

Prayer of Illumination John 18:33-37

**Come, Holy Spirit; open our hearts to receive a word of truth, then set us free to follow in the power of Christ's love. Amen.**

Galatians 6:1-10

+ Matthew 25:14-30

Message Living Generously 5 Seed Time

Invitation to Plant Seeds

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer, UMH 895

+Here I Am Lord, UMH 593

+Blessing

Postlude



The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God in honor of Elizabeth Murray's birthday by her family.

**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](http://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!

**Promise-Keeping God**

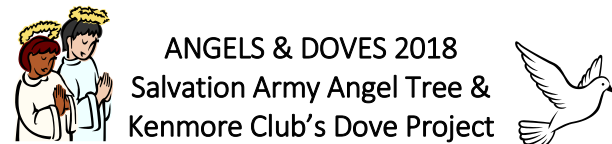
The 18th Century reformer Martin Luther said that the gospel comes to us in the form of promise: God has acted and will act to save us. The God of the Bible is a promise-making, promise-keeping God. ...

When we forget that God relates to us on the basis of gracious promise, we may be tempted to turn our relationship to God into an if-then relationship. If I am good, then God will love me; if I study my Bible, then God will listen to me; if I tithe, then God will bless me; if I serve the poor, then God will reward me.

Whenever we take this approach, we are reshaping the gospel. ... God's promise of salvation never comes as a response but as a free, unconditional gift.

— L. Roger Owens

*Belonging to the Truth*



Tags available on the Mission bulletin board. Please return to the church office by Sun., Dec. 2

2019 mission trip to Honduras -- 29 June to 6 July.



Make a difference for people impacted by the California fires today by giving to UMCOR. Thank you so much for what you have already given. Year to Date total collected is \$4,190.00. You can still give by making your check payable to St. Matthias with "UMCOR Disaster" written in the memo line. You can learn more about UMCOR at [www.UMCOR.org](http://www.UMCOR.org)



**HANGING OF THE GREENS**  
Saturday, Dec. 1 @ 10:00 a.m.  
Please come help decorate the church for Christmas. POC: Erica Murray



**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM & BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JESUS**  
Sunday, Dec. 16 @ 5:00 p.m.



If you are interested in volunteering or have questions, please contact Trudy Monroe. Contact information: 313-550-3979



Love and Laundry on Friday, November 16 was a record-breaker! We helped 26 patrons/families and spent \$485.25 to do it! Thank you, everyone, for your donations, which makes this ministry happen. And a special thanks to Madelyn Wetzel, who brought her own bag of quarters, a bag full of treats for the kids who were there, and who charmed everyone in the laundromat with her loving conversation, the beautiful pictures that she drew for folks, and her amazing smile for everyone! The Lord was at work BIG TIME at the Laundry Basket on the 16<sup>th</sup>!

**Week at a Glance**

**Sunday, November 25**

5:00 p.m. Praise Band Practice

**Monday, November 26**

9:00 a.m. Food Pantry

10:00 a.m. Prayer

**Tuesday, November 27**

7:45 a.m. Exercise Class

11:00 a.m. The Truth Project

1:00 p.m. God Celebrators

6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts

7:00 p.m. Wesleyan Bldg. Bros.

**Wednesday, November 28**

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, November 29**

6:00 p.m. Upper Room

7:00 p.m. Al-Anon

**Friday, November 30**

**Pastor's Sabbatical**

**Saturday, December 1**

7:00 a.m. Pray Like a Man

8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study

9:30 a.m. Prayer

10:00 a.m. Hanging of the Greens

**Sunday, December 2**

**First Sunday of Advent**

**SMUMC by the Numbers**

Attendance on November 18

Sunday School: 35

Morning Worship: 145

Weekly Need: \$6,363.50

11/18/18 Offering: \$3,010.13

YTD Need: \$292,721.50

YTD Received: \$243,172.93

Monthly Need Nov: \$19,091.00

MTD Received Nov: \$16,827.93

●Cost of hand crafted cards & bag on UMW craft table: \$1.00

●Week pledges will be collected: 6

●Turkey dinners given by church: 22 (8 brought in by Girl Scouts)

●lbs. donated by our Boy Scout Pack 213: 434

●Attendance at Finance Information Session = 25

●Shoebboxes for Operation Christmas Child: 21

CONNECT

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please update contact information

**Please circle one**

Visitor      Member

Regular Attender

Please pray for....

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**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



POINSETTIAS ORDER FORM

COST: \$16.00

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR OF: \_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF PONSETTIAS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ RED with WHITE BOW

\_\_\_\_\_ WHITE with RED BOW

**DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 25**

What are you looking forward to this Christmas?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I would like more information about:

- Becoming a Member of SMUMC
- Love & Laundry Ministry
- Honduras Mission Trip
- Micah Breakfast
- Serving a meal at the Thurman Brisben January 6, 2019 (3:30 p.m.)
- Micah Ministries Cold Weather Shelter
- The Food Pantry
- The Youth Group
- Small Groups
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# Prayers of the Community of Faith!

