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!

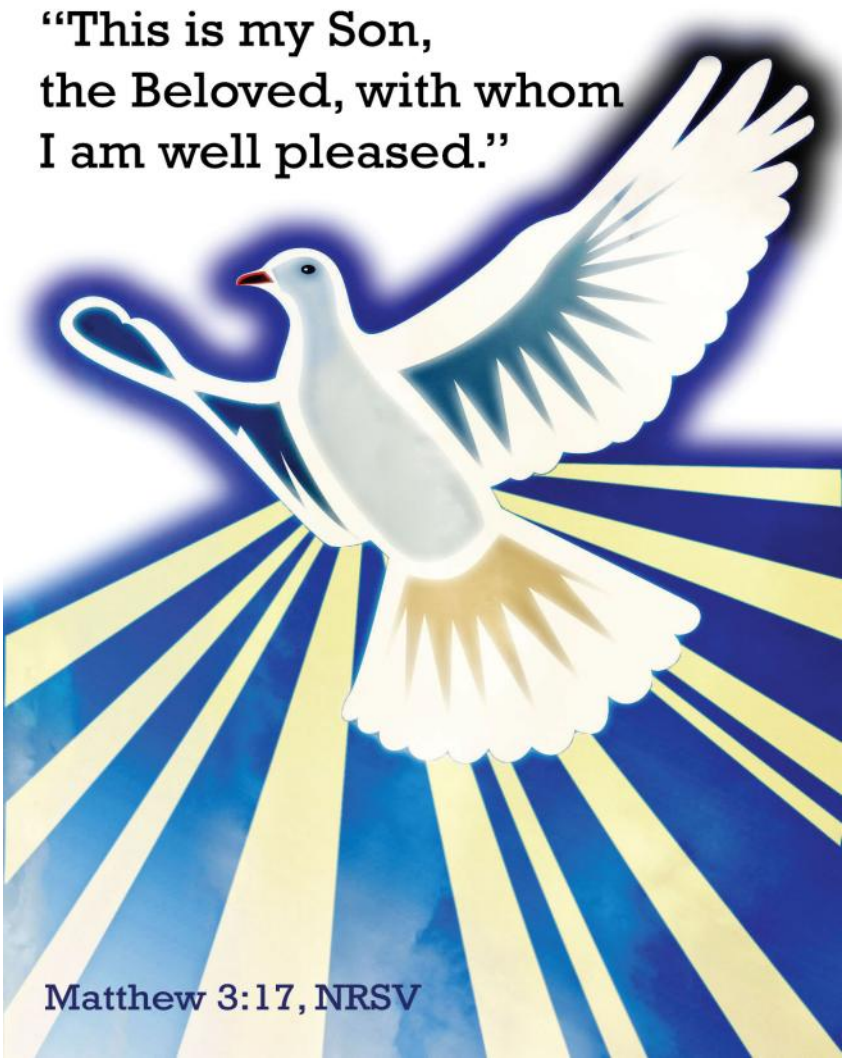
We're glad you are worshiping with us, and a special welcome to our guests.

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

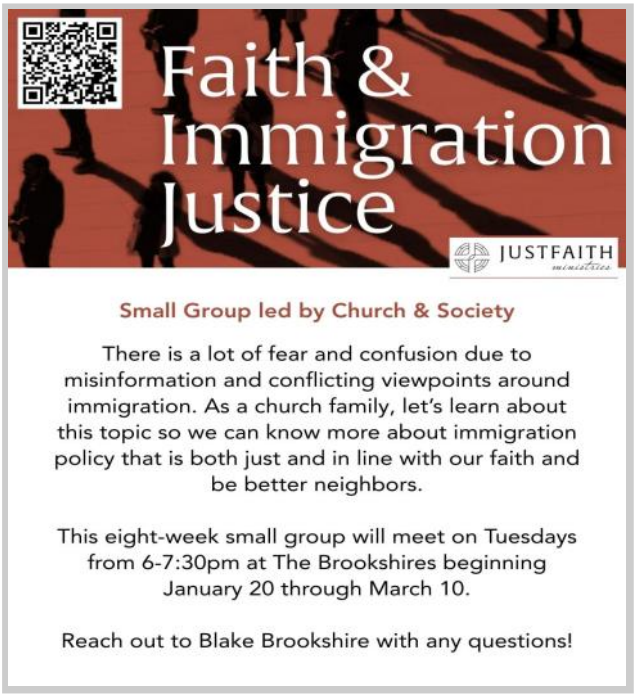
To build life-changing relationships with God, one another, and our community.



January 11, 2026

St. Matthew
United Methodist Church

St. Matthew Happenings



9:00am Order of Worship

January 11, 2026

Announcements

Greeting Time

Opening Worship Songs

St. Matthew in the Mountains The Sudderths

Pastoral Prayer

Please text prayers and praises by 9:10am 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 3:13-17

Sermon "There's Something About the Water" Rev. Kurt McPherson

Reaffirmation of Baptism

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.

11 am Worship

*Congregation stands, as able

Prelude "My Jesus I Love Thee" Diane Bish

Greetings & Announcements

***Passing of the Peace**

***Chiming of the Hour**

***Processional Hymn** "Lift High the Cross" UMH 159

***Call to Worship**

Come! Let us follow Jesus to the edge of the Jordan River to be baptized.
We come to be cleansed and made whole.
Come! Let us witness John's confusion and Jesus' insistence that John baptize God Incarnate.
We come to join Jesus in choosing life in the kingdom of God.
Come! Let us hear God declare the truth of Jesus' identity and the truth of our identity as baptized people.
We come to remember and embody who we are as beloved children of God.
Come! Let us worship God who leads us into the baptismal waters and salvation life.
We come to worship God who empowers us through divine presence to live together as the family of God.
Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock.

***Gloria Patri** *(Unison)* UMH 70

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

St. Matthew in the Mountains Betsy Boaze

Children's Moment
After, children ages K4-5th may go to Children's Church. Younger children may be taken to nursery or preschool.

***Psalter** Psalm 23 UMH 754

***Affirmation of Faith** *(Unison)* "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
Please text joys and concerns by 11:10am to (864) 643-9968

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer *(Unison)* Rev. 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.

The Offering

You may give your offering in one of three ways: place check or cash in the offering plate, text the word "GIVE" to 864-659-1812, or give online at stmatthewumc.net

Offertory "English Voluntary" Richard Peek

***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**

***Hymn of Preparation** "When Jesus Came to Jordan" UMH 252

Scripture Reading Matthew 3:13-17 Tim Brookshire

Liturgist: The word of God for the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "There's Something About the Water" Rev. Kurt McPherson

Reaffirmation of Baptism UMH 50

***Closing Hymn** "Fairest Lord Jesus" UMH 189

***Benediction**

*** Postlude** "Cortege" Gordon Young

The Worship is Over– Let the Service Begin!

Liturgist: Tim Brookshire

Crucifer: Adam Brookshire

Acolyte: Marie Brookshire

Ushers: Bartley Sides, Don Smith

Greeters: Trinity Sunday School

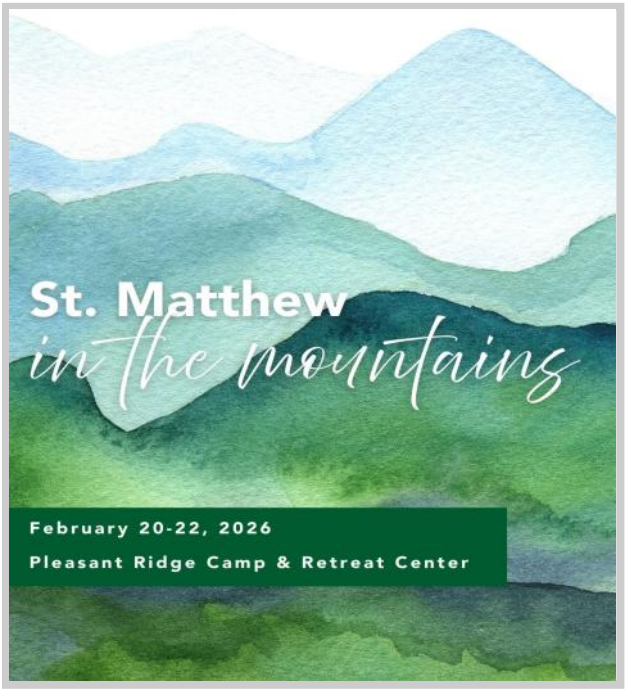
Scripture

Matthew 3:13-17

The Baptism of Jesus

13. Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. 14. John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” 15. But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. 16. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. 17. And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, [a] with whom I am well pleased.”

St. Matthew Happenings



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

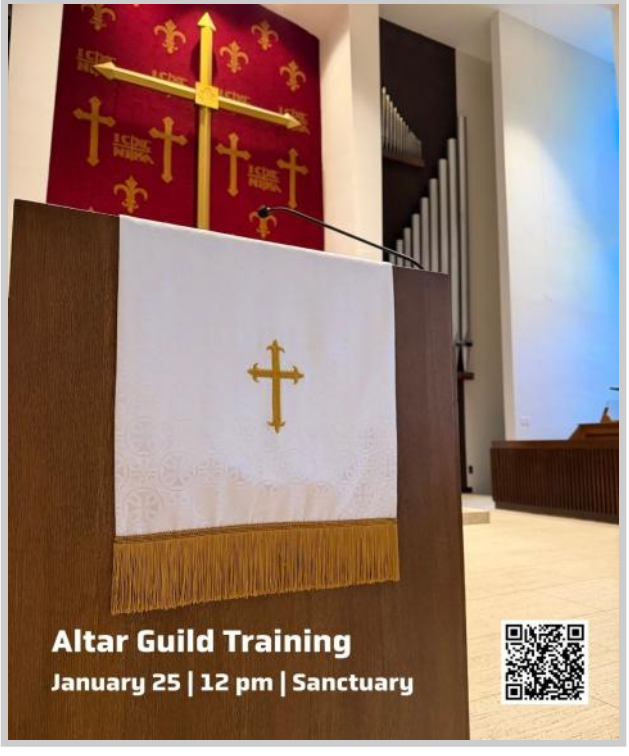
Women's Bible Study

One Thousand Gifts by Ann Voskamp
A Dare to Live Fully Right Where You Are

In this five-session study, Ann invites us to practice journaling God's gifts - a habit that opens our eyes to grace, deepens joy, and reminds us we are wildly loved by God.

This Bible Study will meet on Wednesdays from 5:30-6:30pm in the Youth Room on February 4, 11, 25 and March 4, 11.

Sign up by January 28!
Books will be ordered for you.



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

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

Altar Guild Training - January 25

Women's Bible Study - beginning February 4 through March 11

St. Matthew in the Mountains – February 20-22

Lenten Bible Study - beginning February 22 through April 1

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