

The E-Matt



A weekly glimpse of God's People, God's Work
at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Lisbon Maine

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The Rev. W. Beau Wagner, Rector

Week of June 14, 2009

Commando turned healer comes to St. Matt's



By Kimberly Plourde

The “commando turned healer,” the Rev. Nigel Mumford came to St. Matthew’s on June 11, Bible in hand, to teach, preach, and heal the sick, just as God commands in Scripture (*Luke 9:2 Then he sent them out to tell everyone about the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick.*)

The teaching was open to the public and over 75 people were present. The St. Matthew’s worship team was brilliant, and brought us into a positive attitude of worship.

Father Mumford presented his teaching based on his book, “The Forgotten Touch of Jesus Christ.” We were encouraged to stop fighting against God’s plans and walk with Him, wait for Him, then step into the light with Him.

Father Nigel talked about two simple reasons people don’t pray:

- 1) people are just scared to pray, and
- 2) people are afraid of what will happen when the prayer is answered.

Father Mumford describes prayer as simply listening, loving the person and praying. Just ask the person six simple words, how-may- I-pray-for-you. Then with the faith as a mustard seed pray,

believing something will happen. Because, every time you pray something happens.

James 5:14-15: Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven.

Father Mumford said, as Christians we all have gifts to be used for Gods plan. But, as Christians we need to seek out the greater gifts, the most excellent gift described in 1 Corinthians 12:31.



Approximately 140 people, representing 11 Christian denominations and traditions, were present for this healing service officiated by Father Mumford at the Acadia School in Trenton on June 13. Several St. Matthew's members attended Father Mumford's two day conference on June 12-13 and stayed with members on the Episcopal Church of Our Father in Hull's Cove.

Then with gentleness and compassion he gave us homework. He asked us to go home open our Bibles and read 1 Corinthians 13.

If you have a spouse read it together. Read this three times, the first time read it through together, the second time insert your name (for spouses you will need to read this inserting each name) the third time substitute Jesus for love.

Who is this healer?

A former member of Her Majesty's Royal Marine Commandos for over six years, Nigel Mumford's life changed in 1989 when his sister, a dancer in the Royal Ballet was stricken with dystonia. Although the disease had left her in a fetal position and close to death, she was healed by God through prayer.

The effect on Mumford was profound. By 1995, he gave up his business in Connecticut and went into ministry full time.

For the next nine years, Mumford led healing missions and preached throughout the United States and the United Kingdom.

In 2004, he was called to direct the Healing Ministries of the Christ the King Center near Albany, NY. This Healing Center has graduated over 452 individuals as trained prayer leaders with 92 completing the full course which consists of three levels.

Mumford, an Episcopal priest, also facilitates the Welcome Home Initiative, a retreat for members and families of the Armed Forces who have suffered trauma. Last December he spoke to Pentagon officials and recently traveled to Britain to meet with military representatives to talk about ministering to returning combat veterans.

His books include, "Hand to Hand, a Marine's Journey from Combat to Healing," "The Forgotten Touch," "Heartfelt Prayers for Healing" and "A Personal Prescription for Your Healing."

Then the healing began, Father Nigel Mumford anointed each person who went forward for prayer and healing. And the prayer teams were available for continued prayer. The Holy Spirit was present in a very powerful way. Healing was happening at St. Matthew's.



The Rev. Nigel Mumford.

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St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, founded in 1906, is a vibrant growing congregation that brings together the four main threads of Anglican tradition: Anglo Catholic worship, evangelical preaching, charismatic expression and caring in action.