

**9:00am–9:45am**

The Branch Worship  
in the Family Life Center

**10:00am–10:45am**

Sunday School for all

**11:00am–12:00pm**

Traditional Worship  
in the Sanctuary

### **Welcome!**

We're glad you are  
worshiping with us, and a  
special welcome to our  
guests.

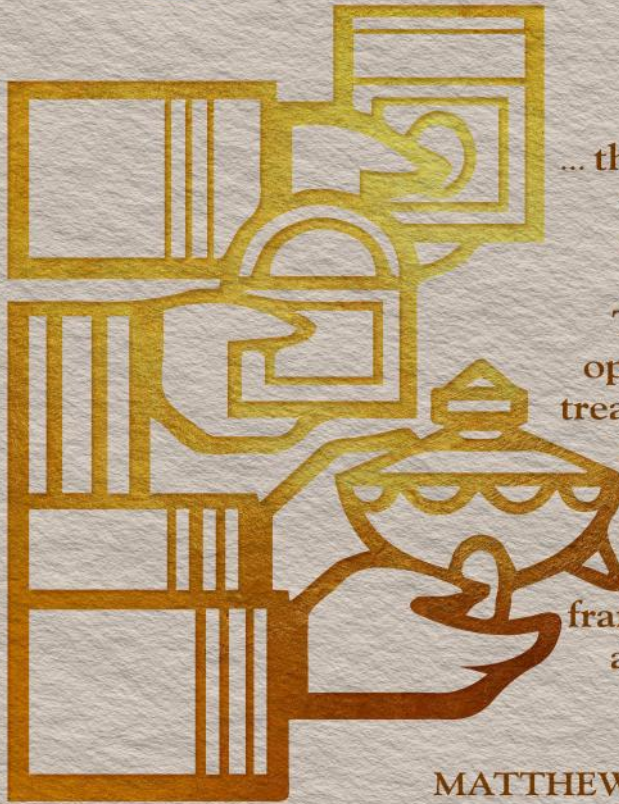
We trust you will feel the  
presence of God among  
us and hope you will want  
to worship with us again.

For any questions about  
becoming a part of the  
life of St. Matthew UMC,  
please speak with our  
pastor or ministry staff.  
We believe you will find  
St. Matthew a wonderful  
place to call your church  
home.

### **Our Mission**

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

# EPIPHANY



... they bowed  
down and  
worshiped  
him.

Then they  
opened their  
treasures and  
presented  
him  
with gifts  
of gold,  
frankincense  
and myrrh.

MATTHEW 2:11, NIV

**January 4, 2026**



**St. Matthew**  
United Methodist Church

# St. Matthew Happenings

## Red Cross Blood Drive

Wednesday, January 14  
9:30am-2:30pm  
Family Life Center (Gym)



## Faith & Immigration Justice



### Small Group led by Church & Society

There is a lot of fear and confusion due to misinformation and conflicting viewpoints around immigration. As a church family, let's learn about this topic so we can know more about immigration policy that is both just and in line with our faith and be better neighbors.

This eight-week small group will meet on Tuesdays from 6-7:30pm at The Brookshires beginning January 20 through March 10.

Reach out to Blake Brookshire with any questions!

## Meanderers Lunch

January 15 | 11:30am  
Tippy Taco (Pelham Road)



*Youth Ski Trip*  
JANUARY 16-19 | WINTERPLACE





## 10:00am Order of Worship

**January 4, 2026**

**Announcements**

**Greeting Time**

**Opening Worship Songs**

**Prayer**

*Please text prayers and praises by 10:10am to (864) 643-9968*

**The Lord's Prayer** (*Unison*)

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.

**Scripture Reading**

Matthew 2:1-12

**Sermon**

"What Did You Get For Christmas?" Rev. Kurt McPherson

**Observance of Holy Communion**

**Closing Worship Song**

**Dismissal & Blessing**

The Branch is a family-friendly service. Children's worship packets are available at the welcome table. Please return folders to the table at the end of the service.

A nursery for newborns through 24 months and preschool class for ages 2 through K4 is available starting at 8:45am on the first floor of the Education Building.

Offering boxes are on the Welcome Table.

# Scripture

## Matthew 2:1-12

### The Visit of the Magi

**2** In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi <sup>[a]</sup> from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east<sup>[b]</sup> and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah<sup>[c]</sup> was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah,  
for from you shall come a ruler

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the magi<sup>[d]</sup> and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." <sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east,<sup>[f]</sup> until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped,<sup>[g]</sup> they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

# St. Matthew Happenings

## St. Matthew *in the mountains*

February 20-22, 2026

Pleasant Ridge Camp & Retreat Center

### St. Matthew in the Mountains Registration Now Open!

Join us for our annual retreat weekend  
Friday, February 20 through Sunday,  
February 22 at Pleasant Ridge Camp &  
Retreat Center in Marietta, SC.

Surrounded by the beauty of  
mountains, streams, trees, and sky,  
enjoy a weekend of rest and renewal  
together with your church family!

All ages welcome (singles, couples, and  
families alike) and the schedule is  
flexible. Come for the full weekend,  
one night, Saturday daytime, or Sunday  
morning to worship in God's creation.

Scan to learn more and  
register by January 23



Signup to Acolyte  
or Crucifer!



Volunteer for  
Children's Church



## Contact Us

St. Matthew UMC  
701 Cleveland Street  
Greenville, SC 29601  
864-242-1966  
stmatthewumc.net

## Stay In Touch

Find the calendar link at the bottom of our website homepage.

Sign up for our weekly e-blast for the latest updates. Call the office to receive a paper copy.

## Church Staff

### Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Kurt McPherson  
kmcpherson@stmatthewumc.net

### Director of Children & Church Ministries

Bridgette Bagwell  
bbagwell@stmatthewumc.net

### Director of Youth & Church Ministries

Jessica Young  
jyoung@stmatthewumc.net

### Music Ministry Leader

Amy King  
akingsings88@gmail.com

### Organist

Charlie Jones  
cjonesfu3x@gmail.com

### Office Administrator

Leah Einhorn  
officeadmin@stmatthewumc.net

 stmatthewumcgreenville

 stmatthewumc

# St. Matthew Happenings

**Walking Group** - Mondays @ 10am

**Pickleball** - Mondays @ 1-3pm & Wednesdays @ 2-4pm

**One Worship Service** (Gym) - Today @ 10am

**Red Cross Blood Drive** - January 14

**Meanderers Lunch** - January 15

**Youth Ski Trip** - January 16-19

**Faith & Immigration Justice Small Group** - beginning January 20 through March 10

**St. Matthew in the Mountains** - February 20-22

**VBS** - July 27-31

## Prayer Requests

Sue Edmonds

Ethel Sherrill

Stacey Thomas

Bob Davis

Steve Quam

The Dempsey Family

Doyle Yates

Jody Webb & her dad

Don Shoemaker

Linda Thomas

Ann Osborne

Lois Reid

Hall Turner, Sarah Smith's brother

Brian & Nancy Leach

The Wood Family