

9:00am-9:45am

The Branch Contemporary
Worship in the Family Life
Center (Gym)

10:00am-10:45am

Sunday School for All

11:00am-12:00pm

Traditional Worship
in the Sanctuary

Welcome!

We are delighted that
you are worshipping with
us today, and we offer a
special welcome to our
guests.

It is our hope that you
will experience God's
presence among us and
feel encouraged to join
us again in worship.

If you have questions
about becoming part of
the life and ministry of
St. Matthew UMC,
please speak with our
pastor or ministry
directors. We trust you
will find St. Matthew to
be a welcoming
community and place to
call your church home.

Our Mission

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

*"I am with you
and will watch
over you wherever
you go,*

*and
I will bring
you back to
this land."*

Genesis 28:15, NIV

July 19, 2026



St. Matthew
United Methodist Church

Summer Sundays

Through August 2

Join us this summer as we blend faith,
community, and the joy of being together!

Summer Blend

9:15am in the Parlor

Next Sunday, July 26

Vacation Bible School Kickoff

Step into VBS Illumination
Station for a preview of the
week and ways you can support.



Combined Worship

10:00am in the Sanctuary

A thoughtful blend of both the
Branch and Traditional Worship.



Emerald City
Salkehatchie



SUPPORT VBS

To help make VBS Illumination Station possible,
we are asking for **snack, craft and decor
donations**. Your generosity helps us maximize
our budget while keeping VBS free for families!

Continue to save your **small to medium glass
jars** - we only need 15 more!

You all have blown us away with your support
so far – scan the QR code below to see what's
left on our Amazon wishlist.

SNACK WISHLIST (FULL)

Please shop & drop off items by July 26



CRAFT & DECOR WISHLIST

Order & ship by July 20



mission
opportunity

St. Matthew is excited to once again sponsor a
Back-to-School Breakfast on Tuesday, August 4
for teachers and staff at the **Washington
Center**, a dedicated school for students with
intellectual disabilities.

Volunteers are needed to help provide breakfast
foods, juice, and coffee, and to come and serve.



Learn more & sign up!



Opening Songs

I Believe

From the beginning You've been unchanging
Age to age You stay, constant You remain
Every mystery, the questions I've carried
Are safe within Your will so I trust You even still

(Chorus)

I believe You are Who You say You are
You do what You say You'll do
You'll come through You are always able
I believe You've already made a way
I'm running through parted waves
Straight to You, You are always faithful

Jesus, You're for me, holding me steady
Every word You speak is a promise that You keep
This firm foundation cannot be shaken
My God You never fail
Never once, You never will

(Repeat Chorus)

That on that cross Your blood was spilled
And by Your stripes I have been healed
And every promise You've fulfilled I believe,
I believe that You rose again in victory
And that same power lives in me
I'm born again, I've been made free I believe,
I believe that the gates of hell will not prevail
Your church is still alive and well
This gospel truth I live to tell I believe, I believe
That one day soon You'll split the sky
You're coming for a spotless bride
Until my faith has been made sight, I believe,
I believe

(Repeat Chorus)

There Was Jesus

Every time I tried to make it on my own
Every time I tried to stand and start to fall
And all those lonely roads
that I have travelled on
There was Jesus
When the life I built
came crashing to the ground
When the friends I had
were nowhere to be found
I couldn't see it then but I can see it now
There was Jesus

(Chorus)

In the waiting, in the searching
In the healing and the hurting
Like a blessing buried
in the broken pieces
Every minute, every moment
Where I've been and where I'm going
Even when I didn't know it
or couldn't see it, there was Jesus

For this man who needs
amazing kind of grace
For forgiveness at a price I couldn't pay
I'm not perfect so I thank God every day
There was Jesus (there was Jesus)

(Repeat Chorus)

On the mountain, in the valleys
In the shadows of the alleys
In the fire, in the flood
Always is and always was
No, I never walk alone
You are always there

(Repeat Chorus)

Order of Worship

**Congregation stands, as able*

Prelude "Simple Gifts" Wilbur Held

Announcements

Mission Moment Susan Midgett, United Ministries

*Passing of the Peace

***Opening Songs** "I Believe" & "There Was Jesus" Branch Band

Children's Moment

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

Special Music "I Surrender All" Chancel Choir

*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.

Pastoral Prayer

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

Children's worship packets can be found in baskets in the Narthex.

Please return worship packets at the end of the service.

A nursery for newborns through 24 months and a preschool class for ages 2 through K4 is available starting at 9am in the Education Building (first floor.)

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.

Offering

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

Offertory	<i>“Sweet Hour of Prayer”</i>	Gordon Young
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***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	<i>“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”</i>	UMH 127
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Scripture Reading	Genesis 28:10-19a	Lindsay Carrington
Liturgist: The word of God for the people of God.		
People: Thanks be to God.		

Sermon	<i>“This Place Is Awesome!”</i>	Rev. Kurt McPherson
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*Closing Hymn	<i>“Nearer, My God to Thee”</i>	UMH 528
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***Benediction**

*Postlude	<i>“Woodlands”</i>	David Cherwein
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Assistive listening devices are available for anyone who may benefit from hearing assistance during the service. Please see an Usher in the Narthex to receive one.

Greeters: Growing in Faith Class	Ushers: Jake Fine, Jason Lynch, Doug Webb
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Scripture

Genesis 28:10-19

¹⁰ Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. ¹¹ When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. ¹² He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ There above it stood the Lord, and he said: "I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. ¹⁴ Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. ¹⁵ I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

¹⁶ When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it." ¹⁷ He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven."

¹⁸ Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. ¹⁹ He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz.



Summer Pickleball

Wednesdays @ 6:30-8pm
June 3 – August 12



Red Cross Blood Drive

Wednesday, August 19
9:30am-2:30pm
Family Life Center (Gym)

We're **looking** for blood donors! Appointments are now available for our next blood drive on Wednesday, August 19 from 9:30am-2:30pm. Register ahead of time and you'll save time on donation day.



American
Red Cross



database update

We need your help to keep our church records accurate and current!

Whether you are a member of St. Matthew or have been visiting, please take a few moments to update your contact information and household details. **Only one form is needed per family.**

Keeping your information current helps us stay connected, share important announcements, and better serve you.



Thank you!



Volunteer for Children's Church

Offered in BOTH services beginning August 9!

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
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Director of Children and Church Ministries

Bridgette Bagwell
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Office Administrator

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St. Matthew Happenings

Summer Sundays – through August 2

Walking Group – 10am Mondays

Summer Pickleball – 6:30-8pm Wednesdays

Vacation Bible School – July 27-31

Washington Center School Breakfast – August 4

Promotion Sunday – August 9

Youth Lake Day – August 16

Red Cross Blood Drive – August 19

Triune Fifth Saturday Lunch – August 29

Prayers & Praises

Salkehatchie volunteers

Betty Shull

Ann Rustin

Michael Craig

Doyle Yates

Paul Thorn

Paul Thorn's mom, Leila

Beth Shoemaker's sister, Dorinda

Shoemaker's son-in-law, Larry

Mike Shull's mom, Christine

Bonnie Lynch's mom, Jocelle

Elinor DeYoung

Brian and Nancy Leach

Sue Edmonds

Ethel Sherrill