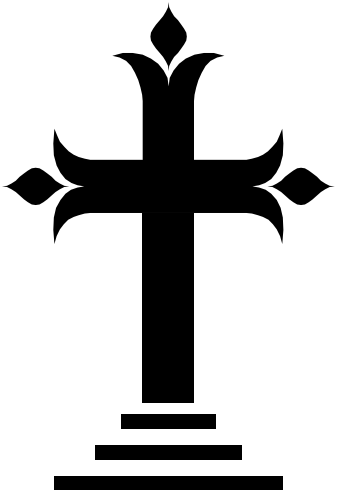
Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church



101 Saint Matthew's Lane
Spartanburg, South Carolina 29301
(864) 576-0424
www.stmatthewsepiscopal.org

Our mission is to preach, teach, heal and make disciples.

Sunday Service – 10:00 A.M.
Preceded by Christian Formation 9:00 A.M
Wednesday Evening Prayer & Healing Service – 6:30 P.M.

The Right Reverend Daniel P. Richards, Bishop
The Reverend Paul R. Abernathy, Resident Priest
Donna Simpson, Organist/Choir Director
Caitlin Roberts, Preschool Director
Michelle Pierce, Director of Communications
John Rhoden, Youth Ministry
Jane Bird, Church Administrator
Anna Channavong & Melissa Pellin, Nursery

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2026
The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
The Word of God

Please talk to God in silence before the service; after the service talk to friends

Prelude *"Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"*
by Bernard of Clairvaux and John Dykes/arr. Robert Sterling (2018, Robert Mathew Sterling Music)

Processional *"Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending"* Hymnal 58

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

The Celebrant says the Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

Gloria S-280

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the
Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: *And also with you.*
Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Reading Amos 5:18-24

The prophet warns those who place their hope of salvation in outward appearances rather than in pleasing God with righteous lives.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Amos:

Thus says the Lord, the God of hosts, the Lord: Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD! Why do you want the day of the LORD? It is darkness, not light; as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream.

Lector: The Word of the Lord
People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 70 *(In Unison)*

1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; *
O LORD, make haste to help me.

2 Let those who seek my life be ashamed
and altogether dismayed; *
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune
draw back and be disgraced.

3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back, *
because they are ashamed.

4 Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; *
let those who love your salvation say for ever,
"Great is the LORD!"

5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; *
come to me speedily, O God.

6 You are my helper and my deliverer; *
O LORD, do not tarry.

The Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

The Apostle Paul's message to the Thessalonians encourages them to understand that because of God in Christ, they too will be resurrected.

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians:

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Lector: The Word of the Lord
People: *Thanks be to God*

Gospel Hymn *"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"* Hymnal 314 (1,2) (3,4)

The Holy Gospel Matthew 25:1-13

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Sermon *"Get Ready"* Subtitle: *"Second Chances"* The Rev. Paul Abernathy

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.
Silence

Prayers of the People, Form III

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
Silence

The People may add their own petitions.
Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

The Prayer for the Calling of Our New Rector *(in Unison)*

Gracious Father, whose Word declares there is a season for everything and a time for every matter under heaven, we humbly ask Your Holy Spirit to guide the minds and hearts of our family of Saint Matthew's as we seek and choose a new rector. We pray You will help us receive a faithful pastor who will care for Your people and equip us in our ministries, such that we may continue to preach, teach, heal, and make disciples with joy and thanksgiving for the glory of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

The Confession

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence
Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Absolution

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Peace

All stand.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: *And also with you.*

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem *"Out of Love, He Broke the Bread"*
by John Parker & Benjamin Harlan (1990, Hal Leonard Corp.)

Offertory Hymn *The Doxology* Hymnal 380 (vs. 3)

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.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A BCP 361

The people remain standing.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: *And also with you.*
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: *We lift them to the Lord.*
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

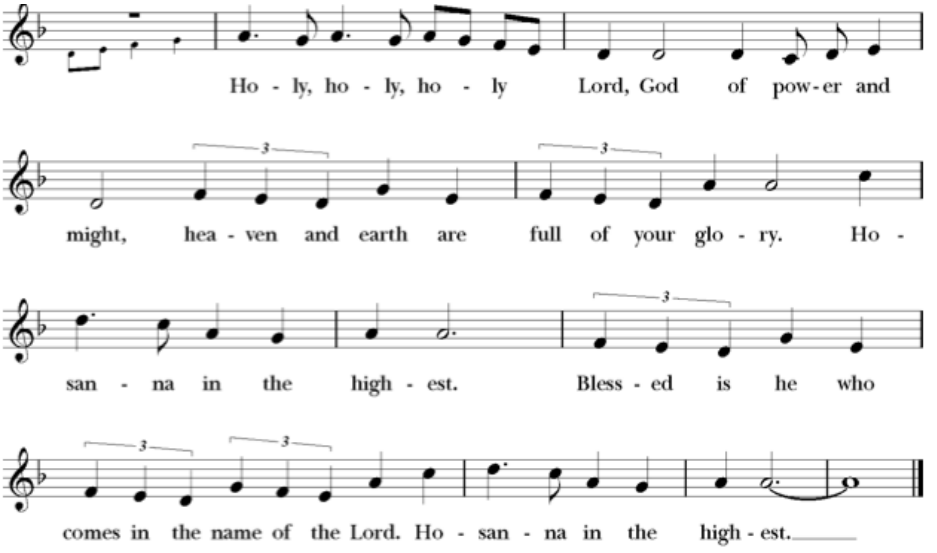
The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S-129



The people stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN*.

The Celebrant then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, BCP 364

People and Celebrant

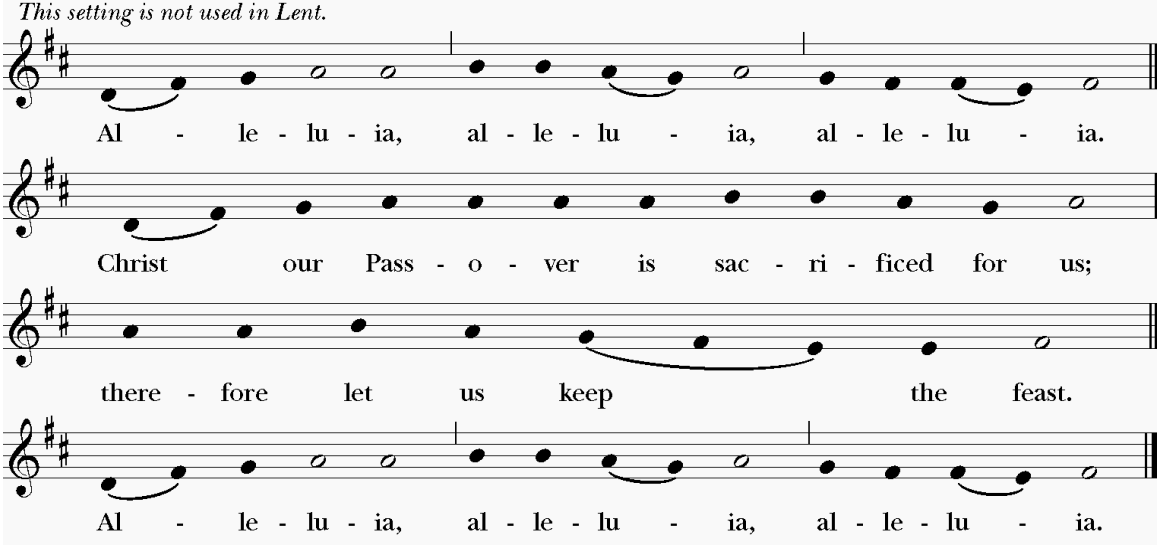
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the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

Breaking of the Bread BCP 364

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem S-154



The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Communion Hymns

"The Lord Will Come and be Not Slow"	Hymnal 462
"Before Thy Throne, O God, We Kneel"	Hymnal 574
"Judge Eternal, Throned in Splendor"	Hymnal 596

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

The priest blesses the people, saying

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, make you perfect in every good work to do his will; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Hymn for Going Forth *"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!"* Hymnal 436

Announcements

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People: *Thanks be to God.*

Servers

Eucharistic Minister (Vested):	Laura McGee
Eucharistic Minister:	Mark Simpson
Lector:	Halle Price
Crucifer:	John Price
Torchbearers:	Kate Price, Allie Fowler
Greeter:	Susan Englert, Grace Keller
Ushers:	Laura Timmons & Heather Yevcak
Streaming and Sound Tech Team:	Debbie Richardson, Doug Wishard, Randy Mathis
Vestry of the Month:	Laura McGee

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week:

8 Ena Stapleton
Sandi Fulton
9 Mark Smith
John & Halle Price (A)
10 Robin File
Michael & Cheryl Jacobson (A)
12 Jack Fulton
13 Dave McBride
Bucer Nickerson
14 Jane Bird

For a Birthday

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant as *he/she* begins another year. Grant that *he/she* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his/her* trust in your goodness all the days of *his/her* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For a Wedding Anniversary

O God, You have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church; Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants N. and N., that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:
St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Columbia

The Anglican Cycle of Prayer:
Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

CCLI# 1900048

SAVE THE DATE November 8, 2026

Nov 8 Sunday 9:00–9:45 Christian Formation: Preschool • Elementary • Teens • Adults
10:00 One Service
EYC at 5:30 pm in the Youth Room.
Bible, Bread & Wine w/ Father Paul at 5:30 pm in the Kelly Room.

Nov 11 Wednesday Holy Eucharist w/Healing, 6:30 pm.

Nov 13–14 Friday–Saturday, Diocesan Convention, Trinity Cathedral, Columbia SC

Nov 15 Sunday 9:00–9:45 Christian Formation: Preschool • Elementary • Teens • Adults
10:00 One Service
EYC at 5:30 pm in the Youth Room.
Bible, Bread & Wine w/ Father Paul at 5:30 pm in the Kelly Room.

Nov 18 Wednesday Holy Eucharist w/Healing, 6:30 pm.

Nov 19 Thursday, Chili Cook-off Fundraiser for our PreSchool! We're looking for silent auction items, and Thanksgiving desserts (fresh or freezable) that can be sold at the event.

Nov 22 Sunday 9:00–9:45 Christian Formation: Preschool • Elementary • Teens • Adults
10:00 One Service
EYC at 5:30 pm in the Youth Room.
Bible, Bread & Wine w/ Father Paul at 5:30 pm in the Kelly Room.

Nov 25 Wednesday Holy Eucharist w/Healing, 6:30 pm.

Nov 29 Sunday No Christian Formation at 9 a.m.
10:00 One Service, **Cupcakes & Holiday Wreath Making** afterwards in the gym.
EYC at 5:30 pm in the Youth Room.
Bible, Bread & Wine w/ Father Paul at 5:30 pm in the Kelly Room.

Dec 2 Wednesday Holy Eucharist w/Healing, 6:30 pm.

Dec 6 Sunday 9:00–9:45 Christian Formation: Preschool • Elementary • Teens • Adults

WORSHIP

Sundays:
Holy Eucharist, 10:00 am 'til October.
Christian Formation, 9 - 9:45 am.
Childcare in the Nursery, 6 mos - 4 yrs.
Episc. Youth EYC: 5:30 pm Youth Rm.
Bible, Bread & Wine, 5:30 pm. Kelly Rm.
Wednesdays: **Holy Eucharist w/ Healing,** 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary.
Every Evening: **Compline,** 9:15 pm. Live on St. Matt's Facebook.

SERVICE & FELLOWSHIP

Food Pantry & Free Medical Clinic:
Wednesdays: Welcome Clients, 9:30-11am
Contact Harvey Gloystein, 713-816-0112
Tuesdays: Setting Up for Wednesdays
Contact Heather Yevcak, 704-560-3905
Brotherhood of St. M's: 2nd Tues./mo 6:30pm
Women's Bible Study: 2nd & 4th Tues/mo.
11am, or 6:30pm. In the Library.
Daughters of the King: 2nd Sat/mo. 2 pm.
Choir: Thursdays at 6:30 pm.
Education for Ministry (EfM): Monday eves.
Vestry: 3rd Tues/mo. 6:30 pm, Library.

How to Support St. Matthew's with Online Giving and Beyond
Scan the QR Code or visit stmatthewsepiscopal.org/giving to donate online. Remember there are many ways to support St. Matthew's: pledges, stock gifts, online giving, or direct transfers such as Required Minimum Distributions (RMAs)

Parish Prayer List
Alex Garmise
Beth Boyd
Betsy Tolley
Carol & Doug Wishard
Cheryl & Mike Jacobson
Debbie Townsend
Debbye Edwards
Deborah Smith
Denise Cannon
Donnie Bird
Don Davis
Edith Webb
Ena Stapleton
Ethel Tortorice
Florence Donnan
Gail Stellar
Gene Halford
Geoffrey Thomas
Glyn Shackelford
Hazel Cannon
Hester Martin
Jackie Bailey
Jandy Williams
Jerry Bowers
Juanita Thaxton
Karen Garber
Kathleen Bonner
Kathy Miller
Kathy Wood
Katie Ponder
Kim Cope
Leesa and Phil Simmons
Lindsay Leaman
Louise Rambo
Louise Wickersheim
Maria King
Mark Smith
Mary Uhlir
Marie Urquhart
Mary File
Max & Angie Painter
Neil Thomas
Peggy Ewing
Robin Hayden
Sarah Arnold
Scott Garber
Shirley Gould
Steve and Sandi Spanitz
Susan Cherry-Casey

Expectant Mothers
Mary Geraldine

Babies & Families
Harmony, Amy & Steve Beckler
Louisa Miller Matys
Wendel Sullens

Friends & Family
Al Hipp
Dr. Arturo Riojas
Bart Owens
Bill Kerfoot
Boone Brooks
BrianYanaconne
Bruce Schneider
Carlos Anthony Frias, Jr.
Father Charles Smith
Charlton Sy
Charles
Chelsea Smith
Chris Solem
Christopher Oxford
Chuck and Pat Piazza
Cindy Holtzman
Dale Pretulak
Danet Peterson
Danielle Anne Baum
David and Nancy Church
David Morgan
David Sanabria
David Wright
Deacon Samuel
Dee Wolfe
Detra Peyton
E J Thompson
Ed Bloomfield
Elizabeth Greco
Emily Painter
Forest
Harriett Seabrook
Jackie Garcia
Jerry
Jing S
John Darling
John Dennis
Joy Hope
Joyce Ford
Joyce TD
Justus Link
Lib Hughes
Lisa
Lourdes Go
Lourdes Loreto
Marianne Beck
Maryann Yevcak
Matthew Garrett
Maggie Elrod
Mary Nelle Beckler
Michael Szlepcsik
Mildred Pretulak
Nancy Butner
Nancy McCart
Nancy O
Patti Hart
Patrick Albert
Paul Jones
Philip Watters
Rakim Jr.
Rich Turner
Ricky Ford
Rob & Sandra Brown
Robert Baker
Rocio Navarro Linares
Roger Go
Ronny Thompson
Rylan Buckley
Satoya Means
Saydet Didert
Steve Ford
Suzi King
Terry & Ronald Coleman
Thongbay Voravong
Tina Bain
Tom Archer
Tracie Powell Wilkin
Travis & Kimberly
Wayne Fisher
William Bracey

Military/First Responders
Evan Eleck
LT Anna Lee Van Abel
CAPT Baxter Murray
SPC Clayton Cole
PVT Courtney S. Detwiler
Jack Bankhead, Firefighter
PVT James C. Garber
CPO John Watters
Jordan Bailey, Firefighter
LT Joshua Van Abel
CAPT Katie Donnan
SPC Katie Villatoro
LT Mason R. Beebe, IV
CAPT Pace Murray
Lt. Rebecca M. Beebe
Officer Robert Molina
2nd LT Trevor Owens
Will Townsend
Kozimor Family

Missions/Missionaries
Drs. Ryan & Chelsea Porter
Roberto & Cameron Vivanco
Laura & Jorge Estevez
Education = Hope
Food Pantry
Free Medical Clinic
GoForth Recovery
Kairos Prison Ministry
Safe Homes
St. Matthew's Preschool