MARCH 2021 VOLUME 15 ISSUE 3

ST. MATTHIAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FELLOWSHIP, COMMUNITY AND FAITH

Lenten Studies

THURSDAY AT 4:00 PM



Our Lenten bible study with "The Wisdom Years" is about forgiveness and is going great! Please let me know if you'd like

to be part of this Lenten study.



For to the snow He says, 'Fall on the earth,' And to the downpour and the rain, 'Be strong.' Job 37:6

COUNCIL 2021

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE of West Texas

Meg and Karin were our delegates this year. It was nice to participate in this year's Council, virtually from the comfort of our homes. While we missed the camaraderie of our community of faith, we still were able to hear from various committees and our Bishop's. If anyone is interesting in hearing the different speakers, you can go to the Diocesan website DWTX.ORG. Here are just a few of our highlights: We voted for various committee members and passed a few resolutions. We heard from both Bishops Reed and High. Bishop Reed spoke about this past year's hardships, this year's theme "Nevertheless, the kingdom of the God has come nearer to you". We will be studying the Book of Isaiah this year. After the turbulent last 12 months, he prays our churches get better and stronger. This will include churches helping churches.

What's Happening

FATHER DEXTER LESIEUR

Lent - Lent is normally our wilderness time but I'd say the last 12 months of Coronatide has been our wilderness time. Last month, we had extended bitter single digit cold, 2 snowstorms, extended loss of electricity, no running water, burst water pipes, no way to get gas, food, cell service, etc., we have given more and have done without to last a long time. We had several parishioners with flooded homes from burst water pipes, even our own Parish Hall had a water pipe burst, people toasted a slices of bread with a stick over the fireplace, scooping snow to melt to flush toilets. This extended single digit cold snap and then a second snowstorm in a week here in south Texas has been hard. Not to mention we're still in a Pandemic.

We're not asked to do things on our own, which can be one major misinterpretation of giving up things for Lent. God is always there for us. We find ourselves in a time where we must trust in God and draw on his strength. I believe when we're tested, it helps us grow, to show us that we have the faith and ability to stand up to the testing, that we'll trust God in difficult times and to strengthen our faith and Christian formation.

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The Reverend Dexter Lesieur (210) 385-7668 Bishop's Warden: Evan Eads (210) 381-8476

Photos of the Bishop's Committee are now hanging in the sacristy.



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ST. MATTHIAS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Holy Week



Holy Week Services are as follows:

Wednesday, March 31: Tenebrae (shadows) service. We gather quietly in the dim light of a few lamps and candles. After each reading, candles are gradually extinguished one by one until only a single candle, considered a symbol of Christ, remains. Toward the end of the service this candle is hidden, signifying the apparent victory of the forces of darkness. At the very end a loud noise is made, symbolizing the earthquake at the time of the resurrection, the hidden candle is restored to its place, and by its light all depart in silence.

Thursday, April 1: Maundy Thursday - During the service we will remember Christ's new commands to us: to love our neighbor and follow his commandments. During the service, we will remember that call to loving service through the practice of foot washing. We will also remember the final meal Jesus shared with the disciples of his body and blood (communion). The service will close with the stripping of the altar.

Friday, April 2: Good Friday - We remember the crucifixion of Jesus. Good Friday is a stark service. We wait and watch with Jesus. We meditate on the death of Jesus. The tone is somber.

NEXT POSM IS ON MARCH 14TH



The February POSM project was a little more involved, but we hope you liked it. I know the snowstorms but a kink in many of our plans. March's projects will be much easier to complete. Please be sure to send us photos of your family working on the projects! We love to see you in action! Of course if any one has ideas for a POSM project, please share it with us! Remember, Lent is only a few more weeks.



GIVING LINKS

We've added a new online giving link on our St. Matthias Web Site and Facebook pages. Your support is greatly appreciated. https://www.fellowshiponegiving.com/App/For m/d9b59938-5252-4e7f-8828-75939fd5be8c

Amazon Smile update: Here is a direct link for you: https://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-2727034

Use this link and then just shop as you normally would, renew your smile organization every 6 months. What an easy way to support St. Matthias!

AmazonSmile is a program that donates 0.5% of your eligible purchases on Amazon to a charity of your choice. All you need to do is start your shopping at smile.amazon.com. The donation will be made at no extra cost to you and you can choose from nearly one million public charitable organizations.

Pins & Needles



Meg started giving sewing classes. Anyone interested in joining the sewing group, let her know. They meet most Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:00 am.

| March 2021 | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------|------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THURS | FRI | SAT |
| | 1 Dexter Lesieur BD | 2 | 3 EP 6:00 pm | 4 Lenten Study 4pm | 5 | 6 |
| 7 HE 10:30 am | 8 | 9 | 10 EP 6:00 pm | 11 Lenten Study 4pm | 12 | 13 Daylights Saving Spring Forward! |
| 14 HE 10:30 am Take home POSM project | 15 | 16 | 17 St. Patrick's Day EP 6:00 pm | 18 Lenten Study 4pm | 19 | 20 |
| 21 HE 10:30 am | 22 | 23 | 24 EP 6:00 pm | 25 Lenten Study 4pm | 26 | 27 |
| 28 HE 10:30 am | 29 | 30 | 31 Tenebrae 6:00 pm Dorian Dalton BD | 1 Maundy Thursday (foot washing) 6:00 pm | 2 Good Friday Service 6:00 pm | |

Legend: HE = Eucharist, EP = Evening Prayer, BD = Birthday, A=Anniversary