



ST. MATTHEW

Messenger

Celebrating

67
years

The Newsletter of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church - August 2023

Continuing to Take ON the Summer



Siblings of Saint Matthew,

We're now heading into the second half of summer and we have a lot to show from what we've taken on so far.

Our Wednesday evening interfaith Bible Study, The Binding of Isaac, has been well-received across three Christian congregations and several members of the Jewish community of Columbus. We've averaged around 20 each session. We're studying the Bible in depth, learning the roots of our shared faith traditions, and growing in our ability to understand core biblical issues such as covenant, sacrifice, and forgiveness. Our sessions continue through August 16.

"Remembrance Gatherings," led by Zocia Barr, met for the first time, enabling participants to share stories from the period of World War II with each other and family members.

Our Vacation Bible School brought fourteen children and their parents together for three evenings of fun, fellowship, and learning about loving God, loving our neighbors, and the Lord's Prayer, culminating in our VBS celebration with our after-church party on July 30. Be sure to thank all who participated as parents, students, leaders, and helpers!

We've also taken on some facilities improvements and repairs, addressing lights and air conditioning in Luther Hall and lights and the sound system in our sanctuary. Thanks to Cecil McGouirk, Carla Stickles, Rose Johnson, and others who have helped with these projects over the past several weeks.

So, what's next?

In worship, we begin a new sermon series in August, "In the Hard Places," and in September we'll begin a six week series in the Psalms.

Our former webhost has recently exited that business, so we've created a new website for our church with a new address: <https://www.stmatthewcolumbusga.com> (no longer .org). Likewise, our office address is now office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com. The former address (ending in .org) is no longer active.

"Remembrance Gatherings" will hold its second meeting on Tuesday, August 8, at 3:30 p.m. at the church house (we'll move to a larger venue if needed).

By late August, we'll begin our prayer ministry outreach with the businesses on Macon Road (from Striffler-Hamby and Vance Brooks to I-185). Contact me (twbe@liturgyfolks.com) if you want to be part of the prayer visitation team.

Starting September 5, after our Wednesday evening Bible study concludes, we'll resume our Tuesday evening gatherings at Mr. Pizza at 6 p.m. starting with a study of the Athanasian Creed.

And there's more.

We're working on plans to upgrade, not just patch, our sound and AV systems so our worship sounds better in person and looks better and can more easily reach more people online.

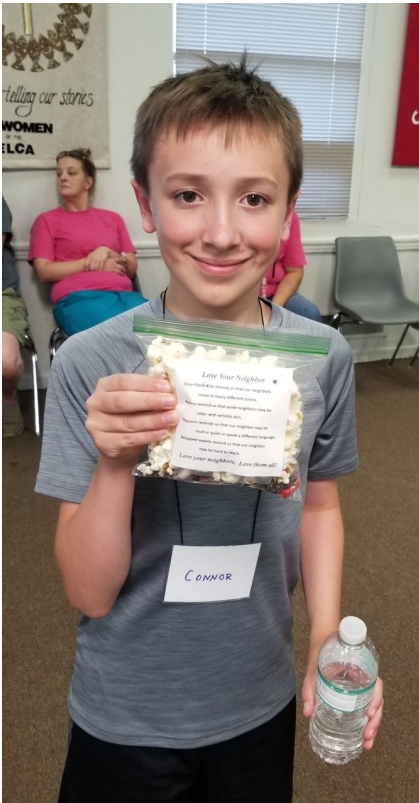
Worship, formation, and outreach are all very much "on the move" at Saint Matthew! I'm looking forward to sharing all of this with you in the weeks and months ahead.

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Taylor

Vacation Bible School

We had a great turn out for our Vacation Bible School this year! So much fun!



Vacation Bible School

(Continued)



All Saints

Joyce Garver-Messenger
 Anneliese Schwarting
 Hans Salheiser
 Bobby Wright
 Joe Stewart
 Christine Minor



Prayer Requests

The Armed Forces, their families, and victims of war
 Persecuted Christians
 The ministries of St. Matthew
 Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton
 Bishop Kevin Strickland
 Southeastern Synod Staff
 Seminarian, Brandon Konnow
 Laura Alexander
 Zocia Barr family
 Keandra Bashful
 Carol Bingemann
 Dave Bonaker
 Pat Bonaker
 Eva Brown
 Betty Davidson
 Ken Hoag
 Bennie Jackson
 Mairetha Jackson
 Marga Miller
 Traudel Mosely
 Debby Owen
 Dorothy Redden
 Connie Sieg
 Joan Smith
 Jim Sperry
 Carla Stickles
 Albert VanHousen II
 Margarete Walsh
 Monika Wright
 Gary Anderson
 Judy Bultman
 Kyle Carter
 Jim Chappel

Jean Clemmons
 Xavier Danguilan
 Becky Goldsmith
 Estrella Gonzales
 Doris Grier
 Beverly Huckaby
 Norma Kilby
 Ken Korn
 Michelle Matthias
 Tim Moore
 Gary Nearhoof
 Kimberly O'Malley
 Michael Owen
 Angela Paul
 Vincent Pawlowski
 Dwight Redmond
 Tiffany Richardson
 Dayna Ryan
 Yuliia Savitska
 Shirley Scott
 Ricky Skinner
 Betty Townsend
 Charlie VanHousen
 Dawn VanHousen
 Martha Zimmerman

Birthday Celebration will be on 8/6/2023 this month in the Fellowship Hall after the worship service. Please join us!

August Birthdays

1 Mason Stickles
 3 Jack Steinagel
 5 Geri Regnier
 12 Sandra McPeters
 Traudel Mosely
 13 Harold Vinson
 15 Judy Harrison
 16 Rigney Cofield
 18 Monika Wright
 23 Ellen Hoag
 Joey Hill
 27 Dave Bonaker
 28 Ron Klein
 Richard Schwarting



The Binding of Isaac: Join us the first three Wednesdays in August at 6:30, in Luther Hall for a unique and fun bible study!

Rabbi Beth Schwartz and Pastor Taylor are leading a study on the story of the binding of Isaac (Genesis 22) and its aftermath. This is an interfaith and ecumenical experience, with folks from St. Matthew, St. Thomas Episcopal Church, New Hope Presbyterian Church and the Jewish congregations in Columbus especially invited.

Memorial Garden Bricks

Purchase a commemorative brick to celebrate a birthday, anniversary, or graduation. You can also purchase one in honor or memory of a loved one. Each brick purchased will become part the St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Memorial Garden. See Allena Sperry for more details!

**DEADLINE TO ORDER IS
 SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

Finance Committee Report

	June 2023	Year to Date
Income	\$12,081	\$78,887
Expenses	\$13,446	\$69,630
Difference	\$-1,365	\$ 9,247



St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran

August 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
			Bible Study 6:30 LH	AA 8:00 PM - LH		
6 10th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30 AM Communion	7 AA 8:00 PM - LH	8 BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH	9 Bible Study 6:30 LH	10 AA 8:00 PM - LH	11	12
13 11th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30 AM Communion	14 AA 8:00 PM - LH	15 BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH VBS 6:00-7:30 PM	16 Bible Study 6:30 LH	17 GERMAN CLUB 5:00 PM LH AA 8:00 PM - LH	18	19
20 12th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30 AM Communion	21 AA 8:00 PM - LH	22 BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH	23	24 COUNCIL MEETING 4:00 AA 8:00 PM - LH	25	26
27 13th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30 AM Communion	28 AA 8:00 PM - LH	29 BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH	30	31 AA 8:00 PM - 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.
Zoom is also available

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday/Thursday 2:30 PM - 5:30 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
Parish Administrator

Reverend Taylor Burton Edwards
Sonja Metcalf
office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com

Minister of Music
Nursery Attendant
Sexton

Sandra Nearhoof
Penny Davis
Lisa Pettit

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Lutheran Church
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Columbus, GA 31907

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED