



ST. MATTHEW

# Messenger

Celebrating  
69 years

The Newsletter of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church - August 2025

## GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

The "God's Work, Our Hands" program was initiated in 2013 to unite ELCA congregations in the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the ELCA. The thrust of the program is best described in an article by Bishop Mark Hanson for *The Lutheran* October 2008. Hanson wrote, "We do God's work, not because God needs us to do so, but because our neighbor does. We do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world." It is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as representative of the ELCA in our service and love of our neighbors and our community.

These service activities offer us an opportunity to explore one of our most basic tenets as Lutherans, All of life in Jesus Christ--every act of service in every daily calling in every corner of life flows freely from a living confidence in God's never failing grace. These acts of Godly service have no need for recognition. They do not desire to be the center of attention as an individual or as a group. Godly service has no need to be noticed or thanked at all. The service is focused on the person or persons served, not on the agenda of the server.

Each year we at St. Matthew, under the guidance of the Mission and Ministry Committee, participate in projects for the benefit of our community. These projects improve the quality of life for groups and individuals in Columbus, Georgia. These acts of service are tangible demonstrations of our love for both our neighbors and our community.

We as a congregation will celebrate our unity in service with a potluck dinner after our morning worship service on September 14th. The meal will be followed by our two service projects for God's Work, Our Hands. We will be labelling paperback books for the USO library at Ft. Benning. We will be filling care bags for Wynnton Neighborhood Network. Each care bag will contain a bar of soap, toilet paper, and laundry pods. The care bags are distributed with food items provided to 525 clients served each month by WNN.

As a congregation we participate in many other Mission and Ministry projects throughout the year. These acts of service are about our faithful devotion to the God who blesses us with His forgiveness, grace, and love.

Allena Sperry  
Council President



# SMALL GROUPS

## **CRAF-TEA**

Meets every Friday from 10:00-12:00 PM in Luther Hall. Join us in fellowship and friendship on Friday mornings. Tea and a light snack will be provided. Come to visit and bring a project you are working on or work on a project for the church. Contact Beth Hoag at 706-604-8110 for more information.

## ***Bible Study***

Weekday Bible Study meets in the Fellowship Hall from 10:15 - 11:30 a.m. each Tuesday reading and discussing the scriptures for the coming Sunday.

## **Men's Group**

Men's Group meeting at 5:00 PM on August 28th at Mr. Pizza.

## **Chair Yoga**

Chair Yoga meets every Monday morning at 11:00 AM in Luther Hall. This is led by Terri Neiderhammer. Wear comfortable clothing and sneakers.



Friday, October 10th, Deli Day Shabbat honoring Wynnton Neighborhood Network at Temple Israel at 6PM available for 20 people from St. Matthew. If you are interested in doing this, contact the church office no later than August 25th at [office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com](mailto:office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com) or call at 706-561-3406.





# PATRIOTIC BBQ CELEBRATION!



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## Pastoral Institute Sessions Available

If you are in need of counseling services but do not have insurance to cover the costs, St. Matthew has entered into an agreement with the Pastoral Institute what enables us to cover up to 6 sessions through 2025 at a cost to you of only \$25/session.

The Pastoral Institute has a 51-year history in Columbus of providing professional, confidential, faith-affirming counseling addressing issues such as trauma, depression, anxiety, grief, and family dynamics. If you are considering seeking counseling, but do not have insurance to help cover the costs, contact Pastor Taylor to help you get started.



**WE NEED PAPERBACK BOOKS FOR  
GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS,  
SEPTEMBER 14TH. PLEASE PLACE  
IN BASKET IN THE NARTHEX!  
THANK YOU!**

# AUGUST MISSION FOCUS



**WYNNTON  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
NETWORK**

### CHRISTMAS FOR WNN: Holiday items needed

Cranberry Sauce	Yams	Jelly
Brownie Mix	Evaporated Milk	Cornbread mix
Green Beans	Cream of Mushroom Soup	Pumpkin pie mix
Corn	Chicken Broth (cans or boxes)	Mac and cheese
Stuffing	Peanut Butter	

**PUT ITEMS IN THE MARKED CONTAINER IN THE NARTHEX!  
THANK YOU!**



## Finance Committee Report

	June 2025	Year to Date
Income	\$11,228	\$76,616
Expenses	\$23,169	\$119,332
Difference	\$(11,941)	\$(42,716)



## All Saints

Margarete Walsh  
Patricia Bonaker  
Betty Davidson  
Mike Regnier  
Boyd Lester

## Prayer Requests

## Business Prayer Requests

Mr. Pizza  
Quality Inn  
Smoke Buddy's  
Days Inn  
Enterprise  
Guthrie's  
Octapharma Plasma  
Kamoree's Beauty Salon  
Broken Tarot Tattoo & Piercing  
Beaute' Matrix  
5 Fourteen  
DQ  
Freedom Adult Day Center  
Transformation Salon  
Menzie Dance Company  
Frankie's Hair Design  
AMG Financial  
Acceptance Auto  
Phuong's Tailor Shop  
Walgreen's  
USPS  
Peachtree Immediate Care  
Hidden Lake Bottle Shop  
Vance Brooks Funeral Service  
Striffler Hamby Funeral Service  
El Carrizo  
M. Bland Salon  
Chevron  
Grace Apostolic Church  
#1 Nails  
Mario's Tire's  
Mariner Finance  
Diamond Kutz

Gold Teeth World  
Apparel King & More  
Hollywood Barber Shop  
The Cell Plug  
Guthrie's  
Master Kleen  
Title Max  
JD Wings  
Burger King  
Animal General Hospital  
Klose Kutz  
Xpert Tax Service  
Bi-City Driving School  
Sunset Finance  
Kee J's  
Angel's Nails  
Y & J Health  
Hidden Lake Grocery  
Beauty Queen  
Brewster's  
Waffle House  
E & S Clothing  
One Financial  
Tasha's Dance & Prep  
Bargain Furniture  
Dollar General  
Citgo  
Landmark  
McKibben Insurance  
Rooster's Beer & Wine  
Woodville Apartments  
Beal Wellness

The Armed Forces, their  
families, & victims of war  
Persecuted Christians  
The ministries of St. Matthew  
Bishop Yehiel Curry  
Bishop Kevin Strickland  
Southeastern Synod Staff  
Pastor Taylor Burton Edwards  
St Matthew Congregational  
Council  
Laura Alexander  
Carol Bingemann  
Dave Bonaker  
Matt Bonaker  
Sandy Craven  
Davidson Family  
Myrna & Ken Hoag  
Mairetha & Bennie Jackson  
Sean Jeffery  
Marga Miller  
Charlotte Moore  
Traudel Mosely  
Debby Owen  
Dorothy Redden  
Regnier Family  
Connie Sieg  
Carla Stickles  
Harold Vinson  
Eric & Tinisha Bryant  
George Capps  
Chappel Family  
Jean Clemmons  
Xavier Danguilan  
Penny Davis & Family  
Nancy Edmundson  
Lynn Funck  
Brandy Garnett  
Mike Gewin

Sandy Gibbs  
Moses Glidden  
Becky Goldsmith  
Estrella Gonzales  
Sarah Goodman  
Doris Grier  
Petra & Franklin  
Henderson  
Norma Kilby  
Ken Korn  
Emma Kump  
Laura Lester  
Robert Lowe  
Michelle Matthias  
Sandra McPeters  
Brady Meeks  
Tim Moore  
Moser Family  
Nearhoof family  
Debi Nelson  
Angela Paul  
Vincent Pawlowski  
Beth Price  
Mark Purushotham  
Bill Rahm  
Tiffany Richardson  
Dayna Ryan  
Shirley Scott  
Dou Shizhen  
Ricky Skinner  
Amanda Steinagel  
Sara Steinagel Sturgis  
Fred Turpin  
Charlie VanHousen  
Dawn VanHousen  
Molly Wright  
Pastor Rachel Zarnke  
Martha Zimmerman

# Hi there AUGUST

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 - Eighth Sunday after Pentecost  Worship 10:30 AM Communion  Birthday Celebration	4 MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOL STARTS  CHAIR YOGA 11:00 - LH  AL-ANON/AA 8:00 PM - LH	5  BIBLE STUDY 10:15AM FH	6  BIBLE STUDY 6:00 LH	7    AL-Non/AA 8:00 PM - LH	8  Craf-Tea 10-12:00 LH	9
10 - Ninth Sunday after Pentecost  Worship 10:30 AM Communion  Memorial Committee Meeting 11:30 - FH	11  CHAIR YOGA 11:00 - LH  AL-ANON/AA 8:00 PM - LH	12  BIBLE STUDY 10:15AM FH	13	14 German Klub 5:30 LH  AL-ANON/AA 8:00 PM - FH	15  Craf-Tea 10-12:00 LH	16
17 - Tenth Sunday after Pentecost  Worship 10:30 AM Communion	18  CHAIR YOGA 11:00 - FH  AL-ANON/AA 8:00 PM - LH	19  BIBLE STUDY 10:15AM FH	20	21  COUNCIL MEETING 5:00 PM-FH  AL-ANON/AA 8:00 PM - LH	22  Craf-Tea 10-12:00 F	23
24 - Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost  Worship 10:30 AM Communion	25  CHAIR YOGA 11:00 - LH  AL-ANON/AA 8:00 PM - LH	26  BIBLE STUDY 10:15AM FH	27	28  MEN'S GROUP 5:00 PM - MR. PIZZA  AL-ANON/AA 8:00 PM - LH	29  Craf-Tea 10-12:00 LH	30
31- Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost  Worship 10:30 AM Communion						

Contact Us . . .

## St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

4026 Macon Road  
Columbus, GA 31907

(706) 561-3406  
office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com

Visit us on the web at  
www.stmatthewcolumbusga.com

**Worship: Sundays at 10:30 am.**  
**YouTube is also available**

[https://www.youtube.com/  
@st.matthewlutheranchurch4457](https://www.youtube.com/@st.matthewlutheranchurch4457)

### OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday/Thursday 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Friday - 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

### St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Mission Statement

*Reach in  
to grow in Christ  
Reach up  
to worship God  
Reach out  
to welcome and witness*

### Staff . . .

**Pastor**

**Reverend Taylor Burton Edwards**  
*twbe@liturgyfolks.com*

**Parish Administrator**

**Sonja Metcalf**  
*office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com*

**Minister of Music**  
**Nursery Attendant**  
**Sexton**

**Sandra Nearhoof**  
**Penny Davis**  
**Lisa Pettit**

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Lutheran Church  
4026 Macon Road  
Columbus, GA 31907

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED