



A Christ-centered Community of Faith, Reaching,
Teaching, Loving and Serving

THE MESSENGER

St. Matthias United Methodist Church

MARCH 2018

Our Lord made prayer and communion with His heavenly Father a daily priority (Mark 1:35). This Lent, we are focused on the importance of learning to pray in the model of our Lord Jesus Christ (Luke 11:1-13). As St. Matthias prepares to welcome a new pastor this July, it is all the more vital that we pray for the church and its leaders. A related way to deepen our spiritual life (a discipline to aid us in becoming more faithful disciples) is journaling the Scriptures. As Bishop Sharma Lewis challenges us through our VA Conference ministry vision, let us be “disciples who are lifelong learners who influence others to serve.”

Let us pray for God to create in us “a clean heart and to renew a right spirit within us,” Psalm 51:10. I commend to you the “S.O.A.P.Y.” plan, a helpful tool developed by Bishop Dick Wills:

S - Scripture: Write out a verse or two from your Bible reading for the day.

O - Observation: Jot down your insights and/or questions you may have about its meaning.

A - Application: Write down how this insight and/or question may apply to your life in your walk of faith.

P - Prayer: Use the scripture to write a prayer concerning this lesson and your life.

Y - Yield: What must you yield in your life for this teaching to become alive in you?

Spend some time with God in prayer. Lift up those on the prayer list. Stay alert for opportunities to share the love of Jesus with whomever God puts in your path.

Led by our faithful Lord, let us lean forward into God’s next steps of making disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ. Hebrews 12:1-3 “Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off every encumbrance and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with endurance the race set out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart....”

On this Lenten Journey Together,

Pastor Pat

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UPCOMING EVENTS

**FredCamp 2018 ~ July 1-7 ~ \$100
deposit due April 1**

It’s that time of year again! when we start to make our summer plans and think about serving others at FredCamp! Deposit and COMPLETED forms due April 1, but I would like to collect those by Sunday 18 Mar, if possible. (If that does not work contact Jim Davis and we can work something out). Forms can be found at fredcamp.org. Participant requirements for youth: going into 9th grade-completion of 12th grade. We also need adults to attend and care for our youth!

POC: Jim Davis, (540) 373-2308

**RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
~ SATURDAY, MARCH 24
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Online scheduling is now available (redcrossblood.com) Please consider giving the gift of life. **POC:** Carole Hall, (540) 786-3194, cthrwh2123@comcast.net

F.U.N. Group Trip

Saturday, April 28 ~ Museum of the Bible in D.C. F.U.N. Group trip to the Museum of the Bible in D.C. will be on Saturday, April 28, leaving the church parking lot approximately 9 a.m. Cost will be determined by the mode of transportation: \$8 - \$10 per person if we go by van (16 or fewer people); \$20 per person if we go by bus. The museum requests a donation of \$15.00. Sign up on the front bulletin board for this interesting trip!

POC: Mary Ella Fuquay, (540) 479-8265

THURMAN BRISBEN CENTER

We will be preparing and serving a meal at TBC on Sunday, March 18th. If you are interested in volunteering, please see the sign-up sheet on the front bulletin board or contact Brenda Wood, (540) 809-4616 or bwood@fredericksburgva.gov

Girl Scout Sunday - March 11

Shelby Powers will be speaking about “Living Water” and her recent Holy Land experience.

**UMCOR Sunday ~ March 11 ~ One Great Hour
of Sharing**

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is the humanitarian relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church (UMC), a non-profit 501(c)3 organization operated under the auspices of the General Board of Global Ministries.

If you’d like to give, please make your check to St. Matthias UMC, and put UMCOR in the memo.

New Women’s Bible Study (Began Feb. 26)

First Corinthians – Living Love When We Disagree. Class meets Monday evenings, 5:30-7:30 pm until Mar. 26th. Workbooks are \$10.00

POC: Tammi Ellis, (540) 842-2858 or ellistw09@gmail.com

MEDITATION RETREAT

The Armor of God

MEDITATION RETREAT EXPLORING

Ephesians 6: 13-19

SATURDAY MARCH 17, 2018 ~ 10:30 AM

WHERE: SANCTUARY of ST MATTHIAS UMC

426 DEACON RD FREDERICKSBURG VA

FUNDRAISER FOR HONDURAS MISSION TRIP

Please join us as we explore the personal meaning of putting on the armor of God in the context of meditation or centering prayer. Take a morning to learn the basics of meditation and how to spend quiet time in God's presence while we contemplate His word.

RSVP: to Betsy Giannuzzi at 703-586-3153 (leave message) or email meditate46@gmail.com or church office at 540-373-8759

Blessings in his name

Betsy Giannuzzi

Suggested love donation \$20, light refreshments will be served

BEEF STEW & BISCUITS BENEFIT

Beef Stew and Biscuits Benefit ~ Sunday

MARCH 4 ~ 12:15 PM ~ FELLOWSHIP HALL

TO BENEFIT RISE AGAINST HUNGER

This is our first fundraiser for our Rise Against Hunger meals. Please call the church office so we know how much delicious food to prepare. (540) 373-8759



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

On Wednesday, February 14, after an Ash Wednesday meditation and imposition of ashes, we were inspired by a talk from Lori Smith, Director of All God's Children's camp for children of incarcerated parents. Lori's talk was followed by a potluck lunch of soups and salads as we began the season of Lent, and we were delighted to be joined by a couple of UMM members as well. We may be pursuing ways to support All God's Children's camp, in addition to the scholarship we provide annually to one child.

Easter crafts and baskets will again be sold on Sunday, March 18 and Sunday, March 25. Donations of small toys for Easter baskets are being requested; there is a donations tub in the missions hallway.

Our March 14th meeting will feature a service of Prayer and Self-Denial, which is our Lenten offering for District UMW. We will follow that short service with a trip to the White Oak Civil War Museum. We will be making a donation to the museum to help defray the costs of the new roof they need. Anyone interested in joining us is welcome to do so!

Ladies of St. Matthias, mark your calendars for Sunday, May 6! After 11:00 worship, we will be having a Glad Hatters Tea Party for all women of St. Matthias and their friends and relatives. A tea-type luncheon will be followed by team decorating of hats, and a "fashion show" of those hats!

VITAL CHURCH

Thank you, St. Matthias! At Love and Laundry on 2/9/18 we served 18 patrons, spending \$256.00 in quarters! Our next Love and Laundry will be Friday, March 23 (**4th Friday**, due to conflicts by many of us on the 3rd Friday); come and join in the fun of blessing others!

Reading Buddies has gotten off to a great start! We've had 3 meetings with our little Grizzlies; 14 kids, 8 – 10 adults and very positive reactions by everyone. Interested in spending an hour a week reading with a little child? Contact Mary Ella Fuquay.

The Campus Christian Community Table Talk dinner on February 1 was a wonderful evening of food and fellowship with approximately 20 enthusiastic young Christians! The next event with the CCC will be March 29 at 4:15 pm. Help is always appreciated, both in providing food and serving it to the students as we join them for dinner.

A group of 8 folks from St. Matthias will be attending the 5-Talent Academy on Saturday, March 10. This will be an inspiring day of music, worship, a speaker and small group discussion. We will be sharing the information learned at this event, both with reports and a DVD of the speaker's program.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 20, 6:00 pm at Garaffa's Pizza. We'll be looking at ways to move some of our ministry areas to small groups or others willing to take them on, with the purpose being to engage more people in leadership of these areas. We firmly believe that by engaging folks in leading or participating in ministry areas, we help them move from membership to discipleship, and to a deeper relationship with God and with the St. Matthias family. We warmly welcome new members to this upbeat, energetic team!

UMCOR

When you think about the [United Methodist Committee on Relief](#) (UMCOR), you may not immediately think of education.

While UMCOR is not involved in the daily teaching of children, the relief agency is strengthening education around the world in many different ways.

Your gifts on [UMCOR Sunday](#) enable UMCOR to construct classrooms, school latrines, and provisions to collect and store fresh water in Haiti, Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, among other places.

That is because UMCOR goes to people in crisis and helps them in the ways that meet the community's needs.

UMCOR contributes classroom and sports equipment, desks and other school furnishings, often in partnership with other international or government humanitarian organizations.

UMCOR also has developed programs to help educate girls in places where families are reluctant to send girls to co-ed schools. This work involves retention initiatives and engagement programs that teach the community the importance of education.

These are just a few examples of UMCOR's impact around the world.

We celebrate UMCOR Sunday every year. When we celebrate and give during this Special Sunday, we support efforts like this.

UMCOR Sunday, celebrated on March 11 this year, covers the operating costs of UMCOR. We help continue efforts like this outreach when we give on this Special Sunday

MISSIONS

March Mission Moment

What a mighty God we serve! That thought was echoing through my head today as I was thinking about all the wonderful missions our church serves and supports. Thank you for your attendance at the Crockpot Chicken Dinner in support of Veteran/Military Ministries and Missions. The money raised will support local and international missions. You will have an opportunity to support Rise Against Hunger at the Beef Stew and Biscuit lunch on March 4 following the 11:00 a.m. service. On March 25, we will have a church-wide potluck lunch following the Easter Cantata. The Mission Committee will provide ham and turkey and we ask you to bring a dish to share. It will be a joyous day!

The next Mission Committee Meeting will be on Saturday, March 17 at 9:00 a.m. Please join us!

Betsey Gianuzzi will conduct a restful Meditation Workshop based on the Full Armor of God on Saturday, March 17 at 10:30 a.m. Suggested donation is \$20, which will help support the Honduras Mission Trip. Come and learn how to rest your mind while centering your thoughts on the Lord!



Tuesday, March 27 ~ St. Matthias ~ 9:00 a.m.
Volunteers are welcome! POC: Tammi Ellis, (540) 842-2858

WORSHIP & PRAYER

Easter will be here before we know it! The Cantata is coming soon! Please be praying for our choir members to stay well and also our Bell ringers, so they will be at their best for worship. "Road to Calvary" will be on Palm Sunday, March 25. We will celebrate with Palm Branches, Bells and a special message by Peter Vernimb at 8:45 a.m. 11 AM will feature the Bells and our Cantata, "Road to Calvary," as the message. We will have our Maundy Thursday Service at 7 pm on 3/29/18 and our Good Friday Service on 3/30/18 at 7 pm.

Easter will feature 3 services on 4/1/18: Sunrise Service at 6:30 am with breakfast following, 8:45 am, and 11 am. with Holy Communion at each one. If you enjoy praying for our church, please come and pray in the sanctuary on Saturday mornings at 9:30 am, Mondays at 10 am, and most Thursdays at 6:29 pm before our Trustees Meetings, Worship Committee Meetings, and Admin. Council Meetings. If you have questions, please call Judy Cover or email: judyplovesjesus2@gmail.com

3/04/18 - Third Sunday in Lent, Holy Communion (served in individual cups around the altar)/5:45 p.m. evening worship

3/11/18 - Fourth Sunday in Lent, Girl Scout Sunday, with special message by Shelby Powers, sophomore at Randolph Macon

3/18/18 - Fifth Sunday in Lent, Children's choir will sing in 11:00 a.m. worship/5:45 p.m. Evening Worship

3/25/18 - Palm/Passion Sunday 8:45 Worship with Peter Vernimb bringing a message on Psalm 31: 9-16
11:00 Bells providing special music and "Road to Calvary" choir cantata with Bells

**Following 11 AM worship we will have a covered-dish lunch, then, at 1:30 p.m., our youth & children's ministries leading Easter activities and our annual egg hunt.

3/29/18 - Maundy Thursday – Holy Communion with flute and piano and choir

3/30/18 - Good Friday – Tenebrae, with flute & piano, choir, and Soloist Laura Artis

4/01/18 - Easter Sunday: 6:30 a.m. Sunrise service with light breakfast following
8:45 a.m. Service of Resurrection of our Lord with Holy Communion
11:00 a.m. Service of Resurrection of our Lord with Holy Communion

UNITED METHODIST MEN

The United Methodist Men served the evening meal for Chancellor Ruritan's monthly meetings in January and February, raising over \$400 to support UMM initiatives. The annual spring yard sale fund raising event is planned for Saturday, April 21st. Please start saving your used stuff for donations.

Of additional note, the annual Virginia Conference United Methodist Men's spiritual advance has been moved once again. Originally planned for a return to Randolph Macon College in June, the annual event has been moved to **Baylake United Methodist Church in Virginia Beach**, Friday and Saturday, **October 26-27**. The featured speaker will be Bishop James E. Swanson Sr. from the Mississippi Annual Conference. In a major change in the program structure, spouses are invited to attend this year. Mark your calendars. More detailed information will be provided as the date approaches.

Matt McBride

President, 2018

St. Matthias UMM

KID'S CLUB CHILDREN'S PROGRAM



Kid's Club met on February 18. The children had a great time creating their own pizzas and decorating cookies. Then lots of games were played, inside and outside! We were blessed with lovely weather and an awesome game leader! Thank you Erin Wetzel for leading all the great games!!

Kid's Club will be held on Sunday, March 25. The Easter Egg Hunt will be our event. **Stay after church that day for the potluck lunch. The Easter Egg Festivities will begin at 1:30. There will be lots to do! You won't want to miss it!! **Don't forget to bring your Easter basket!!

POC: Liz Morris momx3gnmad@verizon.net
[540-226-5133](tel:540-226-5133)

**Scheduled meeting dates are:

April 28

May 19

June 23

July 28

Decorating Days - Aug 3 & 4

All meeting times are 9:30 am

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - IT'S COMING!!!!

It may be cold and wintery outside, but it's not too early to start thinking about our ROLLING RIVER RAMPAGE Vacation Bible School that will be held August 6-10, 9:00-noon!!

There are lots of positions to fill. Maybe you did something last summer that you'd like to do again? If you know what position you'd like to have, let me know ASAP so I can save it for you!!

Please contact me with any questions.

Liz Morris, momx3gnmad@verizon.net, [540-226-5133](tel:540-226-5133)

Mark your calendars!!! The CHILDREN'S CHOIR will sing at the 11:00 service on March 18.

POC: Liz Morris, momx3gnmad@verizon.net, [540-226-5133](tel:540-226-5133)

March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:00 p.m. UR 6:29 Prayer 7:00 Al Anon 7:00 Trustees	2 11:30 a.m. Shannon Airplane Museum F.U.N. Group Trip	3 7:00 PLAM 8:00 Men's Bible Study
4 12:15 Emmaus Reunion 12:15 Beef Stew & Biscuits Benefit 5:00 Praise Practice 5:45 Evening Worship 6:30 UMYF	5 9-11 Food Pantry 10:00 am Prayer 5:30 Upper Room 5:30 Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout	6 7:45 a.m. Exercise 11:30 Disc. 4 1:00 God's Celebrators 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 WBB	7 10:00 am UMW Crafts 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir 6:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Choir	8 6:00 p.m. UR 6:29 Prayer 7:00 Al Anon 7:00 Worship	9 9:30 a.m. Terra Cotta Army Exhibit- Richmond F.U.N. Group Trip	10 7:00 PLAM 8:00 Men's Bible Study 9-3pm 5 Talent Academy 3-9:00 G.S. Awards & Banquet
11 GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY 9:45 a.m. 2nd Sunday Fellowship 5:00 Praise Practice 6:30 UMYF	12 9-11 Food Pantry 10:00 am Prayer 5:30 Upper Room 5:30 Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout	13 7:45 a.m. Exercise 11:30 Disc. 4 1:00 God's Celebrators 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 WBB	14 10:00 am UMW Meeting 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 Choir 7:00 Finance	15 6:00 p.m. UR 6:29 Prayer 7:00 Al Anon	16	17 7:00 am Pray Like a Man 8:00 Men's Bible Study 9:00 Missions Mtg
18 7:30 a.m. UMM Breakfast 3:00 Thurman Brisben 5:00 Praise Practice 5:45 Evening Worship 6:30 UMYF	19 9-11 Food Pantry 10:00 am Prayer 5:30 Upper Room 5:30 Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout	20 7:45 a.m. Exercise 11:30 Disc. 4 1:00 God's Celebrators 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 6:00 Vital Church Meeting @ Garaffa' Pizza 7:00 WBB	21 10:00 am UMW Crafts 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 Choir	22 11:00 a.m. Retired Teacher's Luncheon 6:00 p.m. UR 6:29 Prayer 7:00 Al Anon	23 Love & Laundry	24 7:00 Pray Like a Man 8:00 Men's Bible Study 10-2 pm Blood Drive 4-9:00 pm G. Scout Easter Egg Hunt
25 PALM SUNDAY 8:45 a.m. Worship 11:00 Easter Cantata 12:15 Pot Luck Lunch 1:30 p.m. Easter Egg Hunt	26 9-11 Easter Food Basket Packing 10:00 am Prayer 5:30 Upper Room 5:30 Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout	27 7:45 a.m. Exercise 9-12:00 p.m. Heartwood Food Packing 11:30 Disc. 4 1:00 God's Celebrators 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 WBB	28 9-10 am Easter Food Basket Dist. 10:00 am UMW Crafts 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir 6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 Choir	29 6:00 Upper Room 6:29 Prayer 6:30 p.m. Cub Scout Comm. Mtg. 7:00 Al Anon 7:00 Holy Thursday Service	30 GOOD FRIDAY 7:00 Good Friday Service	31 7:00 Pray Like a Man 8:00 Men's Bible Study

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Bryce Barnes
- 6 Judy Harford
- 7 Gordon Payne
- 7 Justin Reichard
- 7 Randy Hubbard
- 7 Shirley Glover
- 8 Madelyn Wetzel
- 9 Norma Polley
- 9 Sandy Rawlins
- 9 Sherry King
- 11 Jennifer Belako
- 13 Ruth Feltner
- 15 Logan Hayes
- 17 Sabrina Rippey
- 21 Brandon Bailey
- 25 Norma Burnette
- 26 Jim Davis
- 26 Karen Main
- 27 Jacob Nedza
- 29 Ben Holt
- 31 Ken Knight

Holy Week and Easter Services



Come Worship With Us!

March 25 - Palm Sunday

8:45 a.m. Worship with special message by Peter Vernimb

11:00 a.m. Cantata & Easter Egg Hunt following covered-dish lunch.

March 29 – Maundy Thursday – 7:00 p.m.

March 30 – Good Friday – 7:00 p.m.

April 1 – Sunrise Service – 6:30 a.m., followed by light breakfast

April 1 – Easter Service – 8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Allen & Betty Gardner
- 4 Colin & Kerry Meyer
- 23 Rich & Cathy Kaufmann
- 27 Jim & Earline Haney



Order your Easter Flowers

Deadline: March 5

Your name & phone #:

How many of each:

_____ Lilies

_____ Azaleas

_____ Hydrangeas

In Honor of:

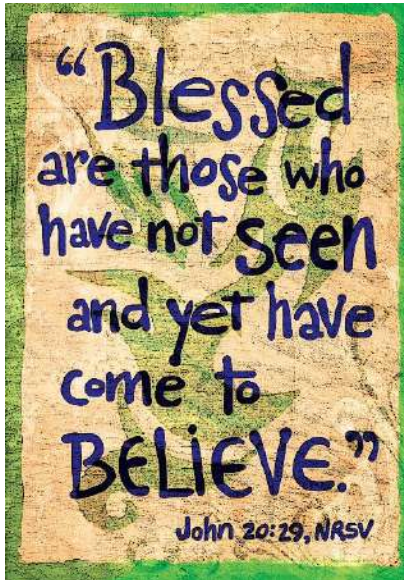
In Memory of:



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

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!!!!