



THE KEY

ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH

BEDFORD N.Y.

June

To know Christ and to make Him known

2019

A Thought from the Rector

"But one thing is needful..." (Luke 10:32)

Depth and growth are not the same thing. Think of a fruit tree. When the roots grow deep, the entire tree benefits, and certainly fruit is born. But depth only occurs under the soil. It cannot be seen or easily measured.

Growth, on the other hand, is usually measurable. One can count the number of apples that come off the branch each season. You can weigh growth. It's quite visible.

At St. Matthew's, we too can certainly track growth using an Excel spreadsheet (e.g., baptisms, attendance, giving, etc...), but the depth of our church is more elusive. Yet that is where attention should be focused.

We live in a culture that prioritizes growth ahead of depth. But my prayer is that we will, first and foremost, be a deep church. For if God answers that prayer, everything else we need will follow as if by reflex. One thing is needful.

We will MISS YOU, Rik

Our Associate Rector is leaving us to head back to school! In July, after five years of serving St. Matthew's, Rik Pike and his family will move back into New York City, where Rik intends to complete his chaplaincy qualification (Clinical Pastoral Education) after the family has initially settled into a new life in Park Slope, Brooklyn.



Rik has been a strong leader in many, many areas around our parish – from developing innovative 5 p.m. services, to outreach programs like Habitat for Humanity and his very capable guidance of the youth group and confirmation classes, to mention just a few. He will be missed by all.

Rik's growing family has also played its part in our common life together, with Tracy teaching at Sunday School, Alice and Milly attending all three years at St. Matthew's Preschool, and little Thomas being baptized in 2017.

Rik's last Sunday at St. Matthew's will be Sun., June 30, and we will have a special Coffee Hour in his honor that day. Please try to be there to wish Rik and the Pike family all the very best as they move forward in this next stage of their shared family life.

Celebrating Confirmation!

Sun., May 19 was a meaningful and joyful occasion when Bishop Shin came to St. Matthew's to confirm nine eighth-graders and two adults, with sponsors and parishioners joining together to support the confirmands.



Eighth-Grade Confirmands

- Rachel Ai Oluyemi Akinla
- Sebastian Goh Oladele Akinla
- Mason Stephen Barlow
- Isabelle Sara Daviau
- Christian Ridley Kim
- Grace Hudson Lanier
- Mary Rowan McGinnis
- Chloe Elizabeth Person
- Alexander Mackintosh Raezer



Adult Confirmands

- Stephanie Greer Metro
- Melissa Jane Whitworth



Annual Parish Picnic – June 9

Make sure you make it to the Annual All-Parish Family Picnic on June 9 at 6 p.m. Come join us for delicious burgers and hot dogs cooked to perfection by the Men of St. Matthew's with salads and desserts contributed by parishioners. We will be welcoming our newcomers to their first parish picnic. Be sure to introduce yourself and say hello! There will be games and activities for kids.



This is also a celebration of Rik's service to St. Matthew's and the wonderful years we have shared with the Pike family. Just before the picnic, join Rik in the Children's Chapel for his last 5 p.m. service.

The Magnificat was Magnificent



The Bedford Chamber Concerts closed the 2018-19 season in triumph, trumpets and singers

Final Church Restoration Items

This August, as in past years, there will only be a 9 a.m. service each Sunday. The main Church building will be closed from Mon., July 29, through Fri., Aug. 16, for the final completion of the Church restoration project. During this time, services will be held in the Children's Chapel. It was expected that cracks would surface as the Church settled onto its new foundation and a new HVAC system was introduced into a 210-year-old building. During this August timeframe, these cracks will be filled and repainted. In addition, a project to provide better access to the belfry and the attic of the Church will be completed and we are hopeful that two new chandeliers will be installed in the Church. The Property Commission is also planning to replace the roof of the original portion of the Parish House, as well as the roof of the caretaker's cottage, during this period.

Mission Trip This Month

St. Matthew's returns to Newburgh this June for four days of mission trip work – both at Habitat Newburgh and at the Downing Park Urban Farm. On June 11, 12, 27 and 28, parishioners will help renovate and build houses for those in need, working with our partners at Habitat; and on June 27 and 28, younger members of our parish will spend two days planting, tilling and tending to the plants in Downing Park.



The response for volunteer spots has been excellent; keep an eye out for more news in the coming weeks on our very own build in Newburgh where we will sponsor and help prepare a St. Matthew's Habitat house for a family looking for a new beginning.

Confirmands to Preach and Lead the Parish in Worship

On Sun., June 2, our confirmands will have the opportunity to inspire, amaze and delight you as they preach at both morning services as well as lead us in Morning Prayer worship at 10 a.m. Come listen to their heartfelt words and celebrate with them as they take their first steps into adult membership of the Episcopal Church and the wider Anglican Communion!

Sunday, May 12 was a Glorious... and very busy day at St. Matthew's



At the 10 a.m. service, there were five baptisms plus Flowering of the Cross!

And it was Mother's Day, so the men served coffee hour... with a few hardy souls singing to the women of our parish.

No question, it was a wonderful and warm Sunday.



Children's Ministry

Mark your calendars for June 9 and get your wellington boots and water shoes ready ... it's almost time for the annual Stream Stomp! Church School will join the congregation in Church to receive Church School pins, participation certificates and a summer reading gift before heading down to the river in the Glebe for some end-of-term fun!

As we approach the end of the Church School year, it is time for some thank you's. Seventy-two children have participated in Church School since September and the nursery has been very busy with 17 babies joining us. You will often hear me say, "many hands make

light work" and that is certainly the case for our Children's Ministry at St. Matthew's. I sincerely hope that for all our volunteers it has been a joyous task and a blessing to be part of the planting of seeds of faith in our smallest parishioners.

I know the congregation joins me in giving huge thanks to all our volunteers for their service and on a personal note, my own thanks to everyone who helped and supported me through my first year as the Children's Ministry Coordinator. Sophie, you made it look so easy!!

Tara Deeks

Many thanks go to:

Charlene Anderson, in the nursery, our "baby whisperer" and her high school helpers ...

Elizabeth Deeks	Sophia Garten	Sam Pakman	Georgia Swanson
Evie Dwyer	Clara Pakman	Emma Soderberg	Jackson Swanson

Mark Weigel our magical musician, who makes the Children's Chapel come alive when we sing our praises.

Our Lay Readers, for their gentle and fun leadership in the Children's Chapel services:

Noriko Akinla	Kathy Brenner	Doug Kim	Bonnie Tisi
Elena Barnum	Scott Brown	Susannah Swanson	Jane Wood

and of course our Church School Teachers:

Noriko Akinla	Meredith Kent	Melissa Raezer
Christina Bresani	Sophie Kernan	Payson Robbins
Beth Crowell	Ian MacLean	Hadley Scully
Michael Deeks	Brian McKenna	Traci Toll-Griffin
Catherine Eshoo	Lynn Neeck	Deirdre Zahl
Leigh Garten	Eric Parson	
Philippa Kennedy	Tracy Pike	

Hope to see you all at the parish picnic to celebrate a wonderful year together and the start of the summer vacation!

Art Show: Bedford Distributes Funds to Local Charities

At our 10 a.m. church service on May 5, the Women of St. Matthew's presented checks to five local not-for-profit organizations selected as beneficiaries of Art Show: Bedford in 2019. Shown from left to right: Susannah Swanson, Co-Chair of Art Show: Bedford; Debbie Haglund, A-HOME; CarLa Horton, Hope's Door; Kelley Housman, Mt. Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry; Jane Silfen, Hour Children; Marianne Delaney, Neighbor's Link; Jenny Convery, President of the Women of St. Matthew's; and the Reverend John A. Zahl. In addition to the five civic organizations in attendance that day, a much larger group of recipients received funds totaling \$32,000. Each year the entire proceeds of the show are distributed to local charities.



We thank all the members of the Art Show Committee for their efforts to unite the arts with outreach in this annual fundraising event.

St. Mary's Annual Music Service, June 23.

Our sister church in the woods, St. Mary's, will have their annual music service on Sun., June 23 at 5:30 p.m. featuring James Farley, the founder, keyboardist and music director of the nationally and internationally acclaimed band "JAZMYN." He performed in Las Vegas for nine years calling Mandalay Bay home, while playing Caesar's, Luxor, Excalibur, Monte Carlo, the Orleans, Paris and others. He has toured the Caribbean, Mexico, Israel, Scandinavia, China, Japan and the Philippines.



Preschool News

The month of May at St. Matthew's Preschool was a very busy time and we are all wondering how the 2018-2019 school year flew by so quickly. May brought a celebration with our beautiful Moms and Donuts with Dads. Our final family chapel service with Father John was held at the Chapel-in-the-Woods. The Pre-Kindergarten Class graduated on June 4 and the last day of school was a celebration of balloon making, bubbles and a family picnic held on June 5. The growth in all the children has been amazing to observe throughout the year.



Westmoreland Sanctuary will continue as part of the SMP curriculum for the next school year as it was a very successful addition. There are only two spaces left in our two-day, two-year-old program, with our three-year-old class and Pre-Kindergarten class filled with 16 students in each class.

Being a part of the National Association of Episcopal Schools has been a very positive part of SMP, and during the tours I have conducted, prospective parents love to hear about the children attending weekly chapel as part of their school experience and that the school is built on a strong foundation of Christian Values.

