

# SAINT MATTHIAS

---

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Saint Matthias Messenger

Published Monthly

Volume 20 Issue 3 –March 2023



**Saint Matthias Episcopal Church**  
7056 Washington Avenue  
Whittier, CA 90602  
(562) 698-9741  
[office@stmatthiaswhittier.org](mailto:office@stmatthiaswhittier.org)  
[www.stmatthiaswhittier.org](http://www.stmatthiaswhittier.org)

**Office Hours**

Monday-Friday  
10AM-4 PM

**Morning Prayer**

Sundays at 8 AM

**Holy Eucharist**

Sundays at 10 AM

10 AM Services Streamed at  
[facebook.com/stmatthiaswhittier](https://www.facebook.com/stmatthiaswhittier)

### ***From Senior Warden Tim Adams***

I was tremendously heartened by the turnout at the Annual Meeting of St. Matthias on Sunday, February 12. It comes at a time when it's important to see exactly who is St. Matthias. The fact that so many of you came out to allow your voices to be heard and to learn about what is happening at St. Matthias is encouraging. I hope you all will continue to be seen and heard during this time of change and growth.

There were a couple of things that I failed to mention that are important for you to know. When the Vestry made its budget decisions there were three areas, we agreed we needed to focus upon to get us to a balanced budget. The areas are staffing, our diocesan pledge and appeal for increased giving. Allow me to provide a little more background to what is happening in these areas.

With regard to staffing, the Vestry has and will continue to look at ways in which we can become more efficient with our staff. Effective March 1, 2023, the church office hours will be modified to 10AM to 4PM with a one-hour closure from 12PM to 1PM. In this particular circumstance we will modify the salary of our Office Administrator, Dottie Andersen. Staff considerations are particularly challenging because of the relationships we develop over time with our staff members. St. Matthias is no exception, and we greatly value the work of all our staffers.

(Tim Adams, Continued on p. 2)

(Tim Adams, Continued from p. 1)

Every year, we are assessed an amount to contribute for our diocesan pledge. Last year we fulfilled our pledge in the amount of \$30,000. We are increasing our pledge this year to the amount of \$36,000. In a December letter from the diocese, it was explained that our pledge would increase to upwards of \$53,000, based upon our 2021 income (the formula derived by the diocese). Given our present financial circumstance that amount will be extremely difficult to meet. The diocese has expressed their willingness to engage in discussion with those parishes who may anticipate challenges in meeting the prescribed amount. We will reach out to the diocese with the intent to reach an agreement on an amount that we can realistically undertake.

With regard to increased giving, we have only to look at our pledge income over the last couple of years and this year to see that we experienced a significant drop-off in this vital area. We can anticipate a vigorous Stewardship campaign this year with the hope of closing the gap in pledge giving. Consider making or increasing your pledge this year. It was determined that if every pledging household increased its pledge by \$8.00 a week, we would achieve a balanced with no deficit. It's imperative that we keep a tight focus on this subject especially given our impending search for a new rector. If we wish to employ a full-time rector, we should be willing to expend upwards of \$100,000 for salary and benefits if we wish to attract top candidates for consideration.

In September of 2022, we entered into an agreement with Fr. J.R. Lander III to be our interim pastor. That agreement was subject to our continued and mutual satisfaction with his ministry at St. Matthias. At the end of January 2023, the Vestry voted to terminate our agreement and it provided Fr. Lander thirty (30) days within which to respond. Upon receipt of the notice to terminate the agreement, Fr. Lander declined to oppose the termination and we mutually agreed to end our relationship with him, forthwith. We may, at least for the short-term, realize some savings absent Fr. Lander's salary. But we must bear in mind that a replacement to fill his role is a necessity to support and guide us as we move forward through Transition

(Tim Adams, Continued on p. 3)

(Tim Adams, Continued from p. 2)

At the Annual Meeting, I thanked a number of people for the great service they continue to provide for St. Matthias. To Ben and Dottie, all of us are forever grateful for every single thing you do for us and for the services we continue to provide for our community. Your love for St. Matthias shines through every day and in everything you do. Kevin and Charissa, for the musical ministry you provide which contributes so greatly to our worship experience, we are constantly appreciative. To all of our choristers, we thank you, as well. To all of the volunteers who are so consistent in their response. Diana Jimenez, Romona Paladino, Carol McCracken, Sue Williams, Barbara Khan, Joan Krave, Wei-San Mohindar, Carrie Sue Tennant, Steve Anderson, Jacob Warner , Erick Harmon – and I’m afraid I’m leaving someone out – but thank you all in the sincerest sense for all that you do. You personify the spirit of community, and it is your energy that sustains us.

I’m going to take advantage of this very public opportunity to extend thanks to Stan Jamieson for his untiring devotion to St. Matthias. He is historian, cheerleader, counselor and friend to all. I know there are others who are just like Stan in terms of their knowledge of and attachment to St. Matthias, but I have had the pleasure to work closely with Stan this past year and it has never ceased to amaze me the wealth of knowledge you have and are so willing to share. Thank you, Stan, for your support and for your friendship. You are appreciated by me, and St. Matthias is truly blessed to have you in our midst.

I anticipate this being my last submission for the Messenger as someone else will be assuming the role of Sr. Warden as I step aside in the interest of my health. I will complete my term on the Vestry, and I will continue to work to advance St. Matthias as an address for God’s kingdom in our community. I hope everyone will continue to work together toward that goal, always remembering to do the loving thing!

**+ + +**

## WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE, AND WHY DO WE NEED THEM?

Stephen Ministers are there:

.....after the phone call you hoped you'd never get.

.....after the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you.

.....after the relationship falls apart and the bottom falls out of your life.

.....after the doctor says, "I'm sorry, but there's nothing more we can do."

.....after the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, "Welcome to your new home."

.....after the last child honks the horn, waves, and drives away—and the house suddenly seems empty.

.....after the gavel comes down, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away.

.....after the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible.

.....after you find a pink slip with your final paycheck.

.....after our family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it.

Stephen Ministers are the after people. They are ready to come alongside you—your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives, and provide comfort and support for as long as needed. Your Stephen Ministers are trained, experienced, and hold everything in strictest confidence. If you, or anyone you know fit an above description or have a situation in your life that could benefit from a Stephen Minister, please contact:

Faye Jackson 562-587-7745	Terry Dodd 626-533-8263	Sophie McIntosh 909-913-1399
------------------------------	----------------------------	---------------------------------

## **HOLY EUCHARIST AT 10:00 A.M.**

During the Lenten Season, we will be graced with the presence and leadership of the Rev. Vienna McCarthy at the 10:00 a.m. services. Mother McCarthy spent several Sundays with us earlier in our Transition. Please join us in welcoming her back to St. Matthias. We will continue to have Morning Prayer at 8:00 a.m.

## **LENTEN SERIES**

On Thursday evenings each week during Lent we will explore what brought you to St. Matthias, what keeps you at St. Matthias, and what direction you want to see St. Matthias take for its future. We hope you will dig deep and share your feelings about our community while we have fun and enjoy great eats during Lent. Come to Lewis Hall at 6:00 p.m. for the food, fellowship and an opportunity to share our experience at St. Matthias.

## **ANNUAL LENTEN QUIET DAY**

Daughters of the King invite you to join them for the Annual Lenten Quiet Day on Saturday, March 4 at 8:45a.m. The program themed "Beloved is Where We Begin " is based on a poem by Jan Richardson. Additionally, meditations by Henri Nouwen will be visited. Light refreshments will be served. Attendees are also invited to participate in a potluck lunch following the program and meditation. The program and luncheon will conclude no later than 12:00 p.m.

## **EASTER LILIES**

Order Easter Lilies now! Order forms are available in the Sunday bulletins for you to place your order for beautiful Easter Lilies in thanksgiving for or in memory of your loved ones to display on the altar at St. Matthias on Easter Sunday. Complete the order form and return no later than March 26.

?? ? Bible Quiz ? ?

How many times does Jesus say we should forgive others?

- A. 7
- B. 70
- C. 77
- D. 70 x 7
- E. C or D, depending on the translation

forgive

Answer: E (See Matthew 18:22.)



"These are vegetables, mother. You wouldn't want me to eat something I've given up for Lent, would you?"

# Puzzle!

Using the code, complete this passage based on Ezekiel 34.

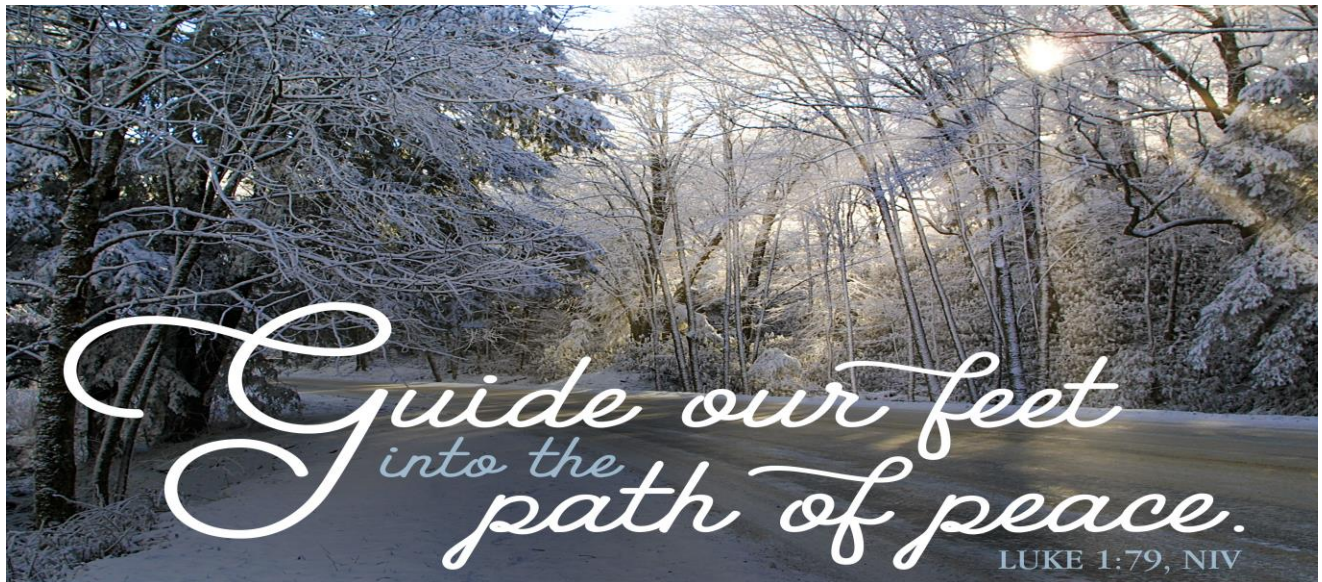
CODE

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A

"As a \_\_\_\_\_ looks after his  
 H S V K S V I W  
 \_\_\_\_\_ when \_\_\_\_\_ is  
 H X Z G G V I V W U O L X P S V  
 \_\_\_\_\_ them, so will I \_\_\_\_\_ after my \_\_\_\_\_.  
 D R G S O L L P H S V V K  
 I will \_\_\_\_\_ them and \_\_\_\_\_ them.  
 I V H X F V K Z H G F I V  
 I will \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_ and bring back  
 H V Z I X S O L H G  
 the \_\_\_\_\_ . I will \_\_\_\_\_ up the \_\_\_\_\_  
 H G I Z B H Y R M W R M Q F I V W  
 and \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ . You are my  
 H G I V M T G S V M D V Z P  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ... and I am your \_\_\_\_\_ ."  
 H S V V K T L W



sheep, God  
 pasture, search, loss, strays, bind, injured, strengthen, weak,



Guide our feet  
 into the  
 path of peace.

LUKE 1:79, NIV

## MARCH SERVICES, EVENTS, AND SMALL GROUPS

**MORNING PRAYER:** Sundays at 8:00 a.m. (in-person only)

**HOLY EUCHARIST:** 10:00 a.m. (in-person and streaming live at facebook.com/stmatthiaswhittier)

**BIBLE STUDY/MORNING PRAYER:** Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. Chapel.

**LENTEN SERIES:** Thursdays, 6:00 p.m. Lewis Hall.

**MEN EATING BADLY:** Saturday, March 4, 8:00 a.m. Greenleaf Café. Contact Tim Adams.

**LENTEN QUIET DAY:** Saturday, March 4, 8:45 a.m.

**OUR TIME:** Thursday, March 14, 2:00 p.m. Chase Room. Contact Mary Jean Christian.

**VESTRY MEETING:** Tuesday, March 14, 7:00 p.m. Chapel.

**ST. ELIZABETH'S GUILD:** Thursday, March 16, Noon. Chapel. Contact Diana Jimenez.

**STITCHERY GROUP:** Saturday, March 18, 9:00 a.m. Chapel. Contact Ellen Mykkanen.

**DAUGHTERS OF THE KING:** Sunday, March 19, 1:00 p.m. Chapel.

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN:** Saturday, March 25, 10:00 a.m. Chase Room. Contact Kathy Adams.

**Looking for a Part-Time Tax/Admin. Assistant for a small Local Accounting firm.**  
**Should have good customer service skills, be comfortable using Microsoft Office,**  
**answering phones and playing with numbers.**

**Flexible schedule – about 20 hrs. per week, with heavier hours during tax season.**

**Email resumes to [mwa.acctg@yahoo.com](mailto:mwa.acctg@yahoo.com).**

**Thank you!!**

# CENTURY 21<sup>®</sup>

Cornerstone



**Alan Selmanaj**

**Century 21 Cornerstone**

**(562) 587-6131**

**[aselmanaj@roadrunner.com](mailto:aselmanaj@roadrunner.com)**

## Food for Thought

The prisoner cannot free himself.

quoted by the sages of the Talmud

per Rabbi Steve Leder  
"For You When I Am Gone"  
p 98

***Thank you for sponsoring The Messenger.***

**If you're interested in sponsoring  
The Messenger by purchasing space on this page,  
please contact the church office.**

# Sunday Worship at St. Matthias: March 2023

- March 5**      **The Second Sunday in Lent**  
Genesis 12:14a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17
- March 12**     **The Third Sunday in Lent**  
Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42
- March 19**     **The Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41
- March 26**     **The Fifth Sunday in Lent**  
Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

We look forward to offering our worship services on more than one platform for streaming in the near future. We are awaiting new equipment that will allow us to do so. So please be patient and stay with us till that happens.

March 2023



Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #204  
Whittier, CA

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED  
DATED MATERIAL

**SANT**  
**MATTHIAS**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
7056 Washington Avenue  
Whittier, CA 90602  
(562) 698-9741