

Saint Matthew Today

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER AND PRAYER CORNER

At Saint Matthew UMC, we believe in open hearts, minds, and doors. Whoever you are, wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome here.

13 May 2026



Ladies Monthly Luncheon – This Thursday

“Advance Care Planning: What I Need to Know”

All are invited to join us for our Second Thursday Monthly Potluck Luncheon this Thursday. Come enjoy a time of fellowship, food, and meaningful conversation together.

Please arrive with food between 11:30 AM and noon. Lunch will begin at noon, followed by our guest speaker from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM.

We are pleased to welcome Susan Trump, a registered nurse with 30 years of experience in ICU and wound care. Susan has served with Texas Health Resources for nearly 20 years and currently works as the Faith Community Nursing Program Manager, supporting holistic and faith-based approaches to community health and wellness.

Women As Witnesses

Scripture: Luke 24:1-12

On this Mother's Day Sunday, Rev. Mary Teague reflected on the powerful witness of the women who first discovered the empty tomb and carried the news of Christ's resurrection to others. At a time when women's voices were often dismissed or overlooked, God entrusted them with the message of hope that would change the world. Their story reminds us that courage is often found in simply showing up, remaining faithful, and speaking truth, even when others may not yet understand.

Drawing from Luke's Gospel, the message explored how God continually works through people the world may underestimate. Women throughout Scripture demonstrated deep faith, trust, compassion, and perseverance, and the resurrection story continues that pattern. The women at the tomb became witnesses not because they held power or status, but because they responded faithfully to God's presence. Their testimony reminds us that every person has value, every voice matters, and every life can participate in God's work of renewal and hope. As a church, we are invited to live as witnesses in our own community by carrying Christ's love into the world with courage, purpose, and hope. Whether through acts of compassion, encouragement, service, or quiet faithfulness, we continue the work of sharing the good news. The resurrection is not only a story we remember, but a living promise that still shapes how we love and care for one another today.

Take Time to Reflect

- Who has been a faithful witness of God's love in your life?
- Where might God be calling you to speak or act with courage?
- How can we bring hope into the lives of others this week?



Kids' News

A Second Chance on the Road to Damascus



Have you ever met someone and already decided what kind of person they were before really getting to know them? Sometimes people can surprise us, especially when God begins working in their lives in new ways.

This week, we learned about Paul, who once opposed Jesus and the people who followed Him. Paul traveled to Damascus planning to arrest Christians, but along the way, he had a life-changing encounter with Jesus. After that moment, Paul's whole life began to change. He started telling others about Jesus and wanted to join the disciples in Jerusalem.

The disciples were nervous and unsure about Paul. They remembered the harm he had caused before his conversion and found it hard to trust him. But Barnabas saw something different. He listened to Paul, watched how his life had changed, and spoke up for him when others hesitated. Because of Barnabas' kindness and courage, Paul was welcomed into the community, and together they helped spread the good news of Jesus.

Sometimes people need someone to believe in them, encourage them, or help them feel included. Barnabas reminds us how important it is to be a good friend and to make space for others to grow and change. God's love can transform hearts and hope often begins when someone is willing to give another person a chance.

What We Learned

- God can change people's hearts and lives.
- Good friends encourage and support others.
- Everyone deserves kindness and a chance to grow.
- Small acts of love can brighten someone's day.
- We can help others feel welcomed and included.



A Word from the Pastor



On Mother's Day, our church reflected on a powerful truth through the sermon "Women as Witnesses." While history has often overlooked or diminished the voices of women, Scripture tells a different story, one where women are central to God's work from beginning to end. Throughout the Bible, women like Miriam, Ruth, Naomi, Mary, and Elizabeth demonstrate faith, courage, and deep trust in God. Most profoundly, the Gospels reveal that women were the first to witness the resurrection of Jesus and to share that life-changing news with others. At a time when their voices were often dismissed, God chose them to carry the message of hope and new life.

This message continues to speak clearly to us today. God still works through people the world may overlook, reminding us that every voice has value and every life holds purpose. We are all called to be witnesses, sharing love, offering compassion, and bringing hope into our community.

As we move forward together, may we remember that the same power that raised Christ is alive within us. Let us live as faithful witnesses, carrying God's love into the world with courage, grace, and hope.

Upcoming Events at Saint Matthew UMC

May 31, 2026 - Worship through Song Sunday

Join us as our service will be focused on singing favorite hymns and praise and worship songs! This is a new project for us, hosting a music only worship service whenever there is a 5th Sunday. Looking forward to singing and praising with you!

June 2, 2026 - Service of Commissioning and Ordination (Mary's commissioning service)

The service will be available via a live webcast for all others who wish to participate. Details are available at <https://www.htcumc.org/ac26>

June 7, 2026 - Church Cookout and "Bring a Friend to Church" Sunday

Come worship with us—and join us for lunch after church!

All are welcome.

