

St. Matthias' Episcopal Church

The Rev. Brenda S. Overfield, Rector

11300 West Huguenot Road

Midlothian, VA 23113

Announcements for April 3, 2020

GENERAL INFORMATION

Morning Prayer via zoom—9:00 Am

Formation Programs via Zoom 10:15

For after-hour emergencies and pastoral care, please contact the Rector or Parish Administrator: 804-464-1842. For baptisms, marriages, or funerals, please contact the Rector. For use of the facilities, membership, or giving and pledges, please contact the

Parish Administrator.

Church sponsored, Sunday bulletin announcements are due in the office by 12:00 PM, Tuesdays and should be submitted here:

www.stmatmidlo.com/news-announcements

Please see our community bulletin board in Morrison Hall for personal and community announcements.

OFFICE HOURS

Office Closed

Staff members are working from home and are checking voice mail and returning calls.

Phone: 804-464-1842 Fax: 804-594-5982

Weather/Emergency Text Updates: Text WeAreIAm to 84483

Web Site: www.stmatmidlo.com ~ Email: st.matthias@stmatmidlo.com

From the Rector's Home Office

Faithful Sisters and Brothers of St. Matthias!

As a result of Governor Northam's Stay-at-Home mandate until June 10th, we have more updates for everyone. Please be sure to read through to the end:

Facilities will remain closed, all activities continue to be cancelled. However, most, if not all, of our activities can be continued virtually via Zoom. Many meetings and gatherings have been put in place for us to be able to do that. If yours has not been included, please contact Brother Mark.

It was wonderful to see everyone's faces and to be able to pray together this past Sunday on Zoom for Morning Prayer. We will continue this every Sunday morning at 9 until our quarantine has been lifted.

Additionally, the Seekers' group met and is continuing The Way of Love. This Sunday we will examine Worship as part of this Way of Love. It is very timely in these circumstances. Please join us if you haven't already.

This Sunday, Palm Sunday, begins Holy Week. We will worship together via Zoom.(please see the links provided) Following is our Holy Week schedule:

Palm Sunday: Liturgy of the Palms and Morning Prayer. 9AM. (please have a sprig of anything green you can show on Zoom)

Wednesday: Stations of the Cross: 12:15PM. The booklets for this will be provided with a link.

Maundy Thursday: Compline 8PM

Good Friday: The Good Friday Liturgy: Noon

Easter Day: Morning Prayer 9AM

To continue to BE community and to literally see each other's faces and hear each other's voices, we will begin something we will call "Passing the Peace" where we will gather virtually by Zoom just to be able to be together. This will begin on Tuesday, April 7 at 7PM and will continue every Tuesday evening at 7PM throughout this time of separation. Please join us! Bring your favorite beverage, dessert if you're just finishing dinner- whatever you like. Bring the kids, the pets, and yourselves and we'll have a happy visit and pass God's Peace among us!

At this time, Paul reminds us that we are called to run with patience the race that has been set before us. Much like his life, and those exiled out of Israel centuries before him, we can discover the remarkable ways we discover that God is with us and among us every day- in a kind gesture, a selfless act, encouraging words of hope shared with another. Pray for the sick, for those who have died, for those who grieve. Care for one another and yourselves. Remember- this will not last forever.

Your Sister along this Journey we call Faith,

Brenda+

Ps: please share all of this information to those you know do not have email or other electronic devices. Also share this with all your neighbors and friends who might be feeling disconnected and isolated.

The Rev. Brenda S. Overfield
Rector, St. Matthias' Episcopal Church

Being the Church During the Corona virus

A video message from Bishop Susan

[Bishop's Message.](#)

How do I do Zoom?

If you would like to join in on our many activities and worship, but have never used Zoom click on the link below to learn how join a Zoom meeting.

[How to use Zoom](#)

Sunday Morning Prayer

Sunday Morning Prayer

Brenda will read Morning Prayer on Sundays beginning on Sunday, March 29. This will continue until we are able gather again to worship in person. See the directions below for joining our worship on Sunday.

Time: Apr 5 2020 09:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Every week on Sun, until May 10, 2020, 7 occurrence(s)

Apr 5, 2020 09:00 AM

Apr 12, 2020 09:00 AM

Apr 19, 2020 09:00 AM

Apr 26, 2020 09:00 AM

May 3, 2020 09:00 AM

May 10, 2020 09:00 AM

Join Zoom Morning Prayer

[Morning Prayer 9:00 AM](#)

Meeting ID: 679 513 030

Password: 700051

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,679513030# US (Chicago)

+19294362866,,679513030# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US

+1 301 715 8592 US

Meeting ID: 679 513 030

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/679513030>

Worship Booklet for Palm Sunday

Holy Week Services

Below are the days and times of our Holy Week Services. Click on the service to download the service bulletin for that service.

[Palm Sunday 9:00 AM.](#)

[Wednesday: Stations of the Cross 12:15 PM](#)

Maunday Thursday: Compline 8:00 PM (Link coming soon)

Service of Good Friday: 12:00 PM (Link coming soon.)



Sunday Christian Formation Zoom Classes.

Seekers: This Sunday's Seekers' group will examine Worship as a part of The Way of Love. Please watch the video from the link provided, and be prepared for conversations around that topic. Beginning at 10:15 AM Sunday.

Video for Class

Join Class

Sunday School for Children & Youth

Join us Sundays at 11:30 am – 12:00 noon for a live get-together for all ages. The gatherings will be via Zoom. This week we will explore how to build a sacred space in your home.

You can join the Zoom meeting by clicking on this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/969410740?pwd=YkQ0Zm1TT2xSVVFrblFaQnV2Yldrdz09>

Meeting ID: 969 410 740

Password: 990143

Feel free to contact Kristen Ketron, Director of Formation Ministries if you have any questions. kristen.ketron@stmatmidlo.com

Christian Formation – Online

St. Matthias now has a website dedicated to formation opportunities for all ages. Here is the link to the website: <http://www.stmatmidlochristianformation.com/>. The link will be available in the biweekly eNews, on Facebook, and on our St. Matthias website (<https://stmatmidlo.com/>).

For children and youth – each group has their own page with the regular lessons from the Sunday school curricula available for downloading and watching videos. There are some bonus formation opportunities at the bottom of the page.

For adults – the various groups that meet at the church have provided information about continuing content and online meetings.

The Home page has links to each group's page as well as event calendars for each group at the bottom of the page.

If your group would like to be included or you would like to update your group's information, contact Kristen Ketron, Director of Formation Ministries. kristen.ketron@stmatmidlo.com

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/314826802>

ATTENTION ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL AGED KIDS/YOUTH:

We sent out (via old-school USPS) 2 devotional booklets for Holy Week: 1- Holy Week at Home for Families; and 2- Stations of the Cross for Young People. Both items are also on our Christian Formation for All Ages website, on the Seasonal Formation Opportunities page:

You should receive the envelope in time for Palm Sunday. If you don't, contact Kristen Ketron, Director of Formation Ministries to get your copy:

For those wanting to continue to contribute to your pledge

During these unprecedented times, we are called into community in unprecedented ways. Your financial gifts to St. Matthias are of vital importance to support our ongoing ministries and our outreach to the most vulnerable among us. Even though the office is currently shut down staff is working with our outreach ministries to ensure that funds continue be sent to the organizations we support.

Please continue to offer your faithful gifts by mailing your check to our church office at 11300 West Huguenot Road, Midlothian VA 23113.

We are currently in the process of setting up online giving. We expect to go live with online giving in the next 5-7 days. More information will be forthcoming..



Realm Connect

Yesterday you received an email from the church to sign up for Realm Connect. You may ask what is Realm Connect and is it safe or just a scam. It is real and not a scam!

Realm is the name of the software system the church uses for its operations including all administrative aspects, including all our directory information. The system allows for communications through email and message boards set up for various groups/ministries of St. Matthias.

How secure is it? The security is role based, therefore only certain people can see particular information. For instance, group communications can only be seen by the group members, or payroll information can only be seen by the bookkeeper. Or only you and the bookkeeper can see what you have contributed monetarily to the church this year.

Simply put it is a way for us to stay connected. We thought this was the perfect time for us to invite all in the parish to access this tool so we can continue to support one another in this interesting time.

Please email me with any questions.

Weds. Morning Kerygma will be meeting by Zoom on Wednesdays at 10am. Contact Ned Armstrong at ncarmstron@aol.com to be sent a Zoom meeting invitation.

The subject is a lecture series on the New Testament through Open Yale Courses. It can be found on you tube under Introduction to New Testament History and Literature by Professor Dale Martin.

Resources for worship at home

[Daily Office](#) Morning, noonday, evening prayer and compline

[Daily Devotions](#) for Individuals and Families

[Morning Prayer](#) podcast

[Online Book of Common Prayer](#)

Formation resources for online use

[Illustrated Ministry](#) Free weekly faith formation resources for all ages for use during this time of suspended services and programs

[Prayer & Worship in Our Homes](#) a free course ChurchNext focusing on prayer, designed for those who might be seeking alternatives to group formation/worship as churches navigate Covid-19 (the coronavirus) in our communities. The course can be utilized either individually or via a zoom-style classroom. ChurchNext is offering two other free courses: [Bridging the Political Divide](#) with Parker Palmer and [Make Me an Instrument of Peace: A Guide to Civil Discourse](#), sponsored by the Office of Government Relations of The Episcopal Church.

