



# THE MESSENGER

St. Matthias United Methodist Church

November 2017

<sup>8</sup> And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. <sup>9</sup> As it is written: "They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever."<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>10</sup> Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. <sup>11</sup> You will be enriched in every way **so that** you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. 2 Corinthians 9:8-11

**Someone has said "You cannot out-give God!" In response to God's gift of new life, St. Matthias UMC continues to be a conduit of God's blessings. Through the generous hearts of people like you, our hearts overflow in worship and service! Here are a few of the opportunities in November:**

**Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>**, 10:00 a.m. "Wills and Estate" planning workshop. POC: Gordon Payne

**All Saints Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>** -- In worship, we will remember God's faithfulness in those who have gone before us, share in Holy Communion and commission our Volunteers in Mission Team working at VA Beach Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>.

2:00- 5:00 p.m. "Rise Against Hunger" high energy meal packaging event in our fellowship hall

**Youth-led Operation Christmas Child Ministry** – Stuff a gift box with small toys and supplies for a child to be blessed with gifts this Christmas and the gift of hearing the good news of Jesus Christ, Savior of the world. Boxes are available at church and are due back by Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. POC: Erin Wetzel

**Stewardship Commitment Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>** --Please pray about your *Privilege of Sharing Cards* and *Opportunities to Serve Surveys* – returning them to church by Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>** – Worship Focus at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. is on "Thanks-living" in response to God's faithfulness. At 12:15 p.m., our friends from Vision Community will join us for a brief testimony time in our sanctuary and thanksgiving meal together in the fellowship hall. Please sign up on the bulletin board or contact Mary Ella Fuquay.

**Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>** – Special presentation by Jews for Jesus on "**Hannukah**," with an opportunity to support the ministry with a love offering.

**The Apostle Paul, with gratitude to God for the "cheerful givers" of his time, exudes the joy of serving God:**

<sup>12</sup> This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. <sup>13</sup> Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. <sup>14</sup> And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. <sup>15</sup> Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:12-15 (NIV)

**God has given us His best gift – eternal life in a relationship through grace by faith in His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us daily live, giving thanks with grateful hearts!**

**Following Christ, on the journey with you,**

**Pastor Pat**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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LOVE AND LAUNDRY ~ Friday, November 17, 2017

The Laundry Basket – Chatham Square Shopping Center



**RISE AGAINST HUNGER FOOD  
PACKING - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5**  
2:00 p.m. ~ 5:00 p.m



BLOOD DRIVE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

10:00 a.m. ~ 2:00 p.m.



**THURMAN BRISBEN SERVICE  
OPPORTUNITY**

Sunday, Nov. 19

3:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

If Interested in preparing and serving a meal at the center, please contact Brenda Wood, 540.809.4616 or [bwood@fredericksburgva.gov](mailto:bwood@fredericksburgva.gov)

You can also add your name to the sign-up sheet on the front bulletin board. This is the last opportunity for 2017!



SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

SPECIAL SEMINAR ON GRIEF

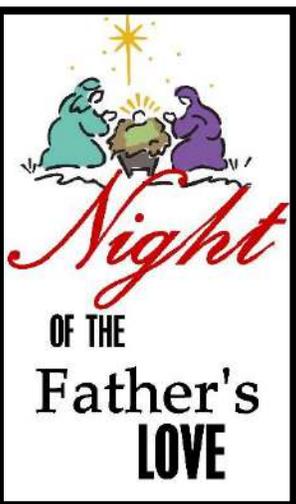
Sunday, November 12 ~ 4:00-5:30 p.m.

St. Matthias UMC

POC: Lynda Bartush, [lyn7038@yahoo.com](mailto:lyn7038@yahoo.com) or (612) 770-6869



**Stewardship envelopes are available for pick-up.  
Envelopes are located on the table outside the  
sanctuary doors. Please complete and return by  
Stewardship Sunday ~ November 12**



Come and join us as we present our Christmas cantata on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at the 11 a.m. service. All of the mystery, awe, and excitement of that first Holy Night are imaginatively captured in a Christmas mosaic that combines fragments of the familiar with a unique perspective in word and music. "Night of the Father's Love" guides us through the Christmas story, as though hearing it for the first time. An intriguing array of musical styles beautifully express the essence of Christmas: the gift of the Father's love. Please pray about becoming a part of this wonderful "gift" back to our Father as we celebrate His wondrous love for us! We have a seat waiting for you in the choir!

## LET'S TALK TURKEY



On Sunday, November 19, following the second worship service, we will be hosting our neighbors, Vision Community Church, for a short service of praise and thanksgiving, followed by our third annual Thanksgiving feast!

Since we are the host church this year, we will be providing the turkey and ham, and the beverages, as well as any side dishes we want to add. Vision CC will be bringing side dishes and desserts.

**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!** Cooking the turkeys and ham for a group of possibly close to 100 is too big a job for just a few of us! If you can help out with this, please contact Mary Ella Fuquay (540-479-8265) or Roger Keene (540-373-9122). **Together**, we can formulate a plan to get this big job accomplished easily!



**United Methodist Women** will hold an important general meeting on Wednesday, November 8 at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We'll be discussing the Fall Fest/craft sale, deciding the disbursement of the proceeds from the same, and holding a short service of Thanksgiving for World Thank Offering. All St. Matthias women are warmly welcomed.



**HELP WANTED**... for providing dinner to the Campus Christian Community (approximately 20 students) on Thursday, November 9, 4:15 p.m. We're doing a lasagna dinner, with bread, salad and dessert, and the "regular" helpers are not available. Can't do it alone! **POC:** Mary Ella Fuquay, (540) 479-8265



## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Thanks to the support of our wonderful St. Matthias family, UMW had a very successful craft sale/Fall Fest again this year! We tried a couple of new attractions, namely a Basket Auction and a Cookie Sale table, and both were very successful. Total proceeds for each area of the craft sale are listed below:

\$675.00 - Basket Auction

\$788.70 - Crafts sold

\$208.15 - Yard Sale

\$847.00 - Bake Sale (includes 117.50-cookie sale)

**\$2518.85 - Total for show weekend**

\$118.50 – District UMW meeting sales

\$107.00 - Teachers' lunch sales

**\$2744.35 - Grand total so far** (There will be one more "official" opportunity to sell crafts, at the Celebrate Community Holiday Shopping Bazaar on November 5.)

As always, proceeds go to missions: local, national and global. At our next meeting, on **Wednesday, November 8, 10 am**, we will be discussing the disbursement of the proceeds, along with having a World Thank Offering service. We will be discussing the craft sale and evaluating what went well and if anything needs to be added to or eliminated from the day's event. **All women are invited to attend this meeting** to provide input into the disbursement of mission monies and the evaluation of this year's sale.

Watch for email announcements as to Wednesday "craft meetings," which might be used for stuffing and finishing cough pillows for Stafford Hospital, or other such projects.

Our annual Christmas luncheon at Fawn Lake will be on **Tuesday, December 12**. There will be a sign-up sheet posted on the main bulletin board, closer to the event. All women of St. Matthias are invited to this festive luncheon.

## KID'S CLUB

There will be no scheduled Kid's Club event in November, but please consider attending our Rise Against Hunger packing event scheduled for Sunday, November 5 from 2:00-5:00 p.m.. ALL are welcome!! What a wonderful opportunity for our children to learn about missions and the people in our world that we can help! There is a job for everyone who attends. St. Matthias Reaching, Loving and Serving! Bring your children to experience it!! **POC:** Liz Morris. [540-226-5133](tel:540-226-5133)  
[Momx3gnmad@verizon.net](mailto:Momx3gnmad@verizon.net)



## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Children will sing in church on Sunday, Nov. 19 at the 11:00 service. The children practice every Sunday at the beginning of the Sunday School hour (9:45). All children are welcome!!

**POC:** Liz Morris. [540-226-5133](tel:540-226-5133), [Momx3gnmad@verizon.net](mailto:Momx3gnmad@verizon.net)



## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

It's not too early to start thinking about Christmas! The Children's Christmas Program will be Sunday, December 17 at 5:00. Mark your calendars!! If you play a musical instrument and would like to play a Christmas song in our service, please let me know. Also, when the time draws closer, I will put a sign-up sheet up. We will also "give gifts" by bringing hats, mittens, gloves and scarves for our warm tree. These items will be given to children who do not have such cozy, warm winter accessories. And, we will celebrate Jesus' birthday with cake and singing!! I'm excited to start thinking about the ways the children can participate in celebrating the birth of our King!! POC - Liz Morris. [540-226-5133](tel:540-226-5133), [Momx3gnmad@verizon.net](mailto:Momx3gnmad@verizon.net)



*"When we are in the presence of the Lord, we feel His holy peace; and all is well"*



## Night of the Father's Love by Pepper Choplin

We have several exciting services in the works to help you be in the "presence of the Lord".

~The month of November starts with a Veterans Service on Thurs., Nov. 2 at 5:30, followed by one of Roger Keene's wonderful spaghetti dinners.

~The first Sunday (Nov. 5) is All Saints Sunday; a time when we can reflect and praise the saints God has put in our lives, who have passed away this past year. The Rev. Brad Philips will be our guest preacher.

~November 12 is Stewardship Sunday; please bring your privilege of sharing in the grace of giving cards and opportunities to serve surveys with you and place them in the box in the foyer or the offering plates.

~November 19 is our Thanksgiving service with Vision Community Church. This service starts at 12:15 (after our usual 11:00 am service), and St. Matthias is hosting. Bring a dish to share and join in the fun and festivities of joy and thankfulness with our neighbors in the Lord!

~November 26 will be a very educational service as our friends from Jews for Jesus join us and explain Hanukkah traditions as they relate to God's faithfulness in Jesus Messiah. These are always wonderful, insightful services and prepare us for the quickly approaching Advent season.

~Speaking of Advent; Hanging of the Greens is right around the corner. Dec. 2 to be exact. Our Altar Guild Chair will not be in town to lead this event. If you could help Erica out and let her know you are willing to help, she will be passing out small jobs that people could complete anytime from Nov. 27 thru Dec. 2 (small jobs like hanging wreaths, hanging banners, setting up candles, setting up the nativity scene, decorate a tree... nothing big because everything will be broken down into sections). If this is something you could do, please contact Erica Murray at 907-3263. December 17 will be special. The choir has been working on **Night of the Father's Love!** This will be a 11:00 am cantata service only, which means come early to get your seats (once the doors open) and if you are running late, please bring your patience as the ushers try and help you find seats. Alcove and Narthex seating will be available. Later that same day, at 5:00 p.m., our children will lead us in worship and in celebrating the birth of our Lord. (See above)

I read an interesting article the other day. It was about the benefits of volunteering. We know that volunteering to serve others – “being the hands and feet of Jesus” – is as much a blessing to those of us who give our time as it is to those who receive our time, compassion and love. Recent research has shown that there are wonderful benefits to the gift of your time.

**Here are seven unexpected benefits of volunteering:**

- \* Those who give away their time serving others say they feel less time-constrained than those who don't.
- \* People who give their time away feel more capable, confident and useful. They feel more accomplished, and that's why they feel like they have more time to accomplish things in the future.
- \* “Those who volunteer have lower mortality rates, greater functional ability, and lower rates of depression later in life than those who do not volunteer.” (*A Corporation for National and Community Service*)
- \* The more people served others, the happier they were. Volunteering builds empathy, strengthens social bonds and makes you smile – all factors in measurable happiness levels. (London School of Economics)
- \* Volunteering is good for your social life.
- \* Volunteering sets a good example
- \* The best reason to volunteer is so that we can share God's love with others because He first loved us. (1 John 4: 19)

There are many opportunities to volunteer through the missions of St. Matthias. Here are a few upcoming opportunities:

Veterans Day Service and Dinner	Nov. 2	Roger Keene
VIM Mission Trip to Virginia Beach	Nov. 5-11	Peg Jones
Rise Against Hunger Food Packing	Nov. 5	Carole Hall
Thurman Brisbane Homeless Shelter	Nov. 19	Brenda Wood
Thanksgiving Boxes ~ Packing, Delivery & Pick-up	Nov. 20	Mary Lou Pitzer
Monday Nights – Cold Weather Shelter		Trudy & Dave Monroe

**God loves and cares for those in need through us.** Isaiah 58:10 declares, *“If you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then your light will rise in the darkness and your gloom will be as the noonday.”*

**God has blessed us with gifts and talents to benefit others.** 1 Peter 4:10, *“As each has received a gift, use it to serve another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.”*

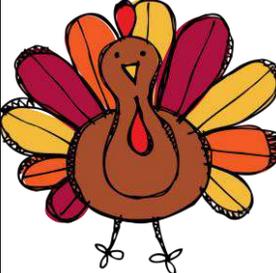
**God made us for His purposes way before we ever realized it.** Ephesians 2:10 says, *“We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”* We serve and volunteer confidently, knowing that God has prepared the way for us!

**God will reward us.** You will benefit from serving and Colossians 3:23-24 says, *“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive an inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.”*

**Use your gift of time and serve the Lord!**

Tammi Ellis, Mission Chair

# November 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 Choir	<b>2</b> 6:30 a.m. Micah 10:00 a.m. MD 2:30 p.m. NT Survry 5:30 p.m. Veterans Service 6:00 p.m. Spaghetti Dinner 6:00 Upper Rm. 6:29 Prayer 7:00 Al Anon 7:00 Trustees	<b>3</b> 10:30 a.m. Dishwasher Training	<b>4</b> 7:00 am Pray Like a Man 8:00 Men's Bible Study 10-11:30 a.m. Endowment Seminar "Wills & Probation"
<b>5</b> VA Beach Mission Trip 12:15 Emm. Rn. 2-5:00 Rise A.H. 4:00 p.m. Griefshare 5:00 Praise Practice 5:45 p.m. Evening Worship	<b>6</b> VA Beach Mission Trip 9-11 Food Pantry 10:00 am Prayer 5:30 Upper Room 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout	<b>7</b> VA Beach Mission Trip 7:45 a.m. Exercise 11:30 Disc. 4 1:00 God's Celebrators 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 WBB	<b>8</b> VA Beach Mission Trip 10:00 am UMW Meeting 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 Choir 7:00 p.m. Finance	<b>9</b> VA Beach Mission Trip 10:00 a.m. MD 2:30 NT Surv. 4:30 p.m. CCC Dinner 6:00 Upper Rm. 6:29 Prayer 7:00 Al Anon 7:00 Worship	<b>10</b> VA Beach Mission Trip	<b>11</b> VA Beach Mission Trip VETERANS DAY Pack 213 Breakfast Fundraiser 7:00 am Pray Like a Man 8:00 Men's Bible Study
<b>12</b> 9:45 am 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun Fellowship 4:00 p.m. Surviving the Holidays 5:00 Praise Practice	<b>13</b> 9-11 Food Pantry 10:00 am Prayer 5:30 Upper Room 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout	<b>14</b> 7:45 a.m. Exercise 11:30 Disc. 4 1:00 God's Celebrators 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 WBB	<b>15</b> 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 Choir	<b>16</b> 10:00 a.m. MD 2:30 NT Surv. 6:00 Upper Rm 6:29 Prayer 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Comm. Mtg. 7:00 Al Anon 7:00 Ad. Council	<b>17</b> 1-5pm Love & Laundry	<b>18</b> 7:00 am Pray Like a Man 8:00 Men's Bible Study 8:30 a.m. YOUTH GROUP LEAF RAKING 9:30 a.m. Missions
<b>19</b> 7:30 am UMM Breakfast 12:15 pm Meal with Vision 3:30 Thurman Brisben 4:00 Griefshare	<b>20</b> 9-11 Food Pantry 10:00 am Prayer 5:30 Upper Room 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout	<b>21</b> 7:45 a.m. Exercise 11:30 Disc. 4 1:00 God's Celebrators 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 WBB	<b>22</b> 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir 7:00 Choir	<b>23</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>24</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>25</b> 7:00 am Pray Like a Man 8:00 Men's Bible Study
<b>26</b> 4:00 pm GriefShare 5:00 pm Praise Practice	<b>27</b> 9-11 Food Pantry 10:00 am Prayer 5:30 Upper Room 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout	<b>28</b> 7:45 a.m. Exercise 11:30 Disc. 4 1:00 God's Celebrators 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 WBB	<b>29</b> 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 Choir	<b>30</b> 10:00 a.m. MD 2:30 NT Surv. 6:00 p.m. Upper Room 6:29 Prayer 7:00 Al Anon		

## November Birthdays

- 1 Amanda Murray
- 1 Derek, Ryder & Summer Grace Rucker
- 2 Cheryl Potts
- 2 Marvin Prater
- 7 Dolores Piggott
- 8 Joyce Cronk
- 8 Joan Polen
- 9 John Nedza
- 10 Cathy Bray
- 10 John Knutson
- 11 Jocelyn Hayes
- 12 Jim Powell
- 13 Jerry Hardison
- 14 Homar Rivera
- 14 Mike Moore
- 15 Brandon Keene
- 16 Allen Gardner
- 16 Sara Rucker
- 17 Jessica Gmitter
- 18 Maya Wick
- 23 Elizabeth Murray
- 25 Larry Mosley
- 26 Rich Kaufmann
- 27 David Hogue
- 29 Gene Feltner
- 30 Jeff McClure
- 30 Liliana Leffler
- 30 Makenzie Moore

## November Anniversaries

- 3 Fenton & Dolores Piggott
- 9 Mike & Susan Miller
- 13 Stephen & Allison Hunter
- 15 Bob & Julie Dixon
- 20 Bob & Cathy Powers
- 23 Joe & Linda Reichard
- 26 Peter & Nancy Vernimb

### SAMARITAN'S PURSE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

\*Youth Led Mission – shoeboxes are available for you to pick-up outside the sanctuary doors. Please return your shoebox by Sunday, November 12. Visit the website for gift ideas and a list of what **NOT** to include at [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org)

Your **St. Matthias Mission Team** is in action this fall in many ways. Among these is supporting the Salvation Army through donations for Toyland, clothing and food. Per the request of the Salvation Army, we will not be purchasing bicycles this year, but we are continuing to support the Salvation Army in serving even more children in our area through the **Christmas Toyland, clothing and food programs**. Thank you for your prayers for wisdom in using the gifts God has entrusted to us. We ask for your prayers as we take action in sharing our faith, resources and love with others! Thank you for your giving hearts!

### WE SHARE THE AIR

In consideration of those with respiratory difficulties, please consider using fragrance free or lightly scented products and colognes. Thank you for considering those with allergies and breathing problems.



**St. Matthias United Methodist Church**

**426 Deacon Road**

**Fredericksburg, VA 22405**



## St. Matthias United Methodist Church

A Christ-centered community of faith, reaching, teaching, loving, and serving.

"A church alive is worth the drive!"

***A Prayer Covenant Congregation of the Virginia Conference***

Phone: (540) 373-8759 - Email: [office@stmatthiasumc.org](mailto:office@stmatthiasumc.org)

**8:45 & 11:00 Worship**  
Staffed nursery for infants – 5 yrs.

**1st & 3rd Sundays**  
5:45 p.m. Evening Worship

**Discipleship Groups 9:45 – 10:45**  
Classes for all ages: 3 years - adults  
Staffed nursery for infants - 2 years

***Nursery Volunteers Always Appreciated!!!!***