



# MATTHIAS MIDWEEK

Inspired by the life and compassion of Jesus Christ,  
We are a church of action in our community, engaging in  
Hospitality by offering bread for body and soul

## KEEP ON MARCHING AS LONG AS YOU CAN

Four of us -- Helen Langa, Mary Ross, Eleanor Holland were having dinner. It was a month before the January 21 Women's March on Washington. We admitted to each other that we knew we could no longer do a day long trek in DC. The physical endurance needed would be too much. Maybe we could do it in Baltimore? So we sat right there in the Hamilton Tavern and planned a complete march for Baltimoreans who were 'unable' to make the DC march. We went home. The next day reality set in. We called each other and pared it down to a small vigil at 33rd and N Charles. We pictured the 4 of us and maybe a few more people 'vigiling'. Sometimes we need to adjust our lives to the realities.

But, individually we began to do different things. Helen and Eleanor started a poster making 'committee', and made a poster to distribute. Donna and Mary took out a Facebook ad. Donna spent the next few weeks tied to her computer answering logistical questions for people who wanted to come. We feared that now the site was too small. We contacted the police to assure our legality. The crowd grew; we rented a bull horn. We vetted persons who wanted to speak. We sent out press releases. All in all, if we had a bigger gathering place and a permit we could have marched!

Points to ponder:

1. Enlarge your vision! During the vigil many things just kept happening. 5,000 people showed up! We were no longer in control (as if we ever were). The police kept the perimeter, and there were no safety issues. The participants were excited, visionary, determined, lively, well behaved. Sometimes the crowd took the lead with songs and chants. In between we shouted purpose, encouragement, empowerment. A tall Black high school student asked to speak. He really got the crowd going. A cute 6 year old girl and her mother came up. The girl had something to say. I showed her how to speak into the megaphone. In a bright, clear, crisp voice she shouted, "I believe in equality!" The people echoed her. I gave her the words kindness, peace, and love and she led the cheers for all. A Latino young man asked to speak. He spoke in Espanol and English a message of hope for all. It was a day of hope in the middle of despair, a day of empowerment for future leaders. A day of something great for every participant.

2. Diversity and inclusion are good.

3. Empower the young.

Remember the story of Joshua in the Bible. After crossing into the Promised Land the Israelites had to capture the city of Jericho. For six days they marched around that city and it did not fall. They kept on marching. They did not give up. On the 7th day the city finally fell. The marching was effective.

Some have questioned whether a march does any good. I suggest that any time we stand up, rise up, walk, creep forward, run, trot, or take one step forward and two steps backward, we are still making a difference. Change is usually very slow. Our cause might be to just keep going, or to reach a goal, or to help a cause (like equality for all). The important thing is to keep going as long as we can. It is not to never give up, because sometimes giving up is the right thing to do.

4. As long as you see something ahead, keep going as long as you can.

We do this because we are engaged in the march of life. Being in the march fills us with infused energy, enthusiasm, a 'can do' spirit. It carries you forward for a long time. My new signature for letters and emails is a word to me and others, "March On" ---as long as you can.

DONNA MARTIN  
ST. MATTHIAS PARISHIONER

## HAPPENINGS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25

10:00 AM: Morning Prayer, Sanctuary  
10:30 - 11:45 AM: Wondering With the Word  
7:30 - 8:30 PM: Rebirth Ministries Bible Study

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26:

Future Care Ministry:  
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM: Bingo  
3:30 PM - 4:00 PM: Worship  
4:00- 4:30 PM: Visitation with room bound residents  
6:30 PM: AA Meeting, Parish Hall

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28:

11:30 AM: Morning Prayer, Sanctuary  
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM:  
Loaves & Fishes, Parish Hall

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29:

4th SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Readings:  
Micah 6: 1-8  
Psalm 15  
1 Corinthians 1: 18-31  
Matthew 5: 1-12

10:45 AM: Coffee & Conversation  
11:00 AM - Noon: Scripture & Sermon Discussion

11:30 AM: Rebirth Worship  
1:30 PM: Renewed Minds Healing Service

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31

7:00 PM: Healthy Exchange Addiction Recovery  
Program sponsored by Renewed Minds Ministries,  
Undercroft

## OUR PRAYERS

Mel Berk

Ellen Berk

Chris Brown

Elizabeth Holtzman and Valerie King in their  
job searches

The new President of the United State & his  
Cabinet

All those killed in natural disasters around  
the world

## UPCOMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3: 5:00-8:00 PM;; St. Matthias hosting Blue  
Horizons

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4: 9:00AM-3:00PM  
Blue Horizons

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28: 5:30 -7:30 PM  
Shrove Tuesday & Pancake Supper

SATURDAY, MARCH 11: 4:00 PM--6:00 PM One Woman Show -  
Eleanor Roosevelt, Sanctuary  
Q&A Session and Reception to follow  
Tickets: \$15.00

FRIDAY, MARCH 17: 6:00 PM: RETREAT: Seeing the Face of God  
SATURDAY, MARCH 18: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM: RETREAT:  
"Seeing the Face of God",