



# LIVING FAITH

ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

[www.stmatthews.us](http://www.stmatthews.us)

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JANUARY 2008

**CONGREGATIONAL  
ANNUAL MEETING,  
PART II  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 27  
9:45 A.M.**

**ALL CONFIRMED MEMBERS**

## **NEW CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2008**

The following people will steer our congregation this year.

President – Paul Laster  
Vice-President – Jerry Mays  
Secretary – Gretchen Wilcox  
Treasurer – Hugh Miller  
Financial Secretary – Pat Hartline

### Committee Chairpersons:

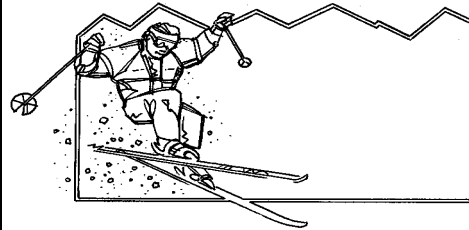
Worship & Music – Lana Capps  
Christian Education – Eileen Goldschmidt  
Evangelism – Brad Miller  
Social Ministry – Gretchen Wilcox  
Property – Keith Cotner  
Finance & Stewardship- Jerry Mays  
Day School – JoLee DeMott  
Fellowship – Sabrina Chandler

### Meeting Nights & Times:

Day School – 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, 7:30 p.m.  
Social Ministry – 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Finance & Stewardship - 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, 8 p.m.  
Property – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 8 p.m.  
Evangelism – 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 8 p.m.  
Fellowship – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 7 p.m.  
Worship & Music – 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Christian Education – 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 8 p.m.

**SR. HIGH YOUTH SEE THE SIGN-UP  
POSTER FOR THE SKI TRIP ON**

**Jan. 25 & Jan. 26**



**7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Ski Trip Sat.,  
Jan 26**

**See poster to sign up!**

## **GIFTS OF HOPE**

Our congregation supplied \$4,559 for gifts through the Christmas Market in 2007. These gifts went to provide: mattresses for orphaned children in Namibia, medical supplies for N Street Village, food for needy families and seniors through Community Family Life Services, medical supplies through N Street Village, books for children and GED supplies in support of Southeast Ministry, university scholarships through the Lutheran Church in El Salvador, special activities for residents at the National Lutheran Home, dental and prescription services through various organizations, just to name a few. Thanks be to God!

Gifts of Hope are available year round through the web site: [www.giftsofhopemetrodc.org](http://www.giftsofhopemetrodc.org).

**Men's Breakfast  
Saturday, January 19, 8:30 a.m.  
See the poster on the  
Bulletin Board  
to indicate your participation**

## Family Daily Prayer Resource “Bread for the Day”

This daily prayer resource is being provided to support personal/family devotions and meditations.

“Bread for the Day 2008” includes:

- Daily scripture (NRSV) with full texts
- A prayer for each day
- A suggested hymn from the ELW Hymnal
- Brief forms for Morning and Evening Prayer
- Monthly pages for prayer lists
- Notes on festivals and commemoratives
- A bookmark with helps to guide your prayers

Pick up a copy in the church narthex

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Copies of the LBW, our former hymnal are still available for you to take and use during devotions at home.

## NEWSLETTER

**REMEMBER:** When schools are closed there is NO Confirmation and NO Bible Study. Choirs will be notified through their calling chains.



### ONGOING MINISTRIES

**COLLATING:** 10:00 a.m., Fridays - January 25 [+ Annual Reports], February 22 [+ Day School Booklet], March 21.

**DAYTIME DRIVERS:** Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Thursday 10:00 a.m. – noon. Call 703/491-2898 if you are interested in participating in this activity.

**ACTS THRIFT STORE:** Noon to 2:00 p.m., Tuesdays, February 5 and March 4. Call 703/491-2898 for more information.

### BOOK GROUP

Have you been contemplating participating in this group? Did you resolve to set aside more reading time in 2008? Book Group welcomes all readers, and now would be a good time to sit in on one of these sessions. We are just getting back underway following the holidays, and we'll be selecting new books and meeting times and places at this next gathering.

On Sunday, January 20, 2:30 p.m. Sue Orndorff will facilitate discussion of Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen. We will meet for refreshments at Pat Victorson's home (12753 Quarterhorse Lane, 703-730-7449.) Here is the product description from Amazon: *surprising, poignant, & funny...that rare novel with a story so engrossing one is reluctant to put it down; with characters so engaging, they continue to live long after the last page has been turned; with a world built of wonder, a world so real, one starts to breathe its air.*

### HOMELESS PREVENTION SHELTER SUPPORT

St. Matthew's will be providing food and serving the evening meals at the Homeless Prevention Shelter the week of January 20-26. Please see the poster on the bulletin board to sign up to support this ministry.

**Financial Secretary and Treasurer's Report for December 2007**

**Giving summaries:**

<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>BENEVOLENCE</u>
\$ 99,204	\$14,531
<u>SAMARITAN</u>	<u>BUILDING</u>
\$ 3,347	\$15,155
<u>MEMORIAL</u>	<u>PASS THRU</u>
\$ 1,100	\$ 7,454
<u>TOTAL</u>	
\$140,791	

**YEAR-TO-DATE CONGREGATION & DAY SCHOOL \$ 870,136**

Giving for 2007 grew 3.71% over 2006.

Congregation giving ended on a strong note with most of our members and friends fulfilling and in many cases exceeding their '07 commitments.

2007 Benevolence distributions were as follows:

ELCA Metro Synod	\$97,344
Mission Partners (Joy)	4,450
Sister Congregation – Namibia	940
Lutheran Seminary – Russia	900
Lutheran Seminary – Gettysburg	1,695
Global Missions – Madagascar	700
Guatemala	700
World Hunger	4,943
ACTS	15,280
Samaritan	7,233
Lutheran Social Services	1,500
Shepherd's House	1,950
Fellowship Square	2,250
Caroline Furnace Camp	1,500
Campus Ministries	1,500
PWCC Drop In Center	2,508
N Street	600
Prison Ministry	600
Center for Immigration Law	1,800
Village of Hope	1,125
National Lutheran Home	450
St. Andrew's, Cairo	450
Designated Gifts *	11,393
Total	\$161,811

\*Includes Lazarus Project Sponsors, SCS, Gifts of Hope and additional \$1,200 designated gift to Namibia.

**NEWSLETTER**

In addition, \$1,000 was given from the Mission Fund interest to assist Christus Victor in the effort to acquire their church building.

God has prospered our congregation in our commitment to go, spread the gospel and care for God's children. Thank you for your faithfulness in giving. +

Financial Secretary                      Pat Hartline  
Treasurer                                      Hugh Miller

**7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth**

**Saturday, January 27 -- SKI TRIP TO BRYCE SKI RESORT. SEE SIGN-UP SHEET.** Meet in the church parking lot at 5:30 a.m. Bring \$?.00 for breakfast along the way, lunch, snacks, and fast food dinner on the way home. Ski rental and lessons are extra. Check the sign up sheet for prices. Snow tubing is also available. Sign up on the poster and put SNOW TUBING as the requested package. Tubing is \$20/two hours. Dress warmly, in removable

layers, if possible. Parents, we need a permission slip for your child if you do not have one on file.

Questions? Call Susan Kuhn at 703/491-2898.



**March 7, 8, 9 – SHEKINAH! SYNODWIDE YOUTH EVENT AT THE 4H CENTER AT FRONT ROYAL, VA. MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR MAJOR FUN AHEAD. WATCH FOR REGISTRATION FORMS.**

**SENIOR HIGH YOUTH**

**Sunday, January 20 – Serve Meal at Homeless Prevention Shelter, 5 p.m.**

**Friday & Saturday, Jan. 25 & 26 - Ski Trip to Bryce Ski Resort. See Poster to Sign Up.**

**Saturday, Feb. 2- Carnival Set up, 12:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, Feb. 3 – FASTNACHT! Be at church by 5 p.m.**



**Is Winter getting you down? Mark your calendar for the Fellowship committee's *WINTER CELEBRATION*, Wine &**

**Cheese Party, Sat. Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m. See the poster to sign up!**

### CHURCH WOMEN'S NEWS

**Monday, January 21, 7:30 p.m.** the Women's Evening Study Group will meet Monday, January 21, 2008 at Susan Kuhn's, 11911 Oakwood Dr., 703-491-2898. Birgit Ralston will facilitate the discussion as the group continues its study of *Blessed Are You* with Lesson 4: "Pure in Heart." *Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.* (Matthew 5:8) You're invited to begin a new year sharing discussion with this small group. Speak to Susan Kuhn or Sue Orndorff if you would like a copy of the study material.

**Monday, January 28 – Women's Steering Committee, at church, 7:00 p.m.** Join us as we plan for the rest of the program year and begin planning the Mother Daughter Tea.

**Tuesday, February 12, 7:30 p.m. Cookie Bake & Care Packages for St. Matthew's College Students.** Parents, please call the church office to update your student's current address. Please call even if the address is the same as last year. The church does not keep college student addresses from one year to the next. Please note that UPS accepts only STREET addresses (accompanied by a phone number!) for delivery. Any address to a PO Box or College Station will be sent via USPS.

**"Friendship"** will be the theme of the **April 4-6 retreat to Signal Knob.** Join us for a weekend of get acquainted games, large and small group discussions, a craft, and music. Saturday evening we'll enjoy a restaurant dinner followed by popcorn and a movie at the retreat center. Then, on Sunday morning, we will celebrate Holy Communion and enjoy brunch at Signal Knob. Discussion and other activities will cen-

ter on the characteristics of friendships and a celebration of those relationships.

The \$115 cost of the event includes food and lodging for two nights, hot showers and linens, and all craft and retreat supplies. You will need to bring extra \$ for the restaurant dinner on Saturday night. Look for a sign up poster on the church bulletin board. Call Sally Cotner (703/878-4716) for more information. We leave St. Matthew's parking lot at 6:00 PM on Friday night, and we return at 12:45 PM on Sunday afternoon.

### DAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION OPENS TO THE CONGREGATION

**Monday, February 25, 10 a.m.**

Registration is for the 2008-2009 school year. Classes are available for 3, 4 and 5 year olds; MWF a.m., MWF p.m., T/TH a.m., MTWF a.m. or MTWThF p.m.

If you have any questions please call Mary-Catherine Deadman, 703-494-3090.

**Registration opens to the public Monday, March 3, 10 a.m.**

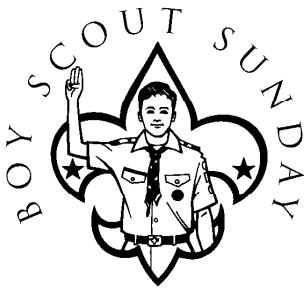
### Prayer Chain

Would you like to be a part of St. Matthew's Prayer Chain? This is a group of people who commit to pray daily for individuals in special need.

The Prayer starts with a request and is passed through the chain "Word for Word" so we all pray the same prayer. This is kept confidential on the chain.

If you are interested in being part of the prayer chain or if you have a prayer concern please call Pam Orr at 703-590-7568.

## **St. Matthew's Recognizes Scout Sunday**



St. Matthew's has a number of its adults and youth who are associated with Scouting. Both Boy and Girl Scouts celebrate their anniversaries each year, with Boy

Scouting in February and Girl Scouting in March. This year St. Matthew's will help recognize those anniversaries through Scout participation in church activities on each respective Scout Sunday.

Specifically, the BSA endeavors to develop American citizens who are physically, mentally, and emotionally fit; have a high degree of self-reliance, as evidenced in such qualities as initiative, courage, and resourcefulness; have personal values based on religious concepts; have the desire and skills to help others; understand the principles of the American social, economic, and governmental systems; are knowledgeable about and take pride in their American heritage and understand the nation's role in the world; have a keen respect for the basic rights of all people; and are prepared to participate in and give leadership to American society.

The entire month of February is set aside to celebrate the anniversary of Boy Scouting. Scout Sunday kicks off what is known as the Anniversary week, which includes the actual Boy Scout Anniversary Day, February 8. This year the Scouts of St. Matthew's will be participating in our services on Scout Sunday, recognized on February 10. If you have any questions about Scouting or would like to participate in Scout Sunday, please speak to Tom Bortner.

### **St. Matthew's Mission Endowment Fund**

St. Matthew's has established the Mission Endowment Fund to support congregational and community projects that are consistent with the ongoing mission of the church and to support the ELCA through its outreach programs and

## **NEWSLETTER**

Mission Investment Fund. The Mission Endowment Fund is intended to address opportunities for congregational mission and service that extend beyond the resources of the annual budget.

Our fund was established in 1998, received its first contribution in 2000 and has increased to its current value of \$23,457 through a variety of ways. The fund will accept direct and indirect gifts, bequest trust, or life insurance naming St. Matthew's Mission Endowment Fund as the beneficiary. It will accept gifts of cash, securities, gifts designated through third parties and (with Church Council approval) real and personal property. A gift can be made in any amount. All gifts donated to the fund will remain in the fund – only the interest earned is dispersed. In this way, your gift will continue to “give” for the foreseeable future.

The Mission Endowment Fund is administered by a committee of five individuals elected by the congregation. Those persons are Greg Brady, Sally Cotner, David Strand, Wayne Debban and Sharen Moessner. In addition, George Orr assists with accounting for the fund.

All financial disbursement recommendations are presented to and must be approved by the Church Council. Since the year 2000 when this fund was established, donations have been made to the following:

2003: \$250 to Roanoke College, \$250 to Caroline Furnace and \$250 to support Thomas Lowe's Eagle Scout project.

2004: \$250 to the Center for Immigration and Law

2005: \$350 to the Prince William County Drop in Shelter

2007: \$1000 to assist Christus Victor Luther Church, Dumfries, secure a mortgage for their new building.

If you are interested in helping secure the success of St. Matthew's mission in the years to come, please contact either Pastor or the Mission Endowment Committee through the church office.