



ST. MATTHEW

Messenger

Celebrating

69
years

The Newsletter of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church - February 2026

Great Is His Faithfulness

In June 2026, we at St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church will celebrate our 70th Anniversary. Through God's infinite mercy and love, we are given life. He has sustained us as a church through many trials and tribulations. He has kept us going even when we worried about our survival. It is in God's faithfulness that we have placed our hope.

In our celebrations, we will consider those who were responsible for creating the base on which we have built what we are today. As we ponder the journey that shaped us, we reflect on the rich promises of God. God has remained faithful to St. Matthew as He walked with us through every crisis. We depend on Him for strength and guidance. He will never fail us!

We are grateful to Pastor Hollinger and our sixty-nine charter members who embarked on a journey of faith to form St. Matthew. They embarked on this journey humbly and with serious consideration of the responsibilities they were accepting. The most important consideration was the call that God had given them.

St. Matthew has faced many challenges and uncertainties throughout our history. In those challenging and uncertain times, God's love and faithfulness have borne us through to a place of peace. We as a congregation have been blessed and amazed to see how God has sustained us.

As we have walked across the threshold of our years past, we ask God to enlighten us with the knowledge of how to greet the future openly and eagerly. Lord, help us create plans that will bring out the best in us as individuals and as a congregation. May we fulfill your purpose for our lives. We have been blessed by what God has already done here at St. Matthew, and we trust that God will guide us in right direction into the future.

Great is thy faithfulness!

Allena Sperry
Council President

SMALL GROUPS

Chair Yoga

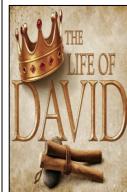
Chair Yoga meets every Monday at 11:00 AM in the Luther Hall.

CRAF-TEA

The Craf-Tea group will meet on the 4th Friday of the month. The meeting in February will be February 27, 2026 at 10:00 am. Contact Linnea Grosse at (706) 392-8697 for more information.

Bible Study

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



"David through the eyes of those who knew him" led by Pastor Taylor and Rabbi Beth Schwarz. This study continues February 4th and February 11th at 6:00 pm in Luther Hall.

LENT WORSHIP SCHEDULE

18
FEBRUARY

ASH WEDNESDAY
5:30 PM



2
APRIL

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE
7:00 PM

25
FEBRUARY

MIDWEEK LENT SERVICE
5:30 PM

3
APRIL

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
7:00 PM

4,11,
18,25
MARCH

MIDWEEK LENT SERVICE
5:30 PM

4
APRIL

HOLY SATURDAY SERVICE
10:00 AM

ST MATTHEW EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
4026 MACON ROAD
COLUMBUS, GA 31907



UPCOMING EVENTS

February BIRTHDAYS

- 1 SHANNON GARDNER
- 20 MATT BONAKER
- 21 SANDRA CRAVEN
- 21 ISABELLE CLARK
- 24 CHARLOTTE OWEN
- 28 PENNY DAVIS

FEBRUARY

Birthday Celebration: February 1, 2026 after worship service in Luther Hall.



**TACKLE
HUNGER**

February 1, 2026 - Tackle Hunger Potluck! Please sign up on the list in the Narthex to bring your favorite tailgate food! Food and monetary donations will go to Brown Bag of Columbus.



Join us at St Thomas
Episcopal Church
2100 Hilton Ave
Columbus, GA

February 15th
Contemplative Worship
Service at 5:00 pm

February 17th
Shrove Tuesday
at 5:30 pm

**Shrove
Tuesday**



St Thomas Episcopal Church
5:30 PM, FEBRUARY 17, 2025





Finance Committee Report

	December 2025	Year to Date
Income	\$27,168	\$169,961
Expenses	\$15,169	\$206,278
Difference	\$11,199	\$(36,317)



