ST. MATTHEW'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TOP 3 Sunday, November 15th

1 Christ's Cupboard

Join us Saturday, November 21, for our annual Thanksgiving Christ's Cupboard Meal Deliveries! We need volunteers to help deliver meals, with drivers leaving the church at 10:30 a.m. Bring the whole family, including the kids, for a fun opportunity to serve together. E-mail Kaye Herring at kayeherring@stm-umc.org for more information.

2 Birthday Gift for Christ

Birthday Gift for Christ family sign-up is now live! This Christmas, we have the opportunity to share God's love with families from MADCAAP and Trinity Mission Center who could use a little extra help. Your gifts will help make Christmas special for these families and remind them that they are loved. St. Nick Sunday is November 29! Grab a green bag, purchase the pantry and food items on the list, and return your filled bag to the church on November 29. Thank you for helping us share the joy of Christmas!

3 Madison Christmas Parade

Join St. Matthew's in the Madison Christmas Parade on December 5 at 9:00 a.m.! Wear your best 1950s outfit and help us share the love of Jesus with our community by spreading Christmas cheer. We need volunteers to help build and decorate the float, as well as children and adults who would like to walk or ride along. *We're also collecting candy to hand out during the parade. Please drop off candy donations in the church office.* For parade lineup details or to get involved, contact Laura Rivera at 601-624-9497 ASAP to ensure your spot! It's going to be so much fun!

In other news...





Thanksgiving Food Drive

Today is the last day to donate to our annual MadCAAP Thanksgiving collection! We're collecting individual boxes of Stove Top stuffing and 15-ounce cans of ravioli to help stock the MadCAAP food pantry. Please drop off your donations by November 15. Thank you for helping care for our neighbors this Thanksgiving! Questions? Contact Melissa Ragazzi at 601-540-7336.

Weekday Ministry: Now Hiring!

St. Matthew's Weekday Ministry is hiring! We're looking for caring, dependable team members who have a heart for working with young children. Join a Christ-centered ministry where you can make a difference in the lives of children and families each day. Interested in learning more about opportunities to join our team? Contact Cindy Casteel at 601-856-4860 or cindycasteel@stm-umc.org. Know someone who might be a great fit? Please share and help us spread the word!

Women's Bible Study

Location update! Women's Bible Study meets every Thursday at noon in **Room 116**. Join us for a time of studying God's Word, encouraging one another, and growing together in faith. For more information, reach out to Laura or Mary Beth.

Latest Newsletter

Check-in with us!

This Week...

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16
10:00 am Adult Art Class
10:00 am Flower Ministry
2:00 pm Senior Game Day

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17
1:00 pm Pillowcase Pals
2:00 pm Ageless Aerobics
6:00 pm Pickleball

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18
9:00 am Older Adult Breakfast
5:00 pm WNL Dinner
6:00 pm WNL Activities
7:15 pm Choir Practice

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19
9:30 am Card Care Ministry
12:00 pm Women's Bible Study
2:00 pm Ageless Aerobics

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20
1:00 pm Older Adults: Fantastic Friday

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Traditional Service
10:30 am Intersection Service
3:00 pm WAGS

ATTENDANCE FOR NOVEMBER 8

Traditional Service: 164
Intersection Service: 62
Online: 117
Total: 344

Sunday School: 119

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 8

Total Needed Weekly: $21,273
Received last week: $20,221

Total Needed Monthly: $92,183
Total Received in November: $43,965

Total Needed YTD: $957,285
Total Received YTD: $919,983

Total Budget 2026: $1,106,200
Total Debt Remaining: $1,047,089

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Kathy Helstrom
from Dave and Carolyn Mixon
In Memory of Alyce Palmore
from Algie and Shelia Broome
In Memory of Curtis Moffat
from Algie and Shelia Broome
In honor of Kaye Schloemer
from Dave and Carolyn Mixon

WNL Menu: Nov. 18th

Main Line: Baked Chicken **OR** Ham with Dressing/Gravy, Yams, Greens Turnip & Roll
Salad Entree: Turkey Chef Salad
(both of these come with side salad, dessert, & drink)
Kids Line: Chicken Nuggets, Pizza, French Fries, Dessert, & Drink

Join us for dinner at 5 pm & activities at 6 pm!

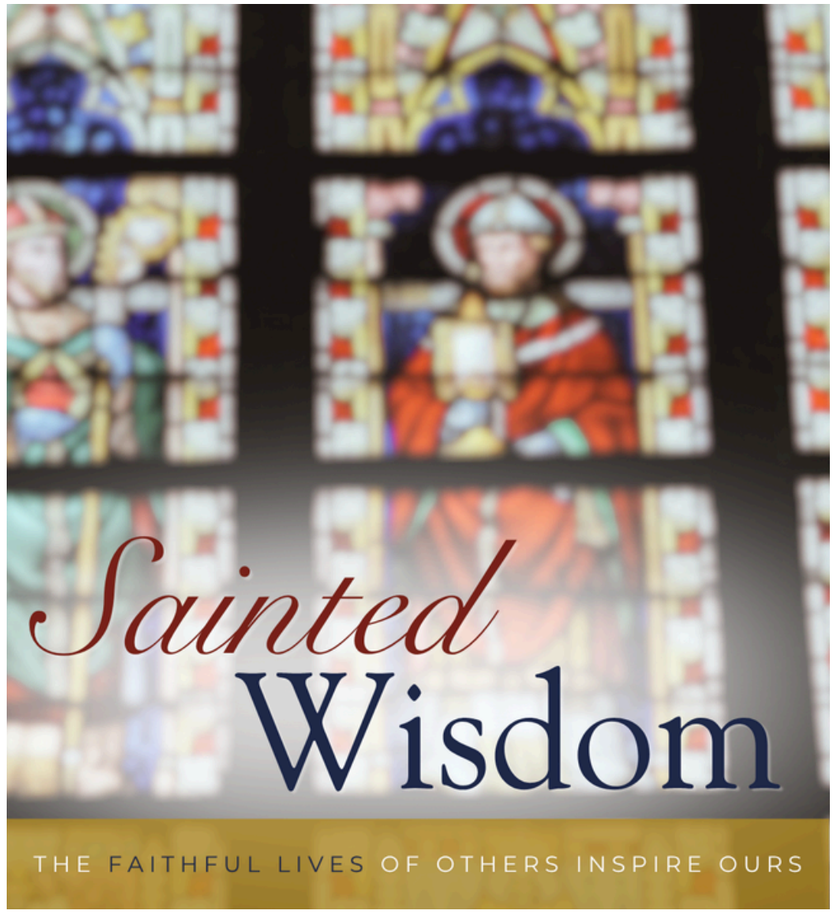
Order here!

The Staff of St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

Rev. Dr. Ricky James	Senior Pastor, ricky@stm-umc.org
Rev. Brian Johnston	Associate Pastor, brian@stm-umc.org
Rev. Mary Beth Davis Ashley	Youth Pastor, marybeth@stm-umc.org
Rev. Steve Casteel	Pastor Emeritus, brosteve13@gmail.com
Mr. Tim Rigby	Minister of Music, timrigby@stm-umc.org
Ms. Laura Rivera	Children's Minister, laura@stm-umc.org
Ms. Kaye Herring	Congregational Care, kayeherring@stm-umc.org
Ms. Cindy Casteel	Weekday Director, cindycasteel@stm-umc.org
Ms. Kim May	Financial Administrator, kimmay@stm-umc.org
Mr. Frank Laney	Organist
Ms. Allen Hart	Pianist
Ms. Ginger Trochesset	Intersection Worship Leader
Ms. Dot Bell	Kitchen/Nursery Coordinator
Mr. Michael Bouldin	Building Superintendent

ST. MATTHEW'S
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 15, 2026 *10:30 A.M.*



St. Matthew's United Methodist Church
7427 Old Canton Road Madison, MS 39110
www.stm-umc.org | 601-856-9581

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday | 9 am to 5 pm
Friday | 9 am to 1 pm

The Order of Worship

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude — Frank Laney, Organist

Call to Worship — *"Lord, We Praise You" - Lemonis/Mauldin*

We invite you to remain seated during the Call to Worship and enter into a time of prayerful preparation for worship.

Greeting and Passing of the Peace

*Hymn of Praise — *"Jesus Shall Reign"* — #157

*Cross and Light of the World

*Affirmation of Faith — *from Romans 8:35,37-39* — #887

Leader: *Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?*
Shall tribulation or distress, or persecution or famine,
or nakedness or peril or sword?

People: *No! In all things we are more than conquerors*
through the One who loved us.
We are sure that neither death nor life,
nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present,
nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Gloria Patri — *"Glory Be to the Father"* — #70

Glory be to the Father
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Call to Prayer — #186

"Alleluia"

Pastoral Prayer — Rev. Mary Beth Davis Ashley

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Choral Response — Sanctuary Choir

"Amen"—Moravian

Offering of Ourselves and Our Gifts

Offertory — Allen Hart, Pianist

*Doxology — #95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Offertory Prayer

Children of all ages are invited to come to the front for a special message for them. As they make their way forward, join in singing "Jesus Loves Me."

Children's Moment — Will Bardwell

Hymn — *"This Little Light of Mine" (vv. 1, 4 & 5)* — #585

Scripture Reading — I Thessalonians 5:1-11

Brian Pearce, Lay Reader
The Word of God for the People of God!
Thanks be to God!

Anthem — *"To Love Our God" - Hayes*

The Sermon — *"We Belong to the Day"* — Rev. Dr. Ricky James

Invitation to Christian Community

During the hymn, those wishing to join St. Matthew's as members, or professing your faith for the first time, are invited to come forward.

*Hymn — #206

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

*Benediction — Rev. Dr. Ricky James

*Cross and Light of the World

*Choral Response — Sanctuary Choir

"May the Lord Go With You"—Besig/Price

*Postlude — Frank Laney, Organist

The sanctuary flowers are given
to the glory of God and in memory of my mother
and my two brothers from Lucy Leverette.

St. Matthew's Joys and Prayer Concerns

November Prayer Focus - THANKSGIVING

Gracious and Loving God:
We come before You with hearts full of gratitude for the beauty of this day and for the gift of life that You have granted each one of us. Thank You for Your unending goodness, Your mercies that are renewed each morning, and for the countless blessings You bestow on us, often unseen and unacknowledged. Above all, we thank You for Your unfailing love and for the gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ, through whom we have hope and salvation. May our hearts remain thankful not only during this season, but throughout the year. Help us to walk in faith, serve others with love, and give You the honor and glory in all that we do.
We offer our thanks and praise in the precious name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.
"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever." – Psalm 118:29

Prayer requests remain on the prayer list for three weeks unless otherwise specified. To submit a request, contact prayer@stm-umc.org or call Kaye Herring at (601)856-9581. If you are requesting prayer for someone other than yourself, we respectfully request that you obtain their permission before placing them on the published prayer list.

New Members:
Jennifer and Sydney Williams, joined October 25 **Mary Dara Melton,** joined November 1

Those Who Have Lost Loved Ones:
Kyle, Barbara, and Evie Conway in the loss of his father, **Marshall**.
Pray for **Kaye Simmons** and family as they mourn the loss of little **Max**, son of **Wade (Kaye's nephew)** and his wife **Ashley Bush**.
Prayers are with **Connor (Bailey), Blue, Cole, Cooper and Renee Haywood** in the loss of **Connor's** father, **Tony Calvin Haywood.**

Hospitalization or Rehabilitation:
The Madison - Ann Koskie; Melba Bice; Kay Deville. **Nichols Center**-Frances Williams

Prayers for Our Church Family:
Mary Beth and Devon Ashley - Prayers as they prepare to welcome their baby daughter, Ella, in April 2027.
Ellen Axtell- Prayers for health concerns.
Lois Bankester- Continued prayers for relief from pain.
Denise Caracci- Praise that surgery is no longer necessary. Prayers for strength to resolve pain.
Betty Guess-Prayers for strength as she faces treatment decisions.
Susan Ingram-Pray for strength and comfort regarding treatment.
Frank Laney-Pray for strength and comfort as he navigates treatments.
Vera Pierce-Continued prayers for ease in recovering at home.
Lee Rawls (friend of **Lindsey Hilliard**) Health concerns.
Pam Smith-Prayer for effective cancer treatments.
Andy Traylor- Prayers for long term effective treatments; pray for strength for Marcia.
Dusty Womack-Prayers for her mother, **Margaret Thompson**, health concerns.

Prayers For Extended Family:
Heather Bailey (Denise Caracci) Prayers for strength and comfort as she fights cancer.
Eddie Harrison (Pam Smith's dad) Please pray for Eddie as he faces serious health concerns.
Fred Roundtree (Custodian and Friend to St. Matthew's) Praise for comfort and fast healing.
Elfie Sparks (**Gwen Ross's** friend) **Elfie** has ALZ and lost everything in the Clinton nursing home fire. Please pray for a smooth transition when it becomes available and guidance for her family.

Continued Prayers for These Loved Ones:

Beth Boone
Charlotte Boydston
Tommy Bryant
Barbara Calcote
Bill Goudelock
Jane Goudelock
Heather Haik
Justin Halliwell
Brenda Pollard
Brianna Lee
Colby McCormick
Suzanna McMahan
Ian Michelletti
Andy Neal
Jamie Perry
John "Butch" Phelps
Bill Pierce
Brint Park
Janie Pleasant
Red Pleasant
Billy Smith
Owen Temple
Margaret Thompson
Mary Margaret Upchurch
Lindsey Tatum
Jimmy Young

Prayers for Protection for Our Men and Women Serving in the Armed Forces

Joel Coker, Air Force
Collin Packer, Air Force
Alan Swan, ANG
Col. Stan Martin, MS ANG
Tanner Weissinger, MS ANG
Jake Currie, US Army
Caroline Grace Smith, US Army Reserve
Clayton Gressett, ANG
Eric Lee, ANG
Brett Roberts, ANG
Lt. Ricky James, US Navy Reserve
Maj. Brett Grantham, US Army Reserve