

Announcements

Sunday School Set Up

We will be needing people to help set up the Sunday school classrooms after the funeral reception on Sat., Sept. 16. Please let Micky know if you can help.

Stewardship Note from Laura Barkocy

--It always amazes me how God works. From Creation itself, to the amazing gift of His only Son, to His everlasting grace: God delivers. God comes through. As my son would say, God is clutch.

I have to admit, I do not have the greenest thumb in Monument, and probably not even on my street. It seems that every time I'm given a house plant, bouquet of flowers, or a new perennial for the yard, it dies. No pretty blooms, no re-growth - just wilting, and then eventually brown, crinkly things that flutter to the ground. I know why this happens. I do not nurture the gift. I do not take what my friend, husband, neighbor has graciously given me and care for it. It's not because I want this living thing to die: it's just that it takes effort, a desire to act, and a little bit of thought. The gifts, talents, and resources we have are ALL from God. But what we sometimes fail to realize, is that they are not meant for us to simply receive, but to nurture, act upon, and serve with them. It is crucial that as followers of Christ, we put EFFORT into sharing our gifts; that we are PRAYERFUL and THOUGHTFUL with how best to utilize them; and we ACT in ways that allow others to benefit from them. God gives us these blessed talents so that we may use them to serve Him by serving others. That is their purpose.

The gift of time should begin with time in relationship with God; time in prayer and time in the Word. Giving of this gift is also done through dedication to volunteering in the church and our community. Do you have time to help drive a neighbor to Sunday service? Do you have time to help clean up after coffee hour? Do you have time to chat with a lonely fellow parishioner?

Many of us may say: "I have no special talents" or "My talents can't help St. Matthias and its members." Talents can be anything from building walls to cooking a meal to just being a good listener. Do you have the talent of sewing to help mend linens or robes? Do you have the talent of gardening (unlike me) to help our campus grounds stay beautiful? Do you have the talent of organization? Being good with numbers?

Often when we hear the word stewardship, money comes to mind first. While the gift of income is definitely from God, it is just one of the abundant gifts we have been given. For most of us, it is natural to want to "keep what we earned". After all, we use it to fulfill our needs and desires, as well as store (save) it up for our futures and our children's futures. From a practical sense, money is necessary for the operation of our parish and its ministries, as well as the outreach St. Matthias supports. From a spiritual sense, the giving of our financial resources not only validates our faith in God (that He will still provide), but has the ability to bring tremendous peace and joy. In our family, part of that "letting go" is realizing that God is never letting go of his protection, mercy, and love for us. Yes, He is clutch.

Evening Contemplative Prayer Group

A new Contemplative Prayer group is gathering one evening a month at St. Matthias. All are welcome -- long-term practitioners of contemplative prayer as well as people who have never tried it. Please contact Amy Agape (210 260-1872/amy.sacredspace@gmail.com) if you have any questions. And please join us for prayer and practice on the following Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm: September 13, October 18, November 8, December 20.

Volunteers Needed



We are looking for volunteers to help as Teachers and Helpers for our Sunday School classes. Assignments are made based on when you are available to teach. We need adults to teach Sunday School for children, youth, and adults. Other volunteer formation needs: teaching assistants for the Children's Sunday School classes; adults to assist with Youth Group outings and to help at the Fall Youth Retreat; and, leaders for our newest program - The Busy Beavers - to monitor children (3 year olds to 2nd graders) during the first part of the service. A helper to assist with the Busy Beavers and monitor the nursery is also needed to be sure we are in compliance with the Diocesan policies and Safe Church guidelines. If you are interested in any of these programs, we need you! Many thanks to those who have already volunteered to help with Sunday School classes!

Please be aware that anyone working with the children or youth needs to have an application on file at the church to work with children/youth and needs to complete the online Safeguarding God's Children (unless your Safeguarding training is current). Anyone teaching adults will also need to complete an application and have a current Safeguarding God's People training on file at the office. You can send Micky an email if you aren't sure whether your Safeguarding training is current. If you need an application, Micky will be able to email this to you. Safeguarding training online can be accessed via the Diocesan website at <https://episcopalcolorado.org/congregational-resources/safe-church/>.

Youth Group

Congratulations to Teddy Fowler who was the big winner at last Sunday's youth mini-golf competition! A fun, COMPETITIVE time was had by all.

Youth group starts back up September 17th, and will be ongoing every Sunday from 9:00 - 9:45. Youth group is for all youth in grades 6th - 12th.

The youth retreat, Quest, is October 27 - 29, 2017 at Frontier Ranch in Buena Vista. Would anyone be willing to be our work crew (kitchen worker) for the weekend? Talk to Dawn or Erik if interested.

The deadline for Quest registration is September 29, 2017!

Adult Formation

Adult Christian education meets Sunday from 9 am to 9:45 am in the parish hall. We are continuing our class on Exploring our Christian Faith in the Episcopal Church.

Coffee Hour Providers Needed

We are in need of coffee hour providers this summer. Please sign up on the sheets over the kitchen counter. Also you may contact Cheryl Morris at 481-9518.

Photo Releases

There are photo release forms in the pew racks. Please complete one so that we may use pictures taken at church events in the newsletter/website/publications for St. Matthias. Thank You!

Grocery Cards

We have two Safeway and one King Soopers reloadable grocery cards available for only \$10 each. Please see Bill Clewe after church and he'll be happy to sell them to you!

St. Michael's in CS will host a Safeguarding God's Children workshop on Saturday, September 23, 9-12noon. You can register on the Diocesan webpage: <https://episcopalcolorado.org/congregational-resources/safe-church/>

For Those Deployed

We want to pray for those deployed in the fight against Terrorism, especially those in Iraq or Afghanistan. If you have a friend or loved one so deployed, please pass along to us their name (and yours). You may let Micky in the office know - stmatthias@comcast.net.

Need an Announcement in the bulletin or eblast?

Send Micky the announcement as you want it to appear to stmatthias@comcast.net by Noon, Wednesday prior to the weekend you want it posted.