

# THE WIDOW'S MITE

*"...but she, out of her poverty, put in all the livelihood that she had" Luke 21:1-4*

## Interim Rector's Corner

The Rev. Susan Sloan

*O God, who on Pentecost Day taught the hearts of the faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit...Collect for Pentecost.*

Hello, St. Matthew's!

Though it has been a while since I last served as your interim rector, it feels like a comfortable pair of shoes! I am here to guide us through the "meantime" while the Spirit guides St. Matthew's to the next step and a new rector. My role is to be a shepherd for this flock and support for your staff. Your job is to continue to Be the Church for each other.

In the hopes that we truly may become one body in spirit and even renew some relationships, we will worship together in June and July. Beginning Pentecost Day, June 8<sup>th</sup>, we will have ONE worship service at 10:00 am on Sunday's. As you may know Pentecost is called the Birthday of the Church so we will celebrate with a potluck following the eucharist. The Sundays in June and July will be the same - one service of Holy Eucharist at 10:00 am.\* The Wednesday noon service will continue as usual.

My sincere motive about this change is positive. I ask you to embrace it with the warmth and friendship you have showered on me!

Many blessings,  
Susan Sloan

\*An added bonus will be a bit of respite for the choir, altar and support teams.



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## Interim Rector's Church Hours

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Interim Rector's  
Church Hours

Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 8:30, 11:00 and 5:00pm. and  
Wednesday Noon Eucharist

Office hours: Tues. and Wed., 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.

If you have a pastoral need or would like to set up an  
appointment, please contact Cynde at the church office.

256-864-0788 or [office@stmatthewmadison.org](mailto:office@stmatthewmadison.org)

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## St. Matthew's Prayer List Updates

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Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit; given them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring the joy of your salvation. (BCP)

St. Matthew's is a place of caring. It is both privilege and obligation to hold others in our hearts and prayers. We do this each time we gather for the Eucharist on Sundays and Wednesdays. We offer for God's healing the names of members of this church and those who have been given to us by our members. This is a good thing.

The problem comes when the communications stops there. Our list is stagnant because we have no news of improvement or change. We have neither an update on a condition nor an opportunity to rejoice in improvement! This is not such a good thing.

I am asking for your help if you have submitted a name to our prayer list, please let the church office know ([office@stmatthewsmadison.org](mailto:office@stmatthewsmadison.org)) the answer to these questions:

Who is the person on the list? Has the person you place on the list:

- Been healed or still in need the prayers of our community?
- Is this one's condition long term?
- If a member, does he or she need a call, a visit or communion?
- May we share this person's name with the Daughters of the King for additional prayer?

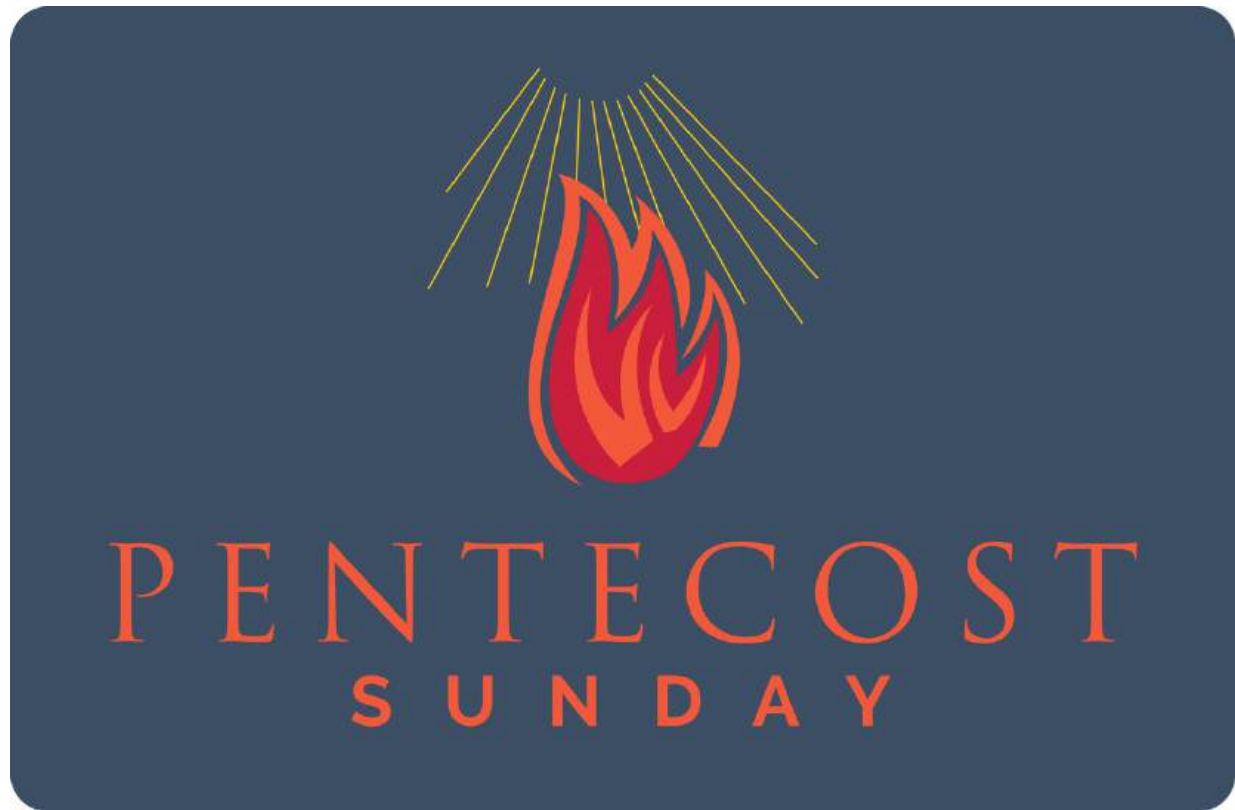
If we do not hear from you, we will give thanks for God's comfort and healing and remove their name. We believe our prayers are never futile. We just want to be ever faithful, not fearful.

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## Potluck Luncheon on June 8th

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Pentecost Potluck

Sunday, June 8

Following the 10:00 am service

It's the church's birthday and we are celebrating with a potluck lunch! Bring your favorite dish to share and join us in the Gruman Hall after the 10:00 am service.

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# Madison Community Volunteer Fair Update

by Rachel Wyatt

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## St. Matthew's Successfully Hosts 2nd Madison Community Volunteer Fair

St. Matthew's was abuzz with community spirit on Saturday, May 10th, as we proudly hosted the 2nd Madison Community Volunteer Fair (MCVF). The event achieved its primary goals: connecting with and serving our vibrant community and its invaluable organizations, while showcasing the heart and priorities of St. Matthew's.

The fair welcomed 14 community organizations, who set up engaging booths to highlight their diverse service opportunities. We were thrilled to see about half of the participating groups were new to the fair this year, bringing fresh opportunities to our attendees. Approximately 25 representatives from these organizations staffed their booths, sharing their missions and recruiting new volunteers. We were delighted to provide them with lunch, generously supported by a \$100 gift card donation from Publix for sandwiches, along with chips, cookies, and drinks from ECW. Over a dozen parishioners volunteered their time for setup, event management, and breakdown, with many more donating supplies for our service activities tables and concessions.

Through the event's Facebook page, a radio announcement, publicity via Rocket City Moms, flyers, social media content for participating organizations, local Facebook groups, an article and ad in County Line Living Magazine, and a large banner on Hughes Rd., we reached a wide audience. This robust outreach contributed to a significant increase in attendance, with approximately 200 people joining us – an impressive 50-75% jump from last year! Notably, an estimated 80-90% of attendees were non-parishioners, demonstrating the fair's broad community appeal.

Feedback from everyone including parishioners, participating organizations, and attendees was overwhelmingly positive. Many organizations expressed keen interest in returning for future fairs. The 2nd Madison Community Volunteer Fair was a resounding success, strengthening our ties within Madison and exemplifying St. Matthew's dedication to service. Thank you so much to everyone who supported this effort!





## Confirmation

# Inquirers' Class

Combined class for  
Adults and Youth in  
Gruman Hall



June 15<sup>th</sup>, June 22<sup>nd</sup>,  
June 29<sup>th</sup> and July 6<sup>th</sup>  
9 a.m.-9:45 a.m.

Confirmation will be  
August 24<sup>th</sup> with the  
Bishop!

# The Episcopal Diocese of Alabama Bishop Search



## BISHOP SEARCH LISTENING SESSIONS

The Search Committee invites you to attend a Listening Session this summer!

The purpose of these sessions is simple but deeply important: to listen. Your input will help create a Diocesan Profile—an honest, prayerful portrait of who we are, where we've been, and who we are called to become. That profile will then be shared with prospective candidates for bishop to help them discern whether they are called to join us in this next chapter of ministry.

Questions to Consider:

1. What makes you proud of your church, the diocese, or our mission?
2. What does success look like in the next decade?
3. What strengths are most important for our next bishop—and why?
4. What are your hopes and expectations for our next bishop?
5. What does it mean to be an Episcopalian in Alabama?
6. What are our most important missions?

### Questions or Concerns?

Email: [albishopsearch@gmail.com](mailto:albishopsearch@gmail.com)

## *In the* **NORTHERN DISTRICT**

**WED, JUNE 4 | 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM**

**TRINITY, FLORENCE**

410 North Pine Street,  
Florence, Alabama 35630

**SAT, JUNE 21 | 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM**

**NATIVITY, HUNTSVILLE**

208 Eustis Ave SE  
Huntsville, AL 35801



## **ZOOM SESSION**

*If you cannot make a session in-person,  
join us online!*

**THURS, JUNE 26  
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM**

**ZOOM LINK:**  
[bit.ly/DioAlaListeningSession](https://bit.ly/DioAlaListeningSession)

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## ECW

Melissa Barton, ECW President

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Thank you to everyone who helped with and attended the Farewell Reception for Chris Hartley and his family. It was well attended.

Our calendar for this year:

- June 11th: General meeting in Gruman Hall at 10:30am.
- June 21st: The ECW is planning a family trip to Burrett on the Mountain. We will meet there at 10am for a self-guided tour of the house and grounds. A picnic area is available, so bring a sack lunch. A sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex with more details. There is a small discount if we have 10 or more people.
- July 11th: No general meeting.
- July 20th: Ice Cream social and presentation from DAR and Miranda Cassell at 2:00 pm in Gruman Hall. She will be presenting their new program, "Obsolete, Odd, and Absolutely Ooky Stuff from the DAR Museum Vaults". The presentation is divided into four sections: instruments, toys, and other items for fun; items made from hair and bone; medical and dental tools; and objects used for bodily functions. Examples of old toys will be available for attendees to try out.
- August 6th: Board and Rummage sale committee meeting at 10:30 am in Christian Education Building Rm #1.
- August 13th: General meeting at 10:30 am in Gruman Hall.
- September 3rd: Rummage sale meeting at 10:30 am in Christian Education Building Rm #1.
- September 10th: General meeting at 10:30 am in Gruman Hall.
- October 1st: Rummage-sale meeting at 10:30 am in the Christian Education Building Rm #1.
- October 8th: General meeting at 10:30 am in Gruman Hall.
- October 26th: Rummage sale kickoff at 6:00pm.
- October 31 & November 1: Rummage sale.
- November 12th: General meeting at 10:30 am in Gruman Hall.
- November 16th: UTO ingathering.



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## Thank you from our EYC Senior, Sara Bruce

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Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for all the gifts in my senior basket! I am incredibly grateful for all the love, support, and guidance you have given me as I prepare to head off to college. Your encouragement has made me feel truly loved and confident about this next chapter in my life. I am sure that I will be able to do great things in the future! I promise to visit whenever I can, and I will always carry your kindness with me.

With much love and gratitude,  
Sara Bruce

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## VBS

BECOMING ONE OF JESUS'S SUPER FOLLOWERS

# JESUS LEAGUE

# VBS

## JULY 7-11

AT



**MESSIAH**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MADISON, ALABAMA

**PRESENTED WITH**



**ST MATTHEW'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
MADISON, ALABAMA

Details Online:





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## Musical Musings

Tom Killian, Music Director

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SHORT AND SIMPLE: Folks, we really need some additional singers in our St. Matthew's Choir – female singers in particular. Over the last year or so, several of our stalwart choristers have exited the choir through no fault of their own; and many of these will not be returning. In an established choir, such as we have enjoyed in our parish for years, advancing age (and illnesses or deteriorations which accompany it) takes its toll. A few of our singers have moved from the Madison area, and subsequently to parishes in their new locations. Others, who already live some distance from St. Matthew's, find it increasingly difficult to deal with the extended commute on Sunday mornings for services and Wednesday evenings for rehearsal. We have been blessed to have a few new members join us – and, surprisingly enough, they have all been tenors or basses. But one odd result of this “choral redistribution” has been that we are often starving for sopranos at the 8:30 service, yet aching for altos at the 11:00 service! As I have mentioned in the past, two of the primary duties of the choir are to support congregational singing of hymns and service music, and to present additional choral pieces (anthems and special hymns) as an extension of the worship experience. However, performing these duties becomes difficult to impossible in Sunday-morning services when only three or four choir members are able to attend. We need more of you to join our ranks.

Choir rehearsals are generally held each Wednesday evening at 6:30 PM in the Nave, and last for approximately one to one and a half hours. At a typical rehearsal, we prepare the anthem and hymns selected for the upcoming Sunday's services; additionally, we practice anthems scheduled for the four or five Sundays beyond that. In this way, singers will have ample opportunity to rehearse a given anthem for several weeks before we actually present it in a service. Joining the choir can be as simple as showing up for a Wednesday-evening rehearsal, just to give it a try. If you have additional questions, I'll be happy to address them; just send an email to me at my church email address ([musicdir@stmatthewsmadison.org](mailto:musicdir@stmatthewsmadison.org)). We really could use your help!



# Huntsville Community Chorus Association

**The Chorus**  
Huntsville Community Chorus Association

# Once Upon A Mattress

**Randolph Thurber Arts**  
6-7 & 13-14 June 2025 | 7 pm  
8 & 15 June 2025 | 2 pm

Music by **MARY RODGERS**  
Lyrics by **MARSHALL BARER**  
Book by **JAY THOMPSON, DEAN FULLER, and MARSHALL BARER**

*A Hilarious, Raucous, Romantic, Melodic Spin  
on the Classic Tale – The Princess and the Pea*

Online Tickets

Sponsored by:

Alabama State Council on the Arts  
Huntsville Arts & Cultural Center Program  
Huntsville Arts

This project has been made possible by a grant from the Alabama State Council on the Arts, and support from the City of Huntsville / Arts Huntsville.

**REDSTONE**  
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Huntsville Community Chorus Association

The Huntsville Community Chorus invites you to “Once Upon a Mattress,” a musical version of the classic tale, “The Princess and the Pea.” In this musical the swamp princess, Winnifred the Woebegone, has delightful answers to Queen Aggravain’s marriage test questions. If she passes the test, Winnifred may marry the prince. There are lots of wonderful songs, dances, and side-splitting shenanigans that will delight the whole family.

“Once Upon a Mattress” will be presented at Thurber Arts Center, Randolph School’s Garth Road Campus, June 6, 7, 13, & 14 at 7:00pm and June 8 & 15 at 2:00pm. Tickets are \$27 for Adults, \$25 for Military and Seniors, and \$20 for students PreK-Grade 12. To order tickets go to [www.thechorus.org](http://www.thechorus.org). For group rates email [info@thechorus.org](mailto:info@thechorus.org).



## Youth Group News

Jann Eich, Youth Director



# EYC SUMMER SCHEDULE

**SUNDAY, MAY 18<sup>TH</sup>**- LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL. 10 A.M. AMY WEST HOUSE END OF YEAR PARTY!!

**FRIDAY, MAY 23<sup>RD</sup>**-EYC SUMMER KICK OFF-GRUMAN HALL 6-8 PM RSVP

**MAY 31<sup>ST</sup>- JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup>**-MRS. JANN WILL BE AT CAMP MCDOWELL WITH THE YOUTH DEPARTMENT MIDDLE SCHOOL GROUP (7<sup>TH</sup>-9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE)

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11<sup>TH</sup>** TRASH PANDA EYC EVENT! GAMES START AT 6:45 PM RSVP

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup> 10:00 A.M. UNTIL 4:00 PM** ORGANIZE AND DESIGN AMY WEST HOUSE. LUNCH PROVIDED! RSVP

**JULY 7<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH JULY 11<sup>TH</sup>**- VBS! EYC CAN SIGN UP TO HELP!

**SUNDAY, JULY 27<sup>TH</sup> AFTER THE 10 A.M.** SERVICE GATHER FOR LUNCH AND FUN!

**CONFIRMATION WITH THE BISHOP AUGUST 24<sup>TH</sup>.** PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE CONFIRMED!

More Dates  
in June and  
July may be  
added!



## Youth Group News

Jann Eich, Youth Director

# EYC Trash Panda Game!



June 11<sup>th</sup> Game Starts at 6:45 pm rsvp for tickets. I have 10 but can order more if needed (by May 31st)



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## Prayer Requests

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Please pray for St. Matthew's members who are distressed in body, mind, or spirit:

Bill Byrd, Chuck, Lorna, and Roy Vickers, Dottie Aldredge, Gina Centanni, Terry Schuster, David Osmond, Anna Post, Bev Ryberg, David Newton, Jane Prince, Mary Travers, Anne Sullivan, Judy Elkins, Lynda Johnston, Bob & Eileen Bogard, Roger & Rhoda Kitchen, Brenda Kirkendall, Chris King, Eileen Lewis, Molly Killian, Mona Candia, Trudie Gruman, Ray and Shirley White, George and Sandra Burgess, Norm Smith, Keith Ulrich, Tyron Newton, Clarissa Dozier, Andy Williams, Carmen M. Colon.

Also pray for our friends and family members, especially:

Brenda Anderson, Diana Parks, Martha Bergmann, Chuck Sewell, Wes Patterson, Mike Rice, Richard Hattoway, Jenny Williams, Rosie Brown, Cooper, Jewell Newton, Ginger Eich, Catherine S. Williams, Joe Allen, Caroline Thomas, Elyssa Nelson, Vaughn Cassell, Bill Fischer, Sally Flanigan, Theresa Richerson, Scott Marbut, Todd Newman, Cathy Taveras, Fran Woytowich, BB McCalpin, Stephen Byrd, Bronwen Murray, Katie Ray, Sherry Sampson, Joe Frank Trevino, Emmy & Drew Champion, Ron Mandelbaum, Dave Knowles, Wade Allen, Emily Nebrig, Bobby Paysinger, Barbara Lemley, Steve Sands, Felicia Temple, John David Landin, Mike Bolton, Dr. Mark Bronner, Ashley Jenkins, Mileena-Haley Painter, Zach Guidry, Rachelle & Kevin Painter, Kim East, John Freedman, Mark Anderson, Judy Tuck, Kathleen Glor, Ann Reid Cronin, Elizabeth Hodges, Jill Kanuchok, Mike Mumfrey, Joyce Lewis, Allan Scott, Jim Bob Cox, Christine Van Dyke, Christopher Taveras, Mike and Suzette Rice, Vaughn Cassell, Rita Mayo, Shannon Carpenter.

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## Huntsville Assistance Program

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# June Readings

June 1



June 8



June 15



June 22



June 29



## June 2025 Worship Team Schedule

	June 1	June 1
	8:30 am	11:00 am
Vestry of the Day	Dennis Utt	
Altar Guild	Al Turner	Stacey Bagwell
Ushers	Angel Utt/Dennis Utt	Michael Harrison/Nancy Snell
LEM	Terry Christopher/Walt Christopher	Karen Price/Shelia Weaver
Lector	Andy Williams	Jeanne Anderson
Epistoler	Melanie Pezzula	Paul Marques
Intercessor	Terry Sampson	Patty McGraw
Crucifer	Natalie Lapacek-Trout	Samantha Jones
Gospeler	J. Glasgow	V. Mullins
Torch Bearer	M. Pezzula	B. Watson
Torch Bearer	S. Pezzula	B. Mullins
Counter	Kathy Modrall/Cindy Byrd	Melissa Barton/Sherry Cox
Hospitality	Mary Brown	Melanie Pezzula
Nursery	M Brown/A Anderson	M Brown/A Anderson

	June 8	June 15	June 22	June 29
	10:00 am	10:00 am	10:00 am	10:00 am
Vestry of the Day	David Burns	Randy Cenntani	Carla Stagner	Jeff Anderson
Altar Guild	K. Barr/S. Cape/K. Price	K. Barr/B. Combs/G. Lo	K. Barr/C. Glasgow/S. Bagwell	K. Barr/A. Turner/K. Price
Ushers	Jeff Anderson/Ray Cassell	Dan Prince/Michael Barton	R. Sampson/A. Abercrombie	Carla Stagner/Brian Buzby
LEM	Kathy Barr/Jason Vaughn	Andy Williams/Bobby Williams	Shelia Weaver/Jean Brown	Kristie Scheuer/Sande Smith
Lector	Chips Lanier	Alfred Modrall	Walt Christopher	Jeff Anderson
Epistoler	Alinda Coiner	Natalie Lapacek-Trout	Jim Salmon	Michael Harrison
Intercessor	Lynn Lanier	Angel Utt	Susan Fletcher	Beau Womack
Crucifer	C Bagwell	C. Beech	S. Bruce	A. Maddox
Gospeler	A. Utt	S. Jones	E. Bruce	E. Maddox
Torch Bearer	A. Wyatt	A. Maddox	N. Rasmussen	M. Pezzula
Torch Bearer	B. Watson	E. Maddox	M. Rasmussen	S. Pezzula
Counter	H. Tidwell/R. Driesbach	W. Christopher/P. Lewis	J. Brown/M. Harrison	S. Cox/A. Coiner
Hospitality	Mary Brown	Becky Hamilton	Janice Glor	Donna Kleinjung
Nursery	M Brown/A Anderson	M Brown/A Anderson	M Brown/A Anderson	M Brown/A Anderson



## June 2025 Church Calendar

### Weekly Recurring Events

Sunday  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist

Monday  
8:30 am - Reunion Group Prayer - Gruman Hall  
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm Scouts BSA #628

Tuesday  
7:00 am - 9:00 am Men's Breakfast

Wednesday  
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Noon Eucharist  
6:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal

Thursday  
9:30 am - 11:00 am Ladies Bible Study

Friday  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm Church Cleaning



### Other Scheduled Events

Sunday, June 1 - Rector Search Committee meeting at 3:30 pm in Christian Education Rm #1

Wednesday, June 4 - Staff Meeting at 10:00 am in Gruman Hall

Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup> - Heart and Soil at 9:00 am

Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> - Potluck luncheon at 11:15 am in Gruman Hall

Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup> - Sewing Sisters at 9:00 am in Gruman Hall

Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> - EYC at Trash Panda game at 6:45 pm

Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup> - Madison Guild at 4:00 pm in Gruman Hall

Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup> - Madison Guild (Barn Paint Class at 9:00 am in Christian Ed. Rm #1

Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup> - Inquirers Class at 9:00 am in Gruman Hall

Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup> - Reception for Lauren Eich at 11:15 am in Gruman Hall

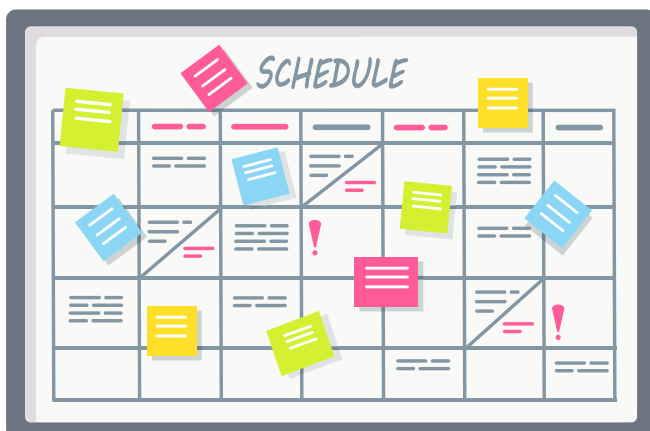
Tuesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> - Vestry Meeting at 6:30 pm in Christian Education Rm #1

Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup> - Newsletter Deadline

Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> - ECW Burrett on the Mountain Family trip

Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup> - Inquirers Class at 9:00 am in Gruman Hall

## Scheduling of Meeting Space



Please contact Cynde in the church office to reserve a meeting space. All meetings must be scheduled through the church office. Additionally, kindly check the online church calendar on our website before any early setups for your events to avoid conflicting usage of a space. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Thank you!