

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

Rev. Susan Sloan

Tis the season...

October is football season. It's always a time of much excitement and anticipation.

There is such hope in the air! Anything can happen in the coming months to make this a successful year for the team we support. All over the country, especially in Alabama, we prepare for a good showing. All the right pieces are in place- the players, the schedule, the stadium; all you have to do is buy a ticket!



October is hurricane season. This a time of great anxiety and fretful concern. My sister lived on Mobile Bay for twenty years. She watched the weather as if her life depended on it. Of course, in some ways it did since the movement of a hurricane was out of her control and the possibility of defeat was always there. She replaced too many pieces- piers, yards, rooms- not to know the fear of losing that game. All she could do was watch and worry; she couldn't even buy insurance!

October is also stewardship season- and it can go either way! We can look forward with excitement and anticipation or watch with anxiety and concern. Who will buy a ticket to the game? Who will worry about spending the money? Only you know the answer! Sewanee's famed football coach, Willie Six had a great response. For forty years he pledged his very best to Sewanee; he gave his all. A reporter asked Willie at the time of his retirement, what was the best year in Sewanee athletic history. Willie had seen many magical moments, marvelous teams and messy defeats, but he answered without hesitation, "the best year? The best year is the one coming up." Without denying, demeaning or deifying the past, Willie spent his life looking forward. What was was, what will be is up to us.

Let's make this truth a reality: "The best year is the one coming up!"

Susan

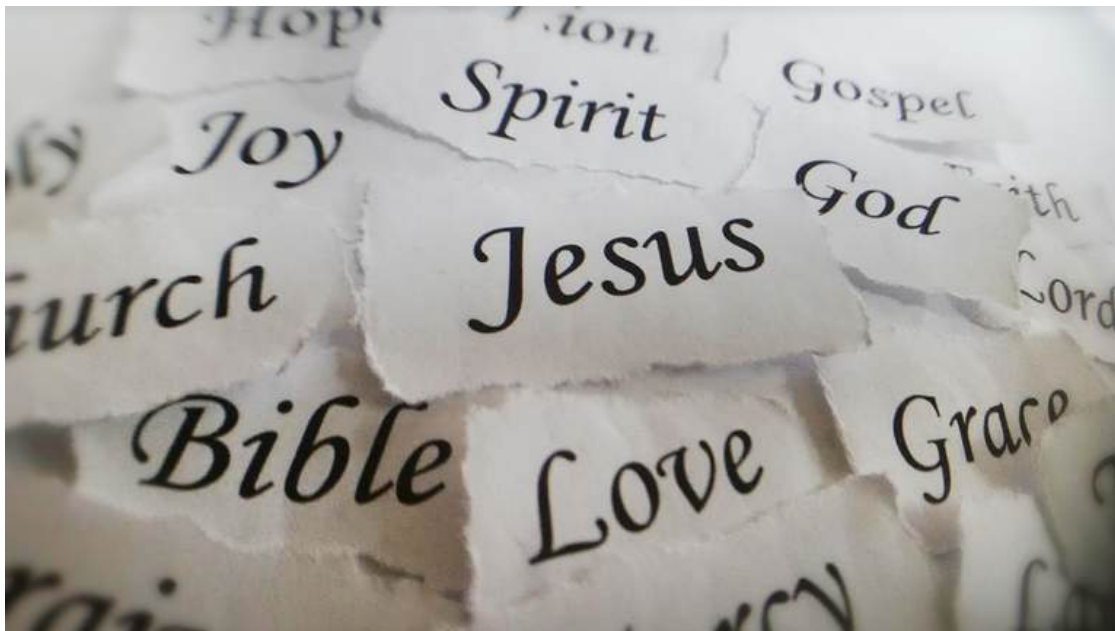
Christian Formation

Jen Woytowich - Christian Formation Director

WELCOME ABOARD! From Rev. Sloan

I have a particular appreciation for the work of a Christian Formation Director. That ministry prepared me for seminary and the priesthood. I look back on it with fondness and sometimes envy. But my time is nothing compared with the long term of creativity, energy and love Lee Ann Mack has poured into St. Matthew's program over the last 23 years! We are deeply grateful to her and proud of the way she has shaped the lives of young and old.

Like it or not, the day has come for Lee Ann to hand over the keys to the classrooms. She has agreed to help school our new director on "the way things are done here", but we know she will encourage and support Jen Woytowich in her new ministry. Jen brings with her wonderful gifts, experience in teaching and devotion to this parish. The committee charged with finding another "Lee Ann" was impressed with Jen's background and her joy in teaching. We can look forward to the formation forged by Jen as she walks the path so deeply and ably worn by her predecessor. God bless this ministry that continues in able hands on October 1st.



Search Committee Corner

Sandra Vaughn - Chair

The Search Committee serves as the representative voice of the parish in the process of calling a new rector. Our role is not to make the decision independently, but rather to gather, listen and faithfully reflect the hopes and priorities of the entire congregation. Through the parish survey and listening sessions, every member has the opportunity to share input, ensuring that the process is rooted in the collective voice of the parish. Guided by this input, the Committee advances the search process in partnership with the wider Church, always seeking to align the outcome with God's call for our parish.

Welcome to our Parish Listening Sessions. Our goal is to offer you, the active and vested persons of St. Matthews, the opportunity to share your inspiring, forward-thinking, and positive vision of our mission and the type of person we envision to help us build the kingdom of God, in Madison and the Northern Alabama area.

Our Prayer: Almighty and ever-living God, we ask you to come into our presence and be a constant reminder of our goal to develop the mission of serving, nurturing, learning, developing, growing, giving, worshipping, and loving in this world. Lift the heart of each person to continuously pray for our search. Inspire us to find a new rector and our new rector to find us in this intentional and spirit-led process. Guide us to continuously walk in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Outreach



A Taste of Kenya

Save the Date!
Sign up soon in Gruman Hall

Nov. 7th, 6pm

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church,
786 Hughes Rd, Madison, AL



Benefitting our medical mission team traveling to Kenya in February 2026

Episcopal Church Women

Melissa Barton, President

RUMMAGE SALE



YOUR TREASURES CAN BECOME
SOMEONE ELSE'S TREASURES!

THE POD IS NOW OPEN!

WE ARE ACCEPTING SMALLER ITEM DONATIONS AT THIS TIME.
FURNITURE AND OTHER LARGE ITEMS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR
STORAGE IN OCTOBER.

Episcopal Church Women (cont.)

**ST. MATTHEW'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

RUMMAGE Sale

*great
deals*

Oct. 31st 7am-2pm, Nov 1st 7am-1pm

**786 Hughes Rd.
Madison, AL**

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SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE 2025



Sunday School begins
Sept. 7th at 9 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 2025
Sept. 21st
No Sunday School
Annual Pig Roast

Last day of Sunday School for 2025
Dec. 14th at 9 a.m.

NOVEMBER
Nov. 30th
No Sunday School



DECEMBER
Dec. 21st
Dec. 28th
No Sunday School

Episcopal Youth Community

Jann Eich, Director

EYC October Events



Sunday, October 5: Fall Break Kick off 4-6 pm
We will start right after Blessing of the Animals that starts at 3 pm. Please RSVP! I need an adult volunteer to help me!!

Friday, Oct. 10th -11th Lock In Jr and Sr High
6 pm to Sat. Oct. 11th 9 a.m. pick up. I need 2 male and 2 female chaperones with safeguarding training. RSVP

Wednesday, Oct 15th-Sam and Greg's Pizza meet there 5:30-7:00 pm Please RSVP



Prayer List

Please pray for St. Matthews'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, the Sloan Family, Trudie Gruman, Ray and Shirley White, George and Sandra Burgess, Norm Smith, Keith Ulrich, Tyron Newton, Clarissa Dozier, Andy Williams, Darryl Carpenter, Carmen M. Colon, Robert Sampson, Deborah Harrison, Dennis Blanco, Scott Cechovic.

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, Jewell Newton, Ginger Eich, Catherine S. Williams, Joe Allen, Caroline Thomas, Elyssa Nelson, Bill Fischer, Sally Flanigan, Theresa Richerson, Scott Marbut, Todd Newman, Cathy Taveras, Fran Woytowich, BB McCalpin, Stephen Byrd, Bronwen Murray, Katie Ray, Peggy Wagner, 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, 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 Rice, Suzette Rice, Vaughn Cassell, Shannon Carpenter, Jarilyn Alleman, Jake Sowder, Cheryl Lavazza, Margaret McHugh.



October Readings

<u>October 5th</u>	<u>October 12th</u>	<u>October 19th</u>	<u>October 26th</u>
<u>Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4</u>	<u>2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c</u>	<u>Genesis 32:22-31</u>	<u>Sirach 35:12-17</u>
<u>Psalm 37:1-10</u>	<u>Psalm 111</u>	<u>Psalm 121</u>	or <u>Jeremiah 14:7-10,19-22</u>
<u>2 Timothy 1:1-14</u>	<u>2 Timothy 2:8-15</u>	<u>2 Timothy 3:14-4:5</u>	<u>Psalm 84:1-6</u>
<u>Luke 17:5-10</u>	<u>Luke 17:11-19</u>	<u>Luke 18:1-8</u>	<u>2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18</u>
			<u>Luke 18:9-14</u>

October 2025 Worship Team Schedule

	Oct. 5th	Oct. 12th	Oct. 19th	Oct. 26th
VOD	R. Centanni	D. Utt	J. Anderson	B. Womack
Altar Guild	B. Carpenter	D. Buzby	S. Cape	B. Carpenter
Ushers	T. Sampson R.Sampson	D. Utt A. Utt	M. Harrison. J. Anderson	J. Weaver. N. Snell
Lector	B. Williams	J. Anderson	L. Lanier	M. Pezzula
Epistoler	F. Looney	A. Turner	C. Lanier	T. Clem
Intercessor	A. Modrell	A. Williams	N. Lapacek-Trout	T. Sampson
LEM	S. Weaver K. Price	K.Barr D. Loehr	T. Christopher W.Christopher	S. Smith K. Scheuer
Crucifer	C.Bagwell	S.Jones	A. Maddox	A. Utt
Gospeler	N. Lapecek	E.Bruce	E. Maddox	B.Watson
Torch Bearer	C. Trout	N. Rasmussen	C. Trout	M. Pezzula
Torch Bearer	A. Wales	M. Rasmussen	N. Lapacek-Trout	S. Pezzula
Counter	K.Modrell C.Byrd	W. Christopher P.Lewis	D. Mack. J. Cooper	M. Barton A.Coiner
Hospitality	J.Turner	C. Odom. F. Odom	R. Wyatt	k. Hicks
Nursery	A. Anderson M. Brown	A. Anderson M. Brown	A. Anderson M. Brown	A. Anderson M. Brown



October 2025 Church Calendar

Weekly Recurring Events

Sunday

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 am - Sunday School

10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, Nave

Monday

5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. - Scouts BSA #628

6:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. - Bells Angels

Tuesday

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. - Men's Breakfast

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - Reunion Group

Wednesday

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Reunion Group

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Noon Eucharist

Thursday

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - Ladies Bible Study

Friday - Office Closed

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Cleaning crew

Saturday - Office Closed

Other Scheduled Event

Wednesday, Oct. 1- ECW Mtg at 10:30 a.m. in CE, rm 1

Sunday, Oct. 5- Search Committee Listening Session at 11:30 a.m. in CE rm 2

Sunday, Oct. 5 - Blessing of the Animals at 3:00 p.m. on the church grounds

Wednesday, October 8 - ECW Mtg at 10:30 in Gruman Hall

Thursday, October 9 - Heart and Soil at 9:00 a.m. on the church grounds

Thursday, October 9 - Madison Quilt Guild at 4:00 p.m. in Gruman Hall

Saturday, October 11 - Madison Quilt Sewing Day at 9:00 a.m. in rm 2 and 3 C.Ed Bldg

Saturday, October 11 - DAR Meeting at 2:00 p.m. in Gruman Hall

Monday, October 13 - Sewing Sisters at 9:00 a.m. in Gruman Hall

Tuesday, October 14 - Wing and a Prayer at 5:30 p.m. at Cricket's

October 18 - Heart and Soil at 9:00 a.m. on the church grounds

October 19 - Search Committee Listening Session at 11:30 a.m. in CE rm 2

October 20 - Sewing Sisters at 6:00 p.m. in the Christian Ed. Bldg

October 26-30 - Rummage Sale Drop - off

October 31, November 1st - Rummage Sale in the church at 7:00 a.m.

