



THE KEY

ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH

BEDFORD N.Y.

July/August

To know Christ and to make Him known

2019

A Thought from the Rector

*There remains then a Sabbath-rest for the people of God.
(Hebrews 4:9)*

Summer marks a substantial shift in the rhythms of our year. We are reminded that rest and rejuvenation are essential parts of life. This is no less true of our spiritual lives. We all need time to reflect and recalibrate, and summer brings with it these refreshing emphases.

In the earlier part of the 20th Century, as debates about science were raging in academic circles, philosopher and member of the Vienna Circle, Otto Neurath put forward an enduring image, commonly referred to as "Neurath's Raft." He imagined a boat, sailing in the middle of the ocean, when suddenly something goes wrong. Perhaps it begins to take on water, or maybe the sail tears. Fixing the boat is necessary, but must be done from within the confines of the boat. If the sailor tries to fix the boat by getting off the boat, both he and the boat will certainly meet their end. He was suggesting that philosophical theories cannot be fixed without reference to antecedents. There is no getting off the boat in order to fix the boat.

I find this image helpful whenever I prepare for a spiritual retreat. We all benefit from downtime. Usually a change of setting makes a big difference in our perspective.

Summer vacations highlight these themes. They are when we are enabled to get off the raft, so to speak, to analyze and observe our lives from a distance. And when we do this, we find fresh food for the journey ahead. Sabbath rest (i.e., think Sundays) are meant to build this type of reflection into our week, but we all need longer stretches when we can pause to look at our particular rafts from a distance. What is broken can be assessed; what is good can be appreciated; and the road in front of us can be considered prayerfully.

Consider an opposing scenario: imagine a football game in which the players are not allowed to huddle in-between plays. Certainly the time on the field will suffer accordingly.

My prayer is that each of you will find some avenue to recharge your batteries this summer. May God bless you in your downtime, and inspire you anew. Amen.

Grace & Peace,

Welcome, Drew & Alice Courtright!

St. Matthew's, let's all gather together in September to welcome our new Assistant Minister, the Rev. Drew Courtright. Drew and his wife, Alice, are a super addition to our parish. Drew just finished a two-year Curacy at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Concord, N.H., and Alice, who is also ordained, comes to Bedford after being the Dean of Chapel at St. Paul's School.



Originally from Greensboro, NC Drew attended seminary at the University of the South (Sewanee) after finishing a Master of Theology degree at St. Andrew's, Scotland. He brings with him a wealth of experience, including time spent working as a Youth Minister at one of the largest Episcopal churches in the country, Christ Church, Charlotte.

The Courtrights will move into the Jefferson Lane house in August and will be with us for the first services of September and the Harvest Festival on Sept. 7. The Courtrights have two young daughters, Margaret, age 3, and Lucy, age 1. Margaret will be joining us at St. Matthew's Preschool in the fall, with Lucy following her there next year. They have a five-year old dog named Finlay. While Drew is working as our Assistant Minister, Alice will be in a Master of Sacred Theology program at Yale Divinity School.

The Courtrights are very excited to be coming to St. Matthew's, which they visited twice. "It seems like a wonderful community, so beautiful and full of good people. We are looking forward to coming to this vibrant church and getting to know everyone soon!"

And, all of us in the Parish, are equally excited about having you join us!

Thank you Rik for a wonderful five years. We will miss you!



A Message from Rik Pike

In my last month with you all after five years of service and ministry, it was a real delight to help complete our first significant parish commitment to the Habitat folks in Newburgh – sponsoring 116 William Street in that city for a full renovation and rebuild, and preparing it for a young family-in-need to move into. Newburgh is not close to turning the corner yet in terms of gun violence and drug trafficking, but St. Matthew's has in a very real way stepped up and put its oar in the waters and said, "We can help."

The genesis of our annual Mission Trip came about in conversations around four years ago, as Terry supported the idea of getting some of our teens to help out with A-Home in Scotts Corners in June 2016. After that, Terry and I continued to build our links with the city of Newburgh, which seemed a natural new location for summer mission work and so we went there in June 2017, around the time of Terry's departure. And we returned with Pierce's encouragement in June 2018 – and we went back this June, with John Zahl delighted with our continued work and offering his full support. We began with 6 teens in the summer of 2016, and this June saw over 30 parishioners, both young and old, head to Newburgh to work with Habitat or with Downing Park Urban Farm.

There have been so many gifts and blessings in my ministry with you over these past five years – and clearly this Mission Trip work is one of them. But there are countless others, and for that my family and I are deeply grateful, beyond measure. And we will miss you, but we will continue to love you all from afar – and we hope, in time, our paths may cross again in this lifetime. And if not, well, certainly in the life to come. We wish John, Drew and all of you only the very best in the months and years ahead. St. Matthew's is a remarkable place, and it's been simply a joy to have called this parish home for the past five years. So thank you – and may our Creator and Sustainer continue to bless us all this day, and always.

Rik+

Pardon the Construction

July and August will be busy times for doing some necessary work to maintain and improve our beautiful buildings and property and have everything ready for the fall. Consequently, there may be times when access to buildings or the grounds will be closed or limited. This work includes: drainage work around the culvert and repaving the back driveway to the parking lot area (late June-early July); reroofing the cottage (early July); installing a new slate patio in front of the Children's Chapel (a week in July), reroofing the Parish House with slate (end of July to mid-August); and completing the restoration work in the church (church closed July 29 to Aug 16).



St. Matthew's Mission Opportunity Habitat for Humanity

St. Matthew's volunteers will be continuing the mission initiative that Rik has started. One or two days each month over the coming year, a team will head up to Newburgh for an 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. workday (available days are Wednesdays to Saturdays). Presently, St. Matthew's is supporting the renovation of two houses (a St. Matthew's sponsored house and a house sponsored in memory of Johnny Trotta).

