



ST. MATTHEW

# Messenger

*Celebrating*

66  
years

*The Newsletter of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church - April 2023*

## Spiritual Traveling Through the Month of April

A message from Pastor Taylor Burton Edwards

April begins with the most solemn week of the Christian Year, and concludes in the midst of its most joyous.

I hope you're up for both as we observe Holy Week and start to observe Easter Season together.

We pare down to words alone by the conclusion of services on Holy Thursday. Everything else is removed from the sanctuary. Cross, paraments, chalice and paten, almost everything not bolted or in the pews is removed.

Even song.

We come to Good Friday as a solemn service of scripture and prayer only, and we conclude in silence.

And we come to Holy Saturday morning to a service of silence punctuated by written and occasionally spoken words on Twitter at the hashtag #holysat23 at 10 a.m.

And then, at 6:30, we gather with St. Thomas Episcopal Church for the joyful solemnity of the Great Vigil of Easter.

And we return to St. Matthew Easter morning for breakfast, and an Easter Egg Hunt, bursting forth in heart, and hands, and voices with celebration, and handbells, and song.

We also during this month renew our Tuesday evening Pub Theology study in the Small Catechism (starting April 18) at 6 p.m. at Mr. Pizza on Macon Road.

And we shift our focus in worship from catechesis -- training our lives to echo the ways of Jesus-- to mystagogy -- training our minds and our perceptions to understand the meaning of the mysteries of baptism, Eucharist, confession, and the gifts and calling of the Holy Spirit in our lives leading up to the celebration of Pentecost at the end of May. The time and talent sheets many of you have completed will be put to good use during the weeks that lead up to that time so we can commission folks into their ministries on Pentecost Sunday.

I look forward to all of it with you, and I hope you do, too!

Peace in Christ,  
Pastor Taylor





We invite you to join our  
**Easter  
Breakfast and  
Egg Hunt**

April 2, 2023  
9:00-10:00AM  
Fellowship  
Hall

He is risen!  
Alleluia!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A  
**Spring Picnic**  
**St Matthew**  
**Lutheran Church**

*April 30th at 11:30am*  
*After Church in Luther Hall*  
*\*sign up sheet for food will*  
*be posted in the Narthex*

*People are often unreasonable and self-entered.  
 Forgive them anyway.  
 If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior  
 motives. Be kind anyway.  
 If you are honest, people may cheat you.  
 Be honest anyway.  
 If you find happiness, people may be jealous.  
 Be happy anyway.  
 The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow.  
 Do good anyway.  
 Give the world the best you have and it will never be  
 enough. Give your best anyway.  
 For you see, in the end, it is between you and God.  
 It was never between you and them anyway.*

-Mother Teresa



Birthday Celebration will be on  
 4/2/2023 this month in the Fellowship  
 Hall after the worship service.  
 Please join us!

## *April Birthdays*



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

## *Worship Schedule*

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

**APRIL 6  
 7:00 P.M.**

**GOOD FRIDAY**

**APRIL 7  
 7:00 P.M.**

## *Save the Date*

- Memorial Garden Cleanup: April 1 (10AM - 1PM)
- Birthday Celebration: April 2 (11:30 am)
- Maundy Thursday Service April 6 (7:00 pm)
- Good Friday Service April 7 (7:00 pm)
- Vigil of Easter (St. Thomas Episcopal) April 8 (6:30 pm)
- Easter Breakfast/Egg Hunt April 9 (9:00 am)
- Pub Theology (Mr. Pizza) April 18, 25 (6:00 pm)
- Congregation Council Meeting: April 27 (4:00 pm)
- Spring Picnic: April 30 (11:30 am)
- Pastor Burton Edwards Installation: April 30 (2:00 pm)



### **Your Opportunity to be hands of Jesus:**

Starting March 5 thru April  
 30 we will be doing a book  
 collection. Please bring  
 paperbacks and hardback  
 books. We are collecting for  
 soldiers and small libraries  
 in our community.  
 Please the books in the  
 basket in the Narthex!

### **Finance Committee Report**

	<b>February 2023</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>
Income	\$11,138	\$27,139
Expenses	\$ 9,706	\$17,571
Difference	\$ 1,432	\$ 9,568

## All Saints

Joyce Garver-Messenger  
Anneliese Schwarting  
Hans Salsheiser  
Bobby Wright

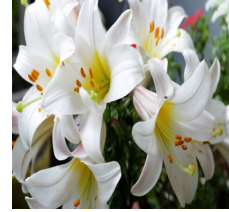


## Prayer Requests

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  
Christine Minor  
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 Powlowski  
Dwight Redmond  
Tiffany Richardson  
Dayna Ryan  
Yuliia Savitska  
Shirley Scott  
Ricky Skinner  
Betty Townsend  
Charlie VanHousen  
Dawn VanHousen  
Martha Zimmerman

## EASTER REMEMBERANCES



### IN MEMORY OF:

**Charles, Richard, Ryan and Steve Davidson,**  
given by Betty Davidson

**Donna Souerwine** given by Katherine Kelly

**Joe T. & Margrit Lawton**  
given by Raymond Lawton and family

**Willie & Elise Meinhold, Evelyn & Herbert  
Bernhardt, Robert Meinhold, Andrew McEwen**  
Given by Pettit family

**Delbert and Lisa Paul** given by Geri Regnier

**Diana Sperry, and Walter and Allena Gardner**  
given by Jim and Allena Sperry

**Gary Stickles** given by Carla Stickles

**Wilbur & Betty Ullman, Edwin & Audrey  
Anderson** given by Ron and Debby Ullman

**Ralph and Ella Wallace**  
given by Bill and Maxine Wallace

**Ilse Conrad** given by Renate Wiley

### IN HONOR OF:

**Jim & Allena Sperry, Pastor Taylor Burton  
Edwards, Staff of St. Matthew**  
Given by Katherine Kelly

**Zocia Barr** given by Michael Steinagel

**Grandchildren: Hannah, Hailey, Reid and  
Ryder** given by Ron and Debby Ullman

**Ron & Hazel Dixon**  
given by Bill & Maxine Wallace

*\*\*Submitted as of 3/31/2023*





# St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

## April 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>1</b> Memorial Garden Cleanup & Organizing - 10AM - 1PM
<b>2 SUNDAY OF THE PASSION</b> <b>PALM SUNDAY</b>  Worship 10:30 AM Communion Sunday	<b>3</b>   AA 8:00 PM - LH	<b>4</b>  BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>  Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 PM   AA 8:00 PM - LH	<b>7</b>  Good Friday Service 7:00 PM	<b>8</b>  Great Easter Vigil Service at St. Thomas Episcopal Church 6:30 PM
<b>9 Resurrection of our Lord - Easter Day</b>  Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt 9:00  Worship 10:30 AM Communion Sunday	<b>10</b>   AA 8:00 PM - LH	<b>11</b>  BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  GERMAN CLUB 5:00 PM LH  AA 8:00 PM - LH	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16 Second Sunday of Easter</b>  Worship 10:30 AM Communion Sunday	<b>17</b>   AA 8:00 PM - LH	<b>18</b>  BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH  Pub Theology 6:00 PM at Mr. Pizza	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  AA 8:00 PM - LH	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23 Third Sunday of Easter</b>  Worship 10:30 AM Communion Sunday ----- <b>30 Fourth Sunday of Easter</b>  Worship 10:30 AM Communion Sunday Spring Picnic 11:30 Pastor Taylor Installation at 2:00 PM	<b>24</b>   AA 8:00 PM - LH	<b>25</b>  BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH  Pub Theology 6:00 PM at Mr. Pizza	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  CONGREGATION COUNCIL 4:00PM CH	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>

Contact Us . . .

## St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

4026 Macon Road  
Columbus, GA 31907

(706) 561-3406  
[office@stmatthewcolumbusga.org](mailto:office@stmatthewcolumbusga.org)

Visit us on the web at  
[www.stmatthewcolumbusga.org](http://www.stmatthewcolumbusga.org)

**Inside in-person worship *with zoom* is at 10:30  
a.m.**

### 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*

### Staff . . .

Pastor  
Parish Administrator

Minister of Music  
Nursery Attendant  
Sexton  
Web Master

Website  
Media Specialist

Reverend Taylor Burton Edwards  
Sonja Metcalf  
[office@stmatthewcolumbusga.org](mailto:office@stmatthewcolumbusga.org)  
Sandra Nearhoof  
Penny Davis  
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[www.stmatthewcolumbusga.org](http://www.stmatthewcolumbusga.org)  
Kelly Peterson

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED