



St. Matthew's Messenger

JANUARY 2017

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Pennington, N.J. 08534

To receive the monthly Messenger announcements please go to our website <http://stmatthewspennington.org/>, click on the link "sign up for emails" under "About us" to add yourself to our mailing list. *The Church is open for prayer and meditation* during parish office hours on weekdays: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday from 9:30am-4pm and Tuesdays and Fridays till 12noon.

St. Matthew's Annual Meeting to be Held on Sunday, January 22 directly following the ONE celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 9:00 AM

St. Matthew's bylaws state that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on the third Sunday in the month of January, in accordance with the amended certificate of incorporation approved on October 16, 1995. (A VERY brief meeting will be convened by the wardens on January 15 and adjourned until January 22).

Persons entitled to vote at the Annual Parish Meeting must be:

- Baptized
- At least 16 years of age
- Of good moral character
- Adhering to the Episcopal Church and to no other religious body
- Regular attendants (a communicant) ¹ at the services of the Church in St. Matthew's
- Regular contributors to the current expenses of the parish for six months before the Annual Meeting



The purpose of the Annual Meeting will be to elect one Warden, four members of the Vestry, a Warden and/or member of the Vestry for any unexpired terms which may exist, three Deputies and three Alternate Deputies to the next Diocesan Convention, five members of the Parish Life Guild, and to transact such other business as may properly be brought before the Annual Meeting.

Wardens hold office for two years, or until a successor is elected.

Vestry Members hold office for three years, or until their successor is elected.

The Annual Meeting is a joyful occasion during which ALL communicants in good standing gather to give thanks for this parish family and to prepare with enthusiasm for the mission and ministry of the coming year by entrusting the good exercise of leadership and oversight to those who are to be elected to serve in such positions of trust with the Rector and staff.

If you will NOT be able to make it on January 22, please let the Rector know by text or email. Thank-you.

The Rev. Barbara Briggs, Rector

rector@stmatthewspennington.org

¹ Canon 1.17.2-4

Sec. 2 (a) All members of this Church who have received Holy Communion in this Church at least three times during the preceding year are to be considered communicants of this Church.

(b) For the purposes of statistical consistency throughout the Church, communicants sixteen years of age and over are to be considered adult communicants.

Sec. 3. All communicants of this Church who for the previous year have been faithful in corporate worship, unless for good cause prevented, and have been faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God, are to be considered communicants in good standing.

CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAYS FOR 2017



The Office will be closed on

Jan 2
Jan 16
Feb 20
April 14

April 17
May 29
July 4
Sept 4

Oct 9
Nov 10
Nov 23 and 24
Dec 25

(Open only as necessary between Christmas and New Year's Day)

KAIROS KORNER

Happy New Year to all~ Kairos will not be in session on January 1st.

On Friday, January 6th, 4:30pm – 6pm, we will celebrate Epiphany in Belmont Hall. Beneath the Old Testament tent, Reverend Barbara will share the story of how the three Kings followed the bright star which led them to the Christ Child, Jesus. We will share a pot luck supper afterwards (sign-up for what you will bring to share on the Kairos bulletin board) and a King's cake!

Please make note that on Sunday, January 22nd, there will be one service at 9am due to the Annual Meeting. Therefore, we will not have Kairos classes.

Looking Ahead:

Children's Ash Wednesday Service will be held on Wednesday, March 1st at 4:30pm.

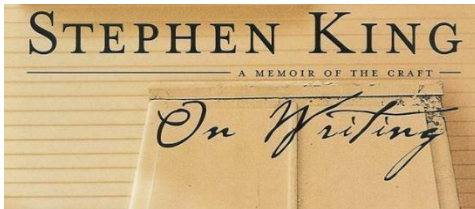
Children's Good Friday Service will be held on Friday, April 14th at 3pm.

Second Grade Eucharist Instruction: April 23rd & 30th with Family Service Celebration on May 7th.



NOTICE: Sunday, January 22, 2016 Following the 9am service THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Please **submit** your committee reports by **January 9th, 2017** to the parish office or email to admin@stmatthewspennington.org

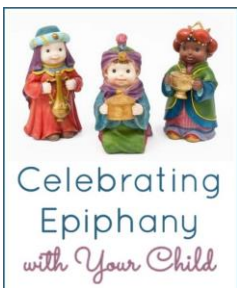


January 19: On Writing Stephen King the church library
 You don't need to be a King fan, a horror fan, or someone who wants to write to love this book. It's just a great book about determination, and how the past shapes us, and how the love and support of a single person can make all the difference. It's also the best explanation of addiction, and overcoming addiction, that I've ever read."

ST. MATTHEWS WILL BENEFIT WHEN YOU SHOP!

We are now registered to receive benefits from this program which many people are already familiar with. If you're not familiar with this, AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. the difference is that when customers shop at AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile

Foundation donates .5% of the price of eligible purchases to that charitable organizations selection by customers. Use this link to easily benefit St. Matthew's. <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-1898482>

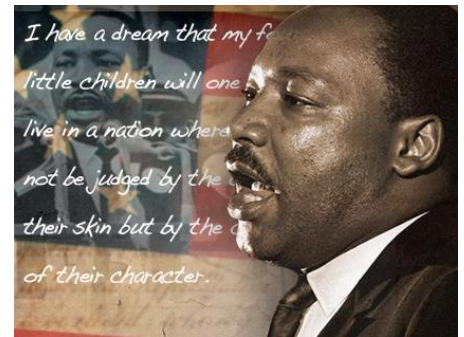


A FAMILY CELEBRATION FOR EPIPHANY!

Families with children are invited to join us in Belmont Hall on Friday, January 6, from 5-6:30 PM for an informal Eucharist, story, supper, and games. Epiphany means showing forth—the showing forth of the birth of Jesus to the whole world beyond Bethlehem. Three kings, or wise men visit Jesus from foreign lands, and bring news of his identity back home with them. In the West, Christians began celebrating the Epiphany in the 4th century.

ON THE OCCASION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

An Ecumenical Celebration will be held at the First Baptist Church on 5 Academy Avenue in Pennington on Sunday, January 15 from 6:00-7:00 PM. The celebration will include live Gospel choirs and dramatic readings from King speeches. Dessert will follow. Please bring your favorite dessert to share!



**Epiphany Lessons and Carols and Holy Eucharist
 Sunday, January 15, 2017 at 10:00am**



A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR EPIPHANY

The Adult Choir will offer a service of Lessons and Carols for the Epiphany Season on Sunday, January 15, 2017 at 10:00am, followed by Holy Eucharist. Similar to the annual service Advent Lessons and Carols held each December, this special service of Epiphany lessons, carols and congregational hymns tells the story of the appearance of God's glory after the coming and birth of Jesus. All are welcome!



FAMILY FUN NIGHT
THURSDAY, JANUARY 19
5-7 PM IN BELMONT HALL

Join other families with young children for games and a supper prepared by our Rector. Bring your favorite games to share. Children will have free time while the adults hang out and visit with each other. Come for a meal you won't have to prepare or clean up after, and get to know new friends!

***WHY I WILL JOIN THE WOMEN'S MARCH
IN WASHINGTON ON JANUARY 21***

I am going to join a peaceful march, not a protest. I am NOT protesting against anything or anyone, including not against our president-elect, Donald Trump. I am going to stand together with and for the most marginalized among us, including, but not limited to women, people of color, immigrants, Muslims and other marginalized faiths, native people, LGBTQ, and the disabled, as well as to support crucial environmental protection. I believe that my duty as a citizen of the Kingdom of God and of the United States is to stand up for love and care and the dignity of every human being.



IS GOD INVITING US TO GROW AS A PARISH?
ARE YOU PASSIONATE
ABOUT HELPING GROWTH TO HAPPEN?

Sometimes it seems as if “growth” is a mystery that eludes us. In one sense, this may be true, and in another, it is false. Growth is the result of the action of the Holy Spirit, who blows where she wills, AND a result of each person's RESPONSE to the action of the Holy Spirit in his or her own life. Growing congregations are prayerful congregations. They look to God for direction and inspiration. Their members seek spiritual growth. They know that the best way to do that is to share the story of their own spiritual journey with someone else. So, growth is part of God's amazing mystery AND our intentional decision to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit with actions that will change us, challenge us, transform us and give us new life.



Who invited you to St. Matthew's?

Who made you feel welcome here?

Who told you about God's love and desire for you to belong?

How can you be that person to someone else?

Will you wait or begin right now by asking God to point you to someone who needs to experience God's love?

If, in addition to the above, you feel inspired to help St. Matthew's grow, please speak with the Rector.

**PLEASE MARK YOUR
CALENDAR...**

**PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION
FOR THE 2017-2018 SCHOOL
YEAR**

**Open House on Saturday, January 28th
10 AM - 12:00 PM**



Our preschool will begin accepting enrollment applications from new families on Saturday, January 28th at the Open House. Applications can be sent via email to interested families as of January 16th.

TWO WEEK PRIORITY REGISTRATION!

Priority will be given to parishioners and currently enrolled families whose applications are received on/before Friday, January 27th at 12 Noon. Enrollment packets will be available in the preschool office starting the week of January 16th. Packets will be sent to current families via email on Sunday, January 16th.

Please join us to meet the teachers, visit the classrooms and learn more about our preschool program at each age level.

**We offer classes for
Early Twos (20 months-27 Months) 2 Days a Week
Older Two's (28 Months-35 Months) 2-3 Days a Week
Threes-Fours, 3 Day Minimum
Pre-K, 3 Day Minimum**

Everyone is welcome! Please invite your friends and neighbors.
We look forward to seeing you!

Snow date is Saturday, February 4th, 10 AM- 12:00 PM.



**Chili/Hoagie Fundraiser
for Summer Mission Trip
February 5, 2017**

**El Hogar in Tegucigalpa, Honduras
July 8-15, 2016**

**Urban Promise in Camden, NJ -
July 23 - 28, 2016**

Sign up for chili, hoagies or both. You can pick up your chili and hoagies on February 5 before or after the 10am church service!

Name _____

Item	Quantity
Con Carne Chili (1 quart containers) \$ 11.00 per container	
Vegetarian Chili (1 quart containers) \$ 11.00 per container	
Italian Hoagie (Italian Cheese, Ham, Salami, Lettuce, Tomato) \$ 9.00 each 6" Sandwich	
Turkey Hoagie (Swiss Cheese, Turkey, Lettuce, Tomato) \$ 9.00 each 6" Sandwich	
Total	\$

Turn in this form early (by Jan 22) so we know how many to make, and pay when you pick up on Feb 5.

Look for the collection box in the Narthex!