

### **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!**

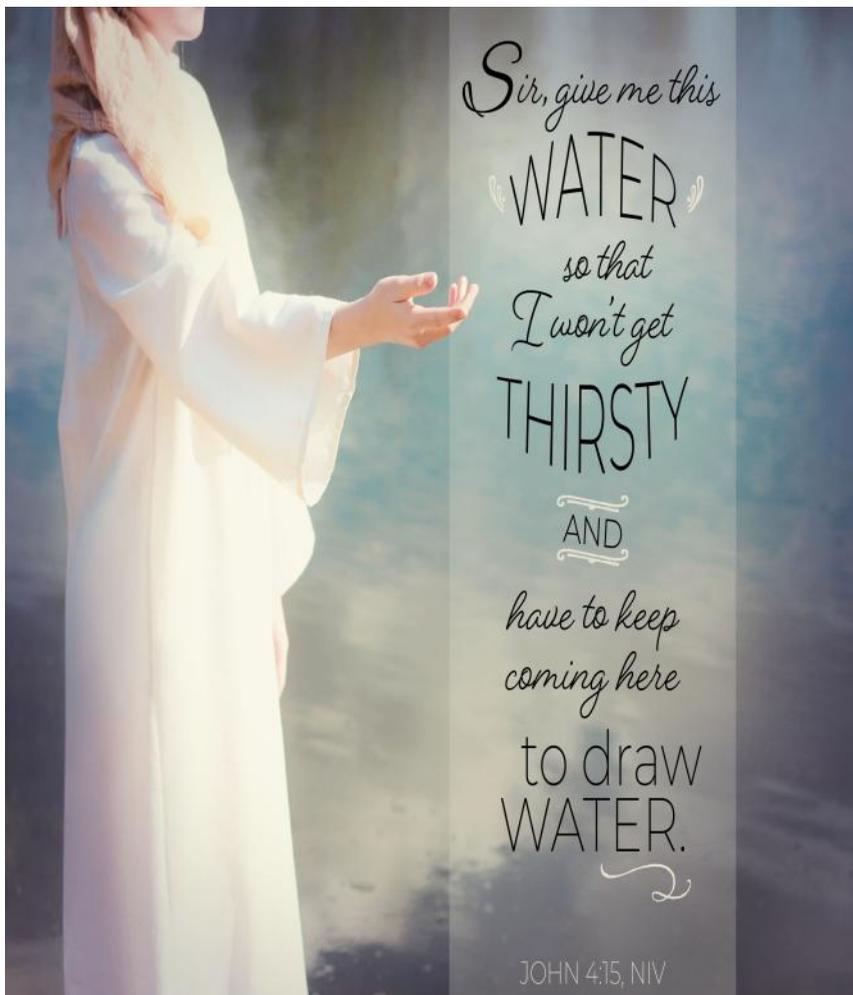
We're glad you are  
worshiping with us, and a  
special welcome to our  
guests.

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.

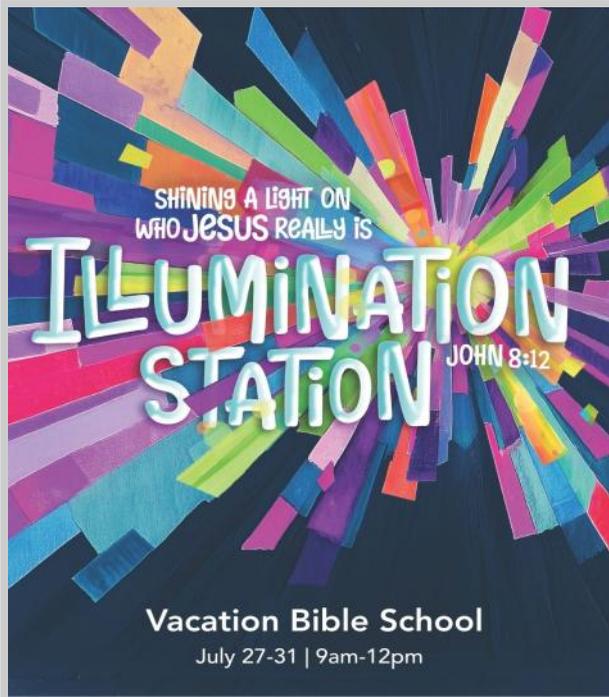


## **March 8, 2026**



**St. Matthew**  
United Methodist Church

# St. Matthew Happenings



SHINING A LIGHT ON  
WHO JESUS REALLY IS

# ILLUMINATION STATION

JOHN 8:12

Vacation Bible School  
July 27-31 | 9am-12pm



## Registration Now Open for Children & Volunteers!

ALL are invited to join us for a week filled with fun, faith, and discovery as we shine a light on who Jesus really is.

At Illumination Station, kids will be challenged to answer Jesus' important question to His disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" As they explore all the ways light brightens, illuminates, reflects, and reveals, kids will discover that Jesus is the light who brings hope to a dark world.

With a variety of volunteer roles available, there is a perfect role for everyone! All necessary materials and information will be provided for you ahead of time.



Register and join us for the  
brightest week of the year!



Life Groups are designed to be a fun and easy way to build meaningful connections within St. Matthew.

Meeting every other month, these small groups will bring together people of all ages and life stages to build friendships, offer encouragement, and grow in faith together.

Whether you participated last year or are thinking about joining a life group for the first time, there's a place for you!

*Don't miss this opportunity to connect with one another – life is better when we walk it together.*

Sign up by March 8!



## Meanderers Lunch

March 19 | 11:30am  
Italian Garden Restaurant



## 9:00am Order of Worship

**March 8, 2026**

**Announcements**

**Mission Moment**

Cathy Harrington

**Greeting Time**

**Opening Worship Songs**

**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**

John 4:5-30

**Sermon**

"Living Water"

Rev. Kurt McPherson

**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.

# 11:00am Worship

\*Congregation stands, as able

## Prelude

"It is Well with My Soul"

Carolyn Hamlin

## Greetings & Announcements

## Mission Moment

Cathy Harrington

## \*Passing of the Peace

## \*Chiming of the Hour

## \*Processional Hymn

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

UMH 62

## \*Call to Worship

Come, let us worship God!

**Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

Come, let us worship our Shepherd!

**We are the sheep of God's pasture, and we follow where God leads us.**

Come, let us open our hearts!

**We receive God's love poured into our hearts through the Spirit.**

Come, let us worship God, the rock our salvation!

**Let us worship God, whose mercy guides and sustains us on the path of new life!**

*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

## Children's Moment

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

## Special Music

"He Loved Them to the End"

Chancel Choir

## Psalter

Psalms 33

UMH 767

## \*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](http://stmatthewumc.net)

### Offertory

"Meditation on 'Ah Holy Jesus'"

Paul Fey

### \*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

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

UMH 61

### Scripture Reading

John 4:5-30

Tom McIntyre

Liturgist: The word of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

"Living Water"

Rev. Kurt McPherson

### \*Closing Hymn

"Grace Greater than Our Sin"

UMH 365

### \*Benediction

### \* Postlude

"Prayer for Peace"

Paul Fey

## The Worship is Over – Let the Service Begin!

Liturgist: Tom McIntyre

Acolytes: Marie Brookshire,  
Andrew Clemmons

Crucifer: Adam Brookshire

Ushers: Jason Lynch, Bartley Sides, Mark Swilley,  
Van Thomas

Greeters: Trinity Sunday School

# Scripture

## John 4:5-30

5 So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. 7 When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" 8 (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans) 10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." 11 "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? 12 Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?" 13 Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." 15 The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water." 16 He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back." 17 "I have no husband," she replied. Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. 18 The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true." 19 "Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. 20 Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem." 21 "Woman," Jesus replied, "believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22 You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. 24 God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth." 25 The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." 26 Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you—I am he."

### The Disciples Rejoin Jesus

27 Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?" 28 Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, 29 "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?" 30 They came out of the town and made their way toward him.

# St. Matthew Happenings



*mission  
opportunity*

Help us provide lunch for 50 youth and staff at Greenville Juvenile Detention Center (GJDC) on Friday, March 20 from 10:30am-12:30pm.

Food will need to be delivered to Betsy Boaze by 9:30am or to GJDC at 10:30am on March 20. Anything not requiring refrigeration can be delivered to the church office by 3:30pm on March 19.



*Sign up to serve lunch  
or to donate food!*



## **"My Square is Where?" 70th Anniversary Art Unveiling March 29 at 10am**

What was once many is now one... our 70th Anniversary Art Squares Project is complete! Get a close up view before it's hung and see if you can find your square.

**Come to the gym stairwell at 10am on March 29 (Palm Sunday) for coffee and donuts to see and celebrate!**

*All Sunday School classes will still meet with a delayed start.*



## **Red Cross Blood Drive**

**Wednesday, April 8  
9:30am-2:30pm  
Family Life Center (Gym)**

Give blood and save a life! Appointments are now available for our next blood drive on Wednesday, April 8 from 9:30am-2:30pm. Register ahead of time and you'll save time on donation day.



## **Thank you!**

The Oyster Roast wouldn't be the best night of the year without all of you! Thank you to everyone who attended, and to those who contributed appetizers and desserts to share. Thanks also to our gracious and wonderful hosts, Kim and Lee Geddie. We can't wait for next year!

## 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

**Faith & Immigration Justice Small Group** -

Tuesdays @ 6pm

**Women's Bible Study** - Wednesdays @ 5:30pm

**Lenten Bible Study** - Sundays @ 5pm & Wednesdays @ 10am

**Meanderers Lunch** - March 19

**GJDC Lunch** - March 20

**70th Anniversary Art Unveiling** - March 29

**Maundy Thursday Service** - April 2

**Easter Sunday** - April 5

**Red Cross Blood Drive** - April 8

**Youth Sunday** - April 26

**Confirmation & Graduation Sunday** - May 10

**VBS** - July 27-31

## Prayers & Praises

Sue Edmonds

Ethel Sherrill

Ann Osborne

Bob Davis

Steve Quam

Brian & Nancy Leach

Stacey Thomas

Sides Family

Jody Webb's dad

Family of Lois Reid

Linda Thomas

Don Smith

Anna Cobb

Elinor DeYoung

Amy King

Moyd Family & baby Eli

Cormey Family