Prayer Requests

Business Prayer Requests

Mr. Pizza
 Quality Inn
 Smoke Buddy's
 Days Inn
 Enterprise
 Master Kleen
 Octapharma Plasma
 Kamoree's Beauty Salon
 Broken Tarot Tattoo & Piercing
 Beaute' Matrix
 5 Fourteen
 DQ
 Freedom Adult Day Center
 Transformation Salon
 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
 Chevron
 Grace Apostolic Church
 #1 Nails
 Mario's Tire's
 Mariner Finance
 Diamond Kutz

Gold Teeth World
 Apparel King & More
 Hollywood Barber Shop
 The Cell Plug
 Title Max
 JD Wings
 Burger King
 Animal General Hospital
 Klose Kutz
 Xpert Tax Service
 Bi-City Driving School
 Sunset Finance
 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
 Rooster's Beer & Wine
 Woodville Apartments
 Beal Wellness

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

Laura Alexander

Carol Bingemann

Isabelle Clark

Randy Craven

Myrna & Ken Hoag

Marga Miller

Charlotte Moore

Traudel Moseley

Debby Owen

Dorothy Redden

Gary Anderson

Eric & Tinisha Bryant

Jean Clemonns

Nancy Edmundson

Lynn Funck

Brandy Garnett

Sandy Gibbs

Moses Glidden

Estrella Gonzales

Doris Grier

Grigsby Family

Laura Jett

Norma Kilby

Ken Korn

Emma Kump

Robert Lowe

John & David Lucas

Michelle Matthias

Brady Meeks
 Lynne Meinhold
 Tim Moore
 Debi Nelson
 Vincent Pawlowski
 Beth Price
 Mark Purushotham
 Tiffany Richardson
 Dayna Ryan
 Shirley Scott
 Dou Shizhen
 Ricky Skinner
 Amanda Steinagel
 Sara Steinagel Sturgis
 Fred Turpin
 Charlie VanHousen
 Dawn VanHousen
 Martha Zimmerman

Venezuela
 Gaza
 Palestinian People
 Israel
 Ukraine
 People of Russia
 Somali Refugees
 Jewish community in Australia
 People of Minneapolis
 Beth Israel Congregation in Jackson, MS
 Family of Renee Good
 Family of Alex Pretti
 Eastern Congo
 People of Nigeria

HELLO February

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 - Fourth Sunday after Epiphany Children's SS-9:30 Worship 10:30 AM Communion Tackle Hunger & Birthday Celebration	2 Chair Yoga 11:00-LH AI-Anon/AA 8:00 pm - LH	3 Bible Study 10:15AM FH	4 Interfaith Bible Study 6:00 - LH	5 AI-Anon/AA 8:00 pm - LH	6	7
8 - Fifth Sunday after Epiphany Children's SS-9:30 Worship 10:30 AM Communion Memorial Committee Meeting 12:00	9 Chair Yoga 11:00-LH AI-Anon/AA 8:00 pm - LH	10 Bible Study 10:15AM FH Finance Committee Meeting 4:00-FH	11 Interfaith Bible Study 6:00 - LH	12 German Klub 5:30 LH AI-Anon/AA 8:00 pm - LH	13	14 
15- Transfiguration of our Lord Children's SS-9:30 Worship 10:30 AM Communion Contemplative Service 5:00 pm at St. Thomas	16 Chair Yoga 11:00-LH AI-Anon/AA 8:00 pm - LH	17 Bible Study 10:15AM FH Shrove Tuesday 5:30 pm at St. Thomas	18 Ash Wednesday Service - 5:30 pm	19 Council Meeting 5:00 PM-FH AI-Anon/AA 8:00 pm - LH	20	21
22- First Sunday in Lent Children's SS-9:30 Worship 10:30 AM Communion	23 Chair Yoga 11:00-LH AI-Anon/AA 8:00 pm - LH	24 Bible Study 10:15AM FH	25 Midweek Lenten Service 5:30 pm	26 Choir Rehearsal 5:30 pm AI-Anon/AA 8:00 pm - LH	27 Craft-Tea 10-12 - LH	28

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	Sandra Nearhoof
Nursery Attendant	Penny Davis
Sexton	Lisa Pettit

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED