



THE KEY

ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH

BEDFORD N.Y.

September

To know Christ and to make Him known

2018

Dear St. Matthew's,

Summer is drawing to a close and new things are afoot. After a whirlwind of packing in Charleston, our truck left for New York and we welcomed it in Bedford last week. You know how divers turn that wheel attached to a diving board to calibrate the board's level of bounce before diving? Well that's been me all summer, getting prepped mentally, spiritually, and practically.

At the end of June, I spent two wonderful days with Rik, Elena, the Wardens, Staff, Vestry, and Pierce, getting a feeling for the lay of the land, looking under the St. Matthew's hood and so forth. I even enjoyed a wonderful lunch with Terry.

Earlier in July, Rik flew to Charleston, where he got to experience Grace Church Cathedral for 48 hours. It provided a great opportunity to get to know each other better, to think, pray, and brainstorm about the upcoming school year. There is lots to look forward to: all of the time-tested and well-loved St. Matthew's traditions, plus the addition of a few new offerings to boot.

I can't wait to dive in in September, and meet you all. The fresh renovations are incredible! Everything is in place. The Vestry have even done some summer reading.

You can help by praying for your church, for the Vestry, the Staff, all parishioners, and for us, the Zahls, as we join you now in faith and great expectation. God bless you, and keep you, and make His face to shine upon you.

See you on Sept. 9, my first 8 a.m.* and 10 a.m. services and on Welcome Sunday, Sept. 16 at the 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. services.

Grace and peace,

*So that John can get to know the 8 a.m. parishioners, there will be a casual Coffee Hour following the 8 a.m. service from Sept. 9 through Oct. 14.

September Key Dates

Sun., Sept. 9	8 a.m.*	Service resumes, followed by special Coffee Hour through Oct. 14
	10 a.m.	Service resumes, followed by Coffee Hour
Sat., Sept. 15	7:30 a.m.	Men's Breakfast resumes
Sun., Sept. 16	10 a.m.	Church School resumes
	11:15 a.m.	Welcome Sunday Coffee Hour
	5 p.m.	Come As You Are Eucharist resumes
	5:30 p.m.	St. Mary's Service: Edward Ballen
Wed., Sept. 19	10 a.m.	Mid-week Eucharist & Bible Study resume
Sat., Sept. 22	9 a.m.	Commission/Committee Chairs Meeting
	4:30 p.m.	Harvest Fair

GAMES! HAY RIDES! MUSIC! FAMILY FUN!

BBQ

TO WELCOME OUR NEW RECTOR
JOHN ZAHL AND HIS FAMILY

Saturday, September 22nd

4:30 p.m. — 7 p.m.
ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH
BEDFORD

**Hors d'oeuvres, side dishes, or desserts
are welcomed.**

[Click Here](#)

We're Rolling Out the Red Carpet for Our New Rector

To welcome John Zahl as our new rector, we have been hard at work planning for his arrival and the successful launch of his ministry at St. Matthew's. Vestry members, Meredith Pakman and Scott Brown, were asked to chair the on-boarding committee and over the summer have been working closely with John and the parish to ensure a warm welcome. John has made clear his top priority is to meet and engage parishioners as soon as possible.

We hope that everyone will place at the top of this fall's whirlwind of social activity the all-parish Harvest Fair on Sept. 22. It will be a hootenanny of pulled pork, corn bread and "slaw," music and fun – but most importantly – a wonderful opportunity to meet John, Deirdre and Daphne and celebrate their arrival in Bedford. **RESERVE NOW!**

Meredith and Scott have formed a transition team for facilitating "getting to know each other" conversations with John and members of the congregation and for sharing ideas. Steele Swift, Jerry Bogert, Virginia Maybank, Kathy Brenner, Susannah Swanson, Sim Ketchum and Luther Peacock have agreed to serve on the team alongside Meredith and Scott. Please feel free to communicate any thoughts or advice you may have to Scott, Meredith, or to a member of the transition team.

With John as our leader, we look forward to flourishing together and strengthening our lives as Christians. What a wonderful time to be a member of St. Matthew's as we enter a new chapter in the life of our beloved church!

See you on Sept. 9 at John's first service!



South Carolina BBQ

A Word of Welcome from Rik

Towards the end of July, I was fortunate enough to spend two days in Charleston, SC with John, our new Rector. We had a great time, meeting friends, work colleagues, family members – and eating some fantastic BBQ in the process!

I was further reminded – if any reminder was needed – that John’s going to arrive at St. Matthew’s with this congregation already well-established in his heart. I know how excited he is to begin his new ministry with us, and I know we will be blessed with the arrival of Daphne, Deidre and their dog Birthday in the Rectory. A new era beckons – and I am excited to play my part helping him find his sea legs in short order, and I look forward to witnessing what this new time of vitality, opportunity and reinvention will bring to our beloved parish. Welcome, John and family!

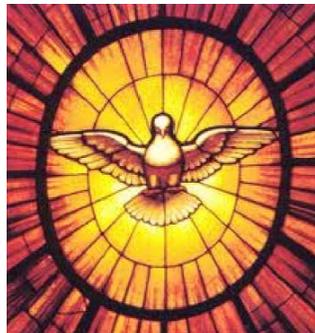
Rik

The 5 p.m. Service This Fall

The 5 p.m. in the Children’s Chapel returns on Sun., Sept. 16 and we’re excited to welcome our new Rector at our celebrations during the first few weeks as he begins to experience the full range of our worship offerings here at St. Matthew’s. During our first Sundays together we will cycle through all four Eucharist Prayer options in the Book of Common Prayer, and enjoy various musical offerings. Our first ‘monthly special’ will be the All Hallows’ Eve Eucharist on Oct. 28, followed by All Saints’ in November, and the Advent Festival in December. Come join us, come welcome John and help us move this service forward as St. Matthew’s enters a new era!

Calling all Eighth-Graders: Confirmation!

Confirmation will begin in October. All eighth-graders and their parents should register with me before the end of September. Please give me a call this month to hear about the Confirmation year ahead, and what’s in store for eighth-graders this coming year at St. Matthew’s as they prepare for adult reception into the Lord’s one holy, catholic and apostolic Church.



Rik

Church School: The Heritage of our Faith

Hello St Matthew’s! I am excited and humbled to be writing this article to introduce myself to you as your new Church School Director.

For those of you who do not know me, the Deeks family is originally from the UK. In October we will celebrate our two-year anniversary at St. Matthew’s, where we have found a truly wonderful spiritual home - thank you! My

husband, Michael, and I have three daughters, Elizabeth, 13, Amelia, 11, and Sophia, 9. We joined St. Matthew’s partly because of the wonderful children’s program. So it is an honor to be taking on the job of coordinating our Children’s Ministry!

I will be looking for strong guidance for the Children’s Ministry from our new rector, John, and we have already started those discussions. Suffice it to say this is a very exciting time. In addition, the Christian Education Commission as well as the Parent Advisory

Committee for the Children’s Ministry have been discussing new initiatives over the last few months. It is our mission to help and support parents in nurturing their children’s spiritual growth. We only have an hour or so a week of contact with the children so we will

continue to work hard to ensure that it is a vibrant, fun,

educational and spirit-filled time of fellowship.

Church School starts up again on Welcome Back Sunday, Sept. 16.

Someone has shared the heritage of our faith with you so please come on and help pass it on to one more generation – We aim to run five different classes (by school grade) every Sunday so many hands are needed to make this the light and joyous work it should be.

September 9 is John’s first Sunday preaching, and whilst I know you will want to be in church for that – I would like to take the opportunity to get to know the children even before Church School begins and am planning some fun activities in the Fellowship Room, or even better outside if the weather permits. I look forward to an exciting year together in Church School with John, Rik, you and our children. See you soon!



Mary Farley and Tara adding the Church School roster to Realm.

Tara

Youth Activity News for the Fall

We have two weekend outings planned for this Fall:

Sun., Oct. 21: come join our new Rector and Meredith Pakman for a trip down to **POTS (Part of the Solution)** in the Fordham area of the Bronx and help serve Sunday lunch to the needy and underprivileged. Always a great time, we have room for 12 Middle and/or High School teens to join John and Meredith.



Sun., Nov. 18: in association with the Westchester Youth Alliance, our High Schoolers are invited to join teens from other local congregations at an A-Home Work Day to help our neighbors in need. A fun day of hands-on work! Folks can find more information and sign up directly with the [Westchester Youth Alliance](#).

Please contact [Rik](#) with any questions or to sign up to either or both outings

St. Mary's Service, Sept. 16

Edward Ballen, the Executive Director of the Rwanda Education Assistance Project will speak at our sister church in the woods, St. Mary's, on Sun., Sept. 16 at 5:30 p.m. He will speak on "Restoring Hope One Child at a Time: Building Community in Post Genocide Rwanda."



Ballen founded the Rwanda Education Assistance Project (REAP) after he and his daughter Rachel journeyed to Rwanda in 2006 to volunteer at the Hameau des Jeunes orphanage. Then, in 2008, he founded the nonprofit organization to address the educational needs of orphaned children as well as children overwhelmed by poverty.

In addition to REAP, he works as a senior clinical supervisor in a school-based counseling program in the Bronx where he trains and teachers social workers along with running a family counseling program. Ballen also maintains a practice in Katonah and New York City, where he works with adults, couples, children and their families. He is a member of the Westchester Center for the Study of Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy.

St. Mary's, our sister church, is located at 197 Hickory Kingdom Rd. in Bedford, at the intersection of East Middle Patent Road and Hickory Kingdom Road, where it has stood for 150 years.

2018-19 Bedford Chamber Concerts

The 2018-19 Bedford Chamber Concert Season presents perhaps the most varied ever of chamber music possibilities!

Joining us and Maestro Newman this season for the first time are the rising young stars, Katie Hyun, Alex Shiozaki and Rebecca Anderson as well as our returning favorites, Renee Jolles, Danielle Farina and special guest Mary Jane Newman. We are also delighted to announce the return of world-renowned pianist Vladimir Feltsman and the virtuoso guitarist and master teacher Benjamin Verdery.

The first concert of the season, on Oct. 10, features Beethoven's most famous symphony: his Fifth, with a chamber orchestration by Hummel, a lifelong friend of Beethoven.

On Nov. 7, "Mostly in the Key of D", highlights the clarity and brightness of the music of Beethoven, Mozart & Haydn. Excerpts from Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite close out this special program.

The Dec. 12 concert brings us an antidote to the cold weather: Vivaldi's spectacularly ornamented The Four Seasons! It also brings us Vivaldi's gorgeous Double Concerto and his stately Triple Concerto.

The solo pianist on Mar. 20 is the superb Russian-American pianist Vladimir Feltsman, who will alleviate any mid-winter blues. Since his debut with the Moscow Philharmonic at the age of 11, he has wowed audiences with his vibrant command of any composer he chooses to interpret.

April 10 will bring to Bedford a special concert that includes Haydn's Surprise Symphony and Boccherini's Fandango and Vivaldi's Guitar Concerto with the chamber ensemble.

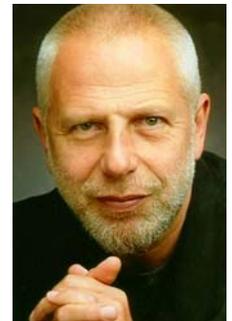
The final concert of the 2018-19 season on May 15 will feature two well-loved compositions by J.S. Bach: the Trio Sonata from The Musical Offering and Bach's setting of the biblical canticle Magnificat. Our flute soloist will be Emi Ferguson, who in the past has performed in various concert venues with: Yo-Yo Ma, Paul Simon, James Taylor, and four U.S. Presidents!



Mary Jane Newman



Benjamin Verdery



Vladimir Feltsman



Emi Ferguson

Please come and join us for a spectacular season! Buy your tickets early as some shows are likely to be sold out. Season Subscriptions and single tickets are available on our [website](#). All programs start at 8 p.m. in the Fellowship Room and include drinks and desserts at intermission. School-age children with a parent or caretaker are welcome to quietly attend the pre-concert rehearsals from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

June Mission Trip to Newburgh

Earlier in the summer, St. Matthew's parishioners of ten adults and eight youth went on a mission trip to Newburgh, volunteering to help renovate a house for Habitat and to work at a community garden called Urban Farm.



Habitat for Humanity: Newburgh has many old, decayed brick buildings and Habitat over the years has restored 90 of those into modern single family homes. The St. Matthew's adult volunteers were assigned the task of demolishing the inside of the basement and first floor of a brick building. This primarily involved pulling down plaster and old wood, and then carting it to a skip across the street in buckets and wheelbarrows. All in hot and humid conditions. Over three days, we filled two and a half skips. Exhausting work done with a smile, personal satisfaction and much camaraderie.

We also met other volunteers; two incredibly hard-working young men from AmeriCorps, a number of volunteers who are there every week, members from the Goshen Presbyterian Church, and students who had graduated from San Miguel Academy. Going there with the group from St. Matthew's was especially meaningful as it showed the goodwill and community which makes St. Matthew's such a special church. We all did our best to help, but much still needs to be done – and hopefully, we'll all sign up to help again next year – and be joined by many others from St. Matthew's.

Chris Robinson

Urban Farm: I really enjoyed our St Matthew's mission trip to the farm in Newburgh this past June. At the farm are grown all sorts of plants in a city environment to teach lower-income kids about farming so they can either grow their own food at home or consider farming as a viable career option. Our work included weeding beds, planting tomatoes, harvesting strawberries and raspberries, and putting cardboard sheets around the beds to prevent weeds from growing. We also made a woodchip walkway in the greenhouse and moved some cement blocks to create a place for the tomatoes to grow. Contrasting the dilapidated state of the city buildings with the beauty of the farm, we could see the value in providing a refuge for kids and families to get away from the stressful, often violent urban environment and partake in something more peaceful and wholesome. The mission trip reminded us of how blessed we are to live in such a loving and safe community, and how important and fulfilling it can be to serve others, as God calls us to do.



Clara Pakman

Finishing Touches on the Restoration of Church and Renovation of Rectory

Rectory: As the church renovation nears completion, we wanted to give you an update on the renovations that took place at the Rectory this past summer in preparation for the Zahls' arrival. A portion of the Capital Campaign funds was targeted for renovation of the Rectory, with the work beginning after Pierce's departure. The master bathroom has been updated; the Rectory painted; the windows repaired; the chimneys inspected and repaired; the driveway paved; and needed electrical, plumbing and septic repairs were also made. It was a busy month but all was completed in mid-August. Many thanks to Suzanne Bowers and John Pinckney who oversaw the work!

Church: The church restoration project was at full speed in August. The shoring up of the church foundation is complete, the concrete in the basement poured and work downstairs finished.

The new slate roof and outside painting are finished, despite the delays caused by the August rains. The floor refinishing, including sanding, staining and drying, is also done — another challenge in the steamy August weather.

The air-conditioning units have been installed in the choir loft, the vestry room and the kitchen, and the remaining ductwork in the nave (which needed to await concrete work in the basement) is finished.

The electrical and technology update is complete. We expect that we will need to reinstall our old chandeliers and sconces until the new ones arrive.

Drainage work has been completed around the perimeter of the church. The brick walkway from the Vestry entrance has been replaced. A new rectangular apron in front of the church has been added to allow the rector to greet parishioners and create a nice gathering spot as we leave the church.

When John preaches his first sermon on Sept. 9, he will be welcoming St. Matthew's parishioners into a newly restored church – one that will still look and feel like home, but behind the walls and under the floors will be construction and infrastructure work that will ensure another generation will call St. Matthew's home.

Preschool

I am looking forward to my first year as the new Director of St. Matthew's Preschool and being part of the St. Matthew's family. This is a wonderful time to be able to work with a new rector on plans for the Preschool.

St. Matthew's Preschool kicks off the 2018-2019 school year with an Open House for all families and children on Tues., Sept. 4 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. The staff has been working very hard to prepare their classrooms for opening day. The Parent Committee has sent invitations to all families to attend an "Ice Cream Social" to be held on Sun., Sept 29. There are also plans for St. Matthew's Preschool to have their very own pumpkin patch this fall. We're off to a very exciting year filled with fun and learning.

There are still limited openings for the fall if you know of a family looking for a quality preschool. For further information or to schedule a tour, contact me at the school office 914.234.7890.



Susan deBrigard, Director

St. Matthew's Prepares to Lend a Helping Hand to Hurricane Damaged Churches

Late last year, the Vestry earmarked up to \$500,000 from the Bedell Fund to assist Episcopal churches affected by hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria with their rebuilding and repair projects. The Bedell Committee was tasked with seeking and evaluating candidates for grants. Many parishioners may remember a successful initiative to assist churches devastated by hurricane Katrina back in 2005. As part of the current effort, Joe Maybank and I recently visited the Diocese of West Texas, making Corpus Christi our base. We toured three churches that had been identified by the Bishop and his deputy for disaster relief as having suffered severe damage from Harvey.

Jennifer Wickham, Bishop Reed's Deputy, was our host. We visited St. Francis in Victoria, Trinity by the Sea in Port Aransas, and St. Peter's in Rockport, which were identified as candidates by the diocese. We provided the churches with information about St. Matthew's and about the Bedell Fund's goals and operating procedures, its focus on capital projects and the importance of the vision, vitality and viability of a candidate.

As a result of our visit, Fr. Jim Derkits, Rector of Trinity by the Sea in Port Aransas, is scheduled to visit St. Matthew's in late September to make a formal presentation to the Bedell Committee. Its rectory, nursery school and an outreach building had all suffered severe damage from both high winds and flooding.

Dale Akinla, Co-chair, Bedell Committee



Ivette Sullivan, Senior Warden and Fr. James Derkits, Rector shows us temporary building structure used for the nursery school.

**Thank you,
Pierce.
We hope we
gave you some
great
memories.**



**The Zahls
Make The
Rectory Their
Home.**



A Personal Experience of General Convention

Around the 4th of July every three years, the Episcopal Church meets for convention somewhere in the United States; this year, the 79th General Convention of The Episcopal Church (TEC) met in Austin, Texas. Major decisions affecting the wider church are voted on by the House of Deputies—lay persons elected by each Diocese at their Diocesan Conventions—and the House of Bishops, which is comprised of all Bishops in the Episcopal Church. When the Houses are not in a working session, all attendees are free to visit the exhibition area, where the breadth of our church is on visual display.

Among the issues voted on this year were welcoming the Diocese of Cuba back into TEC, approving new versions of prayer acceptable for worship services, and again voting against boycott and divestment regarding the Holy Land.

Working in an exhibit booth for the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, I experienced the convention without all the work associated with being a deputy; it also enabled me to meet brothers and sisters I otherwise would not, and to see the many ministries they are engaged in around the world. We truly are the Big Umbrella Church, and it is awesome to see the Body of Christ at work ... as the Gospels teach, the hand is no more important than the foot, than is the eye or the ear ... some of us are focused on local issues, some international; some on ministries for the young, the old; some on church doctrine; some on the church in the wider world. All important. All respected and debated in the wider context.

Lorraine Reeder

Comings & Goings

New or Returning Parishioners

Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Alexander
302 Mountain Road
Jefferson Valley, NY 10535

Ms. Charlene Anderson
24 Whipoorwill Road East
Armonk, NY 10504

Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Fisher
124 Whitlockville Road
Katonah, NY 10536

Mr. & Mrs. James Rivett
10 Pond Lane
Armonk, NY 10504

Mr. & Mrs. Dave Schwartz
180 Baldwin Road
Mount Kisco, NY 10549

Ms. Verna Young
497 Bedford Center Road
Bedford Hills, NY 10507

Change of Address

Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Dexter
P.O. Box 535
Cummaquid, MA 02637

In Memoriam

In sure and certain hope

Jacqueline A. Turkel – July 8, 2018

Cindy Whitman Swank – July 28, 2018

Jay Spencer Millius Biddle August 17, 2018

September Church Calendar



Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 2

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
Altar Guild: Mrs. Brenner
Ushers: Messrs. Akinla and LaMotte
Lay Reader: Mrs. Foster
Lector: Mr. Peacock

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 9

8:00 a.m. *Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Altar Guild: Mesdames Reed and MacDonald
Ushers: Messrs. Foster and Reed
Lay Reader: Mr. Brown
Lector: Philip Bolen

10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
Ushers: Messrs. de Menocal, Garten, Lange and Swift
Lay Reader: Mrs. Foster

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 16

8:00 a.m. *Holy Eucharist, Rite I
Altar Guild: Mesdames Fagan and Tilt
Ushers: Mr. & Mrs. Reeder
Lay Reader: Mr. Stockbridge
Lector: Mrs. Talty

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Welcome Sunday and First Day of Church School
Altar Guild: Mesdames Pinckney and Sturz
Ushers: Messrs. Belknap, Brown, Fooshee and Miller
Lay Reader: Mrs. Tisi
Lector: Elizabeth Deeks

5:00 p.m. Come As You Are Eucharist, Children's Chapel
Altar Guild: Mrs. Meyer

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 23

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

10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
Ushers: Messrs. Borner, Cameron, Eshoo and Keller
Lay Reader: Ms. Swanson

5:00 p.m. Come As You Are Eucharist, Children's Chapel
Altar Guild: Mrs. Borner

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 30

8:00 a.m. *Holy Eucharist, Rite I
Altar Guild: Mrs. Boe
Ushers: Mr. & Mrs. Fagan
Lay Reader: Mrs. Fagan
Lector: Mr. Bogert

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
Altar Guild: Mesdames Borner and Brenner
Ushers: Messrs. Kent, Ketchum, Kim and Mockridge
Lay Reader: Mrs. Thompson
Lector: Mr. Peacock

5:00 p.m. Come As You Are Eucharist, Children's Chapel
Altar Guild: Mrs. Talty

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, October 7

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

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Altar Guild: Mesdames Borner and Brenner
Ushers: Messrs. Cummings, Garten, Gaynor and Hancock
Lay Reader: Mrs. Akinla
Lector: Mrs. Finn

5:00 p.m. Come As You Are Eucharist, Children's Chapel
Altar Guild: Mrs. Walker

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

**Children's Service

Meet You on Realm

You should have received an invitation by email to join Realm. Realm is St. Matthew's new platform for communications and maintaining our database. By logging onto Realm (whether on your computer or digital devices through the Realm Connect app), a whole new world is now at your fingertips. The church directory, your giving history (including the end-of-year tax statement), signing up for events, sharing files within committees, posting information or emailing your committee, using the Realm payment system for pledges or payment for events – are now easily available to you wherever and whenever you want.



No more needing to contact the office to update your address or email, you can do it yourself; no more wondering if you remembered to make your pledge payment; no more wanting to come to an event, but forgetting the details and how to sign up. Realm has it all, so if you haven't joined, please do it now!

Realm is new so we will all be learning together to make it robust and useful. If you have trouble joining or navigating Realm, go to St. Matthew's [website](http://www.stmatthewsbedford.org) or call or email [Kelly Napolitano](mailto:Kelly.Napolitano@stmatthewsbedford.org). She and the St. Matthew's Realm team (June Blanc, Mary Farley and Camillo Santomero) will be happy to work with you to get you up and clicking away.

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 Tuesday of the month.

Editorial Committee:	Herb Foster	June Blanc
	Rik Pike	Barbara Murphy
Photographers:	Tina Barrett	Pat Thompson

www.stmatthewsbedford.org