

## THIS WEEK

DEC 17:	8:00 AM – Rite I Worship Service 9:30 AM – Contemporary Service 11:00 AM – Rite II Worship Service 12:15 PM – Full Cast Pageant Rehearsal #3 3:00 PM – MCVN 5:00 PM – Seraphim Choir Rehearsal 5:30 PM – SNL – Middle School 7:00 PM – AA <b>7:00 PM – Lessons and Carols</b> 7:00 PM – SNL – High School
DEC 18:	9:00 AM – Harpers Ferry Hike – Middle School SNL 6:30 PM – ESOL 7:30 PM – Free to Live Small Group and Bread of Life Small Group & Falcon's Landing Bible Study
DEC 19:	10:00 AM – Staff to Johnson Center 6:00 PM – High School SNL Holiday Party 7:00 PM – EFM 7:00 PM – AA 7:30 PM – Band Rehearsal
DEC 20:	10:00 AM – Flower Guild 12:00 PM – AA 12:00 PM – Lunch and Pageant Set-up 5:30 PM – NA
DEC 21:	7:30 PM – Seraphim Choir Rehearsal
DEC 22:	7:00 AM – Flower Preparation
DEC 23:	7:00 AM – Flower Guild 7:30 AM – Men's Group 9:00 AM – Altar Guild Polishing & Set-up 10:00 AM – Final Full Cast Pageant Rehearsal 11:00 AM – LEM Training for Pageant 7:00 PM – MCVN and AA 10:00 PM – MCVN

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

DECEMBER 17:	Adrian & Daniel Mattina
DECEMBER 22:	Rusty & Jim Shilkett (50 Years!)

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

DECEMBER 17:	Erin Fano
DECEMBER 17:	Robert Steinman
DECEMBER 17:	Robby Davis
DECEMBER 20:	JR Franks
DECEMBER 21:	David Lathrop
DECEMBER 23:	Donna Gray

## ATTENDANCE

DECEMBER 9 & 10, 2017

Time or Place	Service	Attend.
Saturday 5:00 PM	RII	30
8:00 AM	RI	18
9:30 AM	RII	156
11:00 AM	RII	108
Faith Factory		62
Sunrise	MP	7

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

AS OF DECEMBER 3, 2017

Revenue Required for 2017	\$757,771
Revenue Received YTD	\$588,811

### Ways to Financially Support the Ministry Work at Saint Matthew's

- Online: [Go.stmmts.org/give](http://Go.stmmts.org/give)
- Download ACS Church Life App (Site #111141)
- Text 703-635-7890 text "\$ amount" Ex. \$100
- Bill Pay From Your Bank
- Offering Plate

### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### Saint Matthew's telephone and fax:

703-430-2121 (phone)  
703-430-2638 (fax)

#### Saint Matthew's web site:

<http://www.stmmts.org>

#### E-mail Us:

The Rev. Rob Merola, Rector  
[Rob@stmmts.org](mailto:Rob@stmmts.org)

Elliott Smith, Associate Pastor  
[Elliott@stmmts.org](mailto:Elliott@stmmts.org)

The Rev. Joe Gann, Assoc. for Pastoral Care  
[Jgann@stmmts.org](mailto:Jgann@stmmts.org)

Kevin Fletcher, Music Minister  
[Kevin@stmmts.org](mailto:Kevin@stmmts.org)

Ashly Townsend, Children's Minister  
[Ashly@stmmts.org](mailto:Ashly@stmmts.org)

Miriam Turner, Office Manager  
[Office@stmmts.org](mailto:Office@stmmts.org)

Aimee Plaisted, Bookkeeper  
[Bookkeeper@stmmts.org](mailto:Bookkeeper@stmmts.org)

#### Vestry:

Steve Buck, *Senior Warden*  
Darrell Breed, *Junior Warden*  
Susie Harding, Nick Hunter, Susan Jones,  
David Lathrop, Dan Robertson, John  
Thomas, Heather Tomaszek

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SAINT MATTHEW'S CHURCH

December 17, 2017

### Welcome...

...to Saint Matthew's. We trust you will find us to be a church of joyful worship, loving community, and vibrant witness to our Lord Jesus Christ. We could not be more excited about all that God is doing in our midst. We are grateful for this opportunity to worship with you today. We look forward to sharing our life with you in whatever way God leads – whether just this Sunday or as a long time member.

### Save the Date

December 17 – Pageant Rehearsal  
December 17 – Lessons and Carols  
December 18 – Middle School Hike  
December 19 – High School SNL Party  
December 20 – Pageant Set-Up at 12pm. Volunteers Welcome!  
December 23 – No Saturday Service and 10am Pageant Final Full Rehearsal  
December 24 Christmas Eve Services  
December 25 – Christmas Day Worship  
December 30 – No Saturday Service  
January 14, 2018 – I Have a Dream Potluck Lunch  
July 23-27, 2018 – Vacation Bible School

### Christmas Worship Schedule

#### Christmas Eve: December 24

- No morning services on December 24
- ❖ **3:00pm**, Christmas Pageant and Communion in the Parish Hall
  - ❖ **7:00pm**, Festival Christmas Service with Band
  - ❖ **9:00pm**, Classic Christmas Service with Choir
  - ❖ **10:30pm**, Carols
  - ❖ **11:00pm**, Radiant Candlelight Service with Choir.

#### Christmas Day: December 25

- ❖ **10:00am**, Peaceful Communion

### Intercessory Prayer List

The Saint Matthew's intercessory prayer list is for those in or related to our community who are in need of prayer. It is designed so that all members of our community can pray for each other on an ongoing basis. In order to pray for those on the list, simply ask God to be with them and help them in any way needed - God knows what is going on, so we don't need to. Please pray for the following:

Zader, Ken, Keegan family, James, Hugh, Sean, Kevin, Mona, Connie, Tristan, Shelly, Kathy, Marge, Kali, Shannon, Todd, George, Corinne, Barbara, Joe, Ryan, Frank, Frances, Jackie & family, Dan, Lorraine, Mac, Ayden, Brittain family, Vera, Jane, Candace, Vivian, Chervenak family, Camden, Earthquake and Hurricane Victims, Grace, Jack, Bill, Paul, Steve, Emma, Tristan, Jackie, Ruth, Brian's family, Liisa's family, Kevin's family, Steven's family, Ray's family, Jon's family, Hazel, Debbie, Betty's family, Mike's family, Andrew's family, Kristen's family, Bob's family, Chambers family, Genesis, John, Chelsea, Joanne, Alina, Rebeccah, Amber, Sheri, Lise, Louise, Fredrik, Rolanda, Colleen, Stacy, Laurie, Nicholas, Gary, Cal, Angie's family, Benjamin, Vivian and sons, Kathy, Patricia, Patti, Melvin family, Charlene, Marvis, Chris, Valerie, Charlene, and Ed.

**If you or someone you care about is in need of Pastoral Care, please do not hesitate to call 703-430-2121.**

### Requests for Prayer Shawls

To request a prayer shawl for yourself or someone else, please send a request to [barocon7@aol.com](mailto:barocon7@aol.com).

### **Sunday Night Live for Teens**

SNL meets Sunday nights in the trailer. 6th-8th graders are invited to join from 5:30-7:00, and 9th-12th graders from 7-8:30. We'll see you there for relevant teachings, life-changing small groups, wacky activities, and worship.

### **Financial Peace University 2018**

We are thrilled to announce that the members of our past three Financial Peace University classes paid off \$214,238 in debt and saved more than \$58,000!

Whether you are trying to figure out how to balance saving for retirement, college savings and vacations or you are struggling to make ends meet, FPU has something for you.

Are you ready to make a financial turnaround in the New Year? Join us for Financial Peace University on Thursdays starting in January. Free childcare is included. Register today at: <https://fpu.com/1053656>

### **Puerto Rico Mission Trip**

We always go to help those with the greatest need! St. Matthew's is looking forward to serving the people of Puerto Rico after the devastating hurricane season of 2017. Tentatively scheduled for the week of August 4<sup>th</sup>, we are working with Praying Pelican Missions, who St. Matthew's has worked with for over a decade on other mission trips such as Haiti and Belize. This will be an adult mission trip that will involve a variety of ministries including rebuilding and children and community outreach. Please email David Diegtel at [Diegtelsport@gmail.com](mailto:Diegtelsport@gmail.com) if you have questions or are interested in attending.

### **Backpack Buddies**

The next Backpack Buddies pack will be **Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7pm** in the Classroom on the Hill. We are also accepting donations of shelf-stable, single-serve pantry items (e.g. canned tuna, ramen, snacks, fruit cups). If you have any questions, please contact Hilary Hultman-Lee at [HLLearning@gmail.com](mailto:HLLearning@gmail.com).

### **January Sermon Series:**

#### ***And Justice for All***

Three things God requires of us:

1. To love kindness.
2. To walk humbly with God.
3. And to do justice.

But what does it mean to do justice? We all long for a different kind of world, a world in which every human being is fully loved and valued. But how do we create that world? Join us in January as we consider together the answer to this question--and what that asks of us.

### **WatCH - OT!**

#### ***Thursdays, starting January 4***

For many years now, one of the programs we have offered at St. Matt's is WatCH: Wednesdays at Church. This January, WatCH returns. On Thursdays!

Yes, you read that right. On Thursday nights starting January 4(!), we'll meet at 6:45pm for dinner with the Choir and Financial Peace University. Then at 7:15, we'll start a Bible study on "Following Jesus." We'll consider that Jesus did not so much as hand out answers as demonstrate an approach to life—an approach that is every bit as powerful and transformative today as it was 2000 years ago. We hope you will join us!

### **Knit 2, Pray 2**

The K2P2 group will not meet in December. Our next meeting will be **January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018** in the Classrooms on the Hill.

### **Flower Dedication**

Your dedications for flowers are welcome. Remember loved ones, honor birthdays, anniversaries, baptisms, or any special occasion. Please use the cards provided in the pews or advise Miriam in the office ([Miriam@stmmts.org](mailto:Miriam@stmmts.org)).

### **Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Schedule**

It's hard to believe that Christmas is just around the corner! That means it's time to begin preparations for the Children's Christmas Pageant. The pageant is the Nativity Story told in a creative and rhyming way through the eyes of a child. We had an amazing turnout for casting and speaking auditions and I am excited to work with this talented group of children.

### **Important Rehearsal Dates:**

**Today, December 17<sup>th</sup> 12:15-1:15pm:** Full Pageant Rehearsal #3 in the Sanctuary  
**Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> 10:00-11:30am:** FINAL Full Pageant Rehearsal in the Parish Hall (with risers/microphone)  
**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve 2:15pm-**children arrive to get into costumes 3:00pm Christmas Pageant!

If you are interested in volunteering or have further questions, please contact Ashly Townsend at [ashly@stmmts.org](mailto:ashly@stmmts.org).

### **Community Lunch**

#### **Saturday, January 13th, 12pm - 2pm**

Are you looking for a way to build relationships with people in our community you might not otherwise meet? You're invited to our next Community Lunch! Free to all!

Here are few ways you can contribute to this vital ministry:

- Attend – join us for lunch – meet our wonderful neighbors
- Donate children books - new or gently used
- Volunteer – (Greeters/Kitchen Help/Servers/Set Up/Clean Up/Kid's Activities/Displays)
- Bring a dessert to share

The 2018 Community Lunch dates are: Jan. 13, March 10, May 12, Sept. 8, Nov. 10  
Donations can be dropped off 9am - 11am on the morning of the luncheons. Have questions or want to be added to the volunteer list? Please contact Heidi Lathrop: [hlathrop@me.com](mailto:hlathrop@me.com)

### **Review and Update Your Account**

Check out the ACS Church Life app on your mobile device. You can update your contact information, access the church directory, review your giving, and even make offerings. You can also access the same information online at: [go.stmmts.org/myprofile](http://go.stmmts.org/myprofile).

### **Online Shopping**

Looking for a quick and easy way to support Saint Matthew's? When making a purchase on Amazon, use the following link: [go.stmmts.org/Amazon](http://go.stmmts.org/Amazon). Using this link will share a small portion of your purchase with Saint Matthew's. There's no additional charge to you. You can use the link and a scrip gift card to double your impact! Contact the church office at [Office@stmmts.org](mailto:Office@stmmts.org) for information.

### **Saint Matthew's Columbarium Niches**

The Vestry approved the Columbarium Policy and Regulations which govern the Saint Matthew's Columbarium. This created an application process for those desiring to be interred in the Columbarium. A fee of \$1500 is required for each niche, which includes a portion for long term maintenance. If you would like to reserve a niche, please see Miriam for an application packet. Applications will be submitted through the Parish office to the Columbarium Executive Committee for action and approval. Questions can be directed to Steve Buck ([stevbuck@aol.com](mailto:stevbuck@aol.com)) or Darrell Breed ([darrell@stmmts.org](mailto:darrell@stmmts.org)).