



# JUNE 2026 NEWSLETTER

# ST. MATTHEW'S

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## Rev.Emily Rowell Brown

Dear St. Matthew's Friends,

What a whirlwind this month has been! As I prepare to join you in mid-July, I have been finishing up my ministry with Christ Church Tuscaloosa, closing at the school year with my two children, Charlotte and Nicholas, selling our Tuscaloosa house, buying a house in Madison, and taking an (already planned) family vacation to Alaska. I have enjoyed getting to speak more with some of the staff and some of you. I wanted to update you on what to expect as the summer begins:

Taylor+ and the vestry have provided strong, steady leadership during the interim period. I also am grateful for Susan Sloan's faithful service as the interim rector. Taylor+ has been keeping me updated about what is happening at St. Matthew's, and Senior Warden Beau Womack and I will meet with a transition consultant from the Diocese in mid June to prepare for the beginning of my ministry with you all. You are in such capable, caring hands.

My family and I have found a house in Madison (down the street from the church!) and will move at the end of June. I will begin settling into the office once we move, so you will likely see me around here and there. My first official day is July 13. Feel free to drop into the office to say hello!

Finally, I know that you have endured some changes and challenges over the past couple of years, and still you have continued to show up for mission trips, fellowship and food events, VBS, and more. I welcome your perspectives and feedback as we discern where God is calling St. Matthew's next. St. Matthew's has been in my prayers since I entered the search process, and I continue to pray for you daily. St. Matthew's already offers wonderful gifts to members and the greater community, and there are even more that we will discover together.

I can't wait!

Every blessing,  
Emily+

**To walk with Jesus, to be with Jesus and to let Him be known**

## Rev. Taylor Johnson

### Volunteers Needed!

It's an exciting time in the life of our parish and our diocese! Rev. Emily is coming next month to begin her ministry as our new rector, and Rev. Richard Lawson will be consecrated the 13<sup>th</sup> Bishop of the Diocese of Alabama at the end of this month. These new chapters for both our parish and our diocese, I believe, will be chapters of growth, renewal, and creativity in ministry.

As we prepare to begin these new chapters, especially here in our parish, I would like to ask something of y'all. Please spend some time this summer in prayer about how you can be involved in the ministries, both old and new, of our parish. I know that the summer can be a hectic time for many of us, full of travel and transition.

As we look ahead to the fall, though, I hope that you'll think about a way to volunteer your time and talents at the church. Many of our ministries are in need of volunteers, such as the Ushers, the Welcome Table, the Nursery, Hospitality, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, and many more. We will also prayerfully seek creative and exciting new ways to minister to our community of Madison and across our diocese. Whatever your gifting is, we can find a way for it to contribute to the life and ministry of St. Matthew's. And if you're not sure what your gifting may be, we can help you discern and discover how God has gifted you for service and ministry.

I know I've made this appeal in the Sunday announcements, but I want to reiterate it here – Curiosity is not Commitment. If you're curious about any of the ministries here at the church, you can reach out and ask to learn more without being immediately signed up or constantly pestered about when you can start helping out.

So please, spend time in prayer this season and ask how God is leading you to deepen your ministry at St. Matthew's and the ways we seek to grow the kingdom of God and care for the least of these around us.

**To walk with Jesus, to be with Jesus and to let Him be known**

# Community Engagement Committee

## New St. Matthew's T-shirts!

One of the easiest ways to share with our community about **St. Matthew's** is to catch people's attention with a shirt!

Because it's been a few years since we last offered St. Matthew's shirts for sale, the **Community Engagement Committee** has designed a new shirt and will be offering sales starting May 31.

The shirts will be light gray and printed on a unisex style Gildan Softstyle brand shirt (cotton blend). Adult, youth and toddler sizes will be available.

Sales will serve as a fundraiser for the **National Children's Advocacy Center**.

You can purchase shirts with **cash or check** in between services and after the 10:00 service on **May 31, June 7, June 14, or June 21**. Checks should be made out to St. Matthew's Episcopal Church.

Shirt Price: \$20



To walk with Jesus, to be with Jesus and to let Him be known

## Gratitude Committee



Give thanks  
*in all*  
circumstances.

