



ST. MATTHEW

Messenger

Celebrating

67
years

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

Time to fall... forward!

Siblings of Saint Matthew,

Fall is officially upon us.

So, how did our “summer on” go? What do we have to show for it?

We completed our interfaith Bible Study, “The Binding of Isaac.” Thanks to the many of you who helped us with food, hospitality, and financial support for Rabbi Beth. It was well-received, with many requests for another interfaith study that Rabbi Beth and I would co-lead. We’re working on that now, with plans for a new study in “The Ten Commandments” to begin in early 2024.

We’ve held three Remembrance Gatherings so far and have recordings for two that we’re preparing for posting to a new YouTube channel. Thanks to Zocia Barr, who will also present her story at our October gathering (October 10 at 2 p.m. – note the change of time for this session only).

We had a wonderful celebration of both Vacation Bible School and our country on July 30, with one of the highest worship attendances we’ve seen in a long time for both events. Lisa and team, you really rocked this!

We’re continuing with repairs on doors, locks, and lights throughout our facilities, with good progress being made. Thanks to Cecil McGouirk, Carla Stickles, Alaina Sperry, Rose Johnson, and others who have helped with these projects over the past several weeks.

We’ve launched our new website <https://www.stmatthewcolumbusga.com> (no longer .org). Likewise, our office address is now office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com.

Our prayer ministry outreach to our Macon Road business neighbors is underway. We’ve visited 49 businesses so far, letting them know we’re praying for them and extending them the opportunity to share prayer requests with us. We’ll be continuing to meet our neighbors in the weeks ahead until we’ve contacted all of them, in person. Thanks to Joyce and others who have been part of this ministry or expressed interest in doing so.

And thanks to the work of many hands, God’s Work, Our Hands Sunday enabled us not only to reach out, but to share a meal together and dedicate the scripture quilt so many of you contributed to. Thanks especially to Linnea Grosse for continuing to lead this project.

We’ve resumed our weekly studies on Tuesday at 6 at Mr. Pizza, focusing on the Athanasian Creed.

So what about looking ahead?

We’ve approved a plan to install livestreaming equipment that will improve our reach to the world, and are now raising funds to support it. Watch for opportunities to give, including at Oktoberfest.

We’ll shift our focus toward the gospel readings beginning October 15 through Christ the King Sunday. And we’re in early planning for our stewardship campaign, our “regular” annual congregational meeting, and our special Advent services.

Our summer “on the go” has deepened and strengthened us in all three areas of our mission: Reaching in to grow in Christ; reaching up to worship God; and reaching out to welcome and witness.” So, regardless of what we do with our clocks in November, we’re well poised for a “fall forward!”

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Taylor



Gracious God, as you have called workers to varied tasks in the world and in our church, so have you called servants to this ministry of Congregational Council.

As we look forward to 2024, please consider serving on Council. The time requirements are very flexible. Our Council meets once a month on Thursdays. If you need more information, please contact Rose Johnson or Pastor Taylor.

Grant them joy and a sprint of bold trust, that their work may stir up each of us to a life of fruitful service.

Peace and Grace, Rose Johnson, President Congregation Council



Annual Congregational Meeting

When: Sunday, November 12, 2023 - Following worship

ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

Where: In the sanctuary

All voting members of the church (adult members and confirmed youth) are encouraged to attend this meeting to discuss the business of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church.



Thank you to everyone who helped us celebrate the 10th anniversary of God's Work Our Hands. The food was delicious, the fellowship was amazing, and several projects were accomplished for our community!



Oktoberfest

In Luther Hall



**October
29th**

**12:00 pm
following church**

**See Sign-Up Sheet for
side dishes in Narthex
starting on
October 1, 2023.
Bratwurst and buns
provided!
Pettit family is providing
Sauerbraten.**



REMEMBRANCE GATHERING

Thank you to those who have participated in the remembrance gatherings we have had so far. This is such a meaningful experience. We are having another gathering on Tuesday, **October 10th at 2:00** in the Church House. We invite all who would like to share their own or family stories related to World War II. Please feel free to invite others to attend! If you have any questions, please contact Zocia Barr at (706) 330-1001.

Finance Committee Report

	August 2023	Year to Date
Income	\$10,469	\$105,731
Expenses	\$13,245	\$94,791
Difference	\$-2,776	\$10,940



Join us on October 21st from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM for an outdoor campus fall cleanup! Please bring yard tools that you will need to work with! Let's get ready for fall!

All Saints

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



Prayer Requests

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

Birthday Celebration will be on 10/1/2023 this month in the Fellowship Hall after the worship service. Please join us!

October Birthdays



1 Judy Bultman	15 Alexis Messenger
2 Beth Hoag	20 Catherine Sayers
4 Laura Alexander	20 Ron Ullman
6 Nathan Burns	21 Lisa Owen
8 Wanda Ebright	22 Andrew Barrs
12 Joanne Hutto	23 Robby Burns
14 Thornyn Hoag	28 Jeremy Clevers

Business Prayer Requests

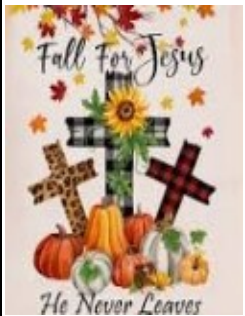
Mr. Pizza	Gold Teeth World
Quality Inn	Apparel King & More
Smoke Buddy's	Hollywood Barber Shop
Days Inn	The Cell Plug
Enterprise	Plaza Furniture
Comfort Inn	Guthrie's
Octapharma Plasma	Master-Kleen
Kamoree's Beauty Salon	Title Max
Broken Tarot Tattoo & Piercing	JD Wings
Beaute' Matrix	Burger King
5 Fourteen	Animal General Hospital
DQ	Klose Kutz
Freedom Adult Day Center	Xpert Tax Service
Transformation Salon	Gateway Church
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

Did you know that you can go to our website and leave a prayer request for yourself? Just click here <https://forms.wix.com/r/7095504952415486031> to be taken to the prayer request form.

The Athanasian Creed: Join us each Tuesday at Mr. Pizza at 6:00 PM as we study the Athanasian Creed! We would love to see there for fellowship and the growth of our knowledge of this very important creed in the life of the church.

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

October 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 18th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30 AM Communion Birthday Celebration after service	2 AA 8:00 PM - LH	3 BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH Athanasian Creed Study at Mr. Pizza 6:00	4	5 AA 8:00 PM - LH	6	7
8 19th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30 AM Communion	9 AA 8:00 PM - LH	10 BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH Remembrance Gathering 2:00 CH Athanasian Creed Study at Mr. Pizza 6:00	11	12 GERMAN CLUB 5:00 PM LH AA 8:00 PM - FH	13	14
15 20th Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30 AM Communion	16 AA 8:00 PM - LH	17 BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH Athanasian Creed Study at Mr. Pizza 6:00	18	19 AA 8:00 PM - LH	20	21
22 21st Sunday after Pentecost Worship 10:30 AM Communion	23 AA 8:00 PM - LH	24 BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH Athanasian Creed Study at Mr. Pizza 6:00	25	26 COUNCIL MEETING 4:00 AA 8:00 PM - LH	27	28
29 Reformation Sunday Worship 10:30 AM Communion Oktoberfest-LH After service	30 AA 8:00 PM - LH	31 BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH Athanasian Creed Study at Mr. Pizza 6:00				

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 2:00 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

St. Matthew Evangelical
Lutheran Church
4026 Macon Road
Columbus, GA 31907

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED