

Smatterings

Saint Matthew's
Episcopal Church

November 2016



Reflections for the month of November

The planet turns and seasons change, and the children and plants grow and mature - and God delights in all of it.

The Lectionary passages for November speak of a God who rejoices in creation and loves all that is in it, who relishes the roaring of the sea and the song of the hills (Psalm 98), who desires justice and joy from the moment that an infant takes its first breath until the last deep sigh in good old age. That is the will of God (Isaiah 65).

God's new heaven and earth are places where the hopeful imagination of the Divine is poured out, and where we see the dream God has for all creation. Set against the backdrop of an abiding, benevolent earth, there is a rhythmic flourishing and finishing for all.

Bound in the finite time gifted to everyone and everything, God's plan for the planet is based on justice and equity, on an embedded respect for life. The texts look forward to the time when humanity will not need to be told, but will willingly, openly and determinedly seek peace and the wellbeing of others (Isaiah 2:1-5).

These are also passages that do not mince words about God's deep desire for justice, nor about God's bias towards the poorest and most vulnerable. Those left trampled at the bottom will be lifted up and listened to. God will hear their cry and save them, watch over them and protect them.

And we are called into that expectant, embracing vision. Be ready, God says, 'For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth' (Isaiah 65:17). 'Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.' (Matthew 24:42)

There will always be times and places and opportunities to be part of the vision; there you will always see God in the faces of the people you meet – in their joy and in their need.

November brings together several opportunities to embrace this vision and each other. November 19 is International Men's Day - a day to focus on men's and boy's health, improve gender relations, promote gender equality, and highlight positive male role models.

The following day celebrates Universal Children's Day, which marks the day on which the Declaration of the Rights of the Child was adopted in 1959 and the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1989.

On November 24, we celebrate Thanksgiving Day where we engage in a number of traditional celebrations. It is a time and season for charity and charitable giving, celebrating the foods and harvests of the season, we giving thanks for the blessings in our lives, enjoy the fun and spirit of parades, watch football and college basketball tournaments, tune in to our favorite television specials and catch Adam Sandler's famed *The Thanksgiving Song* and other radio treats. Thanksgiving also brings the Presidential turkey pardoning and allows us time for vacation and travel.

And November 25 is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and the beginning of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.

We are one human family and everyone has an honored

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place – this November, let us embrace our common, beautiful humanity.

Humanity also shares one planet home. From November 7 - 18 Marrakech, Morocco will host the United Nations climate talks (COP 22) where the unprecedented progress made in Paris last year might be built upon and strengthened – a new vision for a world ravaged by climate change.

It is vital that we think deeply, not only about our money, but also about our carbon footprint and our sharing of equality, respect, patience, love, forgiveness and peace with the men, women and children who are our global neighbors.

This month, as the planet turns and the seasons change, and the children and plants grow and mature and God delights in all of it, may we embrace the vision and live that way.

Reports

VESTRY

Vestry has October meeting

After a September hiatus due to the Centennial gala, the vestry met October 25.

The meeting began with a presentation from John Ridder, a Church of the Nativity parishioner and labyrinth expert. Part of the vestry's strategic plan includes a research process about the possibility of constructing a labyrinth. John provided details about construction options and prices, as well as explaining the long-term planning process. Phil Sowders is shepherding this exploration and will assemble a small group to consider next steps.

Parish administrator Carissa Riedesel also spoke. The current office copier, a very generous donation from One America, has begun to age past its usefulness. Replacement parts are becoming scarce for the 2003 machine. Carissa solicited a report from the Sharp company for a new copier/printer. It has highly increased capabilities, and with the elimination of a fax machine and its dedicated phone line, the monthly expense will be very close to what the parish is currently paying. The vestry enthusiastically accepted the proposal to rent a new machine.

Parishioners Ann and Roana Boruff have approached Father Frank Impicicche about a memorial donation in honor of Bob Boruff. They wish to donate images of the stations of the cross for the sanctuary; Father Frank is working with the Boruffs to find the appropriate size and design.

Several changes in vestry and operational procedures were discussed. First, Father Frank ask the vestry to seriously consider that the parish shrink the size of the vestry. Due to the current small size of the parish, and most importantly, to the strain on many parishioners due to their multiple commitments to St. Matthew's, he suggested a vestry size of six people. The ensuing conversation covered numerous pros and cons, though, in general, the vestry found merit in the idea. Some additional fact-finding will take place before the November

meeting. Were the vestry to approve, it would be presented as a vote to change the by-laws accordingly at the January annual meeting.

Father Frank also brought two business issues before the vestry. One was the introduction of an authorization form for expenses. It requires those spending money on behalf of the church to follow certain steps and get approval for expenses of \$250 and above (with the exception of regular costs such as mortgage payments or service contracts). This will insure a careful eye on the bottom line at all times. Additionally, he asked that any subcontractors be carefully vetted and made known to him. As priest-in-charge, he has a responsibility to the health of the building and grounds, but most importantly, to the safety of employees and parishioners. His familiarity with people coming into the building will reinforce both those goals.

Lastly, several announcements were made. The pledge drive has begun; the Eagle Scout sidewalk project has taken place; and St. Matthew's will have a booth in the Irvington Halloween Festival October 29. Highlights of the Centennial gala wee discussed joyfully.

The next meeting will be Monday, November 28.

VESTRY FINANCIAL UPDATE AS OF 7/31/2016

Actuals vs. Budget	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Total income	\$162,606	\$179,639	-\$17,033
Total expenses	\$136,262	\$ 166,284	-\$30,022
Net operating income	\$ 26,344	\$ 13,355	\$12,989
Total in General Fund	\$58,205		

OUTREACH

ICAN (Irvington Churches Advocacy Network) in Need of Donations

Financial gifts may be mailed to ICAN c/o IAM, Emerson Avenue Baptist Church, 308 N. Emerson Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46219.

Non-perishable food items and clothing may be placed in the ICAN basket in the narthex at St. Matthew's. Items needed:

- Jeans, for all ages and sizes
- Blankets, sheets
- School uniforms - all sizes
- Shoes and socks for all
- Men's clothing
- New underwear for all



Volunteers needed: Food Pantry at Downey Avenue Christian Church.

The pantry is open 1-3 on Thursdays. Volunteers should arrive around 11:30 to help set up. If you are interested, contact Carolyn Kirkendall at 317-427-3087.

STEWARDSHIP

The Attitude of Gratitude

The annual fall pledge campaign is underway. How can you help? The most obvious is with a financial pledge. Whether you are a long-time member, or new to St. Matthew's, whether you can give a little or a lot, your gift to the church is needed and valued. If you have never pledged, please consider doing so in 2017. Have you been pledging the same amount every year? Consider bumping it up, knowing that our church's expenses increase each year, just as a household's do. If you would like a pledge card, but have not received one, you may request one from the church office, or simply pick one up on in the narthex.

In addition to completing a pledge card, you are invited to record your thanksgivings. As you may recall, Father Frank gave us a "homework" assignment: for each day of the week, name five things for which you are grateful. He suggested writing them on slips of paper, dropping them into an empty glass jar, and watching them build up. If you need a jar, please retrieve one from the basket in the narthex.

As Father Frank reminded us, we are a **thanksgiving** people.



The American Heart Association is kicking off this year's Little Hats, Big Hearts campaign by collecting knitted or crocheted red baby hats to be distributed to babies born in hospitals throughout Indiana during the month of February.

The Yarn, Book, and Prayer Monday group is planning to participate in this endeavor as one of our outreach projects. The group thought making "little hats" would be a fun outreach project for **our parish and our friends** who enjoy doing handwork. Those who aren't crafty can help by offering monetary assistance for the purchase of yarn. There will be a box in the narthex marked "**Little Hats, Big Hearts.**"

Yarn Specifics and Sample Patterns Use red, cotton or acrylic, medium to heavy weight, machine washable and dryable yarn. **Simple hat patterns of your choice are fine.** While we love bows and buttons, they can come off the hats and be dangerous for the little ones. **Directions for patterns** maybe found at the American Heart Association website under red hats for babies. I will print a few copies for either the knitted or crocheted patterns offered. I will have a box to collect them in the narthex, and see they get to the AHA by the end of December. **Contact Jan Higbie for questions 317-847-0657**

by Jennifer Albrecht

What this means is that even when there is suffering, our outward demonstration of thanks brings us closer to God. By naming the reasons we are thankful and by giving as much of ourselves as we can to God, we become stronger in our faith. Embracing all we have been given with an attitude of gratitude reminds us that God is the foundation of everything and from whom all blessings flow.

In support of St. Matthew's in 2017, I ask you to pledge faithfully to the financial health of our beautiful church and community. With everyone's support, our community of faith will not only endure, but continue to flourish. Increased financial support will ideally place St. Matthew's within reach of a full-time priest. In turn, we will be poised to make an even greater impact on the community at large.

Please join me in committing to St. Matthew's health and vitality by embracing the *Attitude of Gratitude* in two ways: first, complete a pledge card; and second, create and add to your own gratitude jar over the next several weeks. The completed pledge cards and gratitude jars will be blessed at the church services on Sunday November 20th.

Smatterings

CONVENTION

Diocese of Indianapolis holds 2016 convention

by Joan Porter

Your delegates from St Matt's for the 2016 diocesan convention were Andrew Lloyd-Jones and Joan Porter

Thursday evening we began with choral evensong at the Cathedral, sung by the cathedral choir. It was a moving experience. Afterwards the convention convened at the cathedral with the business of conducting the legislative session. First was the introduction of the nominees for Bishop and other positions in the diocese. Our current Bishop Cate gave her annual address and then the receiving of Brownsburg as a Mission. A lovely reception was held in the parish hall where we visited with long time friends and met the new faces in the diocese

Friday morning began bright and early! We had to register before the Eucharist at 9:00. Once registered we could not leave the cathedral. I repeat---WE COULD NOT LEAVE THE CATHEDRAL!!!

After the Eucharist we were given instructions on how to use the electronic device to vote for the candidate we believed should be the next Bishop of the diocese. We had test ballots so all (?) the kinks could be worked out. We are becoming a very techy savvy diocese. The election began with prayer and singing of hymns.

After the first ballot we waited for results again with prayer and singing. Three candidates, after hearing the results of the first ballot, removed themselves with grace and dignity and thank-

fulness for being part of the process. By then it was past noon, and we were getting hungry, but when the Bishop asked if we wanted lunch or to continue voting, we shouted **voting!**

As you know, on the second ballot we elected **Reverend Jennifer-Baskerville-Burrows**. Hallelullia! Such joy and excitement with applause and ringing of the bells for this momentous election. We did not know what precedent had been set.

Lunch was finally enjoyed outside sharing our joy with one and all on the circle. What a glorious day it was.

We had to reconvene to deal with reports from the resolutions, constitution and Canons committees.

In the evening we enjoyed social hour chatting and basking in the joy of the election followed by a wonderful dinner.

Saturday morning began with morning prayer. Unfinished business was addressed: response to Bishop Cates address, presentation of diocesan 2017 budget, and Waycross/youth reports.

Closing prayer was at 10:45.

We thank you for the opportunity to serve St. Matt's at this very important event in the life of the diocese.

"It was the most exhilarating and uplifting diocesan convention that I have experienced in my over 40 year of participating in the convention."

Joan Porter

The Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows elected 11th Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis



The Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows was elected 11th bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis on the second ballot on Friday, October 28, at Christ Church Cathedral Indianapolis.

The Rev. Baskerville-Burrows currently serves as Director of Networking for the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago nourishing partnerships

and connections for church revitalization.

She is from New York, ordained by the Diocese of Central New York, and a graduate of Smith College, Cornell University, and the Church Divinity School of the Pacific. She has expertise in historic preservation and a passion for issues including gun

violence, social justice, and racial and class reconciliation. She also maintains a strong focus in guiding others through the practice of spiritual direction.

"The Episcopal Church is where I found my relationship with Jesus some 30 years ago," she said. "It teaches me that the world is filled with incredible beauty and unspeakable pain and that God is deeply in the midst of it all loving us fiercely. So each day, nourished by the sacraments and stories of our faith, the beauty of our liturgical tradition the wide embrace of this Christian community, I learn over and over again how to live without fear."

The Rev. Baskerville-Burrows will be ordained and consecrated as Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis on Saturday, April 29, 2017, 11am, at Clowes Hall at Butler University.

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Christian Education

Kids Time

by Angie Wilkinson

Traditionally, St. Matt's has had a Children's Time during the 10:30 service. We are working towards "KT" (Kid's time). This program incorporates story time, music, and activity for all ages of kids. Lessons are coordinating with Father Frank's children's message. This week Zacheus climbed a tree to get closer to Jesus. A trip to a climbing tree was planned. Also *Zacheus Was a Wee Little Man* was our song to learn for the week with all the action motions. This is for kids of all ages. We have different levels of message as participation would increase. We also have the message (lesson plan) available in the kids room.

We were lacking participants this week; so the lesson will be passed to the next week. Also we are providing additional activity time during the adult forum if parents want to participate. Anyone wanting to help with this project let Angie know.

Stop by and note our new carpet. Thanks for any volunteers.

Pilgrim: NEW adult Sunday school series



Pilgrim is a course for the Christian journey. The aim of the course is to help people become disciples of Jesus.

A pilgrim is a person on a journey. The Bible is a book full of journeys. God's people are always traveling. God's call to Abraham was to leave his own land for a great journey of faith. God's call to Moses was to lead God's people on a journey from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the promised land. Jesus took his first disciples on a journey from Galilee to Jerusalem. One of the earliest names for people called Christians was Followers of the Way.

Pilgrim is designed to help us invite others to join the people of God on our great journey of faith. Its purpose is to help us to draw together a small group of people who desire a deeper relationship with God and with one another, whether you are new to faith or have been a life long follower of Jesus.

Lifelong Christian faith formation in The Episcopal Church is lifelong growth in the knowledge, service, and love of God as followers of Christ and is informed by Scripture, tradition, and reason.

The adult Sunday school meets at 9:15am. All are welcome.

American Diabetes Month 2016: This is Diabetes



Observed every November, American Diabetes Month is an important element in the American Diabetes Association's efforts to focus our nation's attention on the disease and the tens of millions of people affected by it.

The national theme for 2016 is This Is Diabetes. The [American Diabetes Association](#) will showcase real-life stories of friends, families and neighbors managing the day-to-day triumphs and challenges of the disease. Join as we salute the 29 million Americans with diabetes — as well as their loved ones — to raise awareness and to create a sense of urgency about this growing public health crisis.



Announcements

The first Sunday of the month, **November 6**, St. Matthew's nurses will be available for the **blood pressure clinic** starting at **9:00am**.

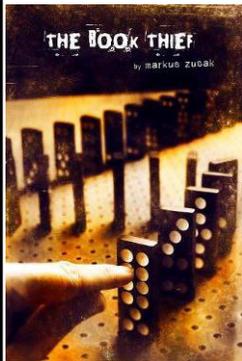


Tuesday, November 22, 2016, is the **deadline** for sending in any calendar events, meeting dates and times, articles, and announcements for the December issue of **sMATTERings**.

The next **Wednesday Pitch-In** will be on **Wednesday, November 30**, following the 10am service. Come join the fun. Bring whatever; there's no set menu.



sMATTERings



Book, Yarn, and Prayer will meet **Monday, November 7**. We will meet **in the church parking lot at 7:15** to go to Angela Wilkinson's home.

This month, we started reading *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak. We need to read the first 55 pages.

Why would an illiterate girl salvage and treasure a nonfiction book from the snow? Is this act truly theft as counted by the narrator?

Bring your favorite yarn project or other craft and join in the fun. Janet will bring some yarn and see about needles for those who would like to participate in the Little Hats, Big Hearts project. Samantha Frazer will be there to help those of us who would like some assistance.

Standard Time Returns

Don't forget to **turn your clocks back** an hour before you go to bed on Saturday night, **November 5**.



The **church offices** will be **closed** on Thursday, **November 24** and Friday, **November 25** for the Thanksgiving holiday.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



The Angel Tree is coming again to St. Matthew's

The names of 12 children have arrived, and names and information about each child will be available soon. If you would like one of the names, contact

Esther Weaver.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- November 1 Dennis Palmer
- November 2 Martha Cooper
- November 2 Tom Miltner
- November 3 Bonnie Godfrey
- November 9 Nathaniel Trabel
- November 11 Ashley Robbins
- November 12 Cathy Krauser
- November 12 Jenny Lloyd-Jones
- November 14 Julia Bell
- November 16 Ronald Cooper
- November 17 Devon Teague
- November 20 Bob Booth
- November 21 Zella Rosene
- November 22 Missy Ellis
- November 22 Amanda Lloyd-Jones
- November 26 Frank Impicciche
- November 26 Jeff Weir
- November 28 Katie Bell
- November 30 Phyllis Crooks



Annual Crop Walk successful once again

Thank you Crop – walkers. Your efforts raised **\$1,500!!!**



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- November 11 Trevor and Jenny Lloyd-Jones
- November 13 Denny and Cathy Krauser



Happenings

Sunday, October 30, two Marian University students, Alex Kouris and Claire Impicciche, explained their Theology and Spirituality of Ministry class project they have been working on with Fr. Frank. Alex has been working with social media projects, and Claire has been working with a Syrian family helping the children learn English.



Boy Scouts, leaders, and Boomer are taking a pizza lunch break while working on the Eagle Scout sidewalk project.

Sunday, **November 6**, we will celebrate **The Feast of All Saints**.

Monday, **November 7 at 6:00pm** we will celebrate **Evening Prayer** in observance of the diocesan-wide **Light a Candle, Pray for the Nation** event.

Smatterings

In Memory of Joyce Ann Napariu

November 16, 1933 to October 28, 2016



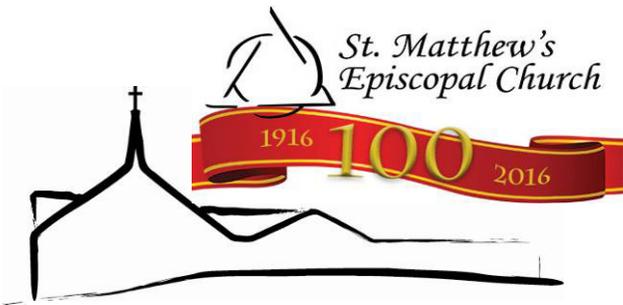
Joyce was born in Indianapolis, graduated from George Washington High School, and worked as a secretary for the Warren School District, retiring in 1991. She married George Napariu November 4, 1956. She is survived by her two children, six grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. She had been an active member of St. Matthew's since 1966.

For many who knew Joyce, she lived her life to the fullest enjoying music, dinner theater, symphony, and family. She was surrounded by love and she touched many, many lives in her 82 years.

May her soul rest in peace.

Ministry Schedule	November	November	November	November	December
	6 10:30 AM	13 10:30 AM	20 10:30 AM	27 10:30 AM	4 10:30 AM
	Pentecost 25	Pentecost 26	Christ the	Advent 1	Advent 2
Preacher	Revd Frank Impicciche				
Lectors	Steve Albrecht	Bonnie Godfrey	Crystal Black	Natalie Weir	Suzanne Kissling
Lectors	Andy Wilkinson	Missy Ellis	Steve Albrecht	Joe Hauptmann	Jeff Higbie
Intercessor	Linda Sykes	Joe Weaver	Natalie Weir	Crystal Black	Steve Albrecht
Chalice	Elaine Mattson	Don Runyon	Suzanne Kissling	Bill McMahon	Joan Porter
Crucifer/	Bonnie Godfrey	Brayton Leswing	Joe Weaver	Devon Teague	Bonnie Godfrey
Ushers	Greg Staab	Kaye Palmer	Natalie Palmer	Joe Weaver	Jan Higbie
	Missy Ellis	Denyse Palmer	Jeff Higbie	Bonnie Godfrey	Tom Higbie
Greeters	Joe Weaver	Jon Robbins	Greg Staab	Angie Wilkinson	Natalie Weir
	Jennifer Albrecht	Jeff Higbie	Missy Ellis	Zella Rosene	Joe Weaver
Oblations	Palmer Family	Natalie Weir	Andrew Lloyd-Jones	Missy Ellis	S. Albrecht Family
		Jeff Weir	Amanda Lloyd-Jones	Greg Staab	
Counters	Joe Hauptmann	Greg Staab	Jennifer Albrecht	Natalie Weir	Jon Robbins
	Zella Rosene	Natalie Palmer	Denyse Palmer	Missy Ellis	Angie Wilkinson
Coffee					
Altar Guild	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4	Team 1

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



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Smatterings

November 2016

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The Revd Frank Impicciche, *Priest-in-Charge*
Ms. Carissa Riedesel, *Parish Administrator*
Crystal Black, *Hand Bell Choir Director*
Robert Bolyard, *Interim Music Ministers*

Services

- Sundays: Holy Eucharist Rite II
8:00am & 10:30am
- Wednesdays : Holy Eucharist 10:00am

Nursery available on Sundays starting at 10:15am
Parish Office Hours: Tues., Wed. 8am-5pm

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 stories 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.