



ST. MATTHEW

# Messenger

*Celebrating*

68  
years

*The Newsletter of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church - February 2025*

## Love Is All Around

February is thought to be the month of love due to Valentines Day on February 14th. The stores are full of Valentines Day merchandise for purchase to express our feelings of love for those who are near and dear to us. There are many ways in which we can demonstrate our love for each other daily, not just on Valentines Day.

When I consider the ultimate gift of God's love, I think of John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life." Jesus loved us so much that He chose to endure the pain and humiliation of the scourging, the crown of thorns, the journey to Golgotha, the spikes in His hands and His feet, and the lance in His side. This is the love of the Holy Spirit which abides with us in every hour of every day.

We should endeavor to exemplify God's love in everything we do. We are the face of God to all who are seeking something better for their lives. We should be helpful, hopeful, and inviting. May God guide us in all our interactions with those in need.

We thank God for showing us what love is and for placing in each of us the capacity to love. May God nurture our love for one another and may we demonstrate our love through our service. May we share God's love with our brothers and sisters, our church, our community, and our word.

Allena Sperry  
Church Council President



dreamstime.com

# January Birthday Celebration



## Anniversary!?

We would love to be able to recognize anniversaries as well as birthdays each month. Please let the church office know when your anniversary is so that we can celebrate!

Phone at 706-561-3406  
Or email at [office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com](mailto:office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com)





# 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 Studies

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

Interfaith study of the book of Micah - Wednesdays at 6:00 PM in Luther Hall each Wednesday in February.

## Men's Group

Men's group meeting the 4th Thursday of each month. In February, the meeting will be on February 27th at 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

## Chair Aerobics

Chair Aerobics is here! We will be meeting every Monday starting February 3rd at 11:00 AM in Luther Hall. This will be led by Terri Neiderhammer. Wear comfortable clothing and sneakers. If you need transportation, please contact Zocia Barr at (706) 330-1001.



We had a great time packing care bags at Wynnton Neighborhood Network on January 9th. We hope that you join us on February 27th at 9AM at St. Thomas Episcopal Church Outreach Center (back of the church) when we pack more care bags for Wynnton Neighborhood Network. You can reach out to Allena Sperry at [agsperry@bellsouth.net](mailto:agsperry@bellsouth.net) or 706-563-3107 for more information.



Sunday, February 9th, after the worship service, in Luther Hall. Please donate non-perishable items to help us Tackle Hunger!

## Finance Committee Report

	December 2024	Year to Date
Income	\$68,318	\$214,751
Expenses	\$13,590	\$173,337
Difference	\$54,728	\$ 41,414



## All Saints

Margarete Walsh  
Patricia Bonaker



## Prayer Requests

The Armed Forces, their  
families, & victims of war  
Persecuted Christians  
The ministries of St. Matthew  
Bishop Kevin Strickland  
Southeastern Synod Staff  
Pastor Taylor Burton Edwards  
St Matthew Congregational  
Council

Laura Alexander  
Carol Bingemann  
Dave Bonaker  
Bonaker Family  
Betty Davidson  
Myrna & Ken Hoag  
Mairetha & Bennie Jackson  
Sean Jeffery  
Marga Miller  
Charlotte Moore  
Traudel Mosely  
Terri Niederhammer  
Debby Owen  
Dorothy Redden  
Connie Sieg  
Allena Sperry  
Carla Stickles  
Albert VanHousen II  
Harold Vinson  
Eric & Tinisha Bryant  
George Capps  
Jim Chappel  
Jean Clemmons  
Xavier Danguilan  
Penny Davis &  
Family  
Brandy Garnett

Mike Gewin  
Moses Glidden  
Becky Goldsmith  
Estrella Gonzales  
Doris Grier  
Petra & Franklin-  
Henderson  
Norma Kilby  
Ken Korn  
Emma Kump  
Melissa Lancheros  
Laura & Boyd Lester  
Robert Lowe  
Michelle Matthias  
Sandra McPeters  
Brady Meeks  
Tim Moore  
Nearhoof family  
Angela Paul  
Vincent Pawlowski  
Beth Price  
Mark Purushotham  
Bill Rahm  
Tiffany Richardson  
Dayna Ryan  
Shirley Scott  
Dou Shizhen  
Ricky Skinner  
Amanda Steinagel  
Torrijos Family  
Fred Turpin  
Charlie VanHousen  
Dawn VanHousen  
Martha Zimmerman

# Happy Valentine's Day

"FLOWERS CANNOT BLOOM WITHOUT SUNLIGHT, AND  
HUMANS CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT LOVE"




## 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  
Pathway Worship Center  
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  
The Ellands Event Center  
Chevron  
Grace Apostolic Church  
#1 Nails  
Rooster's Beer & Wine  
Mario's Tire  
Mariner Finance

Gold Teeth World  
Apparel King & More  
Hollywood Barber Shop  
The Cell Plug  
Master-Kleen  
Title Max  
JD Wings  
Burger King  
Animal General Hospital  
Klose Kutz  
Xpert Tax Service  
Family Worship Center  
Bi-City Driving School  
Sunset Finance  
Diamond Kutz  
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  
Woodville Apartments  
Beal Wellness

# FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						
						1
2 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany  Worship 10:30 AM Communion  Birthday/Anniversary Celebration	3  CHAIR YOGA 11:00 - LH  AA 8:00 PM - LH	4  BIBLE STUDY 10:15AM CH  Girl Scouts 6-8 PM - FH	5  INTERFAITH BIBLE STUDY 6:00 PM - LH	6  AA 8:00 PM - LH	7  Craf-Tea 10-12:00 LH	8
9 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany  Worship 10:30 AM Communion  Tackle Hunger LH after worship	10  CHAIR YOGA 11:00 - LH  AA 8:00 PM - LH	11  BIBLE STUDY 10:15AM CH	12  INTERFAITH BIBLE STUDY 6:00 PM - LH	13  GERMAN KLUB 5:30 - LH  AA 8:00 PM - FH	14  Craf-Tea 10-12:00 LH  Happy Valentines Day!	15
16 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany  Worship 10:30 AM Communion	17  CHAIR YOGA 11:00 - LH  AA 8:00 PM - LH  PRESIDENT'S DAY	18  BIBLE STUDY 10:15AM CH	19  INTERFAITH BIBLE STUDY 6:00 PM - LH	20  COUNCIL MEETING 5:00 - FH  AA 8:00 PM - LH	21  Craf-Tea 10-12:00 LH	22
23 Seventh Sunday after Epiphany  Worship 10:30 AM Communion	24  CHAIR YOGA 11:00-LH  AA 8:00 PM - LH	25  BIBLE STUDY 10:15AM CH	26  INTERFAITH BIBLE STUDY 6:00 PM - LH	27  PACK CARE BAGS WNN - 9:00 AM  MEN'S GROUP 5:30 - FH  AA 8:00 PM - LH	28  Craf-Tea 10-12:00 LH	

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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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED