

9:00 am –9:45 am

The Branch Worship
in the Family Life Center

10:00 am -10:45 am

Sunday School for all

11:00 am -12:00 pm

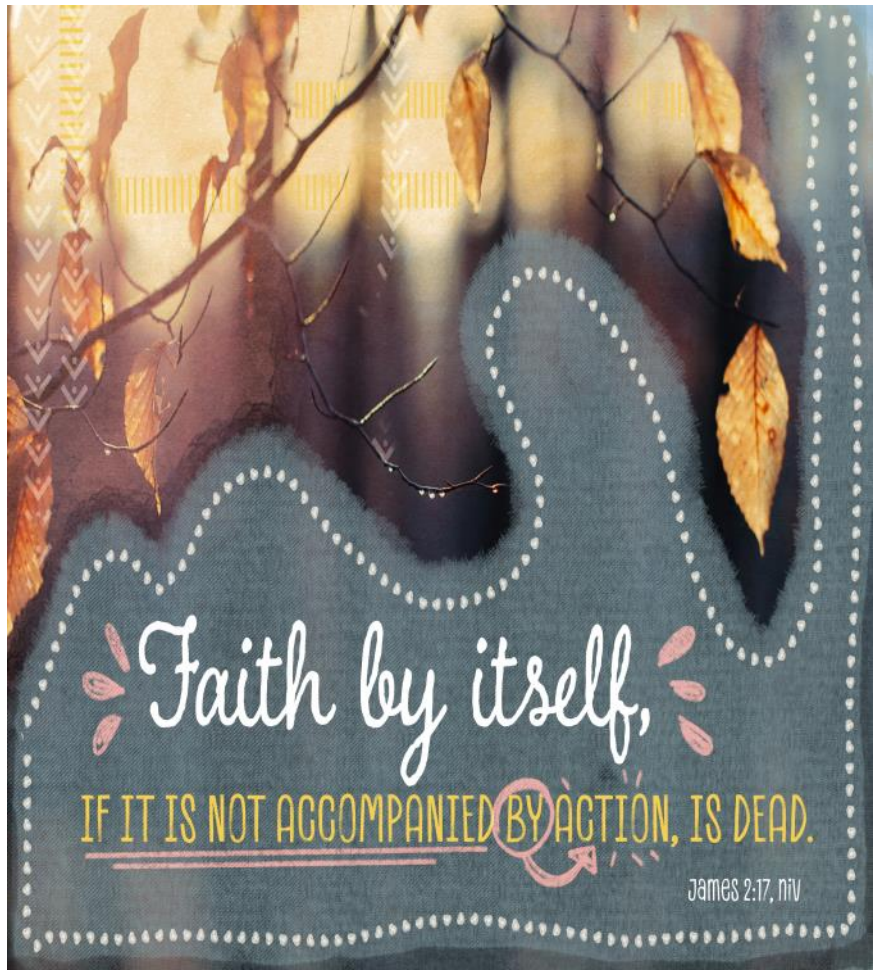
Traditional Worship
in the Sanctuary

Welcome!

We're glad you are worshipping with us. A special welcome to our first time guests. We trust you will feel the presence of God among us and hope you will want to worship with us again soon. For any questions about becoming a part of the life and work of St. Matthew, please speak with one of the pastors. We think you'll find St. Matthew a friendly place to make your church home.

Our Mission

To build life-changing relationships with God, one another, and our community.



September 8, 2024



St. Matthew
United Methodist Church

St. Matthew Happenings



**Sign up to help us
put out chairs before
the service on Sunday**



Please join us as we celebrate

Restore. Renew. Refresh.

Sunday, September 8, 2024

10:00 am - Worship in the Family Life Center

11:00 am - Sledgehammer ceremony on the front lawn

11:30 am - Congregational lunch in the Family Life Center

Golf cart transportation and lawn seating available for those with mobility issues. Catered lunch provided.

Don't miss this exciting St. Matthew celebration!

Children are a gift from the Lord.

-Psalm 127:3



Volunteer for Children's Church!

No prep needed! Just a heart to help with children! Find the signup on the home page of stmatthewumc.net or scan the QR code.



HAPPY GRAND PARENTS DAY



10:00 am Order of Worship

Greetings & Announcements

Janice Hughey

*Passing of the Peace

*Opening Worship Songs

*Call to Worship

Leader: Welcome, Beloved! Why have you gathered today?

All: We have come to worship God, who is the maker of us all!

Leader: What do you seek from God, our Creator?

All: We seek God's wisdom to guide us and show us how to live.

Leader: Are you ready to follow when God's wisdom leads down unexpected paths?

All: We will trust, and we will follow wherever God's wisdom leads us.

Leader: Well then, Beloved of God, what are you waiting for?

All: Come! Let us worship and seek God's uncommon wisdom together! Amen.

Children's Moment

After the children's moment, children ages K4-2nd grade may go to Children's church. Younger children may be taken to the nursery.

*Psalter

Psalm 125

¹Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved but abides forever.

²**As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
so the Lord surrounds his people
from this time on and forevermore.**

³For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest
on the land allotted to the righteous,
**so that the righteous might not stretch out
their hands to do wrong.**

⁴Do good, O Lord, to those who are good
and to those who are upright in their hearts.

⁵**But those who turn aside to their own crooked ways,
the Lord will lead away with evildoers.**

Peace be upon Israel!

***Affirmation of Faith**

“The Apostles’ Creed”

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Joys & Concerns of the Church

Text joys and concerns by 10:10 am (864) 643-9968

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer (*Unison*)

Kurt McPherson

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.

Offertory

***The Doxology**

**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**

Scripture Reading

James 2:1-17

Sermon

“Playing Favorites”

***Closing Hymn**

***Benediction**

The Worship is Over— Let the Service Begin!

Ushers: Anna Cobb, Mike Schull, Don Smith, Doug Webb

Liturgist: Bartley Sides Greeters: Trinity Class

You may give your offering by placing them in the offering plate or other options to give: text the word GIVE to 864-659-1812, or online at StMatthewUMC.net

10:00 am Scripture

James 2:1-17

Warning against Having Favorites

2 My friends, if you have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, you won't treat some people better than others. **2** Suppose a rich person wearing fancy clothes and a gold ring comes to one of your meetings. And suppose a poor person dressed in worn-out clothes also comes. **3** You must not give the best seat to the one in fancy clothes and tell the one who is poor to stand at the side or sit on the floor. **4** This is the same as saying that some people are better than others, and you would be acting like a crooked judge.

5 My dear friends, pay attention. God has given a lot of faith to the poor people in this world. God has also promised them a share in his kingdom that he will give to everyone who loves him. **6** You mistreat the poor. But isn't it the rich who boss you around and drag you off to court? **7** Aren't they the ones who make fun of your Lord?

8 You will do all right, if you obey the most important law^[a] in the Scriptures. It is the law that commands us to love others as much as we love ourselves. **9** But if you treat some people better than others, you have done wrong, and the Scriptures teach that you have sinned.

10 If you obey every law except one, you are still guilty of breaking them all. **11** The same God who told us to be faithful in marriage also told us not to murder. So even if you are faithful in marriage, but murder someone, you still have broken God's Law.

12 Speak and act like people who will be judged by the law that sets us free. **13** Do this, because on the day of judgment there will be no pity for those who have not had pity on others. But even in judgment, God is merciful!^[b]

Faith and Works

14 My friends, what good is it to say you have faith, when you don't do anything to show you really do have faith? Can this kind of faith save you? **15** If you know someone who doesn't have any clothes or food, **16** you shouldn't just say, "I hope all goes well for you. I hope you will be warm and have plenty to eat." What good is it to say this, unless you do something to help? **17** Faith that doesn't lead us to do good deeds is all alone and dead!

St. Matthew Happenings



Please let Jennie Carrington (jenniecarrington@gmail.com or 864-630-1698) know if you are willing to serve as a coach this year and please reach out if you have any questions! Deadline is Sunday, October 6th! Scan code or sign up at <https://stmatthewumc.net/>



Olive Garden September 19
2695 Laurens Rd. Greenville contact
Kathy Marrelli 864-268-1945



Mondays from 1-3 pm
Wednesdays from 2-4 pm



Our first pumpkin delivery will be
September 29! Mark your calendar!

Church Calendar

Find the calendar link at the bottom of the homepage:

stmatthewumc.net

Weekly Email

Sign up for weekly updates to stay informed. (Call the church office to receive a paper copy.)

stmatthewumc.net

Giving

Set up one-time or automatic giving for your tithes and offerings:

stmatthewumc.net/give

Contact Us

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Find the full staff directory on our website at stmatthewumc.net/about-us



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St. Matthew Happenings

SAVE THE DATES!

Restore, Renew, Refresh– Today!

Meanderers Lunch– September 19

Pumpkin Delivery– September 29

PRAYERS & PRAISES

- Hilda Collier
- Pat Wood
- Lois Reid
- Marilyn Senum
- Jacqueline Priester– Nancy Field's sister
- Prayers for our nation
- Prayers for unrest in the world