

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.

2 Sept 2026



A Word from the Pastor

I bring you peace and slightly cooler temperatures in the name of the risen Christ. Blessings to all and grace be upon you as you navigate your way through the continued dog days of summer. Just a few more weeks of heat and air quality alerts for the DFW area. I encourage you to remain inside during the heat of the day, stay hydrated, and join me in praying for rain!

What a beautiful service last week of singing, praising and sacred text. Thank you to everyone who participated in the service. To those who missed the live stream, please forgive us. Our internet service provider is upgrading internet service to this area of Fort Worth. The temporary result of this is a very unstable internet connection right now. The purpose for the upgrade is faster internet speeds with improved quality. Pray for these folks as they work through the 100+ degree temperatures to bring our internet service up to speed. Our livestream capabilities depend on internet speed, and our church depends on those of you who are faithfully watching every week.



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September is Stewardship Month! I am looking forward to discussing the many ways God has given us to take care of God's creation. I look forward to seeing all of you in person or online this Sunday. Join us for breakfast at 10:30 and if you are able bring a small breakfast dish to share with others.

I misunderstood the information I received last week about Winston's father. He was removed from life support last Saturday and has, in Winston's words, improved! We are all in God's hands, including Winston, Sr. and God will call us each home in God's good time. Continue to pray for the Kirkpatrick family as their journey in the healthcare system is not yet finished.

New Sermon Series: Stewardship: Living as People Entrusted by God

Stewardship is far more than an annual campaign or a conversation about finances. At its heart, stewardship is a way of life—a daily recognition that everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God. Scripture reminds us that we are called to be faithful stewards of God's grace, using our time, our abilities, and our resources to reflect Christ's love in the world.

When we practice stewardship, we acknowledge that God has entrusted us with meaningful responsibilities. Our homes, our relationships, our talents, our compassion, and even our challenges become opportunities to serve God and bless others. Stewardship invites us to shift our perspective from ownership to gratitude, from scarcity to generosity, and from obligation to joyful participation in God's work.

In the coming weeks, we will explore what it means to live as God's stewards—people who manage God's gifts with wisdom, purpose, and hope. Together, we will consider how our choices shape our faith, strengthen our community, and extend Christ's love beyond our walls.

May this season inspire us to open our hands, open our hearts, and embrace the life God has entrusted to us. My love to all. See you Sunday! Mary

Kids' News

You Belong Here

Have you ever walked into a room and wondered, “Is there a place for me?” Maybe it was your first day at a new school, your first practice with a new team, or a room full of people you didn’t know. It can feel a little scary when you’re not sure where you belong.



One day, Moses was taking care of sheep in the desert when he noticed something very strange. A bush was on fire, but it wasn’t burning up! When Moses walked closer, God called him by name: “Moses! Moses!”

God knew exactly who Moses was. God saw him and welcomed him closer. Moses wasn’t sure he was ready for what God was asking him to do, but God promised him something important: “I will be with you.”

Moses learned that he had a place in God’s story. He didn’t have to be the bravest person or have everything figured out. God knew him, God wanted him there, and God would go with him.

And here’s something wonderful about God’s story: there is room for other people, too.

When we know what it feels like to be welcomed, we can help someone else feel that way. We can notice the person who is sitting alone. We can invite someone to play with us. We can learn someone’s name. We can scoot over and make room at the table. Sometimes welcoming someone really is that simple. God knows your name. God sees you. You belong. And this week, you can help someone else know that they belong, too.

Family Challenge - Practice making room this week. Look for one person who might be feeling left out or unsure whether they belong. It could be someone at school, church, work, the playground, or even around your own table. Learn their name. Say hello. Invite them in. Then, as a family, talk about what happened.

Talk About It - When have you felt especially welcomed? How can you tell when someone might be feeling left out? Who could you make room for this week?

Read - Exodus 3:1-15

Prayer - Dear God, thank you for knowing our names and making room for us. Help us notice people who may feel left out. Give us open hearts and the courage to say, “You belong here.” Help us learn to walk in Your way, together. Amen.



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Sept 13: 9:30 am – Choir Practice

If you have a desire to serve God with your voice, there is a place for you in the St. Matthew Choir.

Sep 20: 10:00 am – South African

Pancake Breakfast - Served by our new friends William and Marie. Please notice that breakfast begins at 10am. You do not want to miss this experience!

Oct 24: 10:00 am - Coffee and Conversations Grief Support

Group In the church parlor. Coffee will be served. Please feel free to bring a snack to share. More details to follow!

Facilitated by Mary Orndorff, LCSW, LMFT, CEDS

*EACH OF YOU SHOULD USE
WHATEVER GIFT YOU HAVE
RECEIVED TO SERVE OTHERS,
AS FAITHFUL STEWARDS OF
GOD'S GRACE IN ITS VARIOUS
FORMS.*

1 PETER 4: 10