St. Matthew's
Episcopal Church

Issue 133 August 10, 2016

The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders

I believe it was Mark Twain who once quipped that "when all is said and done, a lot more gets said than done." Truth, that!

The window we're focusing on this week is all about the profound difference that actual action can make in this world, and especially in our spiritual life. The artist has given us a hint which scripture passage this window depicts. Notice in the bottom left of the window we see: "Matt 7:24-27." This passage reads: "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house upon the rock; and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house upon the sand; and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell; and great was the fall of it."

The parable drives home the point that the key to a rock-solid foundation is to act on the words Jesus teaches us. It is the concluding paragraph of the "Sermon on the Mount," in which there are a litany of exhortations: 'let your light shine before others,' 'be reconciled to your neighbor,' 'love your enemies,' "do not worry,' 'do not judge'---just to name a few. Having exhorted his followers to do these things, Jesus drives home his message: to hear and then do these things creates a rock solid foundation, but to hear and then not act is to build your life on sand. Continued on Page 2...

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Notice how this window depicts both possibilities: On the left is the solid structure, orderly and adorned with flowers, fixed on a rock solid foundation. To the right, the structure is cracked and broken and falling apart for lack of a foundation. Notice how the elements of the story are illustrated so dramatically: the rains fell (lightning), the floods came (waves), the wind blew and beat on the house. At the top of the frame, Jesus is seated on the mountain, giving what later came to be called his "Sermon on the Mount." At the bottom of the mountain are three of his listeners.

This window was originally located in the Narthex of the church (maybe as a reminder to those leaving the church to go out into the world and put their faith into action?) Now, it is the first window we see to the right as we enter the Nave of the church. It was originally given in 1966 by the A. Deutsch O'Neal family in memory of Mary K. Sanders O'Neal. It was then lovingly restored to us by the Rushing family in memory of Wayne Carl Rushing. Wayne is the father of Brian Rushing, and Grandfather of young Wyatt and Sawyer Rushing, who were both baptized at St. Matthew's (Wyatt in the old church, and Sawyer in the new!)

See you in church,

Fr. Craig

ST. MATTHEW'S CARING COMMITTEE

IN AN ATTEMPT TO FORMALIZE A SERVICE MANY OF OUR PARISHIONERS HAVE BEEN PROVIDING FOR YEARS, THE VESTRY HAS CREATED THE **"CARING COMMITTEE"** THROUGH WHICH WE CAN HELP MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY IN THEIR TIMES OF NEED.

WHAT IS IT?

IT IS "INREACH" MINISTRY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY.

WHAT DOES IT DO?

IT PROVIDES MEALS AND SIMILAR OTHER ASSISTANCE TO MEMBERS OF ST. MATT'S WHO:

ARE UNDERGOING OR HAVE UNDERGONE SURGERY;

ARE EXPERIENCING ILLNESS, SHORT OR LONG TERM;

ARE IN FAMILY CRISIS;

HAVING A BABY;

HAVE HAD DEATH IN THEIR FAMILIES;

ARE IN ANY OTHER CIRCUMSTANCE IN WHICH HAVING HOME-COOKED FOOD PROVIDED WILL EASE AND ASSIST THROUGH THE TIME OF NEED.

HOW CAN WE/YOU PARTICIPATE?

BY NOTIFYING ONE OF THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE COMMITTEE IF YOU KNOW OF OR *YOU ARE* A CHURCH MEMBER IN NEED OF OUR GOOD FOOD.

BY PROVIDING A DISH OR MEAL FOR A CHURCH FAMILY IN ANY OF THE ABOVE LISTED CIRCUMSTANCES.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

ANYONE CAN VOLUNTEER TO PROVIDE MEALS/DISHES WHEN A FELLOW CHURCH MEMBER IS IN NEED.

HOW DO WE SIGN UP?

FOR NOW, JUST CONTACT CO-CHAIRS, EMILIE DAYE OR SYBIL WEBB, AT THE FOLLOWING:

EMILIE DAYE: 985/232-8152 or emiliemdaye@gmail.com

SYBIL WEBB: 985/876-2336 or sybil.webb@gmail.com

VERY SOON, OUR CHURCH CALENDAR WILL PROVIDE A "PLACE" WHERE WE CAN SIGN UP TO HELP OUT.

Schedule

August 14, 2016

TEAM 4

Eucharistic Ministers	Jay Theriot, Kathy Theriot
Lector	Sybil Webb
Acolyte	Charles Dalferes
Eucharistic Visitor	Beulah Rodrigue (visit Ingree Guedry)
Ushers	George Drury, Karen Chauvin, Tina West
Vestry Member on Duty	Karen Kelly
Altar Guild	Sandy Ostheimer, Karen Kelly
Hospitality	Sybil Webb
Flower Guild	Keri Kelley

Wednesday, August 24, 2016 – 5:30PM – Hildegard Blanchard

August 28, 2016

Team 2

Eucharistic Ministers	SharonPontiff, Donna Knight
Lector	Becky Becnel
Acolyte	Kalli Willett
Ushers	Julio and Rina Medina, Jack and Brenda Babin
Vestry Member on Duty	Randy Knight
Altar Guild	Sharon Pontiff, Suzanne Alexander
Hospitality	Debby Fortier
Flower Guild	Duane Ring

Wednesday, August 31, 2016, 5:30PM – Hildegard Blanchard

SMEC Website:

www.stmatthewshouma.org

Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana

www.edola.org

SMES Website:

www.stmattsschool.com

St. Matthew's

Episcopal Church

Sunday Service 10:00am

Nursery & Youth Programs

Prayers & Thanksgivings

Barbara & Alex S., Margaret, Frances, Ingree, Andrèe, Penny, Hunter, Barney, Flo, Louise, Jeanie, Steven, Genevieve, Herman, Brittany, Susan, Jane, Janet, Cher, Annabelle, Roger, Colby, Frances, Ann, Teetsie, Jessica, Rene, Mary Elizabeth, Verna, Roxanne, Leroy, Gertrude, deVonne, Don, Betty, Jerry, Annaley, Charlie, Harold, Tommy, Dennis, Karen, Celeste, Jonas, Matthew, Jamie, Jeanne, Rowena, Stella, Sarah and our Partner-In-Mission sister parish, San Jose in Honduras. We give thanks and pray for St. Matthew's Episcopal School, S. Myers McAllister, Head of School, members of the Board, faculty, staff and students, our Parish Vestry

Happy Birthday!

3-Tabitha Avet

5-Myron Levron

8-Albert Dupont

9-Chad Maronge-Pustka

11-Jennifer Dalferes

13-Robert McKim

14-Valerie Hebert

14-Aiden Leonard

15-Carolyn Lirette

15-Debby Fortier

18-Hildegard Blanchard

19-Jim Jefcoats

20-Jules Hebert

26-Maksim Breaux

28-Harold Belanger, Sr.

Happy Anniversary!

9-Corey and Amanda Pellegrin

10-Jacob and Amelia Castell

13-Buddy and Jeanette Daisy

14-Tandy and Sybil Webb

22-Alex and Barbara Ostheimer

24-Edwin and June Allemand

31-Doug and Linda Greenburg

BIRTHDAY PRAYER

Watch over your child, O Lord, as his days increase; bless and guide him wherever he may be. Strengthen him when he stands; comfort him when discouraged or sorrowful; raise him up if he falls; and in his heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of his life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL FISHING RODEO 2016

Headquartered at

COCO MARINA

FRI., AUG. 26
FISH SCALES
OPEN 1PM-4PM

SAT., AUG. 27
FISH SCALES
OPEN 10AM-4PM

CASH PRIZES · TROPHIES · SPONSORED DOOR PRIZES

Dinner and Live Music by BANDIT
included with entry ticket Saturday night

Proceeds to benefit St. Matthew's Episcopal School.

WWW.FISHFORSMES.EVENTBRITE.COM