

THIS WEEK	
DEC 18:	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 – Hanging of the Greens 2:30 PM – EFM 3:00 PM – MCVN & Cub Scouts 6:00 PM – Christmas Sing Along 7:00 PM – AA
DEC 19:	12:30 PM – All Ages Read Together 6:30 PM – ESOL 7:00 PM – MCVN 7:30 PM – Free to Live Small Group and Bread of Life Small Group
DEC 20:	11:00 AM – Backpack Buddies Packing 7:00 PM – Vestry Meeting 7:00 PM – AA 7:30 PM – Band Rehearsal
DEC 21:	12:00 PM – AA 12:30 PM – All Ages Read Together 5:30 PM – NA 6:00 PM – Odyssey of the Mind 7:30 PM – Sandwich Generation Small Group
DEC 22:	12:00 PM – Bible Study 7:30 PM – Seraphim Choir Rehearsal
DEC 23:	6:00 PM – Full Dress Rehearsal for Children's Pageant 7:00 PM – MCVN
DEC 24:	7:00 AM – Flower Guild 7:30 AM – Men's Group 9:00 AM – Altar Guild Set-up in Parish Hall 3:00 PM – Children's Christmas Pageant and Communion 6:00 PM – Christmas Eve Service with Band 7:00 PM – AA 8:00 PM – Christmas Eve Service 10:00 PM – Lessons and Carols 11:00 PM – Christmas Eve Service

ATTENDANCE		
DECEMBER 10 & 11, 2016		
Time or Place	Service	Attend.
Saturday 5:00 PM	RII	45
8:00 AM	RI	21
9:30 AM	RII	152
11:00 AM	RII	127
Faith Factory		69
Sunrise	MP	7
Advent Evenson		42

FINANCIAL UPDATE	
AS OF DECEMBER 13, 2016	
Revenue Required for 2016	\$701,900
Revenue Received YTD	\$592,081

### 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)

Elliott Smith, Associate Pastor  
[Elliott@stmmts.org](mailto:Elliott@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 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### SAINT MATTHEW'S CHURCH

December 18, 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!** – 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

### 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.

### 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, Courtney, 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, Scott, Mary, the Norfleet family, Jeanne, Carl, Kim, Kevin, Jake and Baine.

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

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY	
DECEMBER 22:	Rusty & Jim Shilkett

HAPPY BIRTHDAY	
DECEMBER 18:	Andrew Fawkes
DECEMBER 20:	JR Franks
DECEMBER 21:	David Lathrop
DECEMBER 23:	Donna Gray
DECEMBER 23:	William Dailey

### **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.

**12/18 – Come to the Christmas Sing Along**

**12/25 – Christmas; No SNL**

### **Adult Mission Trip Meeting**

A team from Saint Matthew's will be heading back to Port Margot, Haiti, again this summer from July 15th – 21st. If you are college age or older and interested in possibly being a member of this team, please join us Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm for an interest planning meeting.

### **Backpack Buddies**

Backpack Buddies needs your help! We are in need of someone to lead the daytime packing beginning the week of January 9th (approximately 10:45am - 12:15pm). 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

**FOOD DONATIONS:** We always need individual-sized, shelf-stable milk and proteins such as tuna, ravioli or Vienna sausages. Thank you so much!!

Daytime packing this week Dec. 20 - 11:00 am in the trailer on the hill. Please join us! (We will not pack the week of Dec. 26th.)

Save the date:

Evening Packing January 3rd, 7:00 pm in the classroom on the hill.

### **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.

### **Mac n Cheese Bake Off**

Calling all makers and tasters. Perhaps it's on a tattered index card that's been passed down from generation to generation. Or on a magazine page torn from a 1978 copy of Good Housekeeping, tucked away in a cabinet. Maybe it's locked inside your head, to better keep it a secret. Admit it. You know your Mac and Cheese recipe is the best. Now is your chance to prove it.

Mark your calendars for what is going to be a "grate" day as we kick-off the first ever Saint Matthew's Mac and Cheese Bake-off on Sunday, January 22nd after the 11am services.

Any and all culinary twists are welcome on this classic dish but there will only be one Grand Champion as voted on by all who sample. Keep in mind a slight twist to the voting: kids' votes will count twice as much as adults, as we all know who the ultimate authority on Mac and Cheese is.

Get ready to bring it and let the "S'Mac talk" begin!

### **Giving History and Contact Info**

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

**stmmts.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@stmmts.org.

### **Annual Christmas Sing Along & Raffle**

Eat an early dinner, and bring a dessert to share on **December 18<sup>th</sup> (Tonight!) 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!

### **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 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@stmmts.org.

### **New Year's Day Worship**

Join us on Sunday, January 1, 2017 at 10am for a special New Year's worship service featuring a sermon by our new Associate Pastor, Elliott Smith. This is the only service that will be held on New Year's Day. Faith Factory classes will take place in their regular classrooms. There will not be a service on December 31.

### **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. Saint Matthew's also sells gift cards from many popular retailers including: Footlocker, Gap, Starbucks, Panera, Chili's, Chipolte, Regal Cinema, Olive Garden, Fuddruckers, Giant, Safeway, Food Lion, Shoppers, and many, many others!

These retailers sell gift cards to Saint Matthew's at a discount. You buy the gift cards for full face value and Saint Matthew's uses the difference to help fund our missions. You help earn money for Saint Matthew's missions without spending a single additional penny! Just spend your regular shopping dollars with gift cards at participating stores.

Not only that, you can do your Christmas shopping in the Parish Hall and avoid the shopping malls! For more information, contact Susan Jones at 571-205-6999 or susan.e.jones@hotmail.com,

### **Requests for Prayer Shawls**

To request a prayer shawl for yourself or someone else, please send a request to barocon7@aol.com.