



ST. MATTHEW

# Messenger

*Celebrating*

68  
years

*The Newsletter of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church - October 2024*

## REACHING UP, REACHING OUT, REACHING IN

Autumn is now properly upon us. While it's come in more like the winds and rains of March, the temperatures are generally on the decline now rather than the rise.

With autumn upon us, and with it the start of football season and the culmination of the baseball season, our work at the church will stay focused on our mission—reaching up to God, reaching out to our neighbors and the world, and reaching in to care for each other.

During October, we'll be reaching to God as we focus in worship on how the Psalms we read each week call us and help us to face into wonder, hardship, deadly circumstances, and the challenges of reformation.

We'll also start a new study series with Rabbi Beth Schwartz, beginning Wednesday, October 16 at 6:00 in Luther Hall: "More than Just Stories," focusing on six key stories from Genesis and how they have been important in shaping both Jewish and Christian theology, history, and community life.

Reaching out to our neighbors, we continue to gather resources and funds for our neighbors in need in Columbus, and I encourage you to consider how you can give to the church to support our neighbors in Georgia and neighboring states seeking to recover from what Hurricane Helene left in its wake. Lutheran World Relief has a fund set up online to which you can donate, here: <https://is.gd/oXfo2H> or you can donate to the church as a special offering and we'll make the donation on your behalf.

And reaching within to care for one another, we continue to provide meals for Nancy and Jeff Gates as Nancy continues recovery from orthopedic surgery.

Enjoy the cooler weather (at least relatively speaking!), and the rest that increasing hours of darkness will supply us as winter approaches. And use your waking hours to keep increasing your reach... up, out, and to one another.

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Taylor

# God's work. Our hands.



This amazing event was enjoyed by 42 people. The food was great! Books were labeled for Fort Moore basic Trainee's libraries. Many enjoyed painting bowls for the Empty Bowl Spring fundraiser benefitting Feeding the Valley





*thank  
you*  
FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Thanks for your great response to Damascus Way by overflowing the collection baskets.  
In addition \$450.00 was donated.



*Within Reach* response has been so generous already. The October calendar sheet is in the Narthex and will remain there until Friday, October 18th. We will be checking on Nancy's recovery as we deliver meals and will provide updates to the congregation. If you have any questions, please contact Zocia Barr at (706) 330-1001 or Rose Johnson at [rose\\_m\\_johnson@bellsouth.net](mailto:rose_m_johnson@bellsouth.net)

# October Mission Focus



The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. Through this project, Samaritan's Purse partners with the local church worldwide to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and make disciples of the nations.



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The following items are needed to fill the Operation Christmas Child boxes. Please place the items in the box in the Narthex or give a donation to Allena Sperry and we will do the shopping for you! Children ages are 2-14 years old.

### + SHOPPING LIST:

<u>Toys:</u>	<u>Toiletries:</u>	<u>Clothing:</u>	<u>School Supplies:</u>	<u>Other:</u>
Small cars	Toothbrushes	T-shirts	Pens (not Dollar Store)	Watches
Balls/ Paddle Balls	Combs	Ballcaps	Crayons	Flashlights (include batteries if needed)
Finger Puppets	Hairbrushes	Sunglasses	Washable Markers	
Kazoos/Whistles	Hair accessories	Socks	Rulers	
Harmonicas	Band-Aids	Gloves	Stickers	
Yo-Yo's		Bandanas	Colored Pencils	
Jump ropes			Solar calculators	
Slinky			Scissors	
Small dolls-Baby & Barbie Type			Glue Sticks	
Toys that light up or make noise (include batteries if needed)				

Please: **NO** war related items, military items, guns, knives, toothpaste, candy, gum, chocolate, food, liquids, glass breakable items, aerosols. **NO SOAP!!**

Thanks for helping to share God's love with these children. **THE DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH.** Questions or assistance please contact Allena Sperry at 706-563-3107 or [agsperry@bellsouth.net](mailto:agsperry@bellsouth.net).

# SMALL GROUPS

## CRAF-TEA

Meets every Friday from 1:00-3:00 PM in Luther Hall. Join us in fellowship and friendship on Tuesday afternoons. Tea and a light snack will be provided. Come to visit, bring a project you are working on or work on a project for the church. Contact Beth Hoag at 706-604-8110 for more information.

## REMEMBRANCE GATHERING

Our Remembrance Gathering scheduled for Tuesday, October 8th at 3:00 PM in the Church House will be our last for 2024. Come and help us celebrate on October 8th by sharing your favorite memory. In 2025, we will gather on a quarterly basis on the second Tuesday of the month. Our first meeting in 2025 will be January 14th at 3:00.

## Bible Studies

Weekday Bible Study meets in the Church House from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. each Tuesday reading and discussing the scriptures for the coming Sunday.

Coming October 16th thru November 20th, join us at 6:00PM on Wednesday nights in Luther Hall for "More Than Just Stories" with Rabbi Beth Schwartz and Pastor Taylor Burton Edwards.

Put it on  
the calendar!



NOVEMBER

10

2024

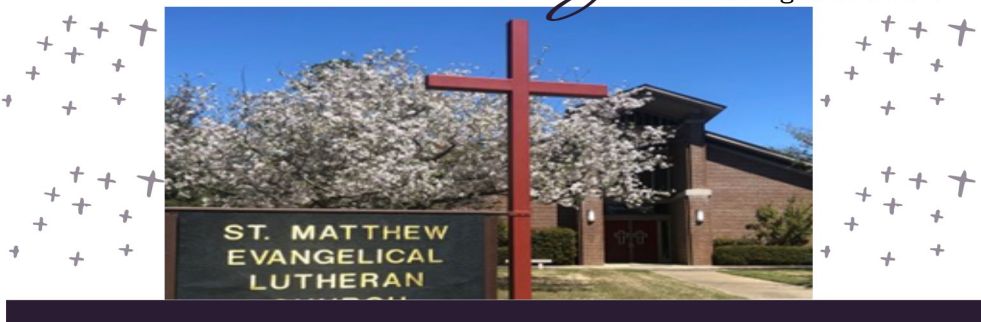
## THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL

Celebrate 2024 and  
plan for 2025

Meeting

All voting members of the  
church (adult  
contributing members  
and confirmed youth) are  
encouraged to attend

Voting members consist of those who are contributing members of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church. Please make plans to attend this meeting!



# HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAY

- 2 Beth Hoag
- 4 Laura Alexander
- 6 Nathan Burns
- 8 Wanda Ebright
- 12 Joanne Hutto
- 14 Thoryn Hoag
- 20 Catherine Sayers
- 20 Ron Ullman
- 21 Lea Owen
- 23 Robby Burns

## OKTOBERFEST

Luther Hall

October 27, 2024

12:00 PM

FOLLOWING  
CHURCH

FOOD  
MUSIC  
GAMES  
DANCING



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For the fun!

## All Saints

Keandra Bashful  
 WJ Barrs  
 Eva Brown  
 Bishop Davis  
 Joan Smith  
 Tom Pettit  
 Nelda Woods  
 Patti Vinson

## Finance Committee Report

	August 2024	Year to Date
Income	\$9,366	\$112,677
Expenses	\$13,797	\$120,464
Difference	\$(4,431)	\$(7,787)



## Prayer Requests

The Armed Forces, their families, & victims of war	Becky Goldsmith
Persecuted Christians	Estrella Gonzales
The ministries of St. Matthew	Doris Grier
Bishop Kevin Strickland	Petra Henderson
Acting Bishop - Jill Henning	Van Henshaw
Southeastern Synod Staff	Norma Kilby
Pastor Taylor Burton Edwards	Ken Korn
Laura Alexander	Emma Kump
Carol Bingemann	Boyd Lester
Dave Bonaker	Laura Lester
Pat Bonaker	Valerie Louder
Rigney Cofield	Robert Lowe
Betty Davidson	Michelle Matthias
Ken Hoag	Brady Meeks
Myrna Hoag	Tim Moore
Bennie Jackson	Gary Nearhoof
Mairetha Jackson	Michael Owen
Marga Miller	Angela Paul
Traudel Mosely	Vincent Pawlowski
Louie Niederhammer	Beth Price
Debby Owen	Mark Purushotham
Dorothy Redden	Dwight Redmond
Connie Sieg	Tiffany Richardson
Carla Stickle	Dayna Ryan
Albert VanHousen II	Shirley Scott
Harold Vinson	Dou Shizhen
Margarete Walsh	Ricky Skinner
Monika Wright	Betty Townsend
George Capps	Charlie VanHousen
Jim Chappel	Dawn VanHousen
Jean Clemmons	Martha Zimmerman
Xavier Danguilan	
Penny Davis & Family	
Brandy Garnett	
Moses Glidden	

## Business Prayer Requests

Mr. Pizza	Gold Teeth World
Quality Inn	Apparel King & More
Smoke Buddy's	Hollywood Barber Shop
Days Inn	The Cell Plug
Enterprise	
Comfort Inn	Guthrie's
Octapharma Plasma	Master-Kleen
Kamoree's Beauty Salon	Title Max
Broken Tarot Tattoo & Piercing	JD Wings
Beaute' Matrix	Burger King
5 Fourteen	Animal General Hospital
DQ	Klose Kutz
Freedom Adult Day Center	Xpert Tax Service
Transformation Salon	Family Worship Center
Pathway Worship Center	Bi-City Driving School
Menzie Dance Company	Sunset Finance
Frankie's Hair Design	Diamond Kutz
AMG Financial	Kee J's
Acceptance Auto	Angel's Nails
Phuong's Tailor Shop	Y & J Health
Walgreen's	Hidden Lake Grocery
USPS	Beauty Queen
Peachtree Immediate Care	Brewster's
Hidden Lake Bottle Shop	Waffle House
Vance Brooks Funeral Service	E&S Clothing
Striffler Hamby Funeral Service	One Financial
El Carrizo	Tasha's Dance & Prep
M. Bland Salon	Bargain Furniture
The Ellands Event Center	Dollar General
Chevron	Citgo
Grace Apostolic Church	Landmark
#1 Nails	McKibben Insurance
Valley Rescue Donation Center	Rooster's Beer & Wine
Mario's Tire	Woodville Apartments
Mariner Finance	Beal Wellness

# October 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Hello <b>October!</b></p>						
		1 BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH	2	3 AA 8:00 PM - LH	4 Craf-Tea 1-3:00 LH	5
6 20th Sunday after Pentecost  Worship 10:30 AM Communion  Birthday & Anniversary Celebration	7  AA 8:00 PM - LH	8 BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH  Remembrance Gathering 3:00 CH	9	10  GERMAN KLUB 5:30  AA 8:00 PM - FH	11  Craf-Tea 1-3:00 LH	12
13 21st Sunday after Pentecost  Worship 10:30 AM Communion	14 WYNNTON NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK BOARD MEETING-12:00  AA 8:00 PM - LH	15 BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH	16 BIBLE STUDY 6:00 - LH	17 COUNCIL MEETING 5:00 - CH  AA 8:00 PM - LH	18  Craf-Tea 1-3:00 LH	19
20 22nd Sunday after Pentecost  Worship 10:30 AM Communion	21  AA 8:00 PM - LH	22 BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH  Craf-Tea 1-3:00 CH	23  BIBLE STUDY 6:00 - LH	24    AA 8:00 PM - LH	25 WYNNTON NEIGHBORHOOD VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCH  Craf-Tea 1-3:00 LH	26
27 Reformation Sunday  Worship 10:30 AM Communion  Oktoberfest 12:00 LH	28  AA 8:00 PM - LH	29 BIBLE STUDY 10:30AM CH	30 BIBLE STUDY 6:00 - LH	31    AA 8:00 PM - LH		



Contact Us . . .

## St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

4026 Macon Road  
Columbus, GA 31907

(706) 561-3406  
office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com

Visit us on the web at  
www.stmatthewcolumbusga.com

**Worship: Sundays at 10:30 am.**  
YouTube is also available

[https://www.youtube.com/  
@st.matthewlutheranchurch4457](https://www.youtube.com/@st.matthewlutheranchurch4457)

### OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday/Thursday 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Friday - 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

### St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Mission Statement

*Reach in  
to grow in Christ  
Reach up  
to worship God  
Reach out  
to welcome and witness*

### Staff . . .

**Pastor**

**Reverend Taylor Burton Edwards**  
*twbe@liturgyfolks.com*

**Parish Administrator**

**Sonja Metcalf**  
*office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com*

**Minister of Music**  
**Nursery Attendant**  
**Sexton**

**Sandra Nearhoof**  
**Penny Davis**  
**Lisa Pettit**

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED