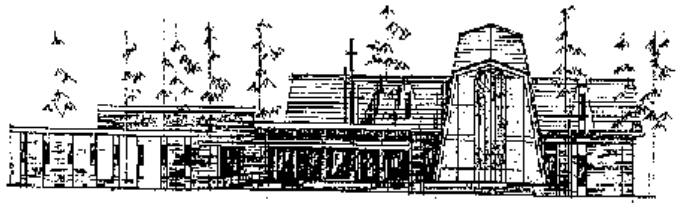


# The Encounter



Monthly Newsletter of  
St. Matthew's Lutheran Church  
612 S. College Road  
Wilmington, NC 28403  
E-Mail: [stmatch@bellsouth.net](mailto:stmatch@bellsouth.net)  
Website: [stmatthewsch.org](http://stmatthewsch.org)

"The Church with a  
**WELCOME**"  
1892-2007

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Volume 8

APRIL 2008

Number 4

## Youth Retreat



**Middle School  
Friday April 18<sup>th</sup>- Sat. April 19<sup>th</sup>**

We will be going to Ft. Caswell for our spring retreat.

There is a sign up sheet on the youth board. Payment of \$40 must be paid by April 13<sup>th</sup> to be able to attend. Any question please call Nancy Magruder.



**Ham Dinner and Variety Show  
Sunday April 20<sup>th</sup>  
in the McSwain Activity Center**

The youth will be sponsoring a dinner followed by a variety show showcasing the many talents of our church family. A sign up sheet is in the Commons area; please indicate the number attending so that we provide enough food for everyone. A love offering will be accepted at the dinner to go toward our summer mission trip.

**WANT TO PERFORM? IT'S NOT TOO LATE  
call Nancy Magruder at 791-4582 ext. 212**



**O.W.L.'s LUNCHEON is on  
Thursday April 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 in  
the McSwain Activity Center.**

This month's meal will be a smorgasbord of main dishes, salad, bread and desserts.

The desserts will be provided by YOU!  
*Please bring your favorite springtime  
dessert to share with friends.*

Cost is \$5 per person.

## INVITE AND INFORM

If you meet a visitor at church invite them to attend our next **NEW MEMBERS RETREAT** which will be held on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> from 9-12 in McCombs Hall. This retreat is for those that are new to Christianity or new to the Lutheran Church. This retreat gives you the opportunity to learn about Holy Baptism, Holy Communion and about the historic liturgy (worship pattern) of the church.

If the visitor indicates they are Lutheran invite them to the **NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION CLASS** which will be held on May 17<sup>th</sup> from 9-12 in McCombs Hall. This class provides information on how our congregation operates and how each disciple can find her or his place in the life of the church. So **Invite and Inform** our visitor about this upcoming opportunity to join our church family. Those attending will join at the service they attend on that weekend, the 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> service.



## LAST YOUTH GROUP MEETING!

**Sunday April 27<sup>th</sup>** will be our last weekly Sunday meeting until fall. I am planning something special for our last day and details will be posted on the youth board. So... keep watch!

PLANNING AHEAD.....

SEE THE BACK COVER AND PAGE 5  
FOR ACTIVITY DATES FOR YOUR  
PARTICIPATION IN MAY. 

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Many of us read through the Gospel of Matthew during the 40 days of Lent and heard with fresh ears the Lord Jesus' call to follow Him. As you recall, Matthew ends his gospel with the reminder that the Lord Jesus is always present in the Church and is its highest authority (28:16-20). To know what it means to recognize Jesus as the Church's highest authority and what it means to follow Him, we return to the Gospel of Matthew and listen to Jesus. Lutherans say that Jesus is always truly present in the written Word of God, in the preached Word of God, and in the enacted Word of God in the Sacraments that Jesus commands us to practice – Holy Baptism and Holy Communion.

Matthew's Gospel closes with the ever-present Lord telling us that, as we are going along in life, we are to make disciples from all ethnic groups by baptizing them with water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to observe all that He has commanded (in Matthew's Gospel). We are to make sure that we are in worship and in study, that our children and youth are there, too, and that we make regular invitations to those we like and those we love.

To meet the Lord's command is really not that difficult. We say to someone we love or like: "I'm going to worship at St. Matthew's this week. Would you like to go with me?" We say to someone we love or like: "I'm going to Bible Study at St. Matthew's. Would you like to join me?" If they say yes, you affirm them and make arrangements to pick them up or meet them at St. Matthew's. If they say no, you say, "Well, maybe another time. I'll ask you again." If they say they regularly attend a Christian church that you know is orthodox in its teaching and practice, you encourage them to be faithful there.

Because we live in a culture that is long on instant gratification, we have to remind each other constantly that the Holy Spirit brings people to faith not us. A woman I know prayed for her friend for forty years. After thirty years the woman began to go to Bible Study, and after 10 more years the friend finally asked me to baptize her. Prayer works, but it doesn't always work quickly! Don't quit praying, and don't quit inviting!

I continue to pray for the renewal of our congregation. Perhaps our greatest obstacle is that we live in a culture that increasingly competes with the Lord to have the greater claim on our lives. Some parents routinely choose other activities over the services of God's house, not because they don't love God, but because they don't want their children to miss out on success in other areas of life. In so doing, if God and His Church keep coming up short, Christianity becomes merely a part of one's life, rather than life itself!

I've been told so many times that we live at the beach and this is a more laid back culture. It sounds nice and is even beguiling, until you reread Matthew's Gospel and hear the Lord's call to follow. He doesn't have a different discipleship standard for those that live at the beach. There is following, and there is not following. It's one or the other.

This so-called laid back attitude leads to the kind of culture accommodation that some churches keep telling themselves really works. They will point to their numbers and act as if successful marketing is discipleship. They will confuse gathering people for entertainment with making disciples, and think the ends justify the means. It's a very beguiling package, but it's not the Christian faith no matter how many people they pack in and how many books they sell!

As we go into the best beach weather of the year and move towards the lightly scheduled summer months at St. Matthew's, I challenge you to be in worship every week – whether it's Saturday night, Sunday morning, or Monday night. You don't have to dress up, but you do need to show up. Because that's where Jesus has promised to be in the Word and the Sacraments! He's not about the show. He's about changing peoples' lives.

So bring someone you love, or bring someone you like. And if you have children or youth in the house, set a good example. Going to worship and study is not a "got-to", it's a "get to." We get to receive Jesus in Word and Sacrament. We get to grow in His grace! Just say: "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24).

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

I love you, Pastor Sam

## Be an Instrument of God's Love in Action Through Fellowship and Serving

*(see opportunities mentioned below)*

The first big fellowship event of 2008 will be the **May 18 Sunday Picnic at Empie Park.**

Be sure to thank the Christian Education Team for volunteering to lead this event! Take the time to ask a Christian Education team member if there is anything you can do to help. This is an opportunity for younger and older members to come together and enjoy each other's company. I would like to see 100% attendance at this function. We have not had an event this big in some time. Your participation will help make this event successful.

We will have services at the church (a change from our original plan) and will meet at Empie Park at 1:00pm. We will have lunch and there are many activities planned for the afternoon. There will be activities that all ages can participate in and enjoy. Make your plans NOW to attend this event. Our children, our new members, and our long time members all need to come together and get to know each other better. This is a perfect time to get to know someone you've only seen in church and to do some fun activities. □□□□

A planning team is being put together to address the concerns about the property. Specifically, we will address concerns raised about the office – educational building. If you have questions or would like to volunteer to help with planning, please contact Richard Chinn, Joe Rumsey, Mark Williams, or Mike Roberts. We are going to need the advice and direction of some professionals. If you are a contractor, in construction, a plumber, an electrician, an interior design person, sheetrocker, ceiling person, painter, or any other person that can help us plan and implement this project, we need you to contact one of the people above! More information on this is forthcoming. □□□□

Thank you to everyone who volunteers! Without your donations of time and talent, the church could not function!

Thank you to the staff! Your diligence and dedication to our congregation may seem to go unnoticed at times but we realize you are the glue that holds everything together and makes it all work.

Thank you to our Pastors! Your calling into pastoral ministry provides our church family with strong spiritual leadership and pastoral care. Without you we would be just another organization.

Thank you to all the members! Your support of the Pastors, staff and volunteers makes it possible for all of us to carry out God's will through our church.

I hope you know you are in a family that loves and cares about you, it's Brother's and Sisters. I know there are times when you may feel differently. Trust me when I tell you that just because you may feel that way from time to time doesn't make it so. There is **ALWAYS** someone in our congregational family that loves you.

I want you each to take the time this month to thank the volunteers, Pastors and staff for their service to all of us. Take the time to look around our church family and introduce yourself and shake the hand of or pass on a hug to a person you don't know. Contact someone on the prayer list and let them know you are thinking about them and have prayed for them. **WHY?** Because everybody wants to be a somebody. You do and I do. One of the very best ways for people to be a somebody is to acknowledge and affirm another person as a somebody. ***It's Gods Love in action!***

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**Got a problem, concern or suggestion? If we don't know about it, we can't do anything about it! Talk to me, call me or email me now.**

**Call me at 279-0445 or email me at [richardchinn@ec.rr.com](mailto:richardchinn@ec.rr.com).**

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There are still some significant leadership positions that need to be filled. I know God is knocking on someone's heart and asking them to do more. I've been praying for you to step forward. Fair warning! If you don't step forward, God has impressed your name on my heart and I will be calling you!

We also have many needs for volunteers in several areas of the church. Kathren Miller is our volunteer coordinator. Call her and let her know what talents you have and would like to use in service to God through our church family.

**We NEVER run out of ways to serve the Lord!**  
*May the peace of our Lord be the peace in your heart!*

*Richard Chinn, President*

## Council Summary March 13, 2008

Opening devotions and prayers were led by Kathryn Miller in McCombs. The business meeting followed immediately.

The recording secretary was not in attendance, and the minutes of the January 26, 2008 meeting, which had previously been deferred, were not available. Approval was deferred until the next scheduled council meeting.

Richard Chinn presented Pastor Sam's monthly report, which had not included a statistical record of the pastoral activities of Pastor Dale for the month of January. Richard Chinn reported an abbreviated statistical record of the activities of Pastor Dale.

The Membership activity report for February 2008 was received.

The treasurer reported income for February 2008 totaled \$45,471. Expenditures totaled \$51,371 resulting in a negative \$5,900. There was a general discussion of costs, expenses, and control of expenditures. Explanation of some of the excess costs for the month included annual licensing of leased machines, extra demand for paper for bulletins and other informational publications, and the new Monday night service.

The minutes of the February 14, 2008 were presented for discussion by Richard Chinn and were approved by Council.

A motion to accept the standard reports approved.

There were no reported executive committee actions.

Discussion was held regarding council members accepting liaison positions with the ministry teams. The following council members had agreed in the previous meeting to act as liaison with respective teams. (*see list in last months Encounter Summary*). Rich Walter agreed to be liaison to SOCIAL MINISTRY. (Care ministries will be discussed at the next council meeting. It is proposed that Care Ministries will be under the standing committee of Social Ministry)

John Antonelli presented the Constitution Team Report that addressed the study of the Constitution and Bylaws. A copy of the Constitution highlighting proposed changes was furnished to Council for purposes of further study and discussion at the next meeting.

Dick Williams, the chair of the Personnel Team, discussed the need to find volunteers to assist with the establishment of personnel guidelines, goals, and

expectations, for salaried employees. Mark Williams was previously named as the council liaison.

Richard Chinn discussed the vision to move forward on renovations and repairs to McCombs and the education wing. It was agreed that Mark Williams, Joe Rumsey, and Mike Roberts would work with the Property chairman and committee to prioritize/organize projects.

Confidentiality of contributions was discussed.

Fellowship Opportunities- Numerous opportunities for congregational fellowship have been planned and were discussed. Those opportunities included the Easter Egg hunt, March 22, the Easter morning breakfast sponsored by the youth, Mar 23<sup>rd</sup>. Also planned are a church picnic May 18<sup>th</sup> and the honoring of veterans scheduled for May 25<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jerry Bramley, Vice President

### MISSIONARY FUND

Your generous contributions for the missionary efforts of Tim and Sarah Walter, as they work for YouthWith a Mission (YWAM), is greatly appreciated. However, a recent review of the Internal Revenue Code as it affects not-for-profit religious organizations, has determined that St. Matthew's is not allowed to accept contributions designated to specific persons. In order for the church to accept a contribution for a specific person, the church would have to supervise the distribution of the contribution to them, and direct the subsequent use of that contribution by them. YWAM is a bona fide not-for profit organization. Contributions for Tim and Sarah should be made directly to YWAM, as that organization is then in the proper position to administer the distribution of your contribution. The North Carolina address for YWAM is 418 E Franklin St, Monroe, NC 28112.



SEE PAGE 5 FOR INFORMATION FROM THE  
ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE.

TREASURERE'S REPORT IS ON PAGE 7



\_JUST SO YOU'LL KNOW....

***Today is the tomorrow that you  
worried about yesterday.***

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
<b>Choir Schedule</b> 4:00 Luther Choir 4:00 Little Luther Choir 4:00 Instrumental Ensemble 4:45 Tone Chime Choir 5:00 Handbell Choir		<b>1</b> 9:00 Women's Fitness 10:00 Prayer Group 6:30 Contemporary Svc Practice 7:00 Stephen Min. <b>7:30 Love Circle</b> 8:00 AA	<b>2</b> 8:00 Devotional Breakfast 9:30 Spiritual Form. 5:30 Cadette GS #354 6:00 Crossways 6:30 Cub Scouts #274 7:00 Confirmation 7:30 Adult Choir	<b>3</b> 9:00 Women's Fitness 10:00 Crossways 4:00 Brownie #739 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>4</b> <b>HOSPICE MEAL</b> <i>Norma Vics</i> <i>Erika Brambell</i>	<b>5</b> 6:00 Worship/Comm 8:00 AA 8:00 AL-ANON	
<b>6</b> 8:30 Worship/Communion 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship/Communion 6:00 MS/HS YOUTH GROUP  NO CHOIRS	<b>7</b> 9:30 Spiritual Form. 12:00 Conversations <b>6:00 Evening Prayer and Bible Study</b>	<b>8</b> 9:00 Women's Fitness <b>9:30 Faith Circle</b> 10:00 Prayer Group <b>1:30 Peace Circle</b> <b>6:00 Praise Circle</b> 6:30 Contemp. Practice 7:00 C.E. Meeting 8:00 AA	<b>9</b> 8:00 Devotional Breakfast 9:30 Spiritual Form. 6:00 Crossways 6:30 Cub Scouts #274 <b>7:00 NO CONFIRMATION</b> 7:30 Adult Choir	<b>10</b> 9:00 Women's Fitness 10:00 Crossways 4:00 Brownie #739 <b>7:00 Church Council</b> 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 6:00 Worship/Comm 8:00 AA 8:00 AL-ANON	
<b>13</b> 8:30 Contemp. Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship/Communion 1:30 Senior GS #139 1:30 Junior GS #226 6:00 MS/HS YOUTH GROUP	<b>14</b> 9:30 Spiritual Form. 12:00 Conversations <b>6:00 Evening Prayer and Bible Study</b> 7:00 Sister's Bible Study	<b>15</b> 9:00 Women's Fitness 10:00 Prayer Group 11:00 Endowment Meeting 7:00 Stephen Ministry 8:00 AA  <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	<b>16</b> 8:00 Devotional Breakfast 9:30 Spiritual Form. 5:30 Cadette GS #354 6:00 Crossways 6:30 Cub Scouts #274 7:00 Confirmation 7:30 Adult Choir	<b>17</b> 9:00 Women's Fitness 10:00 Crossways 4:00 Brownie #739 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>18</b> <b>5:00 MS YOUTH To Fort Caswell</b>  <b>HOSPICE MEAL</b> <i>Antonelli Family</i>	<b>19</b> <b>9-12 New Discip[les] Class</b> 3:00 MS Youth Return 6:00 Worship/Comm 8:00 AA 8:00 AL-ANON	
<b>20</b> 8:30 Worship/Communion 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship/Communion <b>12:30 Church Talent Show and Luncheon</b> 6:00 MS/HS YOUTH GROUP	<b>21</b> 9:30 Spiritual Form. 12:00 Conversations <b>6:00 Evening Prayer and Bible Study</b> 7:00 Sister's Bible Study	<b>22</b> 9:00 Women's Fitness 10:00 Prayer Group 6:30 Cont. Svc. Practice <b>7:00 Ministry Teams</b> 8:00 AA	<b>23</b> 8:00 Devotional Breakfast 9:30 Spiritual Form. 5:30 Cadette GS #354 6:00 Crossways 6:30 Cub Scouts #274 7:00 Confirmation 7:30 Adult Choir	<b>24</b> 9:00 Women's Fitness 10:00 Crossways <b>11:30 OWLS Fellowship Luncheon</b> 4:00 Brownie #739 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>25</b> <b>7:00 Via de Cristo</b>	<b>26</b> 6:00 Easter Vigil 8:00 AA 8:00 AL-ANON	
<b>27</b> 8:30 Contemp. Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship/Communion 1:30 Senior GS #139 1:30 Junior GS #226 6:00 MS/HS YOUTH GROUP <i>Last one for the year</i>	<b>28</b> 9:30 Spiritual Form. 12:00 Conversations <b>6:00 Evening Prayer and Bible Study</b> 7:00 Sister's Bible Study	<b>29</b> 9:00 Women's Fitness 10:00 Prayer Group 8:00 AA	<b>30</b> 8:00 Devotional Breakfast 9:30 Spiritual Form. 5:30 Cadette GS #354 6:00 Crossways 6:30 Cub Scouts #274 7:00 Confirmation 7:30 Adult Choir				

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS \*\* Denotes Youth Birthday

1	Amber Brekhus	14	Julia Janssen **	27	Jennifer Weaver
2	Robert Lentz		Jacob Janssen **	28	Brenda Tyler
	Trudy Renkin	16	Lucy Bost		Samuel Morgan **
	Sarah Hill **		Robert Tuck	29	Greta Bjorkquist
	Christopher Braun		Curtis McCain		Anna Dearie
3	Tim Antonelli	17	Bill Knoerzer		Lawrence Hughes
	Anita Turner	18	Ann Brown	30	Norman Walter
4	Cindy Murphy		Mary Phillips-Saieed		John Geiger
5	Tammi Gates		Alexis Holzberger **		
	Albert Macino	19	Morris Johnson		
	Harrison Rutland		Dale Stansbury **		
6	Christopher Somersett		Denise Simon		
	Curt Stansbury	20	Robin Hueskes		
	Richard Butler		Butch Ruefle		
7	Kyle Price		Jan Christine		
	Deanna Carlisle	21	Kelly Stansbury		
8	Ellen James	23	Ken Johns		
9	Elizabeth Porter		Florence Schorschinsky		
10	Peter Gimbal		Andrew Haskins **		
11	Matthew Murphy		Larry Gates		
	Kris Getsinger	24	Dwight Crim		
	Audrey Meyer		Dave Robertson		
	Katelynn Scott **	25	Hanne Flythe		
12	Randy Mallo		Elmer Wild		
13	Robert Trapp		Margaret French		
	Philip Anderson	26	Ray Tyler		
	Aaron Knoerzer **		Mike Pressley		



## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

4	Earl and Bette Hadden	15	Richard and Kay Thompson	26	Dwight and Jeanette Crim
7	Bill and Midge Piper	19	John and Sandra Humphrey	27	Bill and Bethel Paris
8	John and Karen Matthews	25	Ray and Brenda Tyler	28	Kent and Allison Linkner
9	Ken and Colleen Johns		Butch and Karen Ruefle	30	Morris and Joanne Johnson
10	Jerry and Zan Bramley		Marv and Marcie Schedler		



**VETERANS HONORED ON  
SUNDAY, MAY 25, 2008**

The Christian Education Team is going to honor all Veterans on Sunday, May 25th during the Sunday School hour. We are inviting the entire congregation to this wonderful celebration. Please invite your family members who have served in our military to join us for Sunday School and worship that day.



**PARENTS – If you have a child graduating from high school or college we would like to honor them on May 18<sup>th</sup> during church services. Please call the church office, 791-4582, ext. 202 and tell us the high school your child will graduate from and the college plans they have for the fall. Parents of college grads please let us know which college and the degree your child will receive. We need this information by May 12<sup>th</sup>.**



**HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT  
at Ft. Caswell -Friday May 2<sup>nd</sup> –  
Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Sign up and details are on the youth board. I will need your registration money by April 27<sup>th</sup> to be able to go on the trip. Questions, please call Nancy Magruder



**Summer Camp! It's not too late**

to register for summer camp. You may attend Lutheridge, Lutherock or Camp Agape. We are going to Lutheridge June 22<sup>nd</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> and will be providing transportation, but you may attend any of the camps at other times if there is a camp week that you prefer. Call Nancy Magruder if you have questions about camp, please do not hesitate to ask questions.



**Camp Agape Day Camp FREE!**

Camp Agape will be here on **May 31<sup>st</sup> from 9am-3pm** providing a free day camp to youth finishing K-5<sup>th</sup> grades... this is open to members and nonmembers of St. Matthew's so spread the word to friends and family to join you.

A sign up sheet is on the youth board or you may call Nancy Magruder at 791-4582.

The summer Camp Agape Day Camp will be **August 4<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup>**; The cost is \$100 for the week, from 9am-3pm each day. A signup for this will be posted at a later date.

**Attention:  
Confirmation Parents!**



Acolytes are still needed during the summer months. For your convenience we have not assigned those times to anyone yet, since summers can be busy with camps and vacations. Please take a look at the acolyte schedule on the youth board and see what Sunday's work for your family and fill your child's name in the blank. Thank you for your help!

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**ENDOWMENT FUND**

Hopefully, everyone is aware that St. Matthew's established an Endowment Fund in 2005. The purpose of the Fund is to be able to accept many donations and combine them so that the larger fund would generate additional income to carry out special missions or supplement the normal activities of the church when needed.

The oversight of the Fund is the responsibility of the Endowment Committee, composed of five rotating members, elected by the Congregation at the Annual Meeting each year. There are already assets in the fund consisting of some cash and several Life Insurance policies. However, **much more is needed** to increase the fund so that it can generate enough income to carry out the intended mission of the fund.

This message is intended to act as a reminder to our members to remember The Endowment Fund in your giving plans and estate planning. Some of the most common ways to participate are:

- Make it a part of your normal designated giving
- Suggested memorial gifts at the time of family deaths
- Designated bequest in your will
- Name the Fund as beneficiary in a Life Ins. Policy
- More sophisticated methods such as Life Estates and Charitable Trust

If contributing to the Endowment Fund might be of interest to you or you would just like more information, you may contact Pastor Sam or one of the Endowment Committee Members listed below:

Bill Rose – Chairman

Dr. Jim Markworth      John Stemke  
Bob Stansbury          Bill Paris

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**AN ENDOWMENT GIFT IS A GIFT THAT KEEPS  
ON GIVING.**

**REMEMBER DAILY IN YOUR PRAYERS** the following church members and friends.

Kenneth Hufham  
Dick Bramley  
James Ammons  
Brenda Seitter  
James Clemmons  
Kelsea Webster  
Marie Brown  
Herb and Lucy Bost  
Carroll Strong  
Diane Vickery  
Michelle King  
Charles Ramseur  
Marilyn Wilson  
Herb Fox  
Bruni Kline  
Military Families  
Gladys Lester

Nancy French  
John Geiger  
Beverly Chamberlain  
Karlene Ahrens  
Tim and Sarah Walter  
Pat Dearie  
Leon Wade, Sr.  
Bertha Rankin  
Bobby Seitter  
Pru Hovis  
The Wade Family  
The Price Family  
Clement Doniere  
Elsie Heinlein  
Dorothy Heberling  
Catherine Smith  
Roy Lester

Jane Brunt  
Linda Parker  
Steve Smith  
Lois Whitmeyer  
Clyde Farmer  
Wally Schultz  
Mary Serkiz  
Rick Robey  
Dean Carlisle  
Michael Vickery  
Fran Heidorn  
Ken Getsinger  
Cathy Geiger's father  
Milton Moser  
Betty Lauver  
George Thompson

Brenda Tyler  
Maury Hanes  
Harold Shelton, Jr.  
Frank Gilbert  
Naomi Era  
Lillian Witter  
Robin Hueskes  
Earl Lindner  
Marti Felter  
Sarah Mairs  
Iris Whiteside  
Scott Kanyok  
Nell McArver  
Dick Hiler  
Pat Lindner  
Valerie Hall

**REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND**

Diane Koen, Emma Brunjes, Barbara Cook, Helen Hauns, Betty Lauver, Ruby Hubbard, Effie and Jane McDougald.



Many thanks to Jack Kuske and family for the donation of an artificial Christmas tree and Christmas ornaments lovingly made by Harriet. It is a beautiful remembrance of our friend Harriett.

*Minnie Larson, Worship and Music*

Thank you to all the women who rolled up their sleeves and scrubbed and cleaned the Sanctuary on March 15<sup>th</sup>. A million thanks to: Carol Comeskey, Kathy Miller, Arlene Robie, Lynette Farmer, Carolyn Hooker, and Nancy Magruder. These ladies, most who are members of our altar guild teams contribute so much to the worship services of our church. I give them a big thank you and hope that you will thank them as well for all they do.

Those serving on the altar guild rotate a yearly schedule and serve several times through the year preparing the elements each week. Some of them have extra duties like purchasing the wine and wafers on a timely basis so we do not run out the elements. We have one member that cleans the altar on a weekly basis. If you would be interested in joining the altar guild to serve in such a meaningful way just give me a call, Minnie Larson, 350-2626. I will be glad to answer any of your questions and assign you a duty.

*Thanks to all for all you do, Minnie Larson*

**THANK YOU** to all those that fellowshiped at the Easter Sunday breakfast and helped the youth with their mission trip fundraiser. We were able to raise over \$600 toward our expenses. Again, thank you for supporting our youth.

*The Christian Education Committee* would like to THANK the Sunday School teachers for their dedication and everyone who brought food and /or substituted for the teachers as they enjoyed their Teacher Appreciation Breakfast in March.

**QWAWWWWWWWWWW**

**NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED  
March 16, 2008**

*Karen Haag*

**Affirmation of Faith**

*Robert and Christine Gatewood, Jr.*

**Transfer from Faith Lutheran Church,  
Arlington, Va.**

*Marvin J. and Marcie Schedler*

**Affirmation of Faith**

*Marjorie L. Kanyok*

**Transfer from Lutheran Church of Reconciliation,  
Wilmington, NC**

*Mike Pierce*

**Transfer from Our Savior Lutheran,  
Council Bluff, IA**

*In the May issue of the Encounter we will have pictures and a biographical sketch of each of the new families.*

**Blessings and congratulations to our kids that celebrated their FIRST COMMUNION on March 30<sup>th</sup>.**

*Haydn Bauer, son of Jim and Janna Bauer*

*Preston Gourville, son of William and Tracy Gourville*

*Mark Haskins, son of Paul and Lori Haskins*

*Jaydon Woollward, son of Holly Woollard and grandson of John and Karen Matthews*

**Those Serving in April 2008**

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS**

- 6** 8:30 Sandra Humphrey, Nancy Magruder, Kay Rose, Sandy O'Donnell
- 11:00 Sherry Bendahmane, Nancy Miller, Sandra Miles, Lynette Farmer
- 