

REJOICE IN THE
LORD ALWAYS;
AGAIN I WILL SAY,
REJOICE.
PHILIPPIANS 4:4



MARCH 2020

The Messenger

A PUBLICATION OF ST. MATTHIAS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March Events

- March 5**
7:00 pm Trustee Meeting
- March 8**
Daylight Savings Time Starts
- March 10**
9:00 am Heartwood Food Packing
- March 11**
10:00 am UMW Meeting
- March 12**
7:00 pm Worship Committee Meeting
- March 15**
7:30 am UMM Breakfast
5:45 pm Evening Worship
6:30 am UMYF Escape Room
- March 22**
Youth Jam & Bake Sale
- March 29**
10:00 am Easter Cantata



EASTER CANTATA
SUNDAY, MARCH 29
@ 10:00 am

There will only be one service this Sunday!



MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Thursday, April 9
7:00 pm @ St. Matthias



GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Friday, April 10
7:00 pm @ St. Matthias



EASTER SUNDAY
Sunday, April 12

6:30 am: Sunrise Service followed by Breakfast in the Social Hall
8:45am & 11:00am: Sanctuary Service



JOE DUNKIN SCHOLARSHIP

The United Methodist Men annually accept applications for a \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior from the congregation, in memory of Joe Dunkin. Joe, retired from the Stafford High School, was a long time member of the Church, a spiritual leader to many and a tenor in the Church Choir. In his 80's, Joe's voice could still make the building reverberate to his song.

Young men wishing to apply need to submit a free form essay discussing your Church involvement, community and school extracurricular activities, collegiate plans; and what you see as God's calling for your future.

Essays should be submitted in hard copy to the either the Church Office or dropped in the United Methodist Men (UMM) mail box; and by email attachment sent to Mr. Matt McBride at mattmcb29@gmail.com. Essays should be submitted no later than **May 1**. Presentation of the scholarship will be during a worship service in late May or early June.

MESSY CHURCH

Join us for a Potato Bar with all the fixings after the second service, Sunday, March 22. There will be crafts for the kids to make and games to play. This event is for family and friends of St. Matthias as well as the community. Please bring a friend! A sign-up sheet for food donations will be on the bulletin board. The theme for this event is Easter.
POC: Jamie Gardner

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Month to Date March: \$8,999.00
Year to Date: \$52,560.00

GENERAL CONFERENCE PROTOCOL

As you may be aware, the Protocol of Grace and Reconciliation through Separation was brought forth as a plan to be presented at General Conference 2020 in May. There have been so many questions regarding what this will mean for the denomination, the conference, the local church, laity, and Clergy.

The District Clergy Association along with our District Superintendent Charles Bates, invite all to a laity session with presentations and Q&A with Ms. Martha Stokes and the Rev. Keith Boyette. The meeting will be Sunday, March 22 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm at Wright's Chapel UMC. Wright's Chapel is located at 8063 Ladysmith Road in Ruther Glen 22546 (Ladysmith Exit 110 off I-95).

PLANNING TO GO

This meeting is a great way for us to get information and answers to our questions about the possible future of our United Methodist Church. It would be great to have a nice group of us from St. Matthias there, and we can carpool to Wright's Chapel after the potato bar here at church. Please indicate your interest in attending on the sign-up sheet on the main bulletin board, and if you're willing to be a driver, please check that box. **POC:** Mary Ella Fuquay

LENTEN OFFERING

Our 2020 Lenten Offering will go to support the work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief. UMCOR works to provide immediate relief of acute human need and to respond to the suffering of persons in the world caused by natural, ecological, political turmoil, and civil disaster. Please consider a 'second-mile' gift to this vital ministry spreading the love of Christ to people in need. Learn more at UMCOR.org.

MISSION TRIP

Mission Trip to El Salvador – June 21-27, 2020

A District team will be sent to El Salvador to work with an International Methodist Mission Partner - The Evangelical Methodist Church. Applications are available from the District Office, the District website (rappahannockriverdistrict.org), or by contacting Rev. Robin BeMiller (robinbemiller@vaumc.org), Team Leader. A limited number of \$300 scholarships are available to persons under 30 years of age.

Here's a great idea—

Invite your friends to church this Easter season!

...or **4 REASONS** why I should bother to pray, ask, and remind people to come when I'd rather just relax and sit around munching the ears off chocolate bunnies

1. Life is scary

The economy, terrorism, crazy weather—there is a lot to be afraid of in our world. But those who have met the One who calms storms, know that though the journey might be challenging, we are ultimately promised a safe harbor. Invite your friends to meet Jesus, the only reliable guide through scary times.

2. People are lonely

Lies, abandonment, abuse, disappointment—no matter how wonderful the person or relationship, there are times when the best of human companionship will disappoint. That's because, as St. Augustine said, we all have a God-shaped place inside that only Jesus can fill. Invite your friends to meet Jesus, the only person whose love will never fail through all of life, through death, and into eternity.

3. Everyone needs a purpose

As a former Watergate conspirator said, many folks live their lives climbing the ladder of success only to realize it was leaning against the wrong wall. Jesus' resurrection provides us with the power to live lives of significant purpose and to discern between true and false success. Invite your friends to discover Jesus, the only compass to guide you to a life of genuine, meaningful purpose.

4. We're all going to live forever

Most folks today believe that and the Bible agrees. The question is, if you are going to live forever, what neighborhood will you live in? Jesus promises that for those who believe in Him they will live in an eternal neighborhood of light, joy, purpose, and companionship with loved ones. But Jesus won't force anyone to live in His neighborhood. Problem is, any place outside His source of light, joy, purpose, and companionship is an eternal place of darkness, pain, regret, and isolation—not a neighborhood we want anyone to live in. Invite your friends to meet Jesus, so they can live forever in the neighborhood of joy.

Invite your friends to church this Easter season!



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

SPRING FORWARD

Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour this weekend!

ENOUGH FOR ALL

30 HOUR FAMINE 2020

St. Matthias Youth Group is thankful for your support of year's Famine! Please go to the World Vision Website to get information: www.30hourfamine.org. Financial contributions accepted until the end of March. Please make your check out to St. Matthias with "30 Hour Famine" in the memo line.

FAMINE PREP



This year, we're going to journey through the Famine with Grace (pronounced grahs), a 10-year-old boy from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Grace lives in a rural place called Katoka. When war broke out in the DRC a few years ago, Grace and his family had to run from their home. During the fighting, his dad was killed. And while he hid in the bush with his mom for three months, two of his siblings passed away from hunger and sickness. When Grace, his mom, and his younger sister, Harriet, hesitantly made their way home, they came back to a burned house and a changed life.

COMING UP:

March 22-23-Jam Session/Bake Sale (Make Jam Sat. and Sell Sunday)

- The youth group will be making home-made jams and selling them, along with home-made breads the following 2 Sundays! Be on the lookout for these yummy confections!

April 5- Easter Egg Hunt 12:30-3

- This is a community open event. Invite some friends and join the fun!!

April 19 - Regular Mtg - Grounds Cleaning/Weeding

April 24-26 Retreat



LOOKING BACK.....

"**Souper Bowl**" - February 2 - Thanks to such a loving, supportive, and HUNGRY congregation, our "Souper Bowl" raised \$\$450\$\$ towards the 30 Hour Famine! Thank you so to all who donated soup and also supported the fundraiser!

FLAG FOOTBALL GAME - SUPERBOWL SUNDAY

Super small group, super BIG fun! With Butch Cover as our ref, the kids had a great time warming up for the big game:)



Thurman Brisben

I can't tell you how incredibly proud I am of this group. They powered through food prep in 30 minutes! Once they were done in the kitchen, EVERY KID either played outside with the kids in residence there OR sat and talked with the older residents. It was a beautiful display of God's love in action. I'm so thankful for these kids:)



MARCH CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>1:00 p.m. Honduras Meeting 5:00 p.m. Praise Band</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9-11 Food Pantry 10:00 am Prayer 7:00 WBB</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7:45 a.m. Exercise 1:00 p.m. God Celebrators</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:00 a.m. "This Week" 10:00 UMW Crafts 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:10 Choir Practice</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:00 Al Anon</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study @ Wegmans</p>
<p>8</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Praise Band 6:30 Youth Group</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9-11 Food Pantry 10:00 am Prayer 7:00 WBB</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7:45 a.m. Exercise 1:00 p.m. God Celebrators</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 a.m. "This Week" 10:00 UMW Meeting 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:10 Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00 p.m. District Finance Training 7:00 Al Anon</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study @ Wegmans</p>
<p>15</p> <p>7:30 a.m. UMM Breakfast 3:30 Thurman Brisben 5:00 p.m. Praise Band 5:45 Evening Worship 6:30 Youth Group Escape Room</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9-11 Food Pantry 10:00 am Prayer 6:00 p.m. Micah Cold Weather Shelter 7:00 WBB</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7:45 a.m. Exercise 1:00 p.m. God Celebrators</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00 a.m. "This Week" 10:00 UMW Crafts 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:10 Choir Practice</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting 7:00 Al Anon</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study @ Wegmans</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Youth Jam/Bake Sale 12:30 p.m. Potato Bar & Kid's Crafts 5:00 p.m. Praise Band</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9-11 Food Pantry 10:00 am Prayer 6:00 p.m. Micah Cold Weather Shelter 7:00 WBB</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7:45 a.m. Exercise 1:00 p.m. God Celebrators</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00 a.m. "This Week" 10:00 UMW Crafts 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:10 Choir Practice</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Admin Council 7:00 Al Anon</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study @ Wegmans</p>
<p>29</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Praise Band 6:30 p.m. UMYF</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9-11 Food Pantry 10:00 am Prayer 7:00 WBB</p>					

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1	Adam Bray
2	Bob Gmitter
2	James Pettit
3	Barry Jones
7	Spencer Ashby
9	Lily Main
9	Charlotte Stockwell
11	Graham Morris
11	Julia Nedza
13	Bob Dixon
13	Jennifer Stephens
16	Brian Plum
19	Bonnie Gardner
21	Brittany Morris
21	Gene Pitzer
21	Erin Wetzel
23	Ken Stockwell
24	Joe Reichard
24	Madison Toombs
25	Judy Chaplin
25	Sue Hoiska
25	Peter Vernimb
29	Russell Stone

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

5	A.C. & Shirley Glover
5	Jim & Helen Powell
6	Jeff & Laraye Berry
6	Mike & Erica Murray
14	Roger & Margaret Morgan
25	Todd & Mary Eva Repass

Coming Up in April: Trustee Meeting (4/2), Palm Sunday (4/5), Easter Egg Hunt (4/5), UMW Meeting (4/8), Finance Committee Meeting (4/8), Maundy Thursday (4/9), Good Friday (4/10), Easter Sunrise (4/12), Administrative Council Meeting (4/16), Thurman Brisben (4/19), Youth Retreat @ the Outer Banks (4/24-4/26)



Words cannot express the depth of our appreciation and thanks for the food, prayers, calls, visits and cards from our St. Matthias family. Your love and support far exceeded anything we could have imagined. Please accept our heartfelt thanks,

A.C. and Shirley Glover

St. Matthias United Methodist Church

426 Deacon Road

Fredericksburg, VA 22405

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

540-373-8759 (option 2) | pastorbert@stmatthiasumc.org

Office:

Mrs. 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

Physical & Mailing: 426 Deacon Road, Fredericksburg, VA 22405