

Message

+ This Little Light of Mine, UMH 585

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer, UMH 895

Tithes and Offering

Doxology

+ Lord, I Want to Be a Christian, UMH 402

+ Blessing

+ Postlude

Things to know about worship

First, we are glad you are here! We hope that your visit gives you a glimpse of God's love for you, and we want to make your time here as comfortable as we can. The screens will help you with words and directions and this bulletin will guide you through the service. Please quiet your phone or device but the use of Bible apps are encouraged. There are times when we will invite you to stand as you are able, and these are marked with a '+'. Large print bulletins and hymnals are available upon request. A handicap accessible restroom and wheelchair are available. Please let one of the ushers, greeters or pastor know if you need anything or have questions. Thank you for any financial contributions you may make during the offering time or online at stmatthiasumc.org. These are tax deductible and help us offer ministry to our community and world. Please be sure to use the tear-off sheet to check in, share prayer requests, register for activities and get more information. May God bless us all!

JESUS' OWN LIFE AND DEATH offer a paradox through which God reveals God's own self in a sacrificial life, a despairing death, and a hopeful resurrection to show us how we may grow spiritually. And yet, this question may continue to plague us: Is God responsible for creating or allowing suffering to be part of our world? This question has never been answered with satisfactory results after centuries of debate, but it is part of the paradox. In this debate, we find a hidden kernel of truth that we can join hands with a great cloud of witnesses and be certain that God remains present throughout our suffering and pain, nurturing us and giving spiritual growth to all who move from despair to hope.

—John R. Wimmer *Blessed Endurance: Moving Beyond Despair to Hope*

THE MOST SERVANT-HEARTED PEOPLE are often unlikely to toot their own horns. But their stories are beautiful and deserve to be told. At a casual dinner not long ago, I listened in awe as my friend Sam told the others at the table about the faithful and persistent work of his next-door neighbor, who tirelessly directs an after-school program for children in an underserved area. The neighbor would never have mentioned the years of work or the pouring of his own resources into this ministry. He wouldn't have described himself as selfless or sacrificial or Christlike. But he is, and his story wanted to be told—not to glorify himself but to point to what God can do through everyday disciples.

—Rebecca Bruff *Loving the World with God: Fourth Day Living*

Reading Buddies @ Grafton Elementary



Reading Buddies

Reading Buddies will begin THIS Thursday, February 21 @ 3:45 p.m. If this is your first time, please come at 3:30 p.m. for a little training. Don't forget your picture ID if you don't have a name badge there already. POC: Mary Ella Fuquay

LOVE & LAUNDRY will take place THIS Friday, Feb. 22 from 1:00-5:00. Donations of quarters, or checks, are appreciated! Volunteers are always welcome. POC: Mary Ella Fuquay, (540) 479-8265

Meet our new DS!



The Rev. Charles F. Bates, currently serving as lead pastor at Fishersville UMC on the Staunton District, will be the new district superintendent of the Rappahannock River District. He will replace the Rev. Dr. Ted Smith who has served as the Rappahannock River DS since 2011.



FRED CAMP 2019 June 30-July 6

Fred Camp is a Christian camp for high school youth working to repair Hearts and Homes in the Fredericksburg area. There is also a need for adult chaperones. A \$100 deposit is due to Jim Davis by March 17 for youth and adult chaperones planning to attend. Please contact Jim Davis for more information or visit www.fredcamp.org



SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, April 6 (rain date April 13): outdoor flowerbed and yard clean up at St. Matthias! 9 - noon, followed by a potluck picnic for all! Watch for sign-up sheet coming...

POC: Mary Ella Fuquay

Week at a Glance

Sunday, February 17

7:30 a.m. UMM Breakfast
9:45 a.m. 3rd Sunday Fellowship
5:00 p.m. Praise Band Practice
5:45 p.m. Evening Worship

Monday, February 18

9:00 a.m. Food Pantry
10:00 a.m. Prayer
11:30 a.m. Trust Project Study Group
5:30 p.m. Upper Room

Tuesday, February 19

7:45 a.m. Exercise Class
1:00 p.m. God Celebrators
6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts
7:00 p.m. Wesleyan Bldg. Bros.

Wednesday, February 20

10:00 a.m. UMW Crafts
12:00 p.m. Bulletin Deadline
5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice
6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, February 21

6:00 p.m. Upper Room
6:00 p.m. Cub Scout Comm. Mtg.
7:00 p.m. Al-Anon
7:00 p.m. Admin Council

Friday, February 22

Pastor's Sabbath
1:00 - 5:00 Love & Laundry
6:00 p.m. 30 Hour Famine Begins

Saturday, February 23

Special Conference Opens
7:00 a.m. Pray Like a Man
8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study
9:30 a.m. Prayer

SMUMC by the Numbers

Attendance on February 10

Sunday School: 26

Morning Worship: 126

Weekly Need: \$6363.50

2/10/19 Offering: \$5,639.00

YTD Need: \$38,181.00

YTD Received: \$34,108.53

Monthly Need Feb: \$25,454.00

MTD Received Feb: \$15,274.00

Amount given to 30 Hour Famine: \$2,060.00

CONNECT

Name(s):

Phone:

Email:

Please update contact information

Please circle one

Visitor Member

Regular Attender

Please pray for....

I would like this to be shared:

- in the bulletin
with the prayer team
only with the Pastor
I would like the Pastor to call me

Prayers of the Community of Faith!

I would like to sign-up for the following events:

Reading Buddies

Outdoor Flowerbed & Yard Clean Up

Beef Stew & Biscuits

Were you a Scout? What is your best memory of being a Scout?

I would like more information about:

- Becoming a Member of SMUMC
- Love & Laundry Ministry
- Honduras Mission Trip
- Micah Breakfast
- New Bern, NC Mission Trip (Mar. 6-10)
- The Food Pantry
- The Youth Group
- Small Groups
- Heartwood Food Packing
- FredCamp

Mourning / Families of: ● Joe Schepers ● Mary Lee Jones ● Nancy Collett

Continuing Needs: Greg Anderson ● Paul Balgavy (R. Balgavy) ● Loretta Bass (Patsy Vida) ● Debbie Carpenter (B. Anderson) ● Margaret Courtney (R. Courtney) ● Pattie Cushing (R. Keene) ● Ruby Duddleson (R. Keene) ● Lindsey Fortune (D. Farrar) ● Jennifer Giannuzzi (B. Giannuzzi) ● Dennis & Connie Hagan ● Mrs. "Clyde" Hambrick ● Mary Ann & David Hill (J. Studley) ● Rev. Wayne Hogue ● Shelley Holmes (B. Holmes) ● Michelle Hutchinson (D. Jenkins) ● Billie Jo Hynson (B. Gmitter) ● Pete Jerman ● Jim Kocher (J. Belako) ● Kyra (P. Vida) ● Ed Marks (J. Clark) ● Dick Moore ● George Nosek (D. Garrett) ● Lisa Holsinger Powell (P. Vida) ● Dian Rubiera (B. Giannuzzi) ● Emerson Rudacille (J. Studley) ● Bob & Claire Runger (B. Anderson) ● Lita Schepers ● Amelia Sharer (E. Wetzel) ● Dorothy & Pastor Bob Van Natta (W. Hogue) ● Amy Watkins (C. Hall & L. Cooper) ● Bob Watts (J. Cover) ● Renewal of UMC ● Ken & Charlotte Stockwell ● Patricia Turley (J. Keene) ● Austin Wolfe (R. Varela) ● Betty Zelloe (D. Jenkins)

Prayer Requests from the week of January 27: ● Cooperation among branches of government ● Debbie Whittington ● Family of Joe Schepers ● Gen. Khalifa ● Loss of family pets ● Bishop Lewis ● Mary Cross & Pam Green ● Fractured family to find peace with one another

Prayer Requests from the week of February 3: ● Marshall & Janice Anderson ● Gen. Khalifa ● Ted Jones & Family on the passing of his wife Mary Lee ● Dodie Smith ● Michael Naifeh ● Kseniya ● Dolly King Rodger ● Dysfunctional families estranged from each other ● Sam Frantum ● Peace and Unity in our country ● Marian Lynch

Prayer Requests from the week of February 10: ● Ed Marks ● Doris ● National, state, local & global unity ● Randy McNulty ● Lucas ● For Christ to lead the upcoming conference in the direction he wants. ● Bill Spicer ● Jim & Earline Haney ● Rev. Walt & Betty Westbrook

Questions for Reflection One commentator on Luke 6:17–26 writes, “Blessed” (makarios) does not simply describe a state of happiness or bliss. Rather, it refers in a theological sense to one’s standing before God (Deut. 33:29; Pss. 1:1; 40:4).” * As you reflect on the blessings and woes in Luke’s Gospel and on the use of the word “happy” in Psalm 1:1 and “blessed” in Jeremiah 17:7, how does this meaning of “blessed” or “happy” contrast with contemporary uses of this word, even by some preachers? What is one change you can make in your own life before God that would bring you into closer accord with Jesus’ understanding of blessedness?

Household Prayer: Morning Gracious God, thank you for the gift of this new day. Ps. 119:133 Guide my steps as I face choices to care for the earth or not, to show compassion toward others or not, to care for myself or not, to be true to Christ or not. May each of my choices draw me closer to you. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening Tonight I come home to you in prayer, my God. Thank you for guiding me through this day, even when I was not conscious of it. Now I give this day back to you, entrusting all that I did and all that I left undone to your compassionate care. May I rest in peace. Amen.

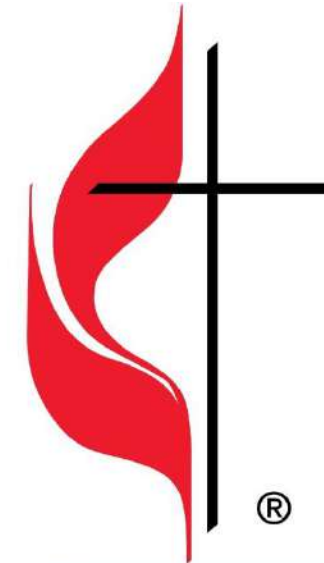
St. Matthias United Methodist Church
Called to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ
for the Transformation of the World

Worship:
Sundays: 8:45 & 11:00
Nursery for infants to 5 yrs
Kids Own Worship (pre -5th grade): 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship:
1st & 3rd Sundays @ 5:45 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Bert Cloud
540-736-7007 (voice & text)
pastorbert@stmatthiasumc.org

Office: Ms. Susan Courtney
(540) 373-8759
office@stmatthiasumc.org
Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Find us: Visit us online at stmatthiasumc.org
and on Facebook & Instagram
Physical & Mailing:
426 Deacon Road, Fredericksburg, VA 22405



ST. MATTHIAS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

STMATTHIASUMC.ORG

February 17, 2019

Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany

Greeting and Opening Prayer

+ Introit Sing With All the Saints of Glory (v.1&2), UMH 702

+ Call to Worship

When we turn our hearts away from God and toward ourselves,
putting trust in our own strength,

we become like a shrub in the desert, living in a parched, salty place.

When we trust in God, when our trust is God, we are like a tree planted by water.

**Our roots go deep, we are ever-green; even in a drought we are not anxious,
but bear fruit, full and beautiful, gifts of the God who made us.**

Where are our hearts?

In whom do we trust?

+ Marching to Zion, UMH 733

+ Affirmation from 1 Corinthians 15:1-6 and Colossians 1:15-20, UMH 888

+ He Lives (v.1), UMH 310

Prayer for Illumination

**Creator God, you created us with free will and freedom of choice.
By the power of the Holy Spirit, speak your Word though the words
of scripture, that we may live according to your will; through
Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Special Music

How Firm a Foundation

St. Matthias Choir

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

+ Luke 6:17-26