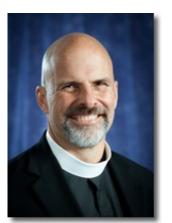


201 East Frederick Drive • Sterling, VA 20164

June 2020

FROM THE RECTOR ROB MEROLA



Dear Friends.

Once again, please allow me to express my deepest appreciation for the outpouring of love following my mother's death. As anyone who has lost a loved one during these times knows, grief is unable to follow its normal path and work itself out through the usual stages or processes. It can leave us with nothing more than the feeling that we wish it were otherwise, that it should've been otherwise. And it should have. In this context, the many, many expressions of support you have sent to my brother and his family, to my daughters, and to Linda and me, have been especially meaningful and welcome. Thank you.

I do believe that time will heal even this hurt. I also believe that, right now more than ever, we need to pay attention to the present as we look to the future; that leads me to an

important (and cheerful!) announcement.

On June 1, our new Associate Rector joins us!!! It is with great joy that we welcome Mary Margaret Winn. In the past, we have been so deeply blessed by clergy who have added so much to our life together here at St. Matt's. I'm thinking of people like Cynthia Walters, Jennifer McKenzie, Ann Ritonia, Anne MacNabb, Christian Anderson, Grey Maggiano, and Grant Mansfield. Each of these talented people had a powerful ministry here, furthering God's work in unique ways, and leaving a lasting legacy. I have every confidence that Mary Margaret will continue that tradition, and that you will find her to be a delightful person and an excellent pastoral presence.

And, did I mention, in these times where it feels like our workload has increased exponentially and there simply are no longer enough hours in the day, that I'm really glad for the help?

The tricky part for a church like St. Matt's, that is so good at welcoming people, is this: How do we welcome Mary Margaret under these circumstances? In the past, we have done a "pounding" — bringing a pound of something as a gift. The fun of that has always been in watching how creative you are in what you give as a pound. While we will not yet be gathering in a way that supports a pounding, we can still be creative in sending or dropping off cards and/ or small gifts that express how pleased we are to have Mary Margaret with us. Like the love and support I mentioned at the start of this letter, I'm sure that would mean a lot—all the more in times like these.

Another way to welcome Mary Margaret is to participate in St. Matt's events to get to know her. Two great opportunities to do so are an "AMA" (Ask Me Anything) and a Q&A on Monday, June 1 at 8am, Wednesday, June 3 at 12:30pm, and Thursday, June 4 at 7pm. Also, starting June 10, Mary Margaret will be leading WonZ (previously WatCH, Wednesdays at Church, but now WonZ, Wednesdays on Zoom) Find details, including Zoom codes, for the Q&A sessions and the Wednesday Bible Study at go.stmtts.org/events.

There is a prayer that says, "Life has changed, not ended." I think that describes these times. Life IS different. But it still goes on. And it is still good.

Warmly, Rob+

Welcome Mary Margaret Winn!

Mary Margaret is a lifelong Episcopalian and graduate of Virginia Theological Seminary. There are several places she calls home including Atlanta, GA where she grew up; Sewanee, TN where she went to college; and Memphis, TN where she lived and worked for four years post-grad. Northern VA is now on the list and she is thrilled to begin her ordained ministry at St. Matthew's! Mary Margaret loves learning about how God is at work in peoples' lives, preaching on the Word, and being out in community and fellowship with neighbors and strangers. She is passionate about staying civically involved while maintaining that a Christian life is one that transforms the way that we think about public life, rather than entrenching us in our views.



Mary Margaret is engaged to the Rev. Sam Sheridan, a seminary classmate and recently ordained deacon in the Diocese of Virginia. While they seem like opposites—MM loves kayaking and Sam loves Dungeons & Dragons—they are both devoted to serving the church, to loving the world, and to trying as many different BBQ joints as they can. Currently, their family includes two cuddle monsters, a cat named Raiford and a dog named Ajax.

Get to Know Our New Assistant Rector

We are thrilled to welcome our new Assistant Rector, Mary Margaret Winn to our St. Matthew's family. Join her on Zoom to get to know her better. Send questions in ahead of time to Office@stmtts.org, or just jump online during one of three Ask Her Anything - Question & Answer Sessions.

Monday, June 1, 8am

(Her first day of work - her first order of business is getting to know you!)

Zoom ID: 890 8100 2959

Wednesday, June 3, 12:30pm Zoom ID: 897 2359 7382

Thursday, June 4, 7pm Zoom ID: 824 1787 6195

She'll also be leading a Wednesday night Bible study starting June 10 Wednesdays, June 10 - July 1 at 7pm

Zoom ID: 857 9132 4965

Graduation Sunday Sunday, June 7 at 9:30am and 11am

Graduates: It's your day to shine! We want to celebrate you on Sunday, June 7. The 9:30am and 11am worship services will be just for you. Send in your graduation pictures to Lisa.Volz@stmtts.org to be included in the service.

Be sure to stop by our Graduation Photo Stop on June 6 and 7. More information on the last page of the newsletter.



Connect Virtually

Live Stream Sunday Services

Sundays at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00am

Faith Factory for Kids

Sundays at 10:30am Email Adrian@stmtts.org to join

Mid-Week Prayer on Facebook Live

Monday - Friday at 12:00pm Facebook Live: www.facebook.com

Story and Craft Time with Adrian

Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 10am Zoom Meeting ID: 562 517 651

Social Time with Candace

Mondays at 12pm Zoom Meeting ID: 681-861-620

Sandwich Generation Small Group

Tuesdays at 7:30pm Email: Harding.Brent@gmail.com

Trivia Night with Tim

Tuesdays at 8:15pm Zoom Meeting ID: 306 657 028

Bible Study with Fr. Ernie

Wednesday, June 3 at 7:00pm Zoom Meeting ID: 513 025 762

Children's Music Time with Kevin

Thursdays at 10:00am Zoom Meeting ID: 867 737 899

Women's Uncommon Prayer

Thursdays at 12:00pm Email Susie.Harding.com to join



Tea Time with Linden

Thursdays at 3:00pm Zoom Meeting ID: 394 405 627

Bingo Night with Dave

Thursdays at 7:00pm Zoom Meeting ID: 743 731 742

Family Scattergories

Fridays at 7:00pm Zoom Meeting ID: 838 0491 5300

Men's Group

Saturdays at 8:00am Zoom Meeting ID: 581 005 941

Meet Mary Margaret Winn

O&A Session 1

Monday, June 1st - 8am Zoom ID: 890 8100 2959

Q&A Session 2

Wednesday, June 3 - 12:30pm Zoom ID 897 2359 7382

Q&A Session 3

Thursday, June 4 - 7:00pm Zoom ID 724 1787 6195 Submit your questions for Mary Margaret to Office@stmtts.org or just join us online.

As new content becomes available we will update the St. Matthew's website (stmtts.org) and/or create Facebook events (facebook.com/StMatthewsEpiscopalChurch/events.) We realize that not all church communities are able to stream online and provide unique content. We invite you to please share our Sunday worship services and other connection opportunities with friends and family.

Outreach Happenings

Outreach Spotlight

The Outreach Committee would like to recognize Tim Cooke and Sherry Rose for all their hard work leading The Care Response Team. The Day of Giving held on May 2nd, brought in tons of donations for Backpack Buddies, the LINK food pantry, and for the Care Response Team to distribute to those in need in our community. We are continuing to collect non-perishable food, toiletries, and cleaning supplies, and personal protective equipment like gloves or masks. If you'd like more information, please email Tim at careresponse@stmtts.org.



Backpack Buddies Packing

Backpack Buddies is still actively supporting families in our community. We are in need of financial donations (go.stmtts.org/give), but we are also accepting shelf-stable food items as usual. Drop off items by the church backdoors on Tuesdays/Thursdays 8am - 4pm. Thank you for helping to keep tummies full! To contribute your time to this effort, please contact Hilary Hultman-Lee at HHLlearning@gmail.com.

Outreach Committee Zoom Meeting

Join us on Zoom on Saturday, June 6th at 9:00am for a brief meeting to discuss our plans for the summer. Email Adrian@stmtts.org for more info.

ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN!

Faith Factory for Kids Sundays at 10:30am

Contact Adrian for information on how to join at Adrian@stmtts.org

Craft and Story Time Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10:00am

Contact Adrian for more info and Zoom ID at Adrian@stmtts.org

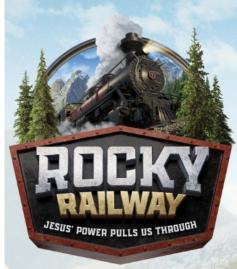
Faith Factory Birthday Party Sunday, May 31st at 10:30am

Join us as we celebrate the church's birthday for Pentecost and all the kids that have upcoming birthdays. This will also be our last Faith Factory class for the 2019/2020 school year. There will be a Dance Party, Games & Bingo! All grades will meet together for one Zoom Meeting. Use Zoom Meeting ID: 409 571 964 Email Adrian@stmtts.org for the password

Family Bible Study Mondays at 7:00pm, June 15 - July 13

We will be using Illustrated Ministries Compassion Camp to explore the theme of compassion for others, ourselves and the world. This is geared toward children in preschool - 5th grade, with their parents. We will meet on Zoom on Mondays from 7:00pm to 7:30pm starting June 15th through July 13th. Email Adrian@stmtts.org for the Zoom ID and password.





SAVE THE DATE!

JULY 20-24, 2020

7:00-8:00PM

VIRTUAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JOIN US ONLINE FOR FIVE FUN- FILLED EVENINGS!

- Music
- SKITS
- CRAFTS

REGISTER TODAY!

- VBSPRO.EVENTS/P/STMATTS2020
- \$10 PER CHILD
- INCLUDES T SHIRT, BOOK, AND ACTIVITY KIT.



FOR MORE INFO CONTACT ADRIAN @STMTTS.ORG



GRADUATION PHOTO STOP JUNE 6 & 7 | 10AM - 8PM

VISIT GO.STMTTS.ORG/EVENTS FOR FULL DETAILS



ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - FRONT LAWN 201 E. FREDERICK DR. STERLING, VA