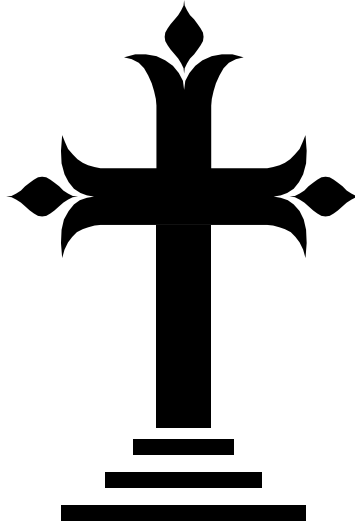


Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church



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.
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
Derek R. Langley, Director of Christian Formation
Lisa Fowler, Preschool Director
Michelle Pierce, Director of Communications
Jane Bird, Church Administrator
Allie Fowler & Melissa Pellin, Nursery
Allie Fowler & Melissa Pellin, Nursery**

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 19, 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 Paid it All”

by Elvina Hall and John Grape/Arr. Ortego and Schreiner (2002 World Music)

Processional

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

Hymnal 365

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

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.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things

which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Reading

Isaiah 44:6-8

As the Lord has promised, he will pour out his blessings on his chosen people and his Spirit will sustain those who have been faithful.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah:

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

Lector: The Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 86:11-17 (In Unison)

- 11 Teach me your way, O LORD,
and I will walk in your truth; *
knit my heart to you that I may fear your Name.
- 12 I will thank you, O LORD my God, with all my heart, *
and glorify your Name for evermore.
- 13 For great is your love toward me; *
you have delivered me from the nethermost Pit.
- 14 The arrogant rise up against me, O God,
and a band of violent men seeks my life; *
they have not set you before their eyes.
- 15 But you, O LORD, are gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.
- 16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me; *
give your strength to your servant;
and save the child of your handmaid.
- 17 Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; *
because you, O LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

Romans 8:12-25

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans:

Lector: The Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God*

Gospel Hymn *“Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace”* Hymnal 593 (1-3)(4,5)

The Holy Gospel Matthew 13.24-30, 36-43

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’” Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his

disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Sermon *“The Truest Heavenly Harvest”*

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.

Prayer for Spiritual Growth

Gracious Father, we ask spiritual growth for ourselves, our families and friends, and especially for our family St. Matthew's. Grant us growth in understanding and willingness to be your Body in this world. Empower us to live the mission of Christ: to preach, teach, heal and make disciples. In joyful thanksgiving for the blessing of your presence in our lives, compel us to share you with everyone we meet. May our numbers increase, our commitment deepen, our lives be joyfully yours. Make us a God-centered people. In Christ's 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.

A Recognition of Faithful Service

The Celebrant says

My Sisters and Brothers in Christ, we all are baptized by the Holy Spirit into the Body of Christ, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good.

Today, we give thanks to Almighty God for Kathy Amick, who, for 28 years, has served as our Altar Guild Director, faithfully – and with devotion, also guiding others in – preparing this our sacred space for worship. As she releases the blessed bonds of this ministry, let us all say:

Congregation: Well done, good and faithful servant.

The Celebrant continues

Today, we also recognize Beth Boyd who has accepted the call to succeed Kathy in this holy ministry as our Altar Guild Director. O God, we pray your Holy Spirit enlighten her heart with your love and strengthen her hands for your service, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Peace

All, as able stand. The Celebrant says

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

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

by Christian Bateman/arr. Carl Mueller (MCML,VI Carl Fischer, Inc.)

Offertory Hymn

The Doxology

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 you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power
and might.
Heaven and earth are full of Your Glory.
Lord we sing Your praise.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the
highest. Lord we sing Your praise.

David Dubay 1990, www.palmettopastor.com

Holy, holy, holy, Lord. God of power
and might.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the
highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Lord we sing your praise. Lord we sing
your praise. Lord we sing your praise.

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

A period of silence is kept.

Sung

Wonder Love & Praise #875

Cantor or Choir

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, { in the
The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus }

1. *Congregation* 2. *Cantor or Choir*

break - ing of the bread. Be bread. The

bread which we break, al - le - lu - ia, Is the com -

Congregation

mun - ion of the bod - y of Christ. Be

known to us, Lord Je - sus, { in the break - ing of the
ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus }

Cantor or Choir

bread. One bod - y are we, al - le - lu - ia, for though

Congregation

man - y we share one bread. Be known to us, Lord

Je - sus, { in the break - ing of the bread.
Je - sus }

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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

"Holy Ground"

We are standing on holy ground, and I know
that there are angels all around.

By Geron Davis (1994 Maranatha Music Pub)
Let us praise Jesus now. We are standing
in His presence on holy ground.

*“Lord of All Hopefulness”
“Come, Labor On”*

Hymnal 482
Hymnal 541

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 *“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”*

Hymnal 423

Announcements

Dismissal

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

The flowers at the Altar today are given by
Mary File & Family in memory of Francis “Choc” File.

Servers

Eucharistic Minister (Vested):

Shannon Parr

Lector:

Susan Pretulak

Crucifer:

Allie Fowler

Greeters:

Susan Englert

Ushers:

Amy & Eric Schultz

Streaming and Sound Tech Team:

Brett Reese, Shep Miller, John McArthur

Vestry of the Month:

Grace Keller

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week:

19	Kathy Amick	22	Pedro Rodriguez
	Aaron & Abby Pretulak (A)		Mary Uhler
20	Cheryl Neff	24	Jeremy & Katie Soto (A)
	Jerry Casey	25	Jennie Bulman
21	Steve and Sandy Spanitz (A)		Kimberly Fulton
			Sullivan Bishop

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. James' in Greenville

The Ministry of the Commission on Mission and International Concerns

The Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan

SAVE THE DATE

July 19, 2026

July 19 One Sunday Service at 10 am.

Children's Formation from *10 to Eucharist*. 6mo-5K to The Nursery. 1st-5th grade, Lg Classrm.
Bible, Bread & Wine in the Kelly Room w/ Father Paul at 5:30 pm. Text Lindsay at 303-870-2108 with Q's.

Jul 20-24 Full-Day Summer Camp, 5K - 2nd Grade, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Monday-Friday.

Session 8: Let's Camp Out, July 20-24

Session 9, Final Session: STEAM, July 27-31

July 22 Wednesday Evening Holy Eucharist w/Healing, 6:30 pm.

July 26 One Sunday Service at 10 am.

Children's Formation from *10 to Eucharist*. 6mo-5K to The Nursery. 1st-5th grade, Lg Classrm.
Bible, Bread & Wine Location tba, w/ Father Paul at 5:30 pm. Text Lindsay at 303-870-2108 with Q's.

Jul 27-31 Full-Day Summer Camp, 5K - 2nd Grade, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Monday-Friday.

Session 9, Final Session: STEAM, July 27-31

July 29 Wednesday Evening Holy Eucharist w/Healing, 6:30 pm.

Aug 2 One Sunday Service at 10 am.

Children's Formation from *10 to Eucharist*. 6mo-5K to The Nursery. 1st-5th grade, Lg Classrm.
Bible, Bread & Wine Location tba, w/ Father Paul at 5:30 pm. Text Lindsay at 303-870-2108 with Q's.

Aug 5 Wednesday Evening Holy Eucharist w/Healing, 6:30 pm.

Aug 6 Thursday, The PreSchool at St. Matthew's Fall Session Opens

Aug 9 One Sunday Service at 10 am.

Children's Formation from *10 to Eucharist*. 6mo-5K to The Nursery. 1st-5th grade, Lg Classrm.
Bible, Bread & Wine Location tba, w/ Father Paul at 5:30 pm. Text Lindsay at 303-870-2108 with Q's.

WORSHIP

Sundays:

Holy Eucharist, 10:00 am 'til autumn.

Children's Formation, 10 till Eucharist.

Childcare in the Nursery, 6 mos - 4 yrs

Episc. Youth EYC: Resumes August 9.

Bible, Bread & Wine, 5:30 pm. Kelly Rm.

Wednesdays: Holy Eucharist w/ Healing, 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

Every Evening: Compline, between 9 & 9:15 pm. Live on St. Matt's Facebook.

SERVICE & FELLOWSHIP

Food Pantry & Free Medical Clinic:

Wednesdays: Welcome & Assist Clients, 9:30-11am

Contact Harvey Gloystein, 713-816-0112

Tuesdays: Setting Up for Wednesdays

Contact Heather Yevcak, 704-560-3905

Brotherhood of St. Matthew's: 2nd Tues./mo. 6:30 pm.

Women's Bible Study: 2nd Tues./mo. 6:30pm.

Morning Bible Study will resume in September.

Daughters of the King: 2nd Sat./mo. 2 pm.

Choir: Wednesday nights 7 - 8 pm.

Education for Ministry (EfM): Resumes in fall.

Vestry: 3rd Tues./mo. 6:30 pm, Library Conf. Rm.



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 (RMDs)

Parish Prayer List

Alex Garmise
Betsy Tolley
Carol & Doug Wishard
Debbie Townsend
Debbie Edwards
Deborah Smith
Denise Cannon
Donnie Bird
Don Davis
Edith Webb
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
Kate Price
Kathy Miller
Kathy Wood
Katie Ponder
Kim Cope
Lindsay Leaman
Louise Rambo
Louise Wickersheim
Lynn Kerfoot
Maria King
Marie Urquhart
Mary File
Max & Angie Painter
Neil Thomas
Peggy Ewing
Pete Hulett
Robin Hayden
Sandi Spanitz
Scott Garber
Shirley Gould
Susan Cherry-Casey

Expectant Mothers

Amy Beckler
Mary Geraldine
Babies & Families
Louisa Miller Matys (grand-
daughter of Shep & Kathy)
Eliza Ruth, Deedee
& Graham Boyd

Patrick Albert
Wendel Sullens
Friends & Family
Al Hipp
Dr. Arturo Riojas
Bart Owens
Bill Kerfoot
Boone Brooks
Brian Yanaconne
Carlos Anthony Frias, Jr.
Father Charles Smith
Charlton Sy
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
Ed Bloomfield
Elizabeth Greco
Emily Painter
Forest
Harriett Seabrook
Jerry
Jing S
John Dennis
Joyce Ford
Joyce TD
Justus Link
Lib Hughes
Lisa
Lourdes Go
Lourdes Loreto
Lynn Fields
Marianne Beck
Matthew Garrett
Maggie Elrod
Mary Nelle Beckler
Michael Szlepcsik
Mildred Pretulak
Nancy Butner
Nancy McCart
Patti Hart
Philip Watters
Rakim Jr.

Rich Turner
Richard Ziegler
Ricky Ford
Rob & Sandra Brown
Robert Baker
Rocio Navarro Linares
Roger Go
Ronny Thompson
Rylan Buckley
Satoya Means
Saydet Didert
Stacey Latronica
Steve Ford
Suzi King
Terry & Ronald Coleman
Thongbay Voravong
Tina Bain
Tom Archer
Tracie Powell Wilkin
Travis & Kimberly
Trish Wilson
Wayne Fisher
William Bracey
Yostina Abercrombie
Military/First Responders
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