



# St. Matthew's Messenger

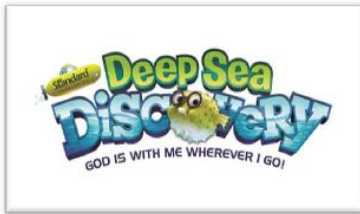
MAY 2016

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

To receive the monthly Messenger and Constant Contact 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 9am-4pm and Tuesdays and Fridays till 12noon.



## Vacation Bible School Registration

Join us for a Deep Sea Discovery this summer at Pennington Presbyterian Church!!

### 2016 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL DEEP SEA DISCOVERY

#### Registration deadline is May 13th.

Sponsored by Pennington Presbyterian Church, Pennington United Methodist Church, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, St. James Catholic Church, and 1<sup>st</sup> Assembly of God Church

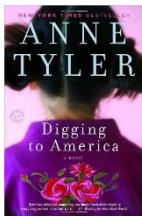
August 1-5, 2016 from 9:15 am – 12:15 pm

Classes held for ages 4 (as of October 1, 2016) through Grade 6

Registration: \$25.00 per child (payable to Pennington Presbyterian Church)

Registration forms are posted on the Kairos bulletin board and have been emailed to Kairos families.

#### ST. MATTHEW'S BOOK CLUB - May 19 Thursday 7:00 pm (church library)



*Digging to America* is Anne Tyler's richest, most deeply searching novel—a story about what it is to be an American, and about Iranian-born Maryam Yazdan, who, after 35 years in this country, must finally come to terms with her "outsiderness." A luminous novel brimming with subtle, funny, and tender observations that immerse us in the challenges of both sides of the American story.

#### Sunday Summer Service Schedule

On Sunday, **June 19th**, we will start our summer Sunday service schedule. Service times will be 8 and 9:30 AM.\* We plan to continue these times until our fall program starts in September, when we once again resume the 8 and 10 AM times for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist on September, 11.



**The Prayer Partner teams** will be taking the summer off (June 5 thru Labor Day). If you are in need of ongoing confidential prayer during the summer, the Prayer Chain is available by calling Gail LaFrance at 609 737 7881 or email her at [gclafance@verizon.net](mailto:gclafance@verizon.net).

## **Missional Church! What?**

What's all this talk about missional church? It's all about being the people of God in our local communities, and joining God in God's mission. In this way of being the Body of Christ, our primary identity becomes one of being a people on mission right here at home—a people who keeps on asking: "What is God up to in our neighborhood, and how can I join with God at work in the world? As the missional network puts it, *"the Spirit is disrupting and disorienting established patterns of church life... to fundamentally re-orient the praxis of Christian communities for the sake of the Gospel and the transformation of God's world."*

Some core convictions:

- Missional church initiatives are hope-oriented rather than fear-based.
- God is out ahead of us in our neighborhoods already present and active in God's people.
- Asking the right kind of questions is crucial: God questions instead of church questions.
- This way is a way of listening to how the Spirit of God is reshaping and reorienting us.
- We are all invited to help create a culture that nurtures discernment, experimentation, learning and engagement with God-at-work-in-our-neighborhoods. (Another way of saying Emmanuel: God with us)
- We need each other so we can learn from each other's experiences and stories and discern together where and to what God is inviting us.



## **CELEBRATING ST. MATTHEW'S HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH...**

### **CAN YOU HELP?**

Hello, St. Matthew's parishioners! The welcome arrival of The Rev. Barbara Briggs to our family has allowed us post-transition to step back and assess our strengths and opportunities in various church activities. Leaders of St. Matthew's high school youth efforts met recently with Pastor Barbara to discuss our hopes and dreams for guiding and engaging the high school youth of our church. We will be infusing new ideas and energy into our meetings in coming months around a broader theme of "Exploring Faith."

If we have learned anything in our time with your wonderful teens, it is that we can't follow a course of "all talk and no action." We are looking for one or two additional volunteers to help plan and guide youth activities during our meetings. Maybe you know a young person from your family or the community who wants experience working with youth, or you have been considering joining St. Matthew's youth efforts. Now's your chance! This is by no means a solo gig. You will be working collaboratively with a few other youth leaders to plan and execute meetings, with a particular focus on organizing fun and engaging activities. Please contact Diana Drake at [drakeink@aol.com](mailto:drakeink@aol.com) or by text/phone at 609-610-0679 if you or someone you know would like to get involved. Thank you!

**WE ARE THE 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CONFIRMATION CLASS** and we are doing a community service project. The project is to provide breakfast and lunch foods to children once school meal programs are over. You can help us by getting your car washed on **May 15<sup>th</sup>** between services or **11am-2pm**. Sign up is on the door by Belmont hall. You can also contribute quarters in the tubes near parish hall, boys versus girls. Please help us to help those in need.



## **KAIROS KORNER**

Our Kairos church school year will come to an end on Sunday, May 22nd. This will be the last Sunday of classes before Kairos takes a summer break. This will also be a day of appreciation for and celebration of our wonderful teachers and staff. All grades will begin in their classrooms that morning and will then join the congregation for the media presentation and teacher recognition.

We extend sincere thanks to all of our 2015-2016 Kairos staff who make this ministry possible:

### **Primary-Second Grade Teachers**

Cindy Luciano – Lead

Gayl Martinez

Brenda McNeil

Teens~

Julia Drake

Shannon Gribbins

Naomi Kinnamon

Natalie Kinnamon

Carsen Lennon

### **Fifth/Sixth Grade Teachers**

Gioia Miranda - Lead

Ashley Calhoun

Joe McNeil

### **Seventh/Eighth Grade Teachers**

Tim Cooper - Lead

Ti Pearse-Drance

### **Third/Fourth Grade Teachers**

Ginny Buchanan – Lead

John Krisulewicz

Kay Krisulewicz

Sofia Stepanoff

**Kairos Director** Lori Cooper

**Kairos Photographer** Mick Jones

**Carsen Lennon** joined the Kairos teaching staff the year after she graduated from the program. For the last four years she has been a dedicated loving teacher for our youngest ones. Carsen will graduate from Hopewell Valley Central High School this June. We will miss her greatly and send our love and blessing along with her as moves on to college.

We thank **Mick Jones**, who with his peaceful presence moves about our classrooms each Sunday as he captures the spirit of our children and our ministry in photograph. His beautiful work will be seen in the end of the year media presentation on Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at both the 8am and 10am services.

### **Kairos Calendar**

Sunday, May 1: Regular lessons

Sunday, May 8: Happy Mother's Day! Regular lessons

Sunday, May 15: **PENTECOST, WEAR RED!** Regular lessons with Pentecost craft/activity

Sunday, May 22: Last day of Kairos classes and media presentation

### **END OF KAIROS YEAR PICNIC**

Please join us on Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, following the 10am service as we celebrate the end of the Kairos year with BBQ and dessert! We will provide the BBQ, beverages and novelty ice creams and ask that everyone bring a side dish to share!



## **OPEN HOUSE AT THE RECTORY**

Save the Date: Snow Date

Sunday, May 15

4:00 – 6:00pm

Rectory Tea for everyone with a last name beginning with N-Z.

Please let Rev. Barbara know if you plan to attend.