1 Thessalonians 5:18

**Join the community, share kindness.**

- Follow the [St. Matthew's Facebook Page of Gratitude](#) to share and engage.
- **Nominate** a parishioner to be featured on the gratitude board (in the narthex).
- **Tell your story** and encourage others. Email [drmargaretott@gmail.com](mailto:drmargaretott@gmail.com) for details.

To walk with Jesus, to be with Jesus and to let Him be known

# Knights of the North Castle VBS

Be strong in the Lord  
and in the strength of His power.  
— Ephesians 6.10 —

All young knights and adventures are invited to join  
**Knight-School at St. Matthew! Come!**  
Discover how to be strong in the Lord as we spend  
a fun-filled week learning and growing together!



**St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in  
partnership with Messiah Lutheran Church**

◆ June 22-25 ◆ 5:30-8:00 PM ◆  
Ages: Pre-K to Completed 5th Grade  
Dinner: 5:30-6:00 PM • Rotation Stations: 6:00-8:00 PM

Location: St. Matthew's 786 Hughes Rd, Madison, AL 35758  
(in partnership with Messiah Lutheran Church)  
**Please use the QR code above to complete the online registration  
between 5/8/26-6/15/26**

For More Info Contact :  
**Jen Woytowich** ◆

✉ [christianed1@stmatthewsmadison.org](mailto:christianed1@stmatthewsmadison.org) 256-864-9788

To walk with Jesus, to be with Jesus and to let Him be known

Christian Formation: Jenifer Woytowich, Director



Dear St. Matthew's Family,

June brings us to a beautiful season of celebration, gratitude, and new beginnings. As we wrap up another wonderful year of Christian Formation, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to our children, families, teachers, volunteers, and church community for helping make this year so meaningful. It has been a blessing to watch our children grow in faith, friendship, and love for Christ.

As summer begins, we celebrate all God has done this year while looking ahead with excitement to Vacation Bible School and the many opportunities for fellowship and growth in the months ahead.

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**Ladies Bible Study:** Has concluded until August. Thank you to everyone who has participated this spring!

**Sunday School Information for Parents:**

There will NOT be any Children's or EYC Sunday School during the summer. We look forward to seeing everyone back in the fall!

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**Vacation Bible School - Knights of the North Castle**

VBS will be held at St. Matthew's this summer **June 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>** from **5:30-8:00 pm** each evening. A lite dinner will be served from 5:30-6:00 with stations from 6:00-8:00. There is no cost to attend, but registration is required.

**Registration** is open now through **June 8<sup>th</sup>**. Please register during this timeframe so we can adequately staff volunteers and assign leadership roles.

VBS is for ages: **Pre-K through completed 5th Grade**

VBS **dress up** "color" days (optional- wear the designated color for each day)

*Monday – Gray / Tuesday – Purple / Wednesday – Red / Thursday – Blue*

**Adult and youth volunteers are still needed to help make this special week possible. Please complete the sign-up form to volunteer or contact Miss Jen.**

**Important Volunteer Dates:**

- Friday, June 12 – Volunteer Training - **5:00–6:30 p.m.** at St. Matthew's
- Saturday, June 20 – VBS Decorating Day - **10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.** at St. Matthew's

**If you are unable to volunteer your time but would like to support this ministry through snack donations, meal donations, supplies, or monetary gifts, we would be deeply grateful.**

**Looking Ahead – Mark Your Calendars** Summer is just beginning, and we look forward to continued opportunities for fellowship, service, and growing together in Christ. Please watch for additional updates regarding children's summer activities, fall registration, and upcoming ministry opportunities.

**"The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it." — Psalm 24:1**

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Blessings,  
Jen Woytowich  
Christian Formation Director  
[christianed1@stmatthewsmadison.org](mailto:christianed1@stmatthewsmadison.org)

**To walk with Jesus, to be with Jesus and to let Him be known**



# EYC JUNE AND JULY

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Join us this summer for EYC—June and July are full of fun, friends, and great memories waiting to happen!



## JUNE

**Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**EYC Mission Trip**  
**Members return from**  
**Belize!**

**Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**5:30-7 pm**  
**Pizza Night at Sam and**  
**Greg's!**

**Mon-Thursday, June 22-**  
**25<sup>th</sup> 5:30-8 pm**  
**Teens can volunteer to**  
**help at VBS!**

## JULY



**Friday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> 5-7 pm**  
**EYC Water Fun at the**  
**Amy West House**

**Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup> 8pm**  
**EYC Lock In Gruman**  
**Hall! Pick Up by 9 am**  
**on July 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**6-8 pm.**  
**EYC Game Night in**  
**Gruman Hall**

*Episcopal Youth Community is a group of 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders that gather for fellowship, Sunday School, special events, volunteer with the church and Mission Trips. If you are an uprising 6<sup>th</sup> grader, you can join us this Summer starting in June!!*

I hope everyone had a wonderful Memorial Day weekend.

Last month, we invited parishioners to write notes in thank-you cards for our veterans, which will be delivered to a veterans home in July. We will continue to have cards available on the table in the Narthex through next month.

On June 7, we will be collecting for the Church Periodical Club (CPC). Alabama's CPC mission is to provide funds to assist seminarians from the Diocese of Alabama. Please make checks payable to St. Matthew's ECW and write CPC on the memo line. Our ladies will take up this collection before the regular offering.

Our next regular meeting will be held on June 10 in Gruman Hall.

In July, we will not have a general meeting, but we are planning an ice cream social on July 25.

## Prayer List

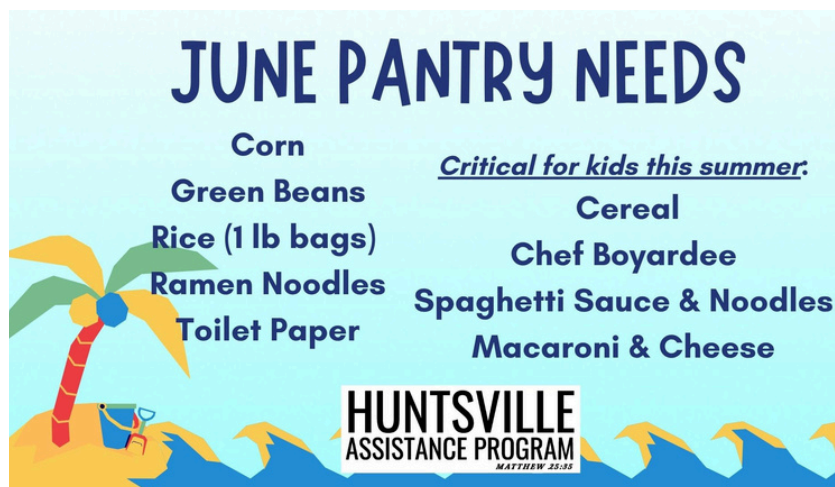
### Pray for our parishioners

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, Bob & Eileen Bogard, Rhoda Kitchen, Brenda Kirkendall, Chris King, Eileen Lewis, Molly Killian, Trudie Gruman, Ray and Shirley White, George and Sandra Burgess, Norm Smith, Keith Ulrich, Tyron Newton, Clarissa Dozier, Daryl Carpenter, Carmen M. Colon, Robert Sampson, Deborah Harrison, Scott Cechovic, Joan East, Jeff Anderson, Barbara Combs, Laura Weatherbee, David Lawrence, Rev. Emily Rowell Brown and family.

### Pray for our friends and family members

Brenda Anderson, Diana Parks, Martha Bergmann, Chuck Sewell, Wes Patterson, 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, Mark Anderson, Judy Tuck, Ann Reid Cronin, Elizabeth Hodges, Jill Kanuchok, Mike Mumfrey, Joyce Lewis, Allan Scott, Christine Van Dyke, Christopher Taveras, Suzette Rice, Shannon Carpenter, Jarilyn Alleman, Jake Sowder, Cheryl Lavazza, Margaret McHugh, Shawn and Rachel Blanco, Jane Stanland, Wisam Safie, Diego Candia, The Hardin family, Anthony Hardin, Cathy Collier, Elizabeth Lundey, Anthony Kanuchok, Cathy Rasnick, and Johanna Nicole Bratcher.

## Outreach



To walk with Jesus, to be with Jesus and to let Him be known

# June Servers

## June Schedule

	6/7/26	6/14/26	6/21/26	6/28/26
<b><u>10:00 a.m.</u></b>				
<b>VOD</b>	J.Simoneau	D.Utt	R.Centanni	M.Ott
<b>Altar Guild</b>	S.Bagwell	A.Coiner D.Kleinjung	N.Snell	S.Bagwell
<b>Ushers</b>	N.Snell M.Barton	M.Harrison. T.Sampson	J.Anderson J.Weaver	J.Simoneau. M.Barton
<b>Lector</b>	M.Pezzula	B.Womack	S.Peterson	N.L-Trout
<b>Epistoler</b>	J.Burch	P.Marques	L.Lanier	M.Harrison
<b>Intercessor</b>	S.Fletcher	F.Looney	C.Lanier	J.Salmon
<b>LEM</b>	K.Price D.Loehr	N.L-Trout K.Barr	S.Weaver J.Anderson	K.Barr J.Vaughn
<b>Crucifer</b>	C.Bagwell	A.Utt	N.L-Trout	
<b>Gospeler</b>	S.Jones	B.Watson	A.Wales	
<b>Torch Bearer</b>		N.Rasmussen		
<b>Torch Bearer</b>		M.Rasmussen		
<b>Counters</b>	M.Barton A.Coiner	M.Harrison P.Lewis	K.Modrall S.Cechovic	M.Barton A.Coiner
<b>Hospitality</b>	M.Brown	T.Sampson	D.Kleinjung	M.Couch
<b>Nursery</b>	A.Anderson. M.Brown	A.Anderson. M.Brown	T.Sampson E.L-Stanbery	A.Anderson. M.Brown
<b>Media</b>	D.Rasmussen	D.Rasmussen	L.Stanbery	D.Rasmussen
<b><u>8:15 a.m.</u></b>				
<b>Lector</b>	B.Carpenter	L.Mack	A.Utt	B.Buzby
<b>Counter</b>	H.Tidwell. R.Driesbach	J.Cooper C.Byrd	H.Tidwell. R.Driesbach	J.Cooper C.Byrd
<b>Ushers</b>	V.Dawes D.Utt	B.Buzby. R.Sampson	D.Utt A.Utt	C.Stagner A.Abercrombie
<b>Crucifer</b>	B.Williams	E.Bruce	A.Maddox	B.Williams
<b>Altar Guild</b>	B.Carpenter	A.Turner	S.Cape	D.Buzby
<b>LEM</b>	A.Williams B.Williams	B.Carpenter B.Williams	K.Scheur S.Smith	K.Scheur B.Carpenter
<b>Hospitality</b>	J.Turner	C.Byrd	D.Buzby	K.Hicks
<b>Media</b>	L.Stanbery	G.Beech	B.Williams	G.Beech

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# June Church Calendar

## Weekly Recurring Events

### Sunday

8:15 a.m. - Eucharist/Reflection

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 Events

Tuesday, June 2 - Wing and a Prayer at 5:30pm at Cricket's

Wednesday, June 3 - Staff Meeting at 10:00am in the kitchen

Monday, June 8 - Sewing Sisters at 9am in Gruman Hall

Monday, June 8- Writers' Nook at 6pm in C.E. Bldg. Room 2

Wednesday, June 10 - ECW meeting at 10:30am in Gruman Hall

Thursday, June 11 - Madison Station Quilt Guild at 4pm in Gruman Hall

Friday, June 12 - VBS Volunteers meeting at 5:00pm in Gruman Hall

Saturday, June 13 - DAR Meeting at 2:00pm in Gruman Hall

Monday, June 15 - Sewing Sisters at 6:00pm in C.E.Bldg Rooms 1 and 2

Tuesday, June 16 - Vestry Meeting at 6:00pm in C.E.Bldg room #1

Saturday, June 20 - NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE

Saturday, June 20 - Decorate for VBS at 10:00am in Gruman Hall

Sunday, June 21 - Father's Day

Monday, June 22 - Thursday, June 25 - VBS at 5:30pm

Monday, June 22 - Sewing Sisters at 9am in Gruman Hall

Tuesday, June 23 - Wing and a Prayer at 5:30 at Cricket's

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