec'd	\$50,000	\$26,149	52%	
Pledge Payments	\$427,617	\$242,269	57%	
Other	\$23,100	\$21,872	95%	
Income Total:	\$500,717	\$290,290	58%	



SEPTEMBER 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Pentecost 12 / OCIM 8 & 10:30a Holy Eucharist	Labor Day Office Closed	2	3	4	5	6
Pentecost 13 8 & 10:30a Holy Eucharist 9:15a Open House & Ministry Fair 3p Faith & Arts: Envisioning St. Matt's Exhibit Opening 5p Raleigh Convocation Choir	9:30a Archives & History 5:30p OCRA	10a Property Meeting 6:30p Worship Planning 7p Vestry	9:30a Staff Meeting Noon Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayers 4p Brookshire Service 6p Finance Committee 7p Adult Choir	8a Men's Fellowship Breakfast	9:30a Shawl Ministry	7
Pentecost 14 8 & 10:30a Holy Eucharist 9:15a Education Hour resumes Noon Birthday Party for Robert 5p Youth Group resumes 5p Newsletter deadline	9a Communications 9:30a Archives & History 6:30p Education for Ministry	5:30p Food for All Hugh Tilson's Team 7p Vestry	10a OCRA Noon Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayers 7p Adult Choir	8a Men's Fellowship Breakfast	10a Social Ministries Retreat 9a Parish Life Committee 11a Voice for Life	14
St. Matthew Day 8 & 10:30a Holy Eucharist 9:15 Education Hour Noon RJR Task Force 5p Youth Group	9:30a Archives & History 5:30p Food for All Gordon Carrison's Team 6:30p Education for Ministry	7p RJR Book Discussion <u>White Fragility</u>	9:30a Staff Meeting Noon Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayers 7p Adult Choir	8a Men's Fellowship Breakfast	11a Voice for Life 11a Companions of the Holy Cross	21
Pentecost 16 5th Sunday: Dickerson here 8 & 10:30a Holy Eucharist 9:15 Education Hour 5p Youth Group 7p Women's Singing Circle	St. Michael and All Angels 9:30a Archives & History 6:30p Education for Ministry	7p RJR Book Discussion <u>White Fragility</u>	Noon Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayers 7p Adult Choir	8a Men's Fellowship Breakfast	11a Voice for Life	28
<p>The Raleigh Convocation Choir, an itinerant liturgical choir of the NC Diocese of the Episcopal Church directed by David Arcus, lists its 2019-20 engagements:</p> <p>September 8 at St. Andrew's, Haw River October 27 at Emmanuel in Warrenton December 15 at St. Stephen's, Durham February 23 at The Village Chapel, Pinehurst; and May 3 at Holy Family, Chapel Hill.</p>						

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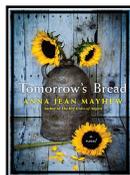
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ST. MATTHEW'S LIFE
IS WRITTEN AND DISTRIBUTED BY
THE PARISH OF ST. MATTHEW'S AND
IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

THE OCTOBER ISSUE DEADLINE IS
SEPTEMBER 15, 2019.

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Coming in October



Faith & Arts
AJ Mayhew Reading
Tomorrow's Bread
Sunday, October 13, at 3:00 p.m.

Anna Jean Mayhew's second novel Tomorrow's Bread is set in 1961 Charlotte, NC, when urban renewal threatens to demolish an historic black community. It explores the conflicts of gentrification and is a moving story of loss, love, and resilience. The St. Matthew's Women's Singing Circle will be featured singing some of the spirituals and songs mentioned in the novel. The reading is co-sponsored by Purple Crow Books.



Parish Work Day
October 19th
(Rain date: Saturday the 26th)

Please join us for a Parish Work Day to prepare our property for winter. We will be mulching various areas of the churchyard and will be cleaning head stones by applying a liquid cleanser. We will meet in front of the church at 9:00 a.m. Please bring work gloves, rakes, shovels, and wheel-barrels if you have them.
—Jim Charton, Junior Warden

Save the Date! Holistic Health Fair, October 27, 12:00-1:40 p.m.

October is Stewardship month and the Health & Wholeness Ministry would like to invite you to learn about ways to care for yourself in an effort to be better stewards to your family, friends and church! We will begin at 12:00 p.m. with healthy food and fellowship, followed by conversations and demonstrations by local farmers and holistic practitioners. There will also be children's activities and nursery available. Please mark it on your calendar and be on the look out for more information via SignUpGenius, October's newsletter, and church bulletins. We look forward to seeing you there!