**Mourning / Families of:** ●Eugene Sullivan ●Beth Bowen ●Jack Cates

**Continuing Needs:** Greg Anderson ●Velma Bailey (M. Holt) ●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) ●George Nosek (D. Garrett) ●Lisa Holsinger Powell (P. Vida) ●Dian Rubiera (B. Giannuzzi) ●Emerson Rudacille (J. Studley) ●Bob & Claire Runger (B. Anderson) ●Joe & Lita Schepers ●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 November 4:** ●Rebecca McNamara ●Shawna Breggenti ●The families in North Carolina the mission team will help this week ●Pamela Morrison ●Amelia Sharer ●Robin Lanzone & Family ●Jodi Rhodes-Bruner & Family ●Those who are in prison ●Jeff Berry

**Prayer Requests from the week of November 11:** ● Shooting victims in Thousand Oaks, CA ●Amelia Sharer ●Family of Beth Bowen ●Sam Frantum ●Mohammed Khalifa ●Kseniya ●Jeff Andrew ●Michelle Hutchinson & Phyllis Prado ●Coakley family ●our church and our country ●Jason Toombs ●Joe Schepers ●Margaret Ann Holt ●Jack Cates & Mike Gibson

**Prayer Requests from the week of November 18:** ● California fire victims ●Greg Anderson ●Prayers for those looking for a job ●Prayers for those who have not yet accepted Christ ●Khalifa Mohamed ●People grieving during the holidays ●Family of Jack Cates ●Julie Dymon ●Amy Roberts ●Joe Reichard ●Rona Vernimb ●Dodie Smith ●Barry Jones ●Sam Frantum

### Questions for Reflection

Jesus said that his kingdom is not of this world and that belonging to his way of life means a constant attentiveness to his voice. How are you (individually and as a community) embodying the countercultural reign of God? What is a further step that you are being called to take? How might you make more time to listen for his voice?

### Household Prayer: Morning

Gracious God, help me to receive this day as gift: in the tasks for which I do not feel prepared, in the needs I am not strong enough to meet. In my caution and in my confidence teach me to listen for your voice and to watch for your provision. Grant me the gift of life in community, that I might witness your desire flowing through others, that I might be joined to greater service, for I pray in the name of Jesus, whose every breath was praise. Amen.

**Household Prayer:** Evening Lord of life, as I recollect this day, help me to recognize your witness in truth that challenged convenience, in decisions that stretched my heart, in forgiveness freely offered. Teach me to trust the sound of your voice and to follow where you lead, for I would serve in the shelter of your reign. Amen

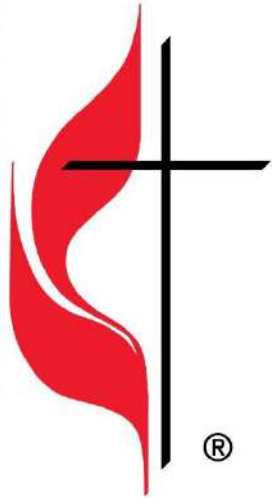
**St. Matthias United Methodist Church**  
Called to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ  
for the Transformation of the World

**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](mailto:pastorbert@stmatthiasumc.org)

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

**Find us:** Visit us online at [stmatthiasumc.org](http://stmatthiasumc.org)  
and on facebook  
Physical & Mailing:  
426 Deacon Road, Fredericksburg, VA 22405



**ST. MATTHIAS  
UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH**

# LIVING GENEROUSLY

**November 25, 2018**

**Christ the King Sunday**

Greeting and Opening Prayer

+Introit Gather, Thankful People St. Matthias Ringers

+ Call to Worship (Rev. 1:4b,5, Isa. 6:3)  
Grace to you and peace from the one who is and who was and who is to come,  
**and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.**

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.  
**The whole earth is full of God's glory.**

+ Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty, UMH 64

+ Affirmation  
**We believe in God as Eternal Creator, God made flesh in Jesus, and God stirring as the Holy Spirit.**

**We believe that we are called to serve God with joy and to bear witness to God's transforming love, made known in Jesus Christ. As a community led by the Spirit, we seek to make God's Love Visible as we give generously.**

**We believe that we are called to make Disciples of Jesus for the Transformation of the world. We are coming to understand that generous living is the antidote to fear and scarcity.**

**We recognize that we are called to be responsible stewards of all God's gifts, including our financial and natural resources, our facilities, and the gifts of our staff and members.**

**As stewards seeking to love God and our neighbors, we believe we are called to live generously through our prayers, our presence in our faith community, our financial and material gifts, our service to others and sharing our stories of God's faithfulness and love.**

**This is our calling, and we can do hard things through Christ. Amen.**

+ Choral Response Glory Be to the Father, UMH 70

8:30 a.m. Children's Moment