



ST. MATTHEW

Messenger

The Newsletter of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church - April 2024

Celebrating

67
years

Welcome to Eastertide, the season of restoration and new beginnings in the life of the church.

We are previewing and launching a new 6 week Sunday School program beginning April 7 after worship as part of our Birthday Celebration and Indoor Picnic. Sunday School classes proper will begin April 14 at 9 a.m. We'll be focusing on the Small Catechism.

And on April 14, we'll also launch a study with our youth of the Social Statements and Messages of our Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Our interfaith Bible study in the Ten Commandments with Rabbi Beth Schwartz resumes on April 10 at 6:30 p.m. in Luther Hall. We'll meet April 10 and 17, then May 8, 15, and 22.

Why the break in the study? I'll be in Charlotte, North Carolina, covering the actions of the plenary sessions of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church. Pastor Rachel Zarnke will lead worship the two Sundays I'm gone (April 28 and May 5). And Rabbi Beth Schwartz has offered to have a special session of the Bible Study on May 1 as a question and answer session for anything folks want to know about Judaism.

In worship throughout Eastertide, we'll be singing the whole service again (Kyrie, Gloria, Great Thanksgiving, Sanctus, Benedictus, and Agnus Dei) and unpacking the power of the resurrection of Jesus for our daily lives.

And the joyous new things don't end with Eastertide!

On Trinity Sunday, May 26, we'll have a hymn festival structured around the Athanasian Creed, singing through all the Trinity Sunday hymns in our hymnal.

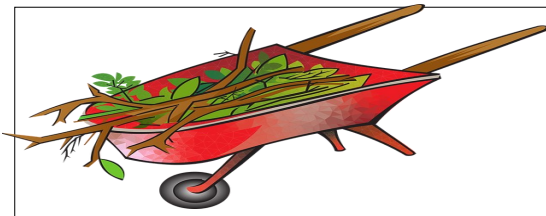
And on Sunday, June 2, we'll worship with the whole Synod Assembly at the Convention and Trade Center in uptown Columbus.

It's an exciting season of worship, study, and ministry ahead. I hope you are beginning to look forward to it all as much as I am!

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Taylor





Garden and grounds spring cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 13th & 20th from 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Please bring tools you need for work. We will be trimming shrubs, weeding, planting flowers and placing pine straw. Please contact Allena Sperry for questions at 706-563-3107 --The Garden Keepers



We will be hosting a yard sale on June 15th from 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM in Luther Hall. You can bring your donated items to the Sieg Building on Saturday, April 13th from 10:00 AM until 12:00 PM or Saturday, April 20th from 10:00 AM until 12:00 PM. For more questions, please contact Allena Sperry at 706-563-3307

We Worked To Tackle Hunger!

Thank you for your generous contributions to the Brown Bag of Columbus Ministry. Thanks to your generosity, we raised \$796 and collected 242 food items. You are amazing!

SMALL GROUPS

GROWING IN GRACE

Meets every Friday from 9:00-11:00 AM in the Church House. God's grace is freely given to us. Join the group to learn to cultivate an attitude of grace in your daily life by learning about and adopting habits to move into a state of grace. Contact Beth Hoag at 706-604-8110 for more information.

REMEMBRANCE GATHERING

This group meets on the second Tuesday at 3 PM in the Church House each month. The Gathering is an open invitation to share personal stories or recollections of someone else's life from all wars and conflicts. Please come share your ideas or just support those of others this coming **March 12th at 3:00 PM.**

Bible Studies

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

The interfaith Bible Study in the Ten Commandments with Rabbi Beth Schwartz, April 10th, 17th, May 8th, 15th and 22nd at 6:30 PM in Luther Hall.

2024 Southeastern Synod Assembly

May 31 - June 2, 2024

Columbus Convention & Trade Center
Columbus, GA

SOUTHEASTERN SYNOD
2024 Assembly



Striving for Justice & Peace
in all the World

May 31 - June 2, 2024
Columbus, GA

The Southeastern Synod will gather for Assembly in Columbus, GA, at the Columbus Georgia Convention & Trade Center, May 31 - June 2, 2024. For our keynote speakers, we are welcoming: **Mr. Bryan Stevenson**, founder and Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative, and **Deacon Ross Murray**, GLAAD Media and author of several works on Advocacy. We will also welcome **Rev. Amy Reuman**, ELCA Director for Advocacy as our Churchwide Representative.

Standard registration runs through April 16, 2024

NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER APRIL 30!

Early bird rates ended February 29, 2024

Letter from the Council

Members and Friends of St. Matthew Lutheran Church,

Information from Congregation Council

Our facilities need repairing in several areas. The Council discussed these for many months and prioritized them into 3 separate projects listed below.

- Repair leak in sanctuary and remove Church House chimney with repair of surrounding roof. These must be done as soon as possible. Combined cost is \$5,934. Contributions on hand are \$1,100.
- Repair of handicapped sidewalk and pothole. Repair doors in Fellowship Hall and Luther Hall. Combined cost is \$3,885. Contributions on hand are \$635 for doors from 2023.
- Repair Church House kitchen ceiling. Cost is \$1,563. Replace lights in sanctuary, narthex and repair light fixture in nursery. No estimate for lighting costs yet. Contributions on hand for lighting project are \$200.

The Council is proceeding with these projects. A congregational vote is not needed since each of these individual projects is less than \$10,000. The projects will be completed as prioritized as funds are available.

If you have any questions, please contact Rose Johnson. Designated memorials and donations for these projects are welcome and appreciated.



April Birthdays



2	Joyce Moore	12	Renee Steinagel
6	Annah Hoag	24	James Douglas Chappel
6	David Thies	27	Grace Lynn Thies
11	Jeffrey Gates		

Birthday Celebration will be on 4/7/2024 this month in the Fellowship Hall after the worship service. Please join us!

Finance Committee Report

	February 2024	Year to Date
Income	\$12,459	\$26,192
Expenses	\$10,594	\$27,396
Difference	\$ 1,865	\$ -1,204



Prayer Requests

The Armed Forces, their families, & victims of war	Estrella Gonzales
Persecuted Christians	Doris Grier
The ministries of St. Matthew	Petra Henderson
Bishop Kevin Strickland	Beverly Huckaby
Southeastern Synod Staff	Norma Kilby
Pastor Taylor Burton Edwards	Ken Korn
Laura Alexander	Boyd Lester
Carol Bingemann	Laura Lester
Dave Bonaker	Valerie Loudner
Pat Bonaker	Robert Lowe
Betty Davidson	Michelle Matthias
Ken Hoag	Tim Moore
Myrna Hoag	Gary Nearhoof
Bennie Jackson	Louie Niedenhammer
Mairetha Jackson	Kimberly O'Malley
Marga Miller	Michael Owen
Traudel Mosely	Angela Paul
Debby Owen	Vincent Pawlowski
Dorothy Redden	Mark Purushotham
Connie Sieg	Dwight Redmond
Joan Smith	Tiffany Richardson
Carla Stickles	Dayna Ryan
Albert VanHousen II	Yuliia Savitska
Margarete Walsh	Shirley Scott
Monika Wright	Ricky Skinner
Gary Anderson	Betty Townsend
Isaac Broune	Charlie VanHousen
Judy Bultman	Dawn VanHousen
George Capps	Martha Zimmerman
Kyle Carter	
Jim Chappel	
Jean Clemmons	
Xavier Danguilan	
Brandy Garnett	
Becky Goldsmith	



All Saints

Keandra Bashful
WJ Barrs
Eva Brown

Business Prayer Requests

Mr. Pizza	Gold Teeth World
Quality Inn	Apparel King & More
Smoke Buddy's	Hollywood Barber Shop
Days Inn	The Cell Plug
Enterprise	Plaza Furniture
Comfort Inn	Guthrie's
Octapharma Plasma	Master-Kleen
Kamoree's Beauty Salon	Title Max
Broken Tarot Tattoo & Piercing	JD Wings
Beaute' Matrix	Burger King
5 Fourteen	Animal General Hospital
DQ	Klose Kutz
Freedom Adult Day Center	Xpert Tax Service
Transformation Salon	Family Worship Center
Pathway Worship Center	Bi-City Driving School
Menzie Dance Company	Sunset Finance
Frankie's Hair Design	Diamond Kutz
AMG Financial	Kee J's
Acceptance Auto	Angel's Nails
Phuong's Tailor Shop	Y & J Health
Walgreen's	Hidden Lake Grocery
USPS	Beauty Queen
Peachtree Immediate Care	Brewster's
Hidden Lake Bottle Shop	Waffle House
Vance Brooks Funeral Service	E&S Clothing
Striffler Hamby Funeral Service	One Financial
El Carrizo	Tasha's Dance & Prep
M. Bland Salon	Bargain Furniture
The Ellands Event Center	Dollar General
Chevron	Citgo
Grace Apostolic Church	Landmark
#1 Nails	McKibben Insurance
Valley Rescue Donation Center	Rooster's Beer & Wine
Mario's Tire	Woodville Apartments
Mariner Finance	

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

April 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5 GROW WITH GRACE 9:00-11:00	6
7 2nd Sunday of Easter Worship 10:30 AM Communion Birthday Celebration & Sunday School Kickoff Potluck	8 Wynnton Neighborhood Network Board Meeting 12:00 AA 8:00 PM - LH	9 BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH Remembrance Gathering 3:00 CH	10 Bible Study 6:30 Luther Hall	11 AA 8:00 PM - FH	12 GROW WITH GRACE 9:00-11:00	13 Gardens Clean-up 10-1 Yard Sale Dropoff 10-12
14 3rd Sunday of Easter Sunday School 9:15 - Luther Hall Worship 10:30 AM Communion	15 AA 8:00 PM - LH	16 BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH	17 Bible Study 6:30 Luther Hall	18 COUNCIL MEETING 5:00 AA 8:00 PM - FH	19 GROW WITH GRACE 9:00-11:00	20 Gardens Clean-up 10-1 Yard Sale Dropoff 10-12
21 4th Sunday of Easter Sunday School 9:15 Luther Hall Worship 10:30 AM Communion	22 AA 8:00 PM - FH	23 BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH	24	25 AA 8:00 PM - FH	26 GROW WITH GRACE 9:00-11:00	27
28 5th Sunday of Easter Sunday School 9:15 Luther Hall Worship 10:30 AM Communion	29 AA 8:00 PM - FH	30 BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH				

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
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
4026 Macon Road
Columbus, GA 31907

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED