

Opportunities and Announcements

CALENDAR

Sunday, March 11

8:45 am Day by Day Service
 10:00 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service
 12:15 pm SS Leaders Meeting
 4:30 pm Confirmation Class
 6:00 pm UMYF

Monday, March 12

10:00 am Women's Walking Group
 12:00 pm Women's Ministry Team
 6:00 pm SC Knitting Guild
 6:15 pm Special Olympics Basketball Practice

6:30 pm Missions Committee

Tuesday, March 13

10:00 am Mary Martha Group
 6:00 pm Worship Committee
 6:30 pm Faithful Friends-Home of Mary Douglas Hirsch

Wednesday, March 14

5:40 pm Children's Choir & Activities
 5:45 pm Wednesday Meal
 6:00 pm Day by Day Band Practice
 6:20 pm Handbells
 6:25 pm Disciple Fast Track
 7:00 pm Centering Prayer
 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Practice

Thursday, March 15

11:30 am Meanderers
 5:00 pm Wheelchair Basketball

Friday, March 16

St. Matthew in the Mountains
 6:30 pm NA Group

Saturday, March 17

St. Matthew in the Mountains



Wednesday Night Menu
Plate Meal: Baked Pork Chops, Wild Rice Broccoli Casserole
Kids' Meal: Hot dogs/Fries
Alternative Meal: Shrimp Salad
 A reservation **must** be made by Monday evening for the upcoming Wednesday meal. Reservations can be made by using the orange pew cards, the eblast link or calling the office.



HOLY WEEK

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, March 29

5:45 pm • Gym Fellowship Meal
 6:30 pm • Sanctuary Worship Service

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 1

Sunrise Service
 7:00 am • Gather on the front lawn
 This will be an informal, short, uplifting service celebrating our Risen Lord. Plan to stand or bring a lawn chair. A few chairs will be provided.

Day by Day Service
 8:45 am • Family Life Center (Gym)

Traditional Worship
 11:00 am • Sanctuary



Easter Egg Hunt

EASTER SUNDAY

10:30 am
 Big Playground

Children will begin in their Sunday school

classes for an abbreviated lesson, and will then be brought to the playground at the appropriate time. Parents should meet us at the playground for the hunt, as you will then be responsible for your child. All children should bring an Easter basket that morning. Prior to Easter morning, please send one dozen treat filled & taped eggs, per child in your household. Eggs should be brought to the church office.

The Original HARVEY'S Family Restaurant
Meanderers Lunch
 Thursday, March 15 at 11:30 am.

Harvey's Family Restaurant, Taylors
 Information/Questions:
 Gay Davis-918-2803



Serving in Worship

Serving this Sunday

Liturgist
 Terhune Sudderth

Children's Church Assistant
 Beth Zweigoron

Children's Church Helper
 Chase Fine

Crucifer
 Madison Powers

Acolytes
 Caroline Powers, Tyson Fine



Attendance Slips

8:45 am Eric & Kary Mitchell
 11:00 am Anna Cobb

Ushers Anna Cobb, Bartley Sides,
 Gary Brown, Gary Silk

Altar Guild
 Claire Winkler, Erin Henderson

Pew Angels
 Lynn Hopple, Mary Ann Stonoha

Bulletin Editing
 Ellen Jordan

We would like to thank our Scouts for Serving in Worship today.

Greeters: Geneva Brannon, Madison Montgomery,
 Daisie Reese, and Cypriana Brannon

Ushers: Frances Carrington, Sam Carrington,
 Carley Fine, and Catherine Barnett



Look for
 St. Matthew Guest
 Password:
 angel123



Ministers
 The Congregation

Senior Pastor
 Rev. Randy Smith
 864-242-1966 Ext. 2201
 rsmith@stmatthewumc.net

Pastor Emeritus
 Rev. William McNeill

Director of Christian Education
 Cari Treece
 864-242-1966 Ext. 2202
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Church Office Administrator
 Susan Woods
 864-242-1966 Ext. 2203
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Director of Youth and Contemporary Worship
 Sidney Attaway
 864-242-1966 Ext. 2216
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Director of Preschool
 Christina Via
 864-242-2880 (direct line)
 cvia@stmatthewumc.net

Organist and Music Director
 Sam Taylor
 staylor@stmatthewumc.net

Church Custodian
 Pam Worthy
 pamworthy29669@gmail.com

Volunteer Children's Choir Director
 Jody Webb
 jbjwebb@gmail.com

Facilities Manager
 Michael Craig
 macraig33@gmail.com

Nursery
 TeKeisha Adams Valerie Gray
 Beverly Hawkins Lyuda Prince
 Jessie Zettler



Fourth
 SUNDAY
 IN
 LENT

Welcome to our Guests in Worship today! We thank you for the opportunity to demonstrate not only our hospitality but that of God in Jesus Christ! Please register your attendance with us in the Pew Pads provided. While you are always welcome to take part in the whole life of our Church as our guest, please know you may also join as a member by Confession of Faith and Baptism, or by Transfer of your membership from any other Christian church. For any and all help with this, please speak with the Pastor!

~~Gathering & Praise~~

PRELUDE Prier Franck

◆ We enter the Sanctuary in quiet prayerfulness in preparation for worship. Please register your attendance at this time on the Pads provided in the pews.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

◆ You are invited to rise and share the gift of God's peace with those around you, using this or some similar exchange:
"The peace of the Lord be with you." **"And also with you."**

*CHIMING OF THE HOUR

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN When Morning Gilds the Sky 185

*OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

O Lord, we confess: we love our sins too much, and you too little. We cling to our sins as if they were some sort of life jackets, as if letting go of them would make us powerless, or unimportant, and might even prove to be fatal. Controlled by such fears, we limp along in life, because our biggest fear is not your absence but your presence, and your desire that our lives should be so much more, if only we would allow your love to free us. O Lord, we ask: let us come to love you so much that our sins lose all their appeal, all their desirability; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PSALTER (Responsively) from Psalm 107 830
(first time sung by choir, congregation joins on second time.)

*GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

-- Listening for the Word of the Lord --

SCRIPTURE READINGS Numbers 21:4-9; John 3:14-21
Liturgist: The Word of God for the People of God.
People: Thanks be to God!

LET THE CHILDREN COME! (Children's Moment) Randy Smith

◆ Following the Children's Time, 3K-1st Grade age children may go to the Sanctuary entrance to be led to **Children's Church** on the Second floor of the Education Building. If escorted by a parent, younger children may be taken to the Nursery on the First floor of the Education Building. **If this is your child's first time** in Children's Church please walk them to the Sanctuary entrance.

SERMON "Saved By the Snake" Randy Smith

~~Responding to God's Word~~

HYMN OF RESPONSE When I Survey the Wondrous Cross 299

◆ During the singing of this hymn you may come to the altar rail to make a new or renewed commitment to discipleship to Jesus Christ, in response to his call to "Follow me". Or, you may come for prayer, or for prayer with the pastor.

◆ Prayer requests are brought forward to the Acolytes, by the Ushers at the last stanza of this hymn.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostle's Creed 881

MISSION MOMENT Blake Brookshire

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY Lenten Meditation Althouse
Chancel Choir

*PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY 95
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us
our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against
us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from
evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN Lord, I Lift Your Name on High 2088
(TFWS)

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE May The Peace Of God Go With You Hopson

*POSTLUDE Allegro Maestoso Franck

~~The Worship is Over; Let the Service Begin!~~

(*) The congregation standing, as able.

SCRIPTURE

Numbers 21:4-9

⁴From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

John 3:14-21

¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

Those In Need Of Prayer

Claire Barnett	Michael Cook	Olive Koger	Tom Sudderth
Eddie Cobb	Sue Dempsey	Eric & Teri Lockwood	(brother of Terhune Sudderth)
Crescent Cobb	Katie Greer	Dot Looney	Terry Williams
(grandson of Eddie & Anna Cobb)	(cousin of Kim Geddie)	Wayne Lynch	Susan Woods
Bettie Creel	Gage Hood	Ann Osborne	Doyle & Honey Yates
	Eugenia Keck	Ellen Slatton	

The Homebound

Tim Barnett	Carolyn Monroe
Judy Cochran	Mary Walker Morris
Miles Day	Daggett Royals
Nedene Greer	Lois Smith
Barbara Holzberger	Mildred Thompson
	Sara Young

Out of Town Prayers

Ben & Jane Cunningham
(parents of Marty Brown)
Laurie Ervin
Jim Gibbs
Jackson Hall (son of Chuck & Jane Hall)
Debbie Mingus (friend of Joanne McKinney)
Jeanne Stonoha
(mother of Mary Ann Stonoha)
Thomas Stonoha
(brother of Mary Ann Stonoha)
Pat Wilson (mother of Jenny Little)

Serving Our Country

Trent Erickson	Katelyn Kirkpatrick
Jonathan Howard	Kimberlie Kirkpatrick