On behalf of the core volunteer group that has supported Rik these past three years, we invite additional parishioners to join us. This mission effort has the very meaningful attribute of combining our Church's financial support with the immense satisfaction of hands-on effort. No experience is required. Additional photographs of recent parishioner volunteers at the two house sites can be found on the parish website. Contact Bonnie Tisi (bonnietrotta21@gmail.com) or Roger Vincent (rvincent45@icloud.com).



Church School

Sun., June 9 was a happy day for the Church School. Children came to the 10 a.m. service to receive attendance pins, then on to the stream to stomp in celebration of another successful school year.



July/August Church Calendar



St. Matthew's Church
 John A. Zahl, Rector
 382 Cantitoe Street P.O. Box 293
 Bedford, N.Y. 10506
 (914) 234-9636
www.stmatthewsbedford.org

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, July 7

8:00 a.m. *Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Altar Guild: Ms. Morella and Mrs. Reeder
Ushers: Mr. & Mrs. Fagan
Lay Reader: Mrs. Reeder
Lector: Mr. Vincent

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
Altar Guild: Mesdames Borner and Brenner
Ushers: Messrs. Eshoo and Kent
Lay Reader: Mrs. Tisi

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, July 14

8:00 a.m. *Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Altar Guild: Mesdames Reed and MacDonald
Ushers: Messrs. MacDonald and Reed
Lay Reader: Ms. Getz
Lector: Mrs. Tilt

10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
Ushers: Messrs. Akinla and Garten
Lay Reader: Mrs. Brenner
Lector: Mrs. LaMotte

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, July 21

8:00 a.m. *Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Altar Guild: Mesdames Fagan and Tilt
Ushers: Messrs. Bolen and Joyce
Lay Reader: Ms. Getz
Lector: Mrs. Tilt

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Altar Guild: Mesdames Pinckney and Sturz
Ushers: Messrs. Gaynor and MacLean
Lay Reader: Mr. Jackson
Lector: Mr. Peacock

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost, July 28

8:00 a.m. *Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Altar Guild: Mesdames Meyer and Scott
Ushers: Messrs. Foster and Vincent
Lay Reader: Ms. Getz
Lector: Mr. Vincent

10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
Ushers: Messrs. Keller and Ketchum
Lay Reader: Mr. Stickney

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, August 4

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
Altar Guild: Ms. Morella and Mrs. Reeder
Ushers: Messrs. Kim and LaMotte
Lay Reader: Mrs. Fagan
Lector: Mrs. Ehrlich

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, August 11

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
Ushers: Messrs. Mockridge and Sturz
Lay Reader: Mrs. Foster
Lector: Mr. Freeman

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, August 18

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
Altar Guild: Mrs. Sturz
Ushers: Messrs. Burdick and Lovering
Lay Reader: Mrs. Fagan
Lector: Mrs. Tilt

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost, August 25

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
Ushers: Messrs. Maybank and Miller
Lay Reader: Mrs. Fagan
Lector: Mrs. Tilt

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, September 1

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
Altar Guild: Mrs. Brenner
Ushers: Messrs. Robinson and Swift
Lay Reader: Mrs. Foster
Lector: Mrs. Talty

*Weather permitting, 8:00 a.m. service will take place in the Chapel-in-the-Woods in July.

Change of Database

Over the quiet of the summer, we will be making changes to our database system and Realm will no longer be available. If you have any questions or need help, please contact our Parish Administrator Kelly Napolitano or June Blanc.

Comings & Goings

New or Returning Parishioners

Mr. & Ms. Robert Dailey
 (Bobby & Jackie)
 385 Birdsall Drive
 Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

Change of Address

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Finn 2206 Theall Road Rye, New York 10580	Ms. Kimberly Morella 38-A Bedford Avenue Bedford Hills, NY 10507
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Holy Matrimony

May they grow in love and peace with our Lord and one another
 Alison Sofia Lindefield Bianco and Michael Nicholas Allwin –
 June 15, 2019

In Memoriam

In sure and certain hope
 Norah Parkins – June 19, 2019
 Sally Reese Pryor – June 6, 2019

Here are the answers to the Summer Quiz

- 1) The Parish Hall was built in 1946 as a Memorial to those who died, and all who served in WWII. A wood plaque in the entry of the Hall remembers the fallen.
- 2) John Zahl is the 13th Rector of St. Matthew's, and there have been 361 parishioners who have served as Vestry members since our founding.
- 3) The archangels names are Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Saraquel, Raguel, and Joel.
- 4) Our wonderful Tony Newman has served as Music Director, Organist and Composer for 28 years. He also originated and leads the Bedford Chamber Concerts, which have just concluded their 19th season.
- 5) In 1936, our Rector Arthur Ketchum proposed creating a Wayside Cross on the triangle of land owned by the Church at the junction of Rt. 22 and Bedford Center Road. The result was the Bedford Cross Tree of Life on that triangle. The motto was to be Peace and Goodwill for all who passed by. The tree-like appearance and budded Celtic cross were designed by the well-known Russian sculptor Gleb Derujinski. The words Pax et Bonum are carved on the southern base of the sculpture.
- 6) St. Matthew's uses five liturgical colors for our altar hangings. They are used as follows:
 - a) White: All Saints, Christmas, season of Easter, Trinity Sunday, weddings, baptisms, funerals
 - b) Red: Pentecost Sunday and Holy Week
 - c) Green: Season after Pentecost, 'Ordinary' time
 - d) Purple: Lent
 - e) Blue: Advent