

THIS WEEK	
DEC 11:	8:00 AM – Rite I Worship Service 9:30 AM – Contemporary Service 11:00 AM – Rite II Worship Service 12:15 PM – Full Pageant Rehearsal 2:00 PM – Small Hands Big Hearts Christmas Caroling 2:30 PM – EFM 3:00 PM – MCVN 6:00 PM – SNL for Middle Schoolers 7:00 PM – AA 7:00 PM – SNL for High Schoolers 7:00 PM – <b>Advent Evensong</b>
DEC 12:	9:00 AM – Classroom of Discovery 12:00 PM – Star Hanging 12:30 PM – All Ages Read Together 7:00 PM – ESOL and MCVN 7:30 PM – Free to Live Small Group and Bread of Life Small Group
DEC 13:	9:00 AM – Classroom of Discovery 10:00 PM – All Ages Read Together 11:00 AM – Backpack Buddies Packing 7:00 PM – AA 7:30 PM – Band Rehearsal
DEC 14:	9:00 AM – Classroom of Discovery 12:00 PM – AA 12:30 PM – All Ages Read Together 5:30 PM – NA 6:00 PM – Odyssey of the Mind 6:30 PM – Alpha
DEC 15:	9:00 AM – Classroom of Discovery 10:00 PM – All Ages Read Together 12:00 PM – Bible Study 7:30 PM – Women's Group 7:30 PM – Seraphim Choir Rehearsal
DEC 16:	9:00 AM – Classroom of Discovery 7:00 PM – MCVN 7:00 PM – Old Dominion Dancers
DEC 17:	7:00 AM – Flower Guild 7:30 AM – Men's Group 8:00 AM – Fellowship Breakfast 8:00 AM – LEM Training 9:00 AM – Parish Work Day 10:00 AM – Altar Guild Polishing 10:00 AM – Christmas Strings Rehearsal 2:00 PM – Pageant Tech Prep 4:00 PM – Band Rehearsal 5:00 PM – Contemporary Service 6:00 PM – <b>Living Nativity</b> 7:00 PM – AA and MCVN

ATTENDANCE		
DECEMBER 3 & 4, 2016		
Time or Place	Service	Attend.
Saturday 5:00 PM	RII	41
8:00 AM	RI	22
9:30 AM	RII	159
11:00 AM	RII	140
Faith Factory		61
Sunrise	MP	8
Advent Evensong		37

FINANCIAL UPDATE	
AS OF DECEMBER 4, 2016	
Revenue Required for 2016	\$701,900
Revenue Received YTD	\$566,650

### CONTACT INFORMATION

**Saint Matthew's telephone and fax:**  
703-430-2121 (phone)  
703-430-2638 (fax)

**Saint Matthew's web site:**  
<http://www.stmmts.org>

A nursery for *children* is provided at all four services.

### E-mail Us:

The Rev. Rob Merola, Rector  
[Rob@stmmts.org](mailto:Rob@stmmts.org)

The Rev. Joe Gann, Assoc. for Pastoral Care  
[jgann@stmmts.org](mailto:jgann@stmmts.org)

Miriam, Office Manager  
[Office@stmmts.org](mailto:Office@stmmts.org)

Ashly Townsend, Children's Minister  
[ashly@stmmts.org](mailto:ashly@stmmts.org)

Kevin Fletcher, Music Minister  
[kevin@stmmts.org](mailto:kevin@stmmts.org)

### Vestry:

Pat Pritchett, *Senior Warden*  
Steve Buck, *Junior Warden*  
Theresa Helein, Dan Robertson, Susie Harding, Marcia Rugen, Joe Sharp, John Thomas

## THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### SAINT MATTHEW'S CHURCH

December 11, 2016

### Welcome...

...to Saint Matthew's. We trust you will find us to be a church of joyful worship, loving community, and vibrant witness to our Lord Jesus Christ. We could not be more excited about all that God is doing in our midst. We are grateful for this opportunity to worship with you today. We look forward to sharing our life with you in whatever way God leads – whether just this Sunday or as a long time member.

### Save the Date

Tonight – Advent Evensong  
December 17 – Parish Work Day, Altar Guild Polishing, & LEM Training  
December 17 – Living Nativity  
December 18 – Christmas Sing Along  
December 23 – Pageant Dress Rehearsal  
December 24 Christmas Eve Services – 3pm Pageant, 6pm, 8pm, 11pm & 10pm Lessons and Carols  
December 25 Christmas Day Service – 10am  
January 1 – New Year's Worship – 10am  
January 22 – Mac and Cheese Bake Off  
January 29 – Parish Annual Meeting  
February 26 – Chili Cook Off

### Giving Tree Gifts Due Today

New, unwrapped gifts, with the tags, are due Today, December 11, 2016. If you have questions, contact Darrell Breed at [darrellandmerry@verizon.net](mailto:darrellandmerry@verizon.net) or 703-444-2451. This year, our Giving Tree donations will help LINK offer Christmas gifts for children in the Herndon, Sterling, and Ashburn area.

### Intercessory Prayer List

The Saint Matthew's intercessory prayer list is for those in or related to our community who are in need of prayer. It is designed so that all members of our community can pray for each other on an ongoing basis. In order to pray for those on the list, simply ask God to be with them and help them in any way needed - God knows what is going on, so we don't need to. Please pray for the following people:

James, Hugh, Sean, Kevin, Mo, Kevin and family, Andrew and family, Bob and family, Kiia and family, Lusak and family, Jackie, Don, Dean, Kathy, Emily, Albert, Gloria, Kyle, Julie, Mona, Elizabeth, Evan, Eric, Kylie, Macallan, Shelly, Christina, Palmer family, John, Norm, Becky, The Young Family, Nancy, Tita, John, Charlotte, Sharon, Jack, Larry, Jack, Colin, Marcia, Amanda, Adam, Chele, Ethan, John, Pops, Don, Jennifer, Marcia, Claudia, Rob, Ruth, Emma, Brenda, Gairo, Dean, Valerie, Ashton, Bob, Darrell, Becca and family, Rick and family, Maniusko Family, Griffin & family, Tricia, Liz, Gladys, Shaunte, Tom, Mary Ann, Judy, Alex and family, Rachel, Brenda, Richard, Robin, Ellie, Lou, Dara, Laura, Anna, Missy, Hazel, Brian's family, Debbie, Amanda, Ana, Dan, Tony, Koko, Mary, Cliff, Judy, Adam, Jim, Charles, Nicholas, Fred, David, Rosie Lee, Anige, Michele, Frank, Barbara, Joe, Anne, Kristen's family, Alina's family, Liisa's family, Hitchcock's family, Jonne's family, Isaac, Madison, Jon, Don, Denise, Emma, Jackie's family, Rashana, Jeanne, Carl, Kim, Mary and the Norfleet family.

If you or someone you care about is in need of Pastoral Care, please do not hesitate to call 703-430-2121.

To request a prayer shawl for yourself or someone else, please send a request to [barocon7@aol.com](mailto:barocon7@aol.com).

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

DECEMBER 17: Adrian & Daniel Mattina

### Sunday Night Live for Teens

Sunday Night Live meets Sunday nights in the trailer. 6th-8th graders are invited to join from 6-7:30, and 9th-12th grade from 7-8:30. We'll see you there for relevant teachings, life-changing small groups, wacky activities, and worship.

**12/11 Episode 312 – Happy, Part 3**  
**12/18 – Come to the Christmas Sing Along**  
**12/25 – Christmas; No SNL**

### Backpack Buddies

Backpack Buddies packing is on **Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at 11am.**

We are in need of someone to coordinate the daytime packing beginning the week of January 9th (approximately 10:45am - 12:15pm). Most everything is set up already (shoppers, packers, delivery). You would be responsible for opening the trailer and informing the packers of how many bags to pack, and locking the trailer at the end of the time. On the first Tuesday of each month, the evening pack happens and you would not be needed for this (though you are certainly welcome). Please contact Carol Black or Michele Devaney for more information: carolwhitakerblack@gmail.com or micheledevaney@gmail.com.

### Annual Christmas Sing Along & Raffle

Eat an early dinner, and bring a dessert to share on **December 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.** Wear your favorite Christmas apparel and join us for our Christmas Sing Along. We have some beautiful gifts for the raffle generously donated by Chicks Picks by Hillary, wooden creations from Juan Gil, and the always highly anticipated painting from Ute Gil. Santa will also be here! Invite a friend to join in the fun!

### Keep Shopping with Scrip Gift Cards

Gift cards have been restocked and are available for purchase in the Parish Hall on Sunday morning and upon request. We have \$5 gift cards (Barnes&Noble, Panera, and Starbucks) that are perfect for teachers, service workers, colleagues, neighbors, etc. Also remember to pick up Panera and Starbucks cards to give to people who need a warm place to sit and enjoy a meal. With one simple stop in the Parish Hall, you can buy and donate gift cards to people in need and the Christmas gift tree! Susan Jones, susan.e.jones@hotmail.com, 571-205-6999

### Parish Work Day

Please join us on **Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 9am.** We have lots of outdoor efforts to accomplish to get ready for the Live Nativity that night and really could use the help. We need to finish mulching the garden area, cut down the grasses around the sign, clean up the parking areas and rope off of the Nativity. In addition, we have several efforts inside to get ready for the holiday services and pageant. Thank you for all your help in advance.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY	
DECEMBER 11:	Patricia Schneider
DECEMBER 12:	Ava Lesser
DECEMBER 12:	Eli Crawley
DECEMBER 13:	Samantha Gomez
DECEMBER 14:	Jackie Harbourne
DECEMBER 14:	Brent Harding
DECEMBER 15:	Jeffrey Buckingham
DECEMBER 15:	Joshua Hart
DECEMBER 15:	Logan Bidlack
DECEMBER 16:	Virginia Swensson
DECEMBER 16:	Chiara O'Neill
DECEMBER 17:	Erin Fano
DECEMBER 17:	Robert Steinman
DECEMBER 17:	Robby Davis

### Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Schedule

It's hard to believe that Christmas is just around the corner! That means it's time to begin preparations for the Children's Christmas Pageant. The pageant is the Nativity Story told in a creative and rhyming way through the eyes of a child. There was an amazing turnout for casting and speaking auditions and I am excited to work with this talented group of children.

### Important Rehearsal Dates:

**Today, December 11th** 12:15-1:15pm: Full Pageant Rehearsal #2 in the Sanctuary

**Sunday, December 18th** 12:15-1:15pm: Full Pageant Rehearsal 3#

**Friday, December 23rd** 6:00-7:30pm: Dress Rehearsal in the Parish Hall

**Saturday, December 24th** 2:00pm-Children arrive to get into costumes

**3:00pm Christmas Pageant!**

If you are interested in volunteering or have further questions, please contact Ashly Townsend at ashly@stmtts.org.

### Trailer Cleanup

We will start to clean out the middle area in the trailer in January. If you have anything in that area, please contact Steve Buck or Miriam and let us know that it needs to stay. Everything else will be removed.

### Giving History and Contact Info

Did you know you can update your contact information and check your giving history anytime from the church website?

[stmtts.org/parishioners](http://stmtts.org/parishioners)

Simply click "Access and Update your member information". You can also submit a pledge to Saint Matthew's any time you feel called by contacting the office at [office@stmtts.org](mailto:office@stmtts.org).

### Christmas Flower Dedications

Honor a loved one, give thanks for an anniversary or accomplishment, or commemorate a loved one's birthday, special occasion or memorial by contributing to the Christmas flower arrangements.

To make a flower dedication, please use the envelopes provided in the pews. Place the envelope with your payment in the offering plate or church office by Sunday, December 18th. Please write "Christmas Flowers" in the memo of your check. Dedications of any amount are welcome.

The roses behind the altar this morning are dedicated by Martha Olson in celebration of the anniversary of Rob and Linda Merola's engagement on Rose Sunday in 1985.

### Small Hands Big Hearts Family Group

Join us after pageant rehearsal **today, December 11<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-4:00pm** to visit Falcons Landing. The children will sing Christmas Carols and hand out cards to residents. We may even have a Santa visit! Space is limited. We will be visiting two centers:

2pm – West Falls Center 46661 Algonkian Parkway, Potomac Falls, VA 20165

3pm – The Johnson Center 20535 Earhart Place, Potomac Falls, VA 20165

### Living Nativity

**December 17, 6pm – 8pm**

Come experience the true meaning of Christmas and the beauty of the night Jesus Christ was born. This is an outdoor event with live characters and animals, your favorite Christmas carols, hot cocoa and candy canes. Donations of individual sized, non-perishable food items will be accepted for Backpack Buddies. Look for our event on Facebook to invite family and friends. [Facebook.com/StMatthewsEpiscopalChurch/events/](https://www.facebook.com/StMatthewsEpiscopalChurch/events/)