



THE KEY

ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH

BEDFORD N.Y.

September

To know Christ and to make Him known

2019

A Word from the Rector

A few months ago, a parishioner asked me: "Are you ready for single digits on Sunday mornings in August?" I remember thinking: "Really?!" ...So my expectations were low, which is always a good thing. But the summer at St. Matthew's has been wonderfully productive and fruitful.

Across the board, our Sunday morning attendance has been significantly higher than last year. Highlights have included the 8 a.m. services in the Chapel-in-the-Woods, our packed 10 a.m. service on July 21 (the hottest morning of the entire summer) out there, and standing-room-only 9 a.m. worship in the Children's Chapel throughout August.

On top of that, we had a series of four truly glorious funerals in July. God has seemingly been smiling down upon St. Matthew's the whole time.

But as we ramp up for the fall, I also hope you will notice a string of recent improvements/upgrades that we have been able to tackle in the past few months.

In the Church nave, interior wall cracks from the over 200-year-old building settling on its new foundation were repaired and repainted. Construction work was carried out in the choir loft ceiling to provide improved access to the Church's attic area. In doing this work, a failed support beam in the bell tower was discovered, which caused the bell tower to lean a few inches in the direction of Cantitoe Street. The engineering solution was to reinforce the beams with steel. Plus, Federalist-style chandeliers in an old brass finish were commissioned and should be available for installation in the nave in the late fall.

In the boiler room of the Church, a new ceiling and soundproofing insulation were installed. The roofs of the original portion of the Parish House and of the caretaker's cottage were replaced. The back driveway was resurfaced, a few speed bumps were installed, and some drainage issues were addressed.

At the Children's Chapel, a new patio was installed at the front entrance. In the Glebe, a stone wall was built along the path that leads to the Chapel-in-the-Woods, and numerous grave stones were repaired.

Touch-ups were completed to the interior and exterior of 40 Jefferson Lane in preparation for the Courtright's arrival in late August. Best of all, the Courtright family has officially moved in.

Drew is diving into his new role as our Assistant Minister, and I am thrilled to have him aboard. Do introduce yourself when you get a chance, and make sure to make his wife, Alice, and daughters, Margaret and Lucy, feel right at home among us. We will celebrate their arrival at this year's Harvest Festival on Sat., Sept. 7. And then Welcome Sunday is the next morning. PTL!

I hope you have had a lovely, restful, and rejuvenating summer.

Grace & Peace,



ST. MATTHEW'S
HARVEST FESTIVAL BBQ
Saturday, September 7 at 5:30 p.m.
Welcome to the Courtrights

PLEASE SIGN UP HERE AND BRING AN APPETIZER OR A DESSERT.

Harvest Festival, Sept. 7

Come one, come all, to our second annual Harvest Festival on Sat., Sept. 7! Starting at 5:30 p.m. on the back lawn, all are invited to a down home barbecue featuring hayrides, entertainment, fun and fellowship. This is a wonderful chance to reconnect and kickoff the beginning of the church calendar, and this year we'll be welcoming some very special guests: our new Assistant Minister Drew Courtright and his family. If you wish to contribute an appetizer or dessert, we'd be so grateful; please sign up [here](#) so we know how much food to order and what dish you would like to bring.



Courtrights arrive in Bedford: Drew, Alice, Margaret and Lucie in front of their new home.

Last year was a blast for the kids and adults alike, and Sept. 7th's shindig promises to be even more memorable; let's gather as a congregation to meet the Courtrights, break bread (or cornbread?) together, celebrate fall and all things St. Matthew's! We'll see you there!

St. Matthew's Directory

Early in September, we will be rolling out a new directory which will be available online. The online directory can be downloaded as an app as well as be available as a link through St. Matthew's website. The print version will be distributed later in the fall.



Church School Begins an Exciting Year, Sept. 8

Welcome back to Church School after summer!

On Sept. 8, we will all gather in the Church at 10 a.m. for John to welcome us and then the children will depart for an all-age activity. Formal lessons will start on Sun., Sept. 15.



During the upcoming church school year, we will be following year 2 of our Episcopal curriculum, Weaving God's Promises. The theme is "the family of God." Our lessons before Christmas will come from the Old Testament and in the new year, we move into the New Testament. Our goal is to give the children Bible literacy, i.e. to know the stories and history of their faith so that as they get older they can start to understand the relevance of the Good News in their daily lives. We work to try to establish an early understanding that we need to listen to and trust God at all times.

Please complete the online registration form for Church School (which you should have received by email and is also available on [our website here](#)). The Church School calendar for 2019-20 is also available on St. Matthew's website.

Some changes to note on Sunday mornings are:

- The first Sunday of the month we will have Church School starting at 10 a.m., then join the main congregation for a family communion.
- On all other Sundays PreK-3rd grade will have Children's Chapel at 10 a.m. and 4-7th grade should start the morning with their parents in Church.

I hope you had a fabulous, fun and restorative summer and look forward to working with you all through this coming year!

*Tara Deeks,
Children's Ministry Director*

College Jamboree Celebrates 10th Anniversary, Oct. 26

The year was 2009. A series of celebrations to mark the bicentennial of St. Matthew's was underway, including a day of serenading by college a cappella singers from all over the Northeast. Young, talented, and smart, they were all ours for one day at an all-parish picnic, followed by an evening concert with a catered dinner.

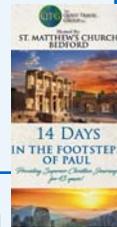


An immediate hit, the Jamboree became a new tradition that St. Matthew's has welcomed every year by hosting the Yale Whiffenpoofs, along with groups from Wellesley, Vassar, Smith Harvard, Princeton, Middlebury, Trinity, Williams, Brown, and others. It's a truly impressive group.

This year's 10th St. Matthew's College Jamboree is a milestone, so we're planning something special. Join us on Sat., Oct. 26, at 4 p.m. in the Fellowship Room to see what's planned. Tickets are \$50 to this very special event and will include light refreshments. Please [visit the website](#) to purchase tickets online or call Committee Chair Douglas Kim at 917-907-4394 for details. Why not make it a special night and bring an old friend from college to the 10th Jamboree?

The Footsteps of Paul Pilgrimage, Mar. 15-28, 2020!

There will be a brief presentation of this trip at Coffee Hour on Sun., Sept. 15 to provide further details and answer questions. However, there is no need to wait, the brochure and registration are available online.



Next spring parishioners will have the unique opportunity to travel with John Zahl and his father, Paul Zahl, as they guide us in the footsteps of St. Paul, the first great Christian missionary, treading where he trod and worshipping where he once taught in Greece and Turkey. John Zahl has been focusing on the epistles of Paul in his weekly Wednesday Bible classes and is eager to serve as our chaplain and theologian on the trip. His father, Paul Zahl, a former Episcopalian rector, is a New Testament scholar and classicist who has been visiting Pauline sites for over 40 years. Together, we will see Athens, Thessaloniki, Philippi, Corinth, Ephesus, Colossae and many birthplaces of the earliest Christian Churches. On the island of Patmos we will visit the Cave of the Apocalypse and Monastery of St. John, author of the Book of Revelations. Through this journey we will foster fellowship with one another, deepen our understanding of our Christian roots and connect with God in new and exciting ways.

The logistics of the trip are organized by the Quest Travel Group, an experienced agency that has been providing superior Christian journeys to congregations nationwide for over 43 years. The dates of the trip are March 15-28, 2020. The Quest Travel Brochure and Registration Form has been uploaded to the St. Matthew's [website here](#). The cost of the trip is \$5,498 per person including overseas airfare on Turkish Airlines or similar, or \$4,798 for a land-only rate without overseas airfare. The price includes all hotels, meals, entrance fees, tips, guides, and land transportation for 14 days. If you would like to reserve a place, please print out the Registration Form from the website and send it with a \$500 deposit to Quest as soon as possible since space is limited.

Please join us for what promises to be a life-changing and spiritual trip.

A Bedell Grant to St. Luke's

It is a pleasure to report the completion of a wonderful \$100,000 Bedell capital project that assisted our close neighbor, St. Luke's in Somers. The exterior of the church was painted, massive new custom shutters were installed to replace the prior dilapidated versions, masonry was repaired, and a handicap entry ramp and chairlift were built to enable disabled church members to more easily attend service and coffee hour.



Over the last 10+ years, the church had declined in numbers which led to deferred maintenance. The work funded enabled by the Bedell grant, a tremendously dedicated vestry, their new rector Father Mike Watson, and a separately funded restoration of their church steeple have enabled a beautiful rebirth of our neighboring Episcopal parish. St. Luke's plays a vital role in the community through various outreach programs including a food pantry, hosting over 30 AA meetings per month, and a thrift shop. They were thrilled to report an increase in pledging members as well as pledges. I encourage you to take a ride by for yourself to witness God's true grace as it is administered through Mrs. Bedell's fund. You will be amazed by what you see.

Twentieth Season of Bedford Chamber Concerts!

Under the baton of our own Tony Newman and with the generous support of its patrons and concertgoers, Bedford Chamber Concerts will begin its historic twentieth season in October.

The opening concert of the season on Oct. 16 will feature Carter Brey, Principal Cellist of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra. In addition to his duties for the Philharmonic, he concertizes with leading chamber music ensembles, including the Tokyo and Emerson string quartets, and is a member of the faculty of the Curtis School of Music. The music selections for this concert will be all Bach. This is Mr. Brey's first performance with the Bedford Chamber Concerts and promises to be an exciting and electrifying experience.

The Nov. 20 concert will feature music for flute and harp. This will mark the first-ever appearance of a harpist in one of our programs. Most concertgoers have heard harpists perform only in symphonic ensembles. Come in November to be introduced to the special magic of harp music up-close-and-personal! The program will include music by Beethoven, Mozart, Debussy, and Handel. The Dec. 11 concert will present Bach's six Brandenburg Concerti. "The Brandenburgs" are our great pleasure to present and they are always well-attended, so please consider reserving your ticket early.

Looking forward to spring, our March concert will be devoted to masterpieces for solo piano, the April concert will have the theme "A Night at the Movies," and the May concert will feature Beethoven's Triple Concerto, among other works.

The concerts are presented in the Fellowship Room. Tickets may be purchased online at www.bedfordchamberconcerts.org or reserved at (914) 522-5150. Sumptuous refreshments are provided during the intermission.



St. Mary's, Sept. 15

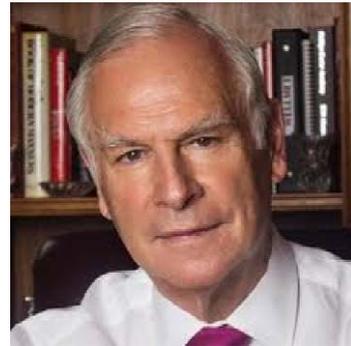
Our sister church in the woods, St. Mary's, will have a fascinating service on Sept. 15 at 5:30 p.m., featuring Peter Georgescu, former chairman of Young & Rubicam. Georgescu will speak on "Why does inequality matter in America? How can we fix it?"

Georgescu was born on the eve of WWII in Bucharest, Romania. Peter's father was the Managing Director of Exxon's operation in Romania. While on a business trip to New York in 1947, the Iron Curtain fell and Peter's parents could not return to Romania. Overnight they became the enemy of the Communist regime.

Peter and his brother were left in Romania with their grandparents and would remain apart from their mother and father for eight years. Their grandfather was seized and imprisoned as a political threat, and then murdered in captivity. Shortly after their grandfather was taken away, Peter, then only ten years old, was arrested along with his brother and grandmother and sent to a work camp. In 1953 their father was approached by Romanian Communist diplomats in New York and asked to spy for them in exchange for keeping his children alive. Georgescu's parents refused and went to the press, causing an international scandal. With the intervention of Congresswoman Frances Bolton and President Eisenhower, the boys were reunited with their parents in April 1954.

Georgescu's American journey started with a gifted admission to Exeter Academy in the fall of 1954 – which generously overlooked his inability to speak English and having had no formal schooling since second grade. He then went on to graduate from Princeton University, cum laude, and earned an MBA degree from Stanford Business School. In 1963 he entered Young & Rubicam as a trainee in their research department. Thirty-seven years later he retired as Chairman and CEO of Young & Rubicam with Y&R at the pinnacle of the advertising and related communications industry.

Georgescu is the author of "The Constant Choice: An Everyday Journey From Evil Towards Good," and "The Source of Success." He wrote the foreword for "Eisenhower on Leadership: Ike's Enduring Lessons in Total Victory Management." He is Vice Chairman of New York Presbyterian Hospital, Director of Just Capital and active in several other nonprofit organizations.



Calling Eighth-graders: Confirmation Class of 2020

If you would like your child to be part of the Confirmation Class starting in mid-fall, please contact Rev. Drew Courtright at dcourtright@stmatthewsbedford.org to secure a spot. Adults who wish to be confirmed into the Episcopal Church may also receive instruction by contacting Drew.

A New School Year at St. Matthew's Preschool

It is always exciting when a new school year is about to begin! New students, staff, planning, and ideas. It will be a joy to welcome all the new and returning children and their families on Tues., Sept. 3.

This year the enrollment at St. Matthew's Preschool starts with only a few spaces available in our two day, two-year-old class. Our enrollment has grown with full classes in our three-day twos, four- and five-day threes, and five-day Pre-K with 44 students attending for the 2019-2020 school year.

Our classes stand ready for our new year. Floors, carpets, furniture have been cleaned and supplies ordered. A wonderful new addition is a professional laminator for the staff purchased by the SMP Parent Association through their fundraising efforts. They also generously purchased each grade level a piece of furniture to add to their learning centers. It is amazing to have the support of these great families at SMP. The SMP Parent Association's first event will be an "Ice Cream Social" to be held on Sept. 28.



This year a music class will be added to our list of specials for two-year-olds, which last year, was only offered in our three- and four-year-old classes. Classes will also continue to participate in the Westmoreland Sanctuary Nature Program, Yoga, Spanish, Library, and weekly Children's Chapel. In addition, families are invited to attend a monthly Family Chapel Service. SMP is excited to welcome Rev. Drew Courtright and his family to St. Matthew's Church and School, with a special welcome to their daughter Margaret to our three-year-old class. We have heard that Reverend Drew plays the guitar and might be playing for us in Children's Chapel. We can't wait as Children's Chapel is a very special day of the week for all of us!

Stay tuned for more St. Matthew's Preschool Fun and Learning Adventures!

Susan deBrigard, Director

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

September 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

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*

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 8

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

10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer, Welcome Sunday and Church School Kickoff
Ushers: *Messrs. Akinla, Belknap, Borner and S. Brown, Jr.*
Lay Reader: *Mrs. Foster*

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

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 15

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

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Altar Guild: *Mesdames Pinckney and Sturz*
Ushers: *Messrs. Eshoo, Foosee, Moore and Robinson*
Lay Reader: *Mr. Brown*
Lector: *Mrs. LaMotte*

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

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 22

8:00 a.m. *Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Altar Guild: *Mesdames Meyer and Scott*
Ushers: *Mr. & Mrs. Fagan*
Lay Reader: *Mr. Jackson*
Lector: *Mr. Bogert*

10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
Ushers: *Messrs. Keller, MacLean, Scully and Struble*
Lay Reader: *Ms. Leighton*

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

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 29

8:00 a.m. *Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Altar Guild: *Mrs. Boe*
Ushers: *Messrs. Bolen and Vincent*
Lay Reader: *Mrs. Fagan*

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
Altar Guild: *Ms. Kernan*
Ushers: *Messrs. Kent, Ketchum, Kim and Mockridge*
Lay Reader: *Mrs. Akinla*
Lector: *Mrs. Ehrlich*

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

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, October 6

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
Altar Guild: *Ms. Morella and Mrs. Reeder*
Ushers: *Messrs. Boe and Bowers*
Lay Reader: *Mr. Stockbridge*
Lector: *Mrs. Tilt*

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

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

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

**Children's Service

Comings & Goings

New or Returning Parishioners

Mr. & Mrs. John Manning
366 Cherry Street
Bedford Hills, NY 10507

Mr. & Mrs. Balint Somodi
8 Hilltop Drive
North Salem, NY 1056

Holy Baptism

Received into Christ's Holy Church
Arthur Dexter Allatt – July 21, 2019

In Memoriam

In sure and certain hope
Robert Macy Finn – July 13, 2019
Arthur Shepherd Estey – July 14, 2019



SAVE THE DATE

A HOLIDAY
POP UP

BEDFORD BOUTIQUE

Tuesday, December 3, 2019
9 am to 7 pm

St. Matthew's Church
382 Cantitoe Street, Bedford
All Are Welcome!

Sponsored by and in support of St. Matthew's Church, Bedford