

## **This Week at St. Matthias**

### **Sunday, December 28**

Lessons & Carols Service

Cookies & Fellowship

Red Bag Sunday

Church Offices Closed

9:50 AM Sunday School Classes – Sunday School Building

10:00 AM Lessons & Carols Service – Sanctuary

10:00 AM Live-Stream Virtual Worship via Facebook

10:00 AM Nursery Care – Sunday School Building

11:00 AM Coffee, Cookies, & Conversations – Parish Hall  
*Bring Your Favorite Cookies to Share!*

### **Monday, December 29**

Church Offices Closed

9:00 AM Count Team Five – Church Office

3:00 PM Tutoring with Linda – Sunda School Building

6:00 PM Claudia's Al-Anon Book Club – Library

7:00 PM Al-Anon Meeting – Library

### **Tuesday, December 30**

Church Offices Closed

Final Bank Deposit for 2025

9:00 AM Everyone's Counseling Center – Counseling Office

### **Wednesday, December 31**

New Year's Eve

Church Offices Closed

No Events Scheduled for Today

### **Thursday, January 1**

New Year's Day

Church Offices Closed

7:00 PM Al-Anon Meeting – Library

### **Friday, January 2**

Church Offices Closed

1:00 PM Altar Guild Team One Set Up – Sanctuary

### **Saturday, January 3**

Church Offices Closed

9:00 AM Stacy's Stamping Camp – Parish Hall

### **Sunday, January 4**

Epiphany Service

Children's Epiphany Pageant

Potluck & Fellowship

Church Offices Closed

9:50 AM Sunday School Classes – Sunday School Building

10:00 AM Rite II Service with Music – Sanctuary

10:00 AM Live-Stream Virtual Worship via Facebook

10:00 AM Nursery Care – Sunday School Building

11:00 AM Potluck & Fellowship – Parish Hall  
*Bring a Favorite Dish and/or Dessert to Share!*

## **Those on Our Prayer List**

### **Immediate & Urgent Prayers**

Josef Boeni

Joe Sturges

Anita Erickson

Mary Sturges

Jeannine Helm

Connie Tracey

Dolores Wilson-Malone

Vera Wilson

### **Parish Family Continued Prayers**

Tristen Babcock

Deidre Huffman

Edna Marcus

Rose Brown

Larry Lock

Olive McPherson

Esther Catino

Anne Luposello

Tracy Morelli

Mother Jane Clark

Diana Mahoney

Mark Nethersole

Michael Clark

Imantee Mallay

Sheila Seale

Hugh Dial

Stanley Mallay

Kayla Taylor

Robert Eyer

Nadia Mashi

Linda Thorp

Miranda Foster

CZ Mathews

Liane Trainello

Connie Gamb

Elijah Mathews

Sandy Unger

Michael Giallella

Isabella Mathews

Stuart Wilson

Beverly Green

Jackson Mathews

Anne Hollywood

Don Manny

### **Family & Friends Continued Prayers**

Mindy

Eyer Family

Eleanore Meade

Nathan Allabaugh

Cheryl Ferrell

Danny Nemeth

Anakin Boeni

Maria Figueroa

Felicidad Robinson

Isabel Boeni

Tony Flores

Autumn Rose

Danielle Chavez

John Gilbert

Sandi Rzepka

Deena Chavez

Brenda Kelley

Gene Ruryk

Ivan Davila

Frances LaCroix

Suzanne Ruryk

James Dorn, Jr.

Francine Lacroix

Les Smith

Mary Dorn

Una McLachlan

Kishma Thomas

### **Military & First Responders**

Jeff Blumenauer, U.S. Army Reserve

Nicole Blumenauer, U.S. Army Reserve

Vick Boothe, U.S. Army, Undisclosed Location

Delani Carter, U.S. Military Academy at West Point

Spencer Coole, U.S. Air Force, Charleston Air Force Base, SC

Greta Gaasch, U.S. Army Reserve

Lucas Freiberg, Federal Corrections Officer, Coleman Federal Prison

Jeremy Linney, U.S. Army, SOCOM, MacDill Air Force Base, FL

Tyler Mathews, U.S. Army, Iraq

Ryan Moore, Clermont Fire Department Station #3

Stephen Nettles, U.S. Navy, NAS Pensacola, Flight School

Luca Newby, U.S. Marine Reserves

Tyler Reece, U.S. Army, Afghanistan

Logan T. Wells, U.S. Marine Reserves

### **Those Who Have Died**

Dorothy Roth Treadwell, *Ehwood Treadwell's sister*

Philip Brabant, *very dear friend of Gustafson & Blume families*

**The Christmas Flowers and Greens are given to the  
Glory of God & St. Matthias Church**

**The Sanctuary Candle is given to the  
Glory of God & St. Matthias Church**

**CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED:** The Church Offices will be closed for the Christmas break beginning on **Wednesday, December 24, 2025, reopening on Monday, January 5, 2026.** The office will be closing at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, December 23, 2025. If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Fr. Jim Dorn. If Fr. Jim is unable to answer your call, please leave a voicemail message and he will call you back as soon as possible.

**RED BAG SUNDAY:** Please consider taking a bag this Sunday (or an envelope for a monetary donation) and filling it with a few of the items needed at the Neighborhood Center of South Lake. Red bags, monetary donation envelopes, and lists of needed items can be found at our Neighborhood Center Kiosk at the back of the church. These items help support the work of the Neighborhood Center of South Lake as they care for those in need within our community. Your participation is very much appreciated. Please contact Keith Whitacre (952.239.5870 or keith.whitacre@gmail.com) or Peggy Hope (352.429.9778 or rush1937@embarqmail.com) if you have any questions.

**OFFICIAL ST. MATTHIAS CANVAS TOTE BAGS – NOW AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE:** Sturdy canvas tote bags featuring the **St. Matthias logo and Love Lives Here design** are on sale for **\$5.00** each. Bags may be purchased on Sundays or through the Church Office. These cute bags make perfect stocking stuffers or gifts for family and friends! If you have any questions, please contact Linda Denslow (407.923.6423 or lindadenslow@gmail.com).

**2026 FLOWER & SANCTUARY CANDLE CHARTS:** The Altar Flowers and Sanctuary Candle Charts for 2026 are posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. **The cost for flowers this year is \$45.00, and the Sanctuary Candle is available for a heartfelt offering of your choice.** Please be sure to print clearly and include all the information needed for the bulletin: in memory of, celebration of, or thanksgiving for, name or names of who they are being given for, and who they are being given by. Please contact Hope Blume (352.394.3855 or hopeblume@stmatthiasfl1.com) if you have any questions.)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Sunday School will meet this **Sunday, December 28, 2025, at 9:50 am!** Please join us in the Sunday School Building just to the right of the Sanctuary. We don't want you to miss any of the fun. There is a lot happening this month and we're meeting every Sunday in December AND January! Please contact Karen Freiberg (703.862.2894 or freiberGs4@aol.com) if you have any questions.

**NURSERY CARE:** Nursery Care is available every Sunday in the Sunday School Building during the 9:30 am and 11:15 am services for all infants and children ages one month to three years old. Abby Giallella and Nicholas Crumbo are our amazing caregivers who create a fun, safe, and loving environment for our youngest church family members and visitors. Please contact Karen Freiberg (703.862.2894 or freiberGs4@aol.com) if you have any questions.

**COFFEE & CONVERSATIONS (Everyone is Always Welcome to Join Us):** Please join us **Sundays in the Parish Hall from 10:30 am to 11:00 am** for fellowship, coffee, and conversation. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet others and sometimes enjoy a few home-baked treats. All are welcome! Please contact Peggy Hope (352.988.7525) if you have any questions and/or would like to help.

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL (Everyone is Always Welcome to Join Us):** Adult Sunday School will meet this **Sunday, December 28, 2025, at 11:15 am** in the Choir Room. Please contact Dolores Wilson-Malone (856.625.1515) or Matt Mobley (407.267.2312) if you have any questions.

**GENESIS STUDY WITH JANETTE DORN (Everyone is Always Welcome to Join Us):** Please join Janette Dorn as she provides a Bible Study of Genesis Chapters 1-13 beginning on **Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 6:00 pm** in the Parish Hall. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall and/or contact Janette Dorn (352.235.5168 or jsmdorn@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

**VBS 2026 PLANNING MEETING (Everyone is Always Welcome to Join Us):** Please join Karen Freiberg on **Thursday, January 15, 2026, at 6:00 pm** in the Parish Hall to begin brainstorming and planning our next VBS adventure! If you are interested in participating or planning to participate, Karen is looking forward to you joining in and seeing you all at the meeting! Please contact Karen Freiberg (703.862.2894 or freiberGs4@aol.com) if you have any questions.

