



THE KEY

ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH

BEDFORD N.Y.

February

To know Christ and to make Him known

2012

How's your light?

Dear Friends,

We've all been electrically wired. So that when Jesus said, "You are the light of the world," "Let your light shine," and "Don't hide your light under a bushel," He was calling us to be true to what He has created us to be. Like the kings in this season of Epiphany, we too are mandated to be lights in a dark world.

You and I and all Christians are the channels through whom God's light reaches the world. In our baptisms, we became part of God. He put His own Spirit within us at the moment of our baptisms. This doesn't mean God is less. It means we are more.

The human body is made up of energy, pieces of energy that attract and repel each other with tiny explosions of light. So the body is literally full of light.

Knowing that we are part of God and that His life shines within us as active energy is an exciting revelation. This light vibrates at too high an intensity and too fine a wave length for us to see. We can't see x-ray light either. Yet we know it exists.

The chemicals of our physical bodies live by the primal energy we call God.

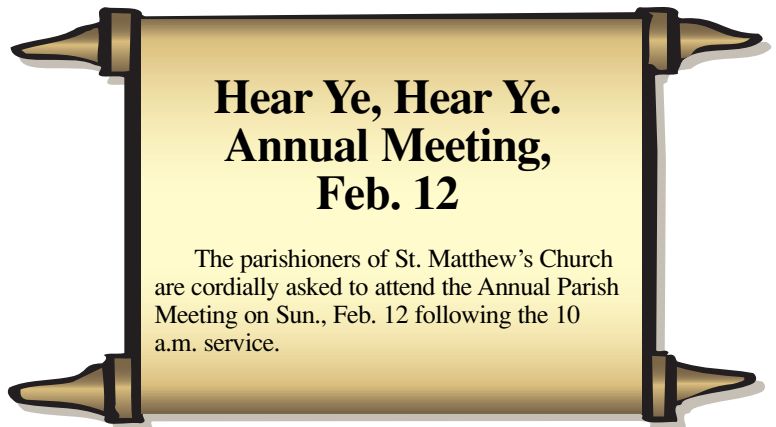
That means we are literally filled with energy, filled with the light of creation. Add to that the spiritual input of God's own energy at baptism and you see we carry within us a double portion. His light added to our light!

The question for you and me this Epiphany and in every season of our lives is: how am I shining my light? Am I shining it in such a way that others benefit? That the world around me is somehow being made better? Am I thinking of myself as full of light or beset by darkness? These and others like them are Epiphany questions and life questions.

But how we best fulfill this dramatic call on our lives is clear. We shine our brightest when plugged directly into the Source.

See you in our light-filled church!

Faithfully,



Mardi Gras Party, Feb. 12



Shed the grey tones of winter and the blahs of February. Get out your costumes and masks and come to dance and feast. Children of all ages are part of the fun on Sun., Feb. 12 from 5 to 8 p.m. Dixieland music – the best north of the Mason-Dixon line! Parishioner-prepared favorite dishes. Arts and crafts. Crowning of the king and queen of Carnival. Childcare for little ones.

The observance of "Carnival" or "Mardi Gras," which takes place before the penitential season of Lent, dates back to second-century Rome. It consisted of a feast which lasted for several days, with participants donning costumes and feasting and partying until Ash Wednesday. The observance of Ash Wednesday (this year, Feb. 22) halted all revelry for the forty days of Lent, which leads up to the great celebration of Easter (Apr. 8).

Be part of the merriment. Gather up friends and family. Sign up in the Parish House or call 234-9636. Bring your favorite dish. The more people come – the more costumes they wear, the more feasting there is, the more shoes hit the dance floor, the more fun Mardi Gras will be at St. Matthew's. *What will Terry wear? Or Danny? Or Susan?*

February Events

Sun., Feb. 5	11 a.m.	Super Bowl Bake Sale
Sun., Feb. 12	after 10 a.m. service 5 to 8 p.m.	Annual Parish Meeting Mardi Gras Party
Wed., Feb. 22, Ash Wednesday	10 a.m. & 5 p.m.	Holy Eucharist, with imposition of ashes
Thurs., Feb. 23	7 p.m.	Movie Night: The Road
Sat., Feb. 25	7:30 to 8:45 a.m.	Weekly Saturday Men's Fellowship breakfasts throughout Lent begin
Sun., Feb. 26	after 10 a.m. service 5 p.m.	Weekly Lenten Educational Series: Theology in Lent Holy Eucharist on Sunday afternoons begin



Art Show: Bedford

Art Show Co-chairs Laura Blau (2nd from l) and Laurie Sturz (r) and Curators Susan Grissom (2nd from r) and Leslie Henshaw (l) brought a contemporary flair to this year's show on Jan. 20-22.

St. Matthew's Annual Meeting, Feb. 12

The annual St. Matthew's Parish Meeting will be held on Sun., Feb. 12 following the 10 a.m. service. All parishioners should make an effort to attend to become better informed about the church and its programs. Rector Terry Elsberry, Senior Warden Dan de Menocal and Treasurer Peter Keller will present the Annual Report and give an overview of the state of the church, highlights of the past year, and its goals for 2012.

As part of the Annual Parish Meeting, elections will be held for two new candidates for the Vestry:

Jeremiah M. Bogert

Jerry and his wife, Margot, joined St. Matthew's more than forty years ago after moving out from the City with their two children. Their son was baptized here and attended Sunday school with his sister, occasionally being taught by their mother. More recently, Jerry serves as a lector and served on the Bedell Committee, while Margot was a recent member of the Long Range Planning Committee. Jerry has been on the board of Northern Westchester Hospital, the Bedford Free Library, Westmoreland Sanctuary, and the Bedford Golf and Tennis Club.

For six years he was a Managing Director of Silvercrest Asset Management, a wealth management/investment advisory firm in New York, and became a Senior Advisor to Silvercrest a year ago. In addition to playing golf and hanging out with their grandchildren, the Bogerts like to travel, especially to Italy with the Rector and his wife.



Scott Moody

Scott Moody and his family (Sarah, Anne -8, Will -4, Henry -2, and another to arrive in July) have lived in Bedford for just over six years and joined St. Matthew's shortly after moving here. Scott grew up in Larchmont and Sarah in Cape Cod, MA.



Scott currently serves as Bonten Media Group's Chief Financial Officer. Bonten Media owns and operates local television stations affiliated with the NBC, ABC, Fox, and CW networks. Scott serves on the board of United Way of Northern Westchester, and is active in Chowder & Marching and the Men of St. Matthew's.

Special thanks go to retiring Vestry members Peter Keller and Holly Brown, both of whom have worked long and hard on behalf of our parish.

Copies of the Annual Report will be available at the service and in the Parish Office.

Adult Education: Theology of Lent

Join Danny throughout Lent for a series on the Theology of Lent. We will be exploring the topic of Lent, the themes of life, death, and resurrection. The lectures will take place following the 10 a.m. service. All are welcome. The series begins Feb. 26 in the Conference Room.

Men's Breakfast Meetings Go Weekly for Lent

Come on Sat., Feb. 25 at 7:30 a.m. and the remaining five Saturdays throughout Lent for the Men's Breakfast Meeting. Good conversation, thoughtful time, and sharing of personal stories make these 75 minutes a weekly a "must" during Lent.

Lenten Mite Boxes Make a Difference!

An old Lenten tradition will be observed on Feb. 12 as mite boxes will be distributed so that our Church School students may remember those in need. The boxes can also be picked up in the Church School office at any time. During the six weeks of Lent, please encourage your children to fill their boxes by donating a portion of their allowance and earning from doing small (and large!) chores around the house. There will also be a large mite box in the Parish House for parishioner donations.

This year, all of our mite box contributions will go to the Diocese of Jerusalem. Since 1987, the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem has worked with Anglicans in the Diocese of Jerusalem to help support their schools, hospitals and institutes for the disabled. This year we are going to help too! As Anglicans, we support our fellow denominational friends worldwide. Part of being Episcopalian/Anglican means that we are part of a worldwide community connected around the globe as the Body of Christ. This year, after reading the articles in the *The Episcopal New Yorker*, the diocesan newspaper, and after having heard of the deep need in the Diocese of Jerusalem, we are going to support our fellow Episcopalians in the Holy Land.

On Sun., Feb. 5, Ann Lynn, the executive director of the American Friends of the Diocese of Jerusalem, will be at St. Matthew's to speak with us about the need in Jerusalem and how our collections will be used. She will also speak about pilgrimages to the Holy Land for those interested in visiting the heartland of the Bible.

Ann is an amazing person and a great humanitarian. Come to the 10 a.m. service to hear her speak about the need in the Holy Land and to contribute what you can to our fellow Anglicans abroad.

Marian Fife, Church School Director

5 p.m. Sunday Service of Holy Eucharist in Lent

Lent is the season in the life of the Church dedicated to piety, penance and prayer. It is a season when Christians are to take up a practice that reinforces the transformative life of Jesus Christ in their own life and daily habits. There are many ways to achieve a solid Lenten discipline. One way is to meditate daily and another way is to give up sweets. Yet another is to attend church more often. As part of our Lenten discipline at St. Matthew's, we will be including a 5 p.m. service of Holy Eucharist throughout the six Sundays of Lent. In Advent, we had terrific feedback on the offering of this service and hope for its continuance. Therefore, throughout Lent, a 5 p.m. service of Holy Eucharist will return. Please join us for this special time of reflection and prayer. Lent begins on February 22.

Lenten Book

Our Lenten Book selection is *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy. In this dark novel, McCarthy searches for the light. The economy of language in the book is stunning. The book itself is stunning. Please join this all-parish Lenten study. On Wed., Mar. 23 at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Room, we will have a movie night and watch the Hollywood movie based on the book. After Easter we will meet to discuss the book.

Ash Wednesday Family Service

Join us for our traditional Ash Wednesday Family Service on Feb. 22 at 5 p.m. All families and friends are welcome to this service, which includes a children's homily, Holy Eucharist and the Imposition of Ashes.

Super Bowl Bake Sale, Feb. 5

The Church School is baking again and asking all bakers and buyers for help. If you have a favorite goody to bake, please bring it in on the morning of Sun., Feb. 5. And for everyone else, please forego your New Year's diet resolution and purchase something sweet. The money raised will fund our ongoing ministry at the Children's Center at the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility.

Last year's Super Bowl Bake Sale raised \$800, which was used to provide transportation to bring children from the NYC boroughs to visit their mothers at the Correctional Facility. This year we are hoping to help the Center's Teen Program by bringing facilitators from the Center for Anti-Violence Education.

The Children's Center at the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility counts on our ongoing support, so please bake and buy on Feb. 5.

Facing East

Do you ever wonder why the graves in most Christian churchyards face east? A headstone will mark the western end of the grave, and, in the case of eighteenth and nineteenth century graves, there will most often be a small foot stone to the east, or simply a field stone marker. The inscriptions on the headstone may appear either on the front or back of the stone, but in all cases the grave itself will be to the east of the headstone. The inscriptions will often offer poems or other wishes for the deceased to be taken into the kingdom of the Lord. Theologically this is because the church taught that Christ would return from the east, and that the dead would be raised up to meet their Redeemer. At some point in time, we as Christians were moved into an understanding that when we die our souls were divinely transported into heaven. No longer was it necessary to be dead awaiting the return of our Savior to be brought to a higher life. As such, the practice of east-west orientation of graves was tempered to allow for more flexibility in their placement.

It is so in the St. Matthew's churchyard. In the original section of our burying ground, from Cantioe to just past the first stone wall entry, most all the stones assume the east-west orientation. But as you walk further to the east you will be in the newer section of the churchyard, which until 1928 had been fields abutting the burying ground. It is in this newer section, which now reaches down to the Chapel-in-the-Woods, that you see the less regimented placement of stones, and the absence of foot stones.

A walk through our Churchyard is like a walk back in time for two hundred years of Bedford and St. Matthew's history. From the earliest stones such as of Sarah and Daniel Smith, through the generations that followed, there are many stories waiting to be told. For instance, look at the picture: Daniel Smith died in 1796, before St. Matthew's owned the churchyard; Sarah Smith is called "relict" of Daniel rather than widow; and 1820 was a leap year. Every stone has a story, and for the most part all you need do is face east.



John Stockbridge

Outreach: A-HOME

Apropos Housing Opportunities and Management Enterprises (A-HOME) is a Westchester based non-profit organization that provides safe and affordable housing to low-and moderate-income populations including older adults, disabled individuals and single-parent families. Founded in 1985, the mission of A-HOME is to strengthen northern Westchester neighborhoods by providing people safe and affordable places to live -- the foundation of a stable life.



At present, A-HOME supports 110 low-income residents in 17 houses located throughout northern Westchester. A fundamental component of A-HOME's success is ensuring that our residents, and their homes, are woven into the fabric of communities. Key features of A-HOME's program include an intensive and well executed admission process for all residents; strong community support in property locations; ongoing collaboration with partner organizations including a coalition of St. Matthew's and 25 other local civic and religious organizations; and an engaged staff, board leadership and volunteers.

St. Matthew's support goes back to its inception. Peg Normann, formerly a parishioner of St. Matthews, co-founded A-HOME with Joan Arnold, its current Executive Director. Other parishioners serving on its board or advisory board are Patrick Brennan, Peter Ehrlich, Ursula La Motte and Lindsay Keller. Through the years, St. Matthew's has provided Thanksgiving dinners to many, many residents, and every Christmas parishioners have taken stars from the Wish Tree and contributed carloads of gifts to the very appreciative A-HOME residents.

There are usually at least two fundraisers a year. This year's Spring Gala is on Sat., April 28, when we will be honoring three distinguished members of our northern Westchester community for their contributions to A-HOME's mission. At the Casino Night themed gala, A-HOME will celebrate the faith of the Church of St. Mary the Virgin in Chappaqua, the hope provided by Lee V.A. Roberts's leadership, and the longstanding charity of Richard Lawrence, in front of a "full house" of agency friends.

As A-HOME's gala Vice Chair, Lindsay Keller would like to extend a special invitation to St. Matthew's parishioners to come, have a great time and support A-HOME.

Bedford: Spring Antiques Show

Champagne Preview Party

Friday, April 13, 2012

followed by the Antiques Show on April 14-15
Exciting details to follow!



Great art, great food (thanks, Cynthia Brennan) and the best company – what a wonderful evening it was. Thank you to the Women of St. Matthew's and our artists for making it such a special event.



February Church Calendar



Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany, February 5

- 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II**
Altar Guild: Kimberly Morella and Ginger Getz
Ushers: Mr. Bogert and Roger Vincent
Lay Reader: Jane Wood
Lector: Mr. Freeman
Acolytes: Sam Kawachi and Jack Marschke
- 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II, and Church School**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Borner and Blacker
Ushers: Messrs. Tingué and Baldwin
Mr. & Mrs. Lindsay Stewart
Lay Reader: Mrs. Allen
Lector: Mr. Gale
Acolytes: Christian Magnan and Tucker Johnston
Junior Crucifers: Eliza Altman and Ashleigh Brennan
*Lay Minister: Mrs. Thompson

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany, February 12

- 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Meyer and Whitman
Ushers: Messrs. Boe and Bowers
Lay Reader: Ginger Getz
Lector: A.J. Heath
Acolytes: Danielle Kulick and Nina Montross
- 10 a.m. Morning Prayer, Church School, and Sermon,**
followed by Annual Parish Meeting
Ushers: Messrs. Markowski, Gourd, Lovering, Keller
Lay Reader: Mr. Conrad
Acolytes: Andrew Harrison and Andrew Izzo
Junior Crucifers: Maggie Cassidy and Stewart Fife
*Lay Minister: Jane Wood

Last Sunday after the Epiphany, February 19

- 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II**
Altar Guild: Mrs. Keesee
Ushers: Messrs. Bolen and Claude
Lay Reader: Andrew Heath
Lector: Mr. Cox
Acolytes: Meghan Moran and Alex Needham
- 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Pinckney and Sturz
Ushers: Messrs. Burdick, de Menocal, Swift, Freyberg
Lay Reader: Mrs. Foster
Lector: Amb. Foley
Acolytes: Spencer Matthew and Taylor Matthews

Ash Wednesday, February 22

- 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist, with Imposition of Ashes**
Altar Guild: Mrs. Sturz
- 5 p.m. Holy Eucharist, with Imposition of Ashes**
Altar Guild: Mrs. Meyer

First Sunday in Lent, February 26

- 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Meyer and Scott
Ushers: Messrs. Foster and MacDonald
Lay Reader: Mr. Claude
Lector: Mrs. Finn
Acolytes: Clement Swift and William Bae
- 10 a.m. Morning Prayer, Church School, and Sermon**
Ushers: Messrs. Moody, Gaynor, Sturz; Lee Brown
Lay Reader: Mr. Jackson
Acolytes: Andrew Bowers and Patrick Foote
Junior Crucifers: Olivia Grubb and Carter Henshaw
*Lay Minister: Mrs. Allen
- 5 p.m. Holy Eucharist**
Altar Guild: Mrs. Meyer

Second Sunday in Lent, March 4

- 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I**
Altar Guild: Kimberly Morella and Ginger Getz
Ushers: Mr. and Mrs. Fagan
Lay Reader: Kimberly Morella
Lector: Mr. Cox
Acolytes: Natalie Harrington and Matthew Harrison
- 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Pinckney and Sturz
Ushers: Messrs. Fife, Maybank, Taylor, Belknap
Lay Reader: Mr. Seaman
Lector: Mrs. Ehrlich
Acolytes: Victoria Lange and Katherine Lange
Junior Crucifers: Julia Hutchings and Katje Knoblauch
*Lay Minister: Mr. Conrad
- 5 p.m. Holy Eucharist**
Altar Guild: Mrs. Sturz

*Children's Service

Comings & Goings

New or Returning Parishioners

Mrs. Ariane de Gunzburg
17 Sunset Drive
Bedford Hills NY 10507

Mr. Chris Pryor
657 Old Post Road
Bedford NY 10506

Change of Address

Mrs. Elizabeth Stetson Pettit
c/o Iola Stetson
6011 196th Avenue, N.E.
Redmond WA 98053

In Memoriam

In sure and certain hope

Minturn V. Chace, December 28, 2011

Our Carolers!

The Youth Group (a.k.a. Feeding Five Thousand Group) at the Family Carol Sing on Dec. 18



THE KEY

The Key is the monthly publication of St. Matthew's Church, Bedford. Parishioners are encouraged to submit ideas for articles or photographs of Parish events. Articles and photographs should be e-mailed to KeyArticles@aol.com by the second Monday of the month.

Editorial Committee:	Herb Foster	June Blanc	Terry Elsberry
	Douglas Kim	Danny Lennox	Hilda Minarik
		Bob Blacker	Tina Barrett
		Pat Thompson	Leslie Henshaw