Our pre-school families enjoyed attending the Holy Saturday Family Service and participating in the Easter Egg Hunt with the wider church family.

I am so grateful for all the support received during my first year at SMP. I have many individuals to thank for making this happen. Father John; Kelley Johnston and the SMP Board of Directors; Suzanne Bowers, Vestry liaison to the school and the Vestry; and the kindness of the church members who have been so welcoming. The children and families have been so excited to be a part of the St. Matthew's community of love, caring, and kindness. The SMP Staff was just wonderful to work with and I am so grateful for their gifts of teaching and love for the children. I have been truly Blessed!

Susan deBrigard, Director

Midweek Holy Eucharist and
Bible Study on Wednesday at
10 a.m. through June 5

June 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

Seventh Sunday of Easter, June 2

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II**
Altar Guild: Ms. Morella and Mrs. Reeder
Ushers: Messrs. Bolen and Foster
Lay Reader: Ms. Getz
Lector: Mrs. Tilt
- 10:00 a.m. Confirmation-led Morning Prayer Service**
Ushers: Messrs. Gaynor, Keller, Kim, LaMotte
Lay Reader: Confirmation Class
Lector: Confirmation Class
- 5:00 p.m. Come As You Are Eucharist, Children's Chapel**
Altar Guild: Mrs. Walker

The Day of Pentecost, Whitsunday, June 9

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II**
Altar Guild: Mesdames MacDonald and Reed
Ushers: Messrs. MacDonald and Reed
Lay Reader: Mrs. Fagan
Lector: Mr. Freeman
- 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer and Last Day of Church School**
Ushers: Messrs. Mockridge, Moore, Robinson and Swift
Lay Reader: Mr. Brown
Lector: Mr. Gale
- 5:00 p.m. Come As You Are Eucharist, Children's Chapel**
Altar Guild: Mrs. Borner

First Sunday after Pentecost, June 16

- 8:00 a.m. *Holy Eucharist, Rite II**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Fagan and Tilt
Ushers: Mr. & Mrs. Reeder
Lay Reader: Ms. Getz
Lector: Mrs. Talty
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Pinckney and Sturz
Ushers: Messrs. Lovering, MacLean, Maybank and McKenna
Lay Reader: Mr. Jackson

Second Sunday after Pentecost, June 23

- 8:00 a.m. *Holy Eucharist, Rite II**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Meyer and Scott
Ushers: Messrs. Bowers and Joyce
Lay Reader: Ms. Getz
Lector: Mrs. Tilt
- 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer**
Ushers: Messrs. Akinla, Belknap, Borner and Brown
Lay Reader: Ms. Swanson

Third Sunday after Pentecost, June 30

- 8:00 a.m. *Holy Eucharist, Rite II**
Altar Guild: Mrs. Boe
Ushers: Messrs. Foster and Vincent
Lay Reader: Mrs. Fagan
Lector: Mr. Vincent
- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II**
Altar Guild: Mesdames Borner and Brenner
Ushers: Inglis, Kent, Ketchum and Lovering
Lay Reader: Mrs. Thompson
Lector: Mrs. Tilt

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. Gaynor, Keller, Kim and LaMotte
Lay Reader: Mrs. Tisi

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

It's Women that Make the World Go Round

Jenny Convery, President of the Women of St. Matthew's, opened the annual meeting and luncheon by recapping the achievements over the 2018-19 year. She then introduced St. Matthew's own "woman of all times" Pat Thompson, who profiled several women through the ages whose accomplishments have had a significant impact on the course of history. Such women included Eloise Luquer, Elizabeth I, Hypatia, Maria Montessori, Geraldine Bell and Hildegard of Bingen.



High School Q&A

On Sun., May 5, St. Matthew's Confirmation class was invited to attend a high school Q&A with three graduating high school seniors --Clara Pakman, Jackson Swanson and John Gregory—who shared their experiences of high school with the 8th graders who will be going on to high school in September.

In a perfect example of kids helping kids, the three gave valuable insights to the 8th graders: telling them to be responsible for their own time management; take time off away from school to be with friends and family; don't just take classes but get to know teachers; be open to expanding their horizons, participate in extracurricular activities; get enough sleep and follow their passions.

What was the takeaway from this very informative High School Q&A? Our future is in very good hands with such bright and grounded young people! Good luck to all of the graduating seniors.

Noriko Akinla

Comings & Goings

New or Returning Parishioners

Steve and Stephanie Metro
32 Old Village Lane
Katonah, NY 10536

Holy Baptism

Received into Christ's Holy Church

Olukorede Otelaja – May 12, 2019
Olumayode Otelaja – May 12, 2019