**HIGHSCHOOL FIT PROGRAM NEEDS:** The Families in Transition (FIT) program is currently in need of the items listed below. If you can help with any of the items listed below, please place them in the red rolling bin in the Parish Hall. Please contact Hope Blume (352.394.3855 or hopeblume@stmatthiasfl1.com) if you have any questions. Thank you very much for your continued support!

**warm blankets · hoodies · sweatshirts · jackets · leggings (gently used welcomed - any sizes)  
feminine products · hygiene items (any type) · shelf stable milk and food items · wet wipes**

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026:** Are you thinking about being a part of the VBS team? It's going to be great...God Loves You to the Moon and Back: Blasting Off into Outer Space. Below are the lyrics to a song we'll be learning. I can't stop singing it, so I have also included a link to a YouTube video to the music and movements. The kids will have a blast (see what I did there). Let's get movin' and groovin' together this summer at VBS. We will have our first meeting in January. Hugs and blessings, Karen Freiberg (703.862.2894 or freibergs4@aol.com)

**CELEBRATION**

Song by Forrest Frank

You, you, you, you, you know what to do (uh, huh)  
It's time to put your phone down and raise your attitude  
The God who made the birds, sea, sun, and the moon  
Isn't somewhere far away, He is standin' in the room (that's true)

So let it scream, let it shout, let Him know what you're about  
Keep it movin' and groovin', don't leave a single doubt  
That today is the day that the Lord has created  
Why would I sit around just waitin'?

Let's have a celebration (celebration)  
It's time to clap our hands and stomp our feet  
Let's have a celebration (celebration)  
If you believe that Jesus set you free

It's time to celebrate, ay, ay, ay  
Ay, ay, ay, ay  
Ay, ay, ay, ay  
Don't sit there waitin', let's have a celebration

Me, me, me, me, I need less of me  
Father, Son, and Spirit, that's who I call G-O-D  
I used to be a blind man until You let me see  
"That who the Son sets free," You said, "Is truly free indeed"

So let it scream, let it shout, let Him know what you're about  
Keep it movin' and groovin', don't leave a single doubt  
That today is the day that the Lord has created  
Why would I sit around just waitin'?

Let's have a celebration (celebration)  
It's time to clap our hands and stomp our feet  
Let's have a celebration (celebration)  
If you believe that Jesus set you free

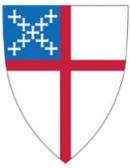
It's time to celebrate, ay, ay, ay  
Ay, ay, ay, ay  
Ay, ay, ay, ay  
Don't sit there waitin', let's have a celebration

Celebration (oh yeah)  
It's time to clap our hands and stomp our feet (uh, yeah)  
Let's have a celebration (ooh, ooh)  
If you believe that Jesus set you free (oh)

<https://youtu.be/QEc2dK3IG3c?si=okz3NNIb63QKrLym>

**Mark Your Calendars for the Following Important December & January Dates**

DATE	Day	EVENT	TIME
December 28	Sunday	<b>Lessons &amp; Carols Service</b>	One Service - 10:00 AM
December 28	Sunday	<b>Sunday School Classes</b> <i>Nursery Care Available</i>	9:50 AM
December 28	Sunday	<b>Cookies &amp; Fellowship</b> <i>Parish Hall</i>	11:00 AM
January 4	Sunday	<b>Epiphany Service</b> <i>Sunday School Epiphany Pageant</i>	One Service - 10:00 AM
January 4	Sunday	<b>Sunday School Classes</b> <i>Nursery Care Available</i>	9:50 AM
January 4	Sunday	<b>Potluck &amp; Fellowship</b> <i>Parish Hall</i>	11:00 AM
January 25	Sunday	<b>Sunday Service</b>	One Service - 10:00 AM
January 25	Sunday	<b>Sunday School Classes</b> <i>Nursery Care Available</i>	9:50 AM
January 25	Sunday	<b>Annual Parish Meeting</b> <i>Sanctuary</i>	11:00 AM
January 25	Sunday	<b>Potluck &amp; Fellowship</b> <i>Parish Hall</i>	11:30 AM "ish"



# ST. MATTHIAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Love Lives Here*

December 15, 2025

Dear St. Matthias Family –

We want to continue to be good financial stewards as well as good stewards of the environment, and as we shared in the past, we have found that many envelopes were either not picked up and/or not used over the last few years. The trends are showing less check and cash giving and more online giving, for which we are very grateful. As many have been giving through online banking and the St. Matthias online giving portal, we have decided to continue to do away with the traditional giving envelopes and use the same plan as the past two years.

We wish to accommodate everyone with how they would like to provide their giving and ask that you please return the portion below to the Church Office no later than **Sunday, December 28, 2025**. Once we receive your information, we will accommodate your giving choices. If we do not hear back from you by Sunday, December 28, 2025, we will assume you do not need envelopes.

Everyone's current giving number will remain the same. If you need a reminder of your current giving number or you do not have a current giving number, please let us know and we will provide the information to you.

If you would like to begin giving via the church's website at <https://stmatthiasfl.com/online-giving>, please feel free to contact us and we will be happy to help you.

Please read and mark below your preferred choice for giving envelopes.

- If you are giving online and/or prefer not to receive giving envelopes, please mark that choice below.
- If you would like to continue to receive giving envelopes, please mark that choice below and indicate if you plan to give weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annually. This will determine how many giving envelopes we provide to you (52, 12, 4, or 1).
- If you need a reminder of your current giving number or would like a giving number, please indicate below.

Envelopes and giving number reminder cards will be provided on Sunday, January 11, 2026.

Thank you for your financial support and prayers as we continue to share the mission and outreach of St. Matthias, as well as work on ways to streamline our processes, use resources wisely, and save money.

Love and Blessings,

*Hope Blume*

Hope Blume  
Parish Administrator

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**PLEASE RETURN TO THE CHURCH OFFICE NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

- Giving Envelopes **NOT** needed (giving online or providing my own envelopes).
- Giving Envelopes **ARE** needed (please indicate below **how many envelopes** you would like).

I/We plan to give:

- Weekly (52)    Monthly (12)    Quarterly (4)    Annually (1)

- Giving Number needed (new to the church family or have not yet received a giving number).
- Giving Number reminder (have a giving number, just need a reminder).

# Let's Talk SMAC

St. Matthias Ads and Classifieds

*Supporting & Connecting Our St. Matthias Family!*

If you have something to sell, or looking to buy, or a service to offer or one you're looking for, contact Karen Freiberg (freibergs4@aol.com) with all the pertinent information, and it will be included in our SMAC section.



## FREE

Vintage Ceramic Dog Figurines are free to a lover of Boston Terriers. Please call Peggy Hope 352.988.7525 if you are interested.

## IN NEED OF

We need a new or gently used oven to replace the current one in the church kitchen. If you are getting ready to replace your oven, and/or willing to donate an oven, please contact the church office at 352.394.3855 or hopeblume@stmatthiasfl1.com. Thank you!

## FOR SALE

Twin Daybed with Trundle, Metal Twin Size Daybed with Pullout Trundle on Casters. Comes with cover, pillow shams, and sheets. Must pick up. \$75.00. Contact Maxine Hylton at maxhyl1@gmail.com if you are interested and/or have any questions.



## FOR SALE

Wednesday Bible Study is selling hot/cold drink cups with all proceeds going to the a/c replacement loan. If you would like to purchase, please contact Anne Hollywood (228.229.6817) or Hugh Dial (863.557.8803). Cost is \$30.00 each and as you can see from the photos, they are beautifully handmade!

## ADVERTISEMENTS

**RYAN FONS**  
Ryan@livingthedreamvacations.net  
727-417-1915  
www.LTDVacations.weebly.com  
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## NYE Fashion Jewelry

Angela Smith

[www.nyefashionjewelry.com](http://www.nyefashionjewelry.com)

<https://shop.paparazzipremiere.com/nyefashionjewelry>



## Handmade Cards by Karen

Karen Freiberg

[www.handmadecardsbykaren.com](http://www.handmadecardsbykaren.com)

[freibergs4@aol.com](mailto:freibergs4@aol.com)

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Linda Bullen

352.516.3845

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