[Lent Madness](#) - This annual saintly competition is carrying on and is a good option for online formation.

[The Work of the People](#) - A spiritual visual library. Their videos can be streamed in Zoom gatherings ([here's how to do that](#)).

Talking about coronavirus with children and youth

[KidsHealth: Coronavirus - How to talk to your child](#)

PRAYER LIST

Prayer requests can be sent to Br. Matk at Mark.jenkins@stmatmidlo.com.

Our Congregation is asked to keep in their prayers the following:

The people of St. Luke's	/Kyle & Chad Doebler	
Erik Anderson	James Bonniwell	<i>For the repose of the souls of :the Rev. Robert (Bob) Armstrong; the Rev. Sean Cox</i>
William	Alice	
Dick Harman	Bill	<i>For those in the military, especially:</i>
Kate Reid	Paige	Todd Batteau
Alice	Samantha	Sooky Brooks
Elizabeth B.	Emma Kate	Alex Burton
Gibbes B.	Maggie	Christopher Garland
Kenny Welton	Landon	Michael Handlan
David Fry	Mary	Jake Hentges
Andrea	Dot Worsham	Rebecca Jenkins
Ed McCowan	/Rodger Hardy	Donta Mason
/Joan & Jimmy	Bob	Tom Montgomery
John V.	Gretchen	Jacob Murdock
Fran Olson	Alice	Phillip Plourd
William	Karen Dougan	Andrew Rodgers
Sam Hardy	Thomas Binney-Amisshah	Heather Smith
Mary	Liz Brengel	Hank Truillo
Torey	Jim T.	Nat Williams
Jim	David M.	Corey
Hub	Stuart	Spencer
Timothy	Denise M.	Zach
Jodi	Melanie	
Camille	Cody	

MEMBERS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS

Imy Caulker-Burnett	29	<u>April</u>	
Betsy Goodreau	29		
Caitlyn Kirkland	29	Keene Mendenhal	2
Wesley Kirkland	29	Grayson Padgett	4
Carolyn Baum	30	Debbie Vance	4

From Our Bishop

[God says]: "When the earth totters, and all its inhabitants, it is I who keep steady its pillars." (Psalm 75:3)

Yesterday Gov. Ralph Northam of the state of Virginia announced a mandatory stay-at-home order effective until June 10 in an effort to stem the tide of rising coronavirus cases and deaths during the global pandemic. Many have asked how the governor's order will affect churches in the Diocese of Southern Virginia. The order does not change the guidelines that have previously been given except to say that they are now mandated. To that end, the following directives for our churches are and remain in effect:

Church services continue to be suspended until further notice and likely not before June 10. Churches are encouraged to provide on-line worship experiences of their own if they are able, and to employ and make available for home use resources accessible through the diocesan website [here](#). If you need assistance, the diocesan office stands ready to help you.

- Parking lot gatherings in cars for worship or otherwise, or any gatherings of more than ten people, are not permitted. As reported in the Virginian-Pilot following the governor's press conference yesterday, Gov. Northam "said Monday that Virginia isn't looking to put people in jail, but that anyone gathering in groups larger than 10 could be charged with a class 1 misdemeanor, which carries up to a year in jail and a \$2,500 fine." The governor emphasized that "we are in a public health crisis, and we need everyone to take this seriously and act responsibly," stating that "our message to Virginians is clear: stay home." We model being Christian citizens when we adhere to the governor's order.
- Church offices may remain open to respond to the indigent who are seeking assistance, so long as not more than 10 people are present at one time and they maintain six feet of physical distance from one another.
- Food and clothing banks and other outreach efforts that address basic human needs may remain open subject to the same restrictions on social distancing and numbering of staff and guests.
- Clergy, musicians, lay ministers and audio/visual technicians may continue to go to church to record or livestream services provided that are 10 or fewer are present.
- Day schools are to remain closed. Childcare may remain open with priority given to children of workers deemed essential, subject to the same limitations on social distancing and number of staff and children.
- FUNERALS: In the event of a parishioner death, families should be encouraged to delay funerals. Funeral homes have been mandated to offer services only to immediate family members (to include spouses, children, parents, grandchildren, siblings in that order and limited to not more than 10). Churches are directed to do likewise.

It does seem perhaps that the earth is tottering and the people are in turmoil. We must remind each other that God established the pillars of this earth and holds them firm. God keeps us steady even if we are tempted to be afraid. Let us not forget the source of our strength and pray for His love and mercy on a daily basis as we continue to be the church during this confusing time. May God bless you and continue to hold you steady and firm in His most loving, all-encompassing hands.

Yours faithfully in Christ,
+Susan

[Click here for a joint statement of the bishops of Virginia, Maryland and Washington DC \(in English and Spanish\)](#)