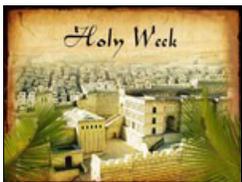


# Smatterings

Saint Matthew's  
Episcopal Church  
March 2018



## Palm Sunday

10am Palm Sunday  
Eucharist

## Holy Wednesday

7pm Tenebrae Service

## Maundy Thursday

7pm Maundy Thursday  
Service

## Good Friday

Noon Stations of the Cross

7pm Good Friday Service

## Holy Saturday

8pm The Great  
Easter Vigil



## Easter Sunday

10am Easter Eucharist



Fr. Frank

## What gift does the Anglican Tradition have to offer the World?

One of the things that initially drew me into the Episcopal Church – and still draws me – is the concept of *via media* or “the middle way.” Historically, it promoted the uniqueness of Anglicanism as a middle way between the extremes of Protestantism and Catholicism. In the writings of the Anglican Divines (“theologians”), especially those of the Oxford Movement in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the *via media* was understood not as a theological compromise or an “anything goes” approach to faith, but more of a comprehensive and inclusive view of the world and of God.

Although the Church has used this to describe its theological position, early Greek philosophers, like Aristotle taught it as a principle of moderation in thoughts and actions; choosing a middle road between extremes. (*Diarmuid MacCulloch, Thomas Cranmer (1996), p. 179*) From this position, a person is more apt to see how specific perspectives and beliefs make up the larger, and more complex, mosaic.

For me, cultivating a *via media* approach to life is one of the greatest gifts that Episcopal Church has to offer the world.

When I consider all the divisiveness that seems to be plaguing our world today, or the ways in which religion has divided and wounded people over race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, and national origin, I wonder what gift a “middle way” could be to the world; between the extremes of opposing views. Relationally, this middle way facilitates a greater capacity for empathy – the ability to understand and share the feelings of another.

When there is an effort to understand the perspective and concerns of the opposing individual or group, tensions can cool enough for voices to be heard. And, when we start listening to one another without immediately forming a rebuttal argument, maybe a middle path can be carved out.

Do you ever wonder why Jesus says, “love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and

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persecute you"? (Matthew 5:44) Maybe it's because when we pray for them, God often opens our hearts to seeing people the way that God sees them, rather than the way you or I see them! (James Martin, *How to Love Your Enemies* at [huffingtonpost.com/rev-james-martin-sj/how-to-love-your-enemies\\_b\\_841538.html](http://huffingtonpost.com/rev-james-martin-sj/how-to-love-your-enemies_b_841538.html))

What would happen if more people cultivated a sense of moderation when confronted with hard lines of demar-

cation, with strict "either" "or," "right" or "wrong" viewpoints? Maybe by ending stalemate arguments and making space other perspectives, we could ignite a greater sense of curiosity and hold open the possibility for reconciliation and unity.

What things still draw you to the Church? What gifts do you see that we have to offer our world?

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# Reports

## VESTRY



Greg Stabb

### Vestry holds annual retreat

The 101<sup>st</sup> St. Matthew's Vestry held its annual retreat at Dale Caldwell's house on Saturday February 17<sup>th</sup>. All Vestry members, with the exception of Celeste Eaton-Sheets, were in attendance. Celeste continued to battle a respiratory illness, and we wish her a speedy recovery.

The first part of the meeting was focused strengthening the spiritual bonding of Vestry members. Time was spent with each member describing an object that represents their love of the church and explaining its significance. Additional time was devoted to discovery and understanding why each person wanted to be part of the Vestry at this time and what skills they had to help the Vestry achieved its goals.

The remainder of the time was dedicated around the discussion of a short-term theme. The group decided for the short run we will focus on "Engagement." The definition of which is loosely defined by thinking of ways we engage and want to engage – with each other, as a church body, with the congregation, with the community, with our kitchen renters, etc.

We also developed a long-term theme, one we are carrying over from the year before – Discovering our Missional Identity. We will meet with community leaders and groups to discover what we can bring to the community with the talents and assets we have to offer.

There was a lot of discussion on developing a plan for the Rectory. We have a short-term plan to fix and repair all that is needed for the facility to be a home for its current

residents. And a long-term goal to meet with the Diocese to discuss our options as it relates to the future use of the Rectory. More to come on this topic as the plan takes shape.

We would like to commit to a community Kite Day as well as a St. Matt's Community Day like we did in 2017. We will be looking for help from the congregation to help organize and lead these events (hence "Engagement"). Many more ideas were discussed, and they will be announced as we work through the details.

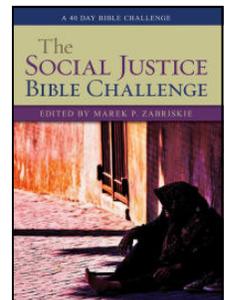
As always, it is our privilege to be on a board that serves a group like St. Matthew's. Please let us know what's on your mind; we are all ears.

Greg Staab

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### Adult Forum

Join us at 9:00am for Adult Forum. During the Sundays of Lent, we will reflect on topics such as poverty, hunger, displacement, and care of the vulnerable as we read a variety of spiritual leaders and writers.



## Children's Sunday school

by Angie Wilkinson

Another note from the kid's lesson this week: Father Frank delivered a great children's sermon message for Lent and the giving box. He handed one box to Landon. The message was to give (fill the box)- whether it is M&Ms or money, the box was for us to consider the act of giving for the season.

As we returned from the nursery, my mind was already moving forward as to how to incorporate this into our lesson. The first statement out of Landon was... why did Father Frank only have one box? He didn't ask about what was to go into the box, not about

where the contents of the box were to go etc. He focused only on why there was only one box.

Isn't this just how we often are with God? We focus on what appears as THINGS that are not fair or how we were mistreated instead of how we can give to others.

Of course this was a moment to redirect the conversation. We discussed giving as well as providing another box for Elly. Let the giving box be a message for all of us to give first instead of looking to complain about what we feel is wrong with everything.

### 21 Ways to Build a Stronger Spiritual Life from Victor M. Parachin. For full story, go to <http://www.vibrantlife.com>

1. Be a river, not a swamp.
2. Identify blessings.
3. Speak words of blessing.
4. Nurture a shared prayer life.
5. Take a step of faith.
6. Restore someone's faith.
7. Be a grateful person.
8. Share the journey.
9. Look for ways to serve.
10. Cultivate a little solitude.
11. Fast and pray.
12. Turn worries over to God.
13. Spread love wherever you go.
14. Keep your priorities straight.
15. Strive for excellence.
16. Use it or lose it.
17. Meditate on Scripture.
18. Be reliable.
19. Ask God to make you a blessing today.
20. Spend time in nature.
21. Exercise your power of choice.

## OUTREACH



The community Outreach Ministry, Eastside (COME) is designed to assist with utility bills, rent and mortgage payments, referrals to other agencies, and, of course, food.

COME provides assistance to people in need in Warren Township in Marion County and western Hancock County

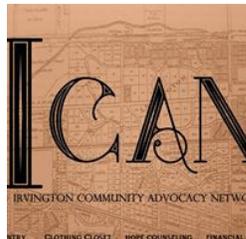
116 S Muessing St.—Cumberland, Indiana  
Call 9317) 797-2629

Thank you all, and please continue to help St. Matt's to help stock several neighborhood shelters and pantries on the far east side with toilet paper and other toiletries.



In addition, as you are able, please consider giving to ICAN. You can mail personal checks made out to ICAN C/O IAM and mail to ICAN, c/o Emerson

Ave. Baptist Church, 308 N. Emerson Ave. Indianapolis, IN46219 or you can give on line at: <http://rally.org/ICAN>.



The Irvington Community Advocacy Network (ICAN) Assistance Center is a non-profit organization serving neighbors in the east side of the Irvington community with potential financial assistance clothing and/or referrals to other programs .

# Announcements



## 2018 Lenten Worship Series 11th Annual Irvington Association of Ministers

**Wednesday Evenings, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm**  
6pm Simple soup supper and  
7pm Worship Service

**March 7: Emerson Avenue Baptist Church**  
The Rev. Robert Heimach, Preacher

**March 14: Irvington Presbyterian Church**  
Fr. Frank Impicciche, Preacher

**March 21: Irvington United Methodist Church**  
The Rev. Trey Flowers, Preacher

### March Birthdays

- March 7 Kaye Palmer
- March 10 Bill Dernier
- March 14 Joseph Weaver
- March 15 Jessica Weir
- March 16 Denny Krauser
- March 26 Cheryll Wyne



### March Anniversaries

- March 3 Jeff and Natalie Weir



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**Don't forget to spring forward.** Daylight savings time begins at 2 a.m. on **Sunday, March 11.** Please remember to **SPRING FORWARD**; turn your clocks **ahead 1 hour** before you go to bed on **Saturday, March 10.**



**Attention: ALTAR GUILD WORK DAY**

On Saturday, March 24 from 10am - Noon, there is a WORK DAY scheduled!

We will also be decorating for Palm Sunday.

Lunch will be provided.

**Remember:** Please sign up for Coffee Hour. Bring some of your favorite pastry and fix the coffee. Thank you.



The next **Wednesday Pitch-In** will be on **Wednesday, March 28** following the 10am service. Come join the fun. Bring whatever; there's no set menu.



**Friday, March 30** is the **deadline** for sending in any calendar events, meeting dates and times, articles, and announcements for the April issue of *sMATTERings*.

### Financial Update

As of January 31, 2018

	Actual	Budgeted
Total Receipts	\$27,997	\$14,542
Total Expenditures	\$17,726	\$22,274
Difference	\$10,271	(\$7,732)

The January financials can be a bit misleading. Many parishioners pay a full year's commitment at the first of the year, thus inflating the monthly Total Receipts. This should even out over the year. On the expenditures side, we held down costs in the first month of the year, but we knew the Rectory expenses were heading our way. We heard good news as February came to a close - the church insurance company will cover the expenses of the mold mitigation and the repairs to the structure, less a \$1000 deductible. As always, please let us know if you have any questions.

# Sunday Ministry Schedule March 2018

Ministry Schedule	March	March	March	March	March	March	March	April
	4	11	18	25	29	30	30	1
	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM		noon	6:30 PM	10:00 AM
	Lent 3	Lent 4	Lent 5	Palm Sunday	Maundy Thurs.	Good Friday	Good Friday	Easter
<b>Lectors</b>	Phil Sowers	Vicki Mansfield	Steve Albrecht	OT: Alice Moody & Epistle: Joan Porter	OT: Joan Porter	n/a	OT: Mark Carpenter & Epistle: Alice Moody	Andy Wilkinson
	Missy Ellis	Natalie Weir	Crystal Black	Readers of The Passion: Vicki Mansfield, Joe Weaver, Mark Carpenter, Alice Moody, Linda Sykes, Andy Wilkinson, Joan Porter, & 1 more to be recruited	Epistle: Mark Carpenter	n/a	Readers of The Passion: Joan Porter, Mark Carpenter, Linda Sykes, Vicki Mansfield, Andy Wilkson, Joe Weaver, Alice Moody, & 1 more to be recruited	Suzanne Kissling
<b>Intercessor</b>	Linda Sykes	Joe Weaver	Natalie Weir	Crystal Black	n/a	n/a	n/a	Steve Albrecht
<b>Chalice</b>	Bonnie Godfrey	Elaine Mattson	Suzanne Kissling	Andy Wilkinson	Suzanne Kissling	n/a	n/a	Joan Porter
<b>Crucifer/Server</b>	Joe Weaver	Brayton Leswing	Andy Wilkinson	Devon Teague	Joe Weaver	Cody Lock	Cody Lock	Bonnie Godfrey
<b>Ushers</b>	Natalie Palmer	Kaye Palmer	Joe Weaver	Nancy McFarland	n/a	n/a	n/a	Jeff Weir
	Denyse Palmer	Jeff Higbie	Bonnie Godfrey	Denyse Palmer	n/a	n/a	n/a	Natalie Weir
<b>Oblations</b>	Vicki Mansfield	Missy Ellis	Natalie Weir	Leswing family	n/a	n/a	n/a	Natalie Palmer
	Melissa Kleine	Greg Staab	Jeff Weir		n/a	n/a	n/a	Denyse Palmer
<b>Counters</b>	Jennifer Albrecht	Jon Robbins	Julie Hauptmann	Andy Wilkinson	n/a	n/a	n/a	Jennifer Albrecht
	Missy Ellis	Angie Wilkinson	Zella Rosene	Natalie Palmer	n/a	n/a	n/a	Missy Ellis
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4	Team 4	Team 4	Team 4	Team 1

If you are unable to serve, please find a substitute and advise the Parish Office. Thank you.

# HOLY WEEK 2018 SCHEDULE

## SUNDAY: PALM/PASSION SUNDAY March 25

- Crucifer/Server: Devon Teague
- Chalice: Andy Wilkinson
- 2 Lectors for OT and Epistle Readings
  - OT: Alice Moody
  - Epistle: Joan Porter
- 8 Parts for The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
  - 1. Evangelist: Vicki Mansfield
  - 2. Jesus: Joe Weaver
  - 3. High Priest: Mark Carpenter
  - 4. Pilate: Alice Moody
  - 5. Judas: Linda Sykes
  - 6. Peter: Andy Wilkinson
  - 7. Serving Girl: Joan Porter
  - 8. Centurion: to be recruited (1 line)

## THURSDAY: MAUNDY THURSDAY March 29

- Crucifer/Server: Joe Weaver
- Chalice: Suzanne Kissling
- 2 Lectors for OT and Epistle Readings
  - OT: Joan Porter
  - Epistle: Mark Carpenter

## FRIDAY: GOOD FRIDAY March 30

### 12 Noon: Stations of the Cross

- Crucifer/Server: Cody Lock

### 6:30 PM: Good Friday

- Crucifer/Server: Cody Lock
- 2 Lectors for OT and Epistle Readings
  - OT: Mark Carpenter
  - Epistle: Alice Moody
- 8 Parts for The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
  - 1. Narrator: Joan Porter
  - 2. Jesus: Mark Carpenter
  - 3. Priest/Priests: Linda Sykes
  - 4. Pilate: Vicki Mansfield
  - 5. Soldier/Soldiers: Andy Wilkinson
  - 6. Peter: Joe Weaver
  - 7. Servant: Alice Moody
  - 8. Slave: to be recruited (1 line)

You will note that I have 2 single-line roles still available. If you know of someone who would dare to read these c parts, then let me know or I will recruit the day of the service.

Thank you again for your prompt replies. Alice

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*Smatterings*

# Happenings

Boy Scout Sunday, February 4, 2018



Shrove Tuesday



## Easter flowers provided through donations



Each Easter the beautiful flowers in our church are provided by our parishioners. Flowers are offered in memory of departed loved ones, to celebrate blessings, or simply to rejoice in the Glory of God! The suggested donation for the Easter altar flowers is \$30.00. You will find envelopes and Easter flower cards in sanctuary pews, or you may use this form. The deadline is Friday, March 18, 2016.

**In Thanksgiving for / In Memory of / In Celebration of:**

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Given by \_\_\_\_\_

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*Have  
a  
blessed,*

*happy*

*Easter*



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Priest-in-Charge E-mail [frfrank@stmattsindy.org](mailto:frfrank@stmattsindy.org)

# Smatterings

March 2018

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**Photos by:**

**St. Matthew's clergy and staff:**

The Revd Frank Impicciche, *Priest-in-Charge*

Dale Caldwell, *Parish Administrator*

Crystal Black, *Hand Bell Choir Director*

Dale Caldwell, *Organist/Choirmaster*

## Services

- Sundays: Holy Eucharist Rite II  
10:00am
- Wednesdays : Holy Eucharist 10:00am

Nursery available on Sundays starting at 9:45

Parish Office Hours: Mon. & Thurs. 8am-1pm, Wed. 8am-2pm

## St. Matthew's Mission Statement

The mission of St. Matthew's is

"to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ."

We do this through worship of God,  
education of ourselves and our children,  
care for each other and outreach to others,  
sharing faith stores with others,  
and caring for all our resources (our time, treasure,  
and talents).

*Smatterings* is published monthly except in the summer.

The deadline is the 15th of the month for the following month's publication.