



June 2021
Volume 49 No. 9

The Epistle

READY FOR SUMMER

by *Stefanie Wilson*

It's summertime. School is out, the sun is shining, and our state is blessedly opening back up. I've seen social media post after post from people who have been vaccinated enthusiastically taking off their masks, eager to move forward this summer.

Of course, we also know that those who cannot or choose not to get vaccinated will still need to wear masks for their safety.

At our house we are paying close attention to the news about vaccine trials for those under 12 years old. We are deeply grateful to the scientists, medical professionals, and families participating in these trials. They are continuing to do holy and life-saving work.

It will take time to figure out a new normal, but we are grateful for the progress made and the ever-increasing ways that our community can come together this summer.

At St. Matthew's we are looking forward to a summer that includes Day Camp again. This week we have been graced with the glorious sounds of young people playing on our campus and it could not make us any happier.

We also started our new summertime service on Founder's Meadow last Sunday. It felt like a family reunion as people gathered on the patio and lawn on blankets and in chairs. People danced and sang along to the fantastic music from our beloved Sultans of String. We also got the privilege of commissioning our hardworking Day Camp Staff during the service.

For the summer, we have moved the 10:30am outdoor service to the grassy hillside behind the Mill Building where it will be shadier and cooler. Coffee and tea will be available on that patio starting at 10:10am each week to encourage people to enjoy fellowship before the service. The service itself includes engaging music from many of our parish musicians. The language is simplified to speak to the souls of everyone attending and we will keep it short for our wiggliest and giggliest parishioners.

After the service each week, attendees are welcome to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy our beautiful outdoor space. The pool will also be open and overseen by life-guards from 11:15 am until 1:00pm. This outdoor service is meant for anyone: children, parents, grandparents, people



THE MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER OF
ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH,
PACIFIC PALISADES, CA

(Continued on Page 2)

Ready for Summer, continued

without kids, people who just love praying outside. I have heard it said that when you talk to children about God, all listen. We hope you will feel welcome to join in the summer fun.

Now mark your calendars, we will not be having a 10:30am service or swimming on July 4th. This year, the Parish of St. Matthew is marching in the Pacific Palisades parade. See the weekly Carillon for all the information about walking, riding a bike, or waving from a golf cart with the Parish in the parade. (We will be having a 9:00am service in the church that day.)

My family is certainly ready for all of the joy filled fun. We've already got the blanket for sitting on the grass, snacks, masks, and favorite toys packed for Sunday morning. And, we really cannot wait to splash around in the pool after the service.



2020 AND 2021 CONFIRMATION

The Rt. Rev. John H. Taylor visited St. Matthew's earlier this month to celebrate St. Matthew's 18 confirmation candidates in a service held on the school's playing field. Members of the 2021 confirmation class were joined by the 2020 class members, who had waited patiently for the rite to be rescheduled after the pandemic delayed their service last year.

Congratulations to the new, young members of the Church!



Plans are in the works to relaunch St. Matthew's Parent-Tot program for newborns to three-year-olds! Please let us know if you are interested in participating with your child by clicking to complete our Interest Form. Thank you!

[**Parent - Infant/Toddler Interest Form**](#)

Community News

TROOP 223G MAKES HISTORY

Scout Troop 223 has been lauded for its record number of Eagle Scouts who are recognized through its program and now it makes history again. Earlier this month, Troop 223G honored its first female Eagle Scouts, when the twelve advancing Scouts became the largest group of advancing Eagle Scouts of any BSA girl troop in the nation.

Congratulations to Troop 223 and to all of its impressive Eagle Scouts for their very hard work.



SMPS GRADUATION

The St. Matthew's Parish School class of 2021 came together for a unique graduation ceremony on June 9. Families sat in distanced pods with their graduating 8th-graders and the ceremony was projected onto a large screen for easy viewing, while it was simultaneously streamed online for family and friends at home.

The Rev. Bruce A. Freeman addressed the graduates, who had spent most of their school year learning online, about their well-deserved congratulations after a year of true perseverance and the permanent "home" that they can always find at St. Matthew's. The Parish of St. Matthew gives its best wishes to the Class of 2021 and each of their future endeavors.



Photos courtesy of Reynaldo Macias.

ST. MATTHEW'S MOVIE MAGIC

Last Fall, many of the organizations at St. Matthew's teamed up to create additional classrooms for students returning to campus during the pandemic. Spaces normally dedicated for Day Camp, Troop 223 Scouts and Godly Play were transformed into new learning spaces so children could spread out safely during their school days.

Once again this Spring, The Parish of St. Matthew partnered with the Parish School – this time providing the location for the 8th grade musical, which was adapted as a film in this year of ongoing shifts from traditions. Who knew that Founder's Hall and the Mill Building Courtyard could so easily be imagined as a European village or that the Church interior and patio would serve so well as an enchanted castle for the making of *Beauty and the Beast, Jr.*? Many cheers for the creativity of director, Jean Gaskill, and her team of arts instructors who made particularly special use of our beautiful Church and campus.



Still photography courtesy of Reynaldo Macias.



Outreach Opportunity



Join us on June 27th at 5pm PST for GAIA's 2021 Virtual Gala: A Celebration of our Frontline Healthcare Workers in Malawi!

www.gaiaglobalhealth.org

You are invited to GAIA's 2021 Virtual Gala - A Celebration of our Frontline Healthcare Workers in Malawi



Sunday, June 27, 2021
5:00 - 5:45 pm PST

\$75 per ticket

Join us for an evening of gratitude, giving, and goodwill as we celebrate GAIA's essential workers and accompany them on a day on the frontlines in Malawi!

Please RSVP online at GAIAglobalhealth.org/get-involved or with the enclosed rsvp card and send sponsorships by June 11, 2021 to be included in the printed program.

Each ticket includes a "Frontline Field Kit," a gift box with everything you need for a day in the field and a few treats for when you get home! Purchase no later than June 11 -- while supplies last!

Joyce Jere will present the GAIA Global Citizen Award to the Gruber Family Foundation

in recognition of their founding support for the GAIA Nursing Scholar Program -- a program that has launched the careers of more than 500 frontline healthcare workers.



Our vision is a world where health outcomes are not determined by who you are or where you live.



We work to make this a reality in rural Malawi through community-based healthcare and health workforce development, providing both critical care and long term capacity for the communities we serve. GAIA's incredible impact over the last two decades would not have been possible without you, our donors and supporters, and together, we can accelerate this impact over the next five years.

Our gala will offer a glimpse into what life has been like on the frontlines in Malawi and what you have directly supported during this time. Join us as we celebrate all those who make GAIA's work possible. From our frontline healthcare workers, to the GAIA Malawi staff, to our donors and supporters, we offer a resounding thank you!



Event Committee

Marty Arscott
Chris Simpson Brent
Lisa Deal
Doug Hood
Janet Hunter
Laurie Hunter
Galym Imanbayev
Ruth Thurmond Scott

STAFF DIRECTORY & CALENDAR

Staff Directory

The office is currently closed, so email is the best way to reach us right now.

The Rev. Bruce A. Freeman, Rector (Ext. 130)
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The Rev. Kristin Barberia, School Chaplain
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Mr. Edward Kim, SMPS Head of School (Ext.
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MISSION STATEMENT

We are a Christian community, and

Welcome all, wherever they are in their journey,

Nourish all who seek unity with God and each other in Christ, and

Serve all, striving to do Christ's work in the world.

Online Services and Prayer Requests

Tune in to our programs via the
Parish of St. Matthew
Facebook Page or YouTube Channel

Sundays

9:00 am	Sunday Service In Church and Online
10:30am	Summer Service on Founder's Meadow

Wednesdays

10:00 am	Morning Prayer on Facebook
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Thursdays

8:00 pm	Compline (via Zoom link)
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KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please pray for Carol Lanning, Ginny and Sam Hill, Griselda, Wendy, Kathy, Kryan, Bob, Karen Johnson, John, Jon, Randy Smith, Carol Williams, David, Bradley, Jacque Theis, Ian, Tom, Claudia, Heather Hicks, Ed Anderson, Jennifer, Claire, Susan and Katie.

We also remember those who have died in the hope of Christ's resurrection, especially Missie McClure. Please know that in addition to your praying for these persons, they are prayed for regularly throughout the week by clergy and by members of our Intercessory Prayer Group.

If you would like to add, keep, or remove someone from this list, please call The Rev. Christine Purcell at 310/573-7787, ext. 129. Prayer requests will automatically be kept on the list for one month only.