

Announcements

April 28, 2024

Adult Formation & Worship:

Clergy Coffee Hour - Prayer: A Personal Sharing. “Lord, teach us to pray” (Luke 11:1). Over the years we who have been ordained have been asked a similar question in a more indirect way, but with an added assumption: “How do you pray? As clergy it must come easier to you, right? A part of the job description.” Join members of St. Matt's clergy as we take turns sharing the joys, struggles, challenges, and insights of our personal prayer journeys at Clergy Coffee Hour. **Fr. Emil will begin this series at 9:00 on Sunday, April 28th.** Grab a cup of coffee and join us. Everyone is welcome.

Confirmation Classes - Regional Confirmation is scheduled for August 3, 2024. If you are interested in adult Confirmation, Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows, or Reception into the Episcopal Church, please contact Fr. Steve. **Classes begin on June 2nd.**

June 2 - Introduction: History

June 16 - How we approach God: Scripture, Tradition, and Reason

June 30 - Life in Community: Sacraments and Liturgy

July 14 - Christian Formation: Prayer, Study, and Service

July 28 - Organization, Orders of Ministry, and the Bishop's visit.

Fellowship

Cinco de Mayo - Sunday, May 5th, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM. St. Matthew's will be celebrating with enchiladas, tamales, rice, beans, desserts, beverages and some of Dave Emerson's marvelous margaritas. Please join us and share a lovely meal and community time while making money for our youth group. All are welcome! Ticket prices: Adults \$8.00, Ages 6-19 \$5.00, 5 & under FREE. Margaritas available to adults age 21 and older by donation.

WWJD - May 6th at 6:00 PM - All women and their friends are welcome to come to socialize with other women in the parish. A small cooking team will prepare a simple meal for all to enjoy. More than the food, it's about making new friends and enjoying a night out with no cooking. The \$10 entry fee defrays food costs, and the remainder is donated to local agencies serving women. RSVP directly to Sue Van Voorhees at sukeyvanv@gmail.com.

Outreach

The Outreach Team will be conducting a drive throughout the month of May for the Laurel House, which is a trauma-informed supportive housing apartment for youth ages 18 - 24 who have experienced homelessness. Each of the 34 apartments is furnished and has a small kitchen and single bathroom. The residents need help stocking their apartments with household items. **You will find requested items on the insert provided.** New or used (in good condition and working order) items will be accepted, so if during your spring cleaning, you run across things you no longer need and would like to donate, please place them in the bins in the gathering space. If you need help transporting donations to the church, call Gretchen Davis at 970-773-3017 for pick up. Thank you!

Piecemakers meet next on May 11th from 1:00 - 5:00 PM at the church. Everyone is welcome to join in! For questions, contact Kathy Morgan at kathleen.morgan@yahoo.com

Children's Ministry

Coming this fall: Youth Group Yard Sale! See Becky for details.

Time to register for VBS! June 24-28. Register on our website under the Connect tab. **We are looking for volunteers to lead, feed, and share the love** of God with our VBS kids. Please see Becky if you are interested in helping kids discover that they're made by God and built for a purpose. **Items needed for VBS:** Large empty metal food cans (gallon or bigger), Extra house paint- brown, blue, yellow, green, purple, old box fan.

Church News

Altar Flowers - If you would like to donate altar flowers in honor of someone or a special occasion, please call the church office at (970) 242-3293 or email stmattsgj@gmail.com. There is also a sign-up sheet at the back of the gathering space. The cost is \$55.

Ministries

Prayer Chain Support is Available - If you find yourself struggling, facing difficult challenges, or know of someone in need, St. Matt's prayer chain members want to help. Contact Margaret Palo at margpalo31@gmail.com or (970) 243-2467, Merrilyn Simpkins at merrilyn41@gmail.com or (970) 464-5446, Deb McLaughlin at bildeb@bresnan.net or (970) 243-7265.

Giving

Electronic Offering: Please consider supporting the work of the church. You may make an online gift, or learn about the other ways to give, by visiting the St. Matthew's website at stmatthewsgj.org and choosing "Giving" on the toolbar menu. Gifts to St. Matthew's can also be made by scanning the Tithe.ly QR Code. **Thank you for your generous support of our collective work!**



SCAN ME

Giving

Communion at St. Matthew's

In order to come into closer compliance with diocesan guidelines around the distribution of Holy Communion, St. Matthew's will no longer be distributing communion wine in individual cups during common worship. The small cups will be replaced with a chalice used only for intinction of the bread into the wine. Drinking from the common cup will continue to be the primary method for receiving communion. Here are the new guidelines for receiving communion:

The communion bread will be distributed just as always. If you want to drink from the common chalice, consume the bread and accept the chalice when it comes to you.

If you plan to dip the bread into the wine (intinction), hold it in your hand and a second chalice specifically prepared for intinction will be offered. Carefully dip the bread into the chalice and consume immediately. Be careful not to touch the edges of the chalice with your hands or dip your fingers into the wine. Parents with small children should do the intinction for the child. If you need communion to be brought to you, please tell an usher.

Additionally, the clergy have been tasting breads for communion and I have decided to use a gluten free bread for all communicants. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me via text or email. I hope this will be the last change to our communion practice for the near future, although we may change breads or use wafers from time to time depending on the availability of the bread.

Also, special thanks to the altar guild and the altar servers. Their flexibility and patience throughout our many changes has been a great model for the rest of us.