



July/August 2023

# The Messenger

**ST. Matthew's Episcopal Church**  
9349 E. 65<sup>th</sup> Street, Raytown, MO 64133

## St. Matthew's Staff

The Rev. William Jeff Hurst  
Priest-in-Charge

Sherry Minzey  
Admin. Assistant

Patti McGill  
Music Director

## Officers

Judy Taylor  
Senior Warden

Carl Turlin  
Junior Warden

David Macey  
Treasurer

Linda Gerding  
Secretary

## Service Times

Sunday Worship  
Holy Eucharist Rite II  
10:00 a.m.



Dear Church family.

Many thanks to Jason Brooks and Rev. Barbara Wegener for leading the church on the Sundays we were away. I did listen afterwards and was so pleased how well the services were conducted and so enjoyed the good homilies that were delivered. Thanks again to Patti too!

We unfortunately lost our dog sitter and so we just adjusted where we went and what we did so to relax and spend time doing things together locally we normally don't get to do. The icing on the cake was when we picked up our 9-year-old granddaughter Gwen from the airport this past Sunday. We have been enjoying visiting with Gwen and going to her favorite movies and fixing her favorite foods.

As summer comes to an end soon, I urge us reflect on our stewardship we offer before the Lord. You will be hearing from our Senior Warden Judy Taylor soon concerning how we can revision our discipleship which is truly what we present to God as our reasonable service and worship ---time, talent and treasures is one way to describe it. We are small but mighty and I am looking forward to what new inroads we will make in our ministry and mission for the sake of Raytown, Missouri.

Blessings,  
Fr Jeff Hurst

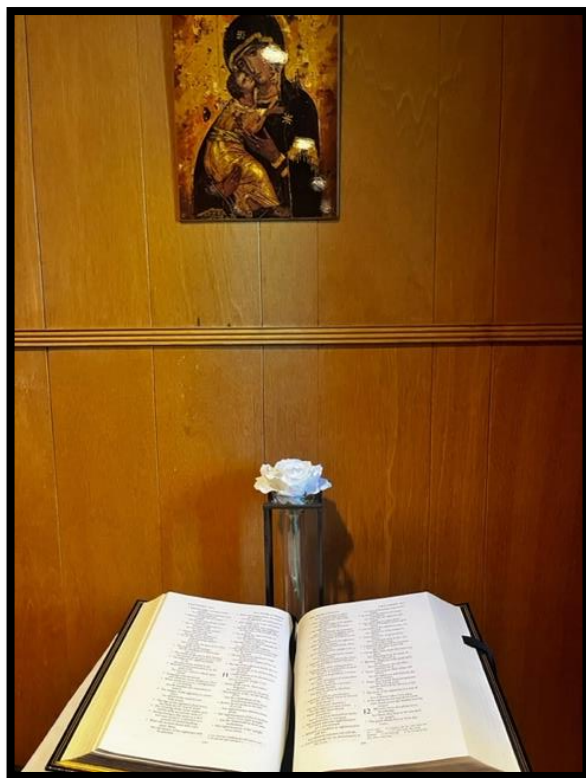
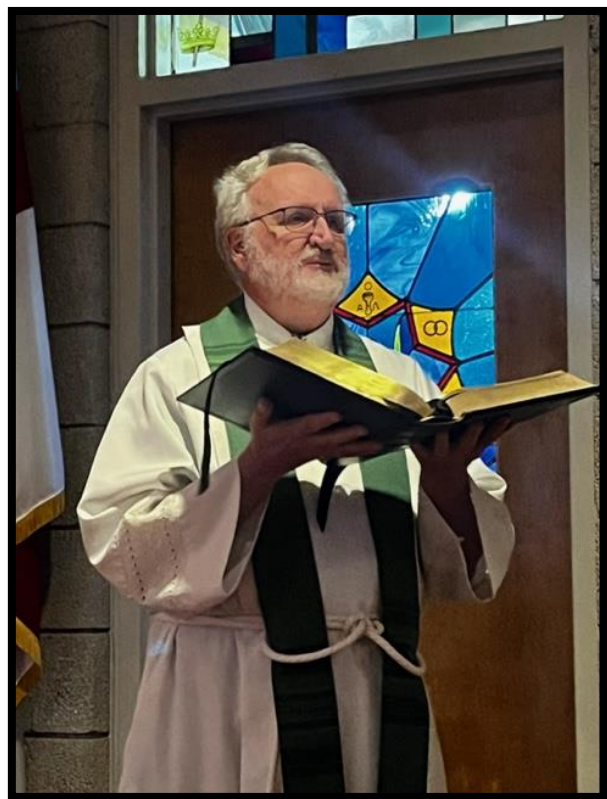
## BLESSING A VERY SPECIAL BIBLE

How long it had been tucked away in a box in the Sacristy no one is quite sure...but it was discovered and now is beautifully displayed in the sanctuary.

On Sunday June 11, 2023 Fr. Hurst blessed the beautiful Bible that was "Given to St. Matthew's by Dean and Ann Anderson in thanksgiving for their 50th Wedding Anniversary."

Both Nancy Anderson and Janet Anderson Brown, Dean and Ann's daughters, felt the Bible should remain at St. Matthew's and expressed to Fr. Hurst they would like for it to be used. Fr. Hurst agreed, but also would like to keep it in nice condition, so has it on display but will use it for special readings on special Seasons of the year. What a wonderful way to honor the memory of two parishioners who played such a big role in the development of this parish!

Linda Gerding-reporting



## Anonymous Gift-Red Velvet Kneeler



On Sunday June 11, 2023 Fr. Hurst shared with the congregation the story of how St. Matthew's was gifted the beautiful red velvet prayer kneeler, prior to his blessing it.

Fr. Hurst explained that it was one half of a set of kneelers purchased by a parishioner for a home chapel and prayer space. Spencer Jasper, from St. Mary's Episcopal, and Fr. Jeff, were discussing options for its use at a church when Fr. Jeff said he thought it would be nice to have a kneeler at St. Matthew's for Mary's Shrine. Spencer told that to the parishioner and it was agreed to give it to St. Matthew's as a gift to the Glory of God, in the loving embrace of the Most Blessed Virgin.

After blessing the kneeler Fr. Jeff remarked how old it was but that it was in excellent condition. He reminded the congregation to think of the many who had knelt and prayed on it before it was gifted to St. Matthew's.

Thanks be to God.

Linda Gerding-reporting



### Central Deanery Meeting

The Central Deanery met at Christ Church in Lexington. The new Dean, Father Tim Coppinger, presided over the meeting which was held both in person and by Zoom. Jason Brooks was on Zoom. Zella Forsythe was there in person. There were about 15 deanery members present at the meeting.

Father Coppinger gave us a flyer announcing a Central Deanery Choir Festival which will be held Saturday, October 14th at St. Paul's. Lee's Summit. This festival is open to anyone who likes to sing, and, of course, all choir members all over the

deanery. It will begin in the morning and end in the afternoon with a concert of the music learned that day.

There was a discussion of the narrative budget for 2024. The Standing Committee is working very hard to choose the right Bishop for us when interim Bishop Diane has served the 3 years contracted. Someone suggested that we clone Bishop Diane. There was also a discussion about the money designated for Nourish KC.

It was announced that Gary Allman, current communications director, is retiring. Zach Phillips will replace him to serve with Communications for the Diocese.

Only one grant was requested and approved. There is a significant amount of money left in the deanery funds for requests for each of the 17 churches in the Central Deanery.

The deanery summer picnic will be held in Sedalia at 1101 W 32nd St. from noon to 3 p.m. We are requested to bring lawn chairs and a side dish to share and have FUN!

The next Deanery Meeting will be held at 10:00 on Saturday, August 26th at St. Anne's, Lee's Summit.

Zella Forsythe

Report of Deanery 6/24/23

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### Altar Guild Meeting

Saturday, August 12 at 10:00 a.m. we will have a meeting to update information and special dates. This meeting is for Altar Guild members and anyone who may be interested in serving this wonderful tradition.

Jeannie Miller





## ***Flying Solo***



### **10<sup>th</sup> Annual Raytown Senior Celebration**

Eight of us were at the 10th annual Raytown Senior Celebration, enjoying the camaraderie, fun and games. They had a DJ, music, photo booth and a magician for entertainment. Every now and then, they had big drawings for prizes. Linda and I won in two of those drawings.

Mary Cease



## June Flying Solo



We skipped the movies, since there were not any suitable, and enjoyed a dinner at the Jack Stack BBQ in Lee's Summit.

Mary Cease

## Each new day is an opportunity to begin anew.

Just as the sun rises on the new day, a light dawn within me as I begin anew. My past is behind me. Not bound by my mistakes or regrets, I take the best of what I learned and leave the rest.

My future is ahead of me, mine to shape to my highest hopes and dreams. I say yes to opportunities that call to me. I pay attention to my passions and those things that kindle my zeal and enthusiasm. These nudges from Spirit encourage me to live in the highest expression of myself as a divine being, a beloved child of God.

I am in the precious present now. I leave hesitation behind. One with God and at peace with myself. I am ready for every good thing as I begin again.

**In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.----**

**John 1:1**

Teresa

For His Sake, Linda Batson, Daughters of the King





## ANOTHER VERSION of THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN!



On Friday morning June 9, 2023 a yard clean-up crew assembled to tackle the honeysuckle, trimming of shrubs, pulling of weeds, and sacking up dead limbs and wood from under the tree in the back yard. The day was changed from Saturday to Friday due to the availability of Properties Chair, Carl Turlin, and the possibility of rain on Saturday. This made the work crew a little smaller, as some parishioners had to work at their "paying jobs". Even so, the seven who showed up did a "magnificent" job at what they accomplished. There is still work to do, but that will be scheduled for another day.

Many thanks to Carl Turlin for being our Properties Chair and guiding us in what to do, providing water, tools, organizing the event, and taking the many Lawn & Leaf bags to dump in his back woods.

Thanks to Mary & Charles Cease, Linda Gerding, Nicolas Turlin, Dominic Brooks, and Dean Patterson... This year's "Magnificent Seven"!

Linda Gerding-reporting



you  
are  
awesome



Great Job



## Back 2 School Backpacks & School Supplies



Linda Gerding will be collecting donations for REAP's backpacks and school supplies. Please make checks payable to REAP or put in a REAP envelope and mark it Backpacks then place it in the offering plate. Collections will be 7/30, 8/6 and 8/13.

REAP will be posting about their Back2School Backpacks & School Supplies next week, so be on the lookout if you want to share that information.

### Online Links

#### Online Giving Link:

<http://stmatthewsraytown.org/>

#### Facebook:

[St. Matthew's Episcopal Church | Facebook](#)

#### St. Matthew's Website:

[St. Matthew's Episcopal Church \(stmatthewsraytown.org\)](http://stmatthewsraytown.org/)

**SEPTEMBER  
MESSENGER  
&  
CALENDAR  
DEADLINE AUGUST 23<sup>rd</sup>**

