

St. Matthew's News

The Newsletter of

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

WWW.Sml-Lex.org



August 19th

Join us in praying for our students as they prepare to return to school.

Students bring your backpacks to church for a special "blessing" ceremony!!

Who is Pastor Hawkins and What Is an Interim Pastor Anyway?

Who is she?

It's impossible to answer both questions in one article so, I'll take the easier of the two first and make a start on the second. A native of Charleston, I've lived in Columbia with my husband Bob for some twenty-eight years. Ordained in 1996, I served Christ the King, Columbia, for over fourteen years. For the past several years, I have served as an interim pastor at Ebenezer, Columbia; called interim at St. Johannes, Charleston; All Saints, Mt. Pleasant; and Good Shepherd, Columbia. Two years ago, the SC Synod Council extended to me a specialized call to interim ministry.

Bob, born in Indiana, taught at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary for twenty-six years, and he most recently served as an adjunct professor at Newberry College and Interim Music Director at St. Matthew's, Charleston. This summer he is serving as the interim parish musician at Mt. Horeb, Chapin. We are both happy to be living full-time in our home once again after commuting between the Lowcountry and the Midlands for well over three years.

What does an interim pastor do?

Interim pastors are curious creatures. We reside in the congregation, but we do not settle in the congregation. Trained to lead congregations through transitions, we do not chart the future. We evaluate and analyze and suggest helpful changes in preparation for the next called pastor. We preach, teach, and talk about cultural trends and shifts in the community and their effect upon the church

Congregations are living organisms that experience significant grief and anxiety during pastoral transitions. Interim pastors encourage the congregation to acknowledge its strengths and challenges, and we help set the tone and a healthy pace for the transition. We encourage imagination and flexibility – gifts often in short supply when a congregation is in the middle of significant upheaval or conflict. Perhaps the most important task we have is serving as a port of calm in a storm of change.

There is plenty more to know about the interim time in a congregation; I'll continue to unpack it in the months to come. In the meantime, I am truly looking forward to sharing ministry with the disciples of St. Matthew's.

Grace and peace be with you,
Pastor Karen Hawkins



LAY ASSISTANT

5- Stefni Smith-King
12- Jason Roof
19- Stefni Smith-King
26- Cheryl McCarthy

NURSERY

5- Rachel and Kylie
12- Lisa and Tammy
19- Sandra and Allison
26- Kaye and Kristi

ACOLYTE

5- Conner Shumpert
12 Nathen Shumpert
19- Gracyn Buzhardt
26- Bailee Buzhardt

CRUCIFER

5- Hailey Wicker

ALTAR FLOWERS

5- Ruby Keisler
12-Roger and Jamie Shumpert
19 Jan and Jessie Lowman
26-

GREETERS

5- Beth Whittle
12 Bruce Smith
19- Ann Smith
26- Barry Steele

USHERS

Jessie Lowman, Jr.. Head Usher
Jared Lowman
Jeffery Lowman
Jayna Lowman

ALTAR GUILD/

WASH COMMUNION WARE

Rachel Lowman

OFFERING COUNTERS

5- Lisa Buzhardt and Tammy Moorer
12- Charles Norris and Karen Smith
19- Helen and Larry Smith
26- Delores and Jeff Lowman



Roy & Olivia Whittle, Lydia Lindler, Nettie Bell Alewine, Brice McCartha, Danny Mayse, Charles Norris, Taylor Dorward, Doug Whittle, Emit Taylor, Russell Smith

The Prayer list will be updated monthly. Names will be removed after one month unless you let Jan know otherwise. Thank you.

We pray for all who serve in our armed forces, especially Gus Monaco, Jacob Robertson, Dallas Moses and Douglas Vance, Jacob Hamblin, Amy Storrs, Megan Asbill, DJ Hoover and Matt Livingston.



Members are encouraged to write notes to our “**Members of the Month**”.
This month we highlight:

*Taylor Dorward
c/o Chris Downs
2115 South Converse Drive
Florence, SC 29595*

ATTENTION ALL TREASURERS There will be an audit of our records on Sunday August 26, please have your records in the church office no later than Sunday August 19. :



Please let Jan know if your address or telephone number has changed, so that she can make changes for the directory. Church Secretary Office Hours: Tuesday thru Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Please let Jan Lowman know if she can be of service to you. jan@sml-lex.org



Thank you so much for your kindness shown in working with our Children in Need. Sara Williams, RTI and Judy Moore, Parent Liaison, Forts Pond Elementary School

Thank you so very much for you incredibly generous donation to LaVie Pregnancy Care Center from you Lenten offering. The Lord continues to use this ministry in the most incredible ways as scared and overwhelmed women choose life for their unborn children and the men and women are positively responding to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and His unconditional love. You play a pivotal role in this ministry and we pray the Lord blesses you abundantly for your faithfulness. With love Linda and Andrea

Dear people of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for the generous retirement gift, I truly was not expecting that. Thank you also for the wonderful retirement dinner. The food at St. Matthew's is always excellent but on the first of July you outdid yourselves. The dinner was wonderful. Thank you also for all the cards and well wishes shared with me and Lynn on the occasion of my retirement, but most of all thank you for nine and one half years of ministry together. We will cherish those memories most of all.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bob and Lynn Helton



A special thanks to each and every person who contributed to our VBS this year! We couldn't have done it without you!!
Thanks for sharing your children with us

BUDGET REPORT

Year to date revenue as of 7/22/18

Need to date - \$97,795.57
Received to date - \$85,911.74
Shortage \$11,883.83 short
Capital Maintenance/Roof - \$.00
World hunger - \$.00
Lexington Mission LICS - \$240.00
Children in Need - \$720.00
Family in Need \$200.00
Cemetery - \$825.00
Parsonage \$1700.04
Check book balance - \$45,861.79



We continue to take food for the Lexington Mission Food Pantry every Sunday. Below is a list of foods for this month:

5- Boxed Macaroni & Cheese
12- Ravioli/Spaghetti O's
19- Peanut Butter and Jelly
26- Can Meat



Special Offering in August is for *Lutheran Conference & Retreat Center*. Please mark your contributions "LCRC." Thank you for your assistance.



The WELCA meeting for this month is on August 20, 2016, at 7:00. Bring a friend!



July 15, 2018 - LMM Meeting at 7:45 am

Contacting Pastor Hawkins

Pastor Hawkins is serving a ¾-time call to St. Matthew's, and that means her schedule will be different from previous full-time pastors. She and the Congregation Council will be working together to establish office hours and a schedule that works best for her and the routines and needs of the congregation. **As always, she is on-call to respond to emergencies 24/7.** The information below is incomplete and will be updated shortly after she arrives.

1. Office hours: TBD, 803.975.9345
2. After office hours ***non-emergencies***: 803.975.9345, leave a message. Your call will be returned once she returns to the office.
3. Email: TBD
4. After hours ***emergencies***: 803.252.1327. If necessary, leave a message and she will return your call as soon as possible.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1- Trina Ewing | 18- Lisa Norman |
| 1- Ricky Smith | 19- Tess Dawkins |
| 3- Kimberly Day | 21- Sandy Black |
| 8- Leigh Ann Wicker | 21- Adam McCartha |
| 10- Penni Norris | 22- Harvey Keisler |
| 10- Curtis Swygert | 23- Chance Cason |
| 11- Jessica Cason | 23- Abigail Lowman |
| 12- Angela Keisler | 24- Samantha Keisler |
| 12- Ayla Stone | 25- Cassidy Baker |
| 13- Gavin Shealy | 26- Shealynn Smith |
| 14- Nicholas Piszcz | 29- Tara Norris |
| 15- Justin Steele | 29- Don Kaminer |
| 17- Lauren Harmon | 31- Bryson Smith |

Please let Jan know if there are changes to birthday list



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

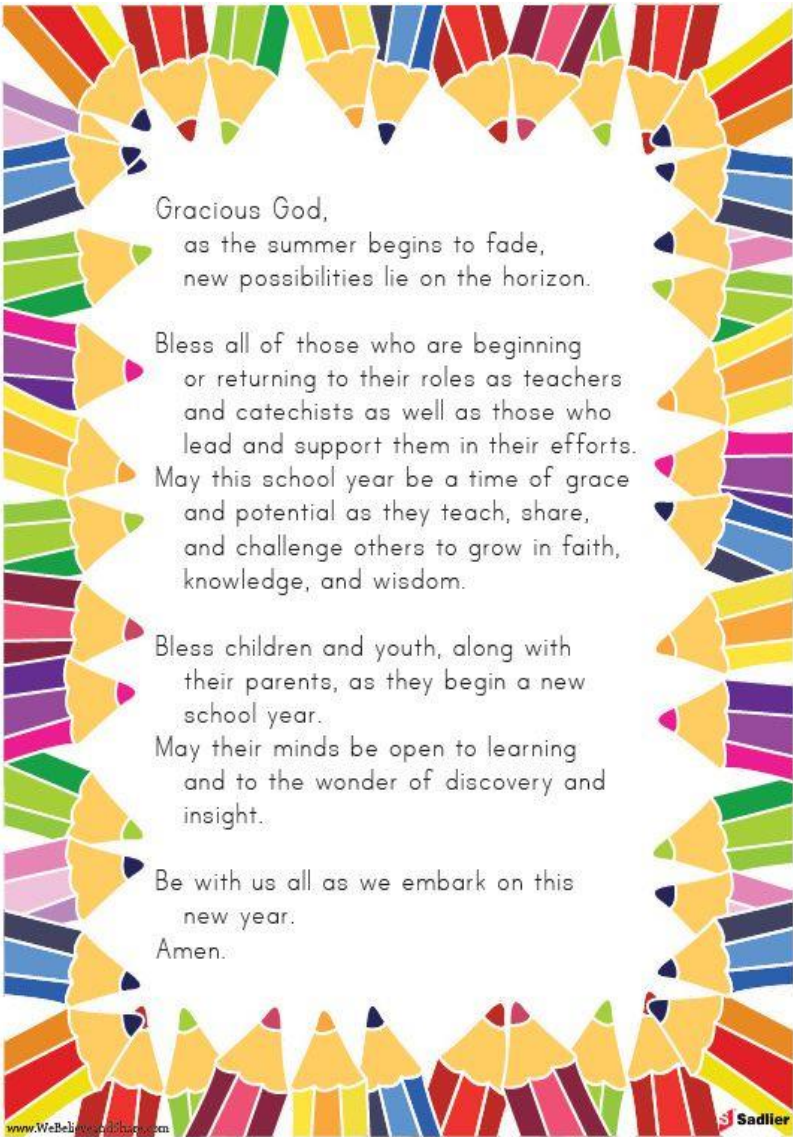
- 3- L.F. & Betty Jo McCartha Jr.
- 3- Larry & Helen Smith
- 6- Jeffery & Delores Lowman
- 8- Danny & Mary Roof
- 11- Melvin & Linda Keisler
- 13- Tim & Ann Black
- 18- James & Sandy Black
- 18- Harry & Nancy Watson
- 20- Joey & Jerusha Keisler
- 21- Jerry & Sheila Smith
- 22- Doug & Beth Whittle
- 25- Charles & Kim Oswald
- 26- Mark & Debbie Cothran
- 27- Michael & Gloria McCarthy
- 28- Harvey & Jean Keisler
- 29- Robert & Doris Lindler

Please let Jan know if there are changes to Anniversary list.



Let's bring our school supplies again this year! We'll collect on August 19th when we bless the backpacks.

- 1 box of sandwich bags or gallon size bags
- 8 glue sticks
- 3 boxes of 24 Crayola crayons
- 1 dozen sharpened pencils (Ticonderoga preferred)
- 2 pink pearl erasers
- 1 plastic pencil box 8.25" x5.25" x2"
- 2 packs of 4-dry erase markers, chisel, low odor
- 1 plastic 2 pocket folder with brads
- 1 plastic 2 pocket folder without brads
- 1 pair of scissors, 5" blunt
- 1 Composition book
- 1 wide ruled spiral notebook
- 1 package of plastic sheet protectors
- 1 pack of 8 Crayola markers
- 1 Plastic folder with pockets
- 1 Yellow highlighter
- 1 Large zippered pencil pouch



Gracious God,
as the summer begins to fade,
new possibilities lie on the horizon.

Bless all of those who are beginning
or returning to their roles as teachers
and catechists as well as those who
lead and support them in their efforts.
May this school year be a time of grace
and potential as they teach, share,
and challenge others to grow in faith,
knowledge, and wisdom.

Bless children and youth, along with
their parents, as they begin a new
school year.
May their minds be open to learning
and to the wonder of discovery and
insight.

Be with us all as we embark on this
new year.
Amen.

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

Pastor: Karen Hawkins, Interim

Church: 957-9345; Fax: 359-0328

Pastor Karen – 803-252-1327

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