



St. Matthew's Messenger

November 2016

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.

Kairos Korner

Kairos Annual Outreach

Collections for the Kairos outreach project will continue through Sunday, **November 13th**

We are collecting the following food items:

- **Chef Boyardee single serving** microwavable containers of ravioli, spaghetti, lasagna, mac n'
- cheese – hot meals please!
- **Single serving fruit cups**
- **Single serving desserts** (pudding, cookies, fruit roll ups)
- **100% juice boxes (6.75oz** please not the tiny ones)



If you prefer, a **monetary donation** can be made and we will do the shopping for you! Please give your check (made out to St. Matthew's Church with the notation "**FOR KAIROS OUTREACH**" on the memo line) or cash to Lori Cooper, Director of Children's Ministries (mailbox across from Rev Barbara's office).

Collection bins labeled "KAIROS OUTREACH PROJECT" are located in the foyer next to the coat room and in the Narthex. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Kairos Calendar

November 13: Lessons (Last Sunday for Outreach donations)

November 20: Group Outreach Project

November 27: Lessons for Advent 1

LOOKING AHEAD...

Christmas candle decorating begins Sunday, December 4th





CHRISTMAS BAZAAR INFORMATION WEEKLY GATHERINGS! Don't forget to join us for our weekly Wednesday meeting at 6:30pm until November 16th in the Belmont Hall. New and returning volunteers are welcome to join us in discussing communication, advertising, volunteer needs, crafts, cooking and vendors!

Upcoming Christmas Bazaar Meetings

- Nov 9th: Cooking Night
- Nov 13th: Children's Bazaar Workshop
- Nov 16: Cooking Night
- Nov 27th: Bazaar Setup

Bazaar Set-up: Sunday, November 27th after the 10am service
Bazaar Date: Saturday, December 3rd, 10am-4pm
Bazaar Takedown: Saturday, December 3th, after 4pm (classroom space)

Sunday, December 4th, 12:30pm (Belmont Hall) **Please let us know which gatherings you will attend by going to our new online sign up.com account! <http://signup.com/go/NvduFz> Email notifications will be distributed prior to our gatherings.**

Bazaar Contacts: Elise Thompson, 751-6268 or elise.thompson@gmail.com or Amanda Morrison, 468-3434 or amandamorrison2008@gmail.com



Do you like to knit, crochet or do any have any other needle craft? We need you! We are looking for donated items for our knitting table at the Christmas bazaar on Dec. 2, 2016. Please call Carol Flanders at (609) 882-4915 if you have any questions.



Calling All Military Veterans!

A special service to honor Veterans Day will be held on Sunday, November 13th at the 10:00 AM Service at St. Matthews Church. All community Military Veterans and Current Military Members are encouraged to attend to be honored for their service to our country. Uniforms are encouraged but not required. A Reception will be held in Belmont Hall immediately following.



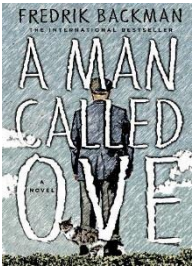
NOVEMBER BAKE SALE

The Ladies Luncheon Group is planning another bake sale for Sunday, **November 13th**. We plan to have baked items for sale after the 10 am church service. Please stop by and see what surprises we have for you to take home. All proceeds go to the Christmas Bazaar.



NOVEMBER LADIES LUNCHEON

Penny Rodgers will be our hostess for the November luncheon on Wednesday, **November 16th at 12:30**. Penny will provide the entree, so bring sides, salads, desserts or drinks. The address is 18 Blackwood Drive, West Trenton, NJ. If you plan to attend, please let Penny know by Nov. 13th by emailing at dennypenny@verizon.net or calling 883 5701.



ST. MATTHEW'S BOOK CLUB
Thursday, November 17 Classroom C

A Man Called Ove: A Novel by Fredrik Backman Ove has staunch principles, strict routines, and a short fuse. People call him “the bitter neighbor from hell.” Behind the cranky exterior there is a story and a sadness. It is a thoughtful exploration of the profound impact one life can have on countless others.

**"JOIN THE PLG FOR THE FIRST SOCIAL EVENT OF THE YEAR:
A TASTE OF ST. MATTHEWS!**

NOVEMBER 19TH FROM 7PM – 10PM

Along with a Beer tasting provided by Andy Swords and a Wine tasting with Jim Benton, we ask that attendees bring appetizers or desserts for 10 people to share. Non-alcoholic options will also be provided to include everyone over 21 who would like to join us! To cover the cost of the beverages and other incidentals, we ask for \$20/person. Please come and join in the Fellowship and Friend-Raising event!"



Parish Forum—Music as Mission?

The Music Visioning Team invites you to a **parish forum** on Music and Mission. We will be soliciting your input and presenting a draft of our work thus far. Bring your love of Jesus, your love of St. Matthew’s and of our surrounding area and its people, and your love of music. We will gather in Belmont Hall at **11:30 AM on Sunday, November 20.**



YEAR-ROUND STEWARDSHIP

God uses our gifts of time, talent and treasure—and most poignantly—of ourselves to do more than we can ask of imagine. God and this congregation provide the means to move toward the hopeful future we discern together. Stewardship is never an obligation. It is an experiment in trust, joy, and gratitude. How can we employ all we have for a life transformed by the surprising love of God? As we dare to entrust more and more of ourselves and all we have into God’s care and as our way of participating in God’s mission, we are transformed, and so are our congregation, our families, and our world.



ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The Bethal AME Church will host the Annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, **November 22nd at 7:00pm.** Their Rector, The Rev. Angela Battle will preach. Please make every effort to join our Brothers and Sisters in Christ for this very special community service.

Please note there will not be a Thanksgiving Day Service at St. Matthew’s.



We live in a world of noise. It comes from outside, (radios, smart-phones, television, people talking), and it comes from inside, (our own inner conversation, anxieties, plans, fears, resistance, hopes). It never stops, making it hard to hear what our heart of hearts is telling us. Sometimes, we need to give ourselves the gift of silence—a space of calm and quiet where we can settle down into the goodness of God at our center.

Sometimes, even our prayers are like too much noise—filled with words and demands. However, God might be inviting us to slow down and listen or to just enjoy resting quietly in his loving presence. "Peaceful communion with God can do without words. "I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother." Like the satisfied child who has stopped crying and is in its mother's arms, so can "my soul be with me" in the presence of God. A moment of silence, even very short, is like a holy stop, a sabbatical rest, a truce of worries."¹

Daring to quieten ourselves and enter a time of silent prayer is an act of courage and faith. We trust that at the heart of our silent prayer is God. We have to let go of being in charge and rest, letting God do the work of grace within us. We come out from the shadows and into the light where we are no longer hiding anything from the One who only wants our greatest good and loves us more than we love ourselves.

Advent is the perfect time for this slowing down and quiet, however short these little rest-stops can be for you. One way you might give yourself the gift of rest and peace might be to join us **every Sunday evening in Advent at 5:30PM for Taizé prayer**, beginning on November 27. It will offer us a space for rest, peace, silence, song, and candlelight. It will last from 30-40 minutes. Invite your neighbors. Invite your family. Invite your friends. Invite your colleagues. Give them the gift of peace and light in a world of stress and darkness.

¹ http://www.taize.fr/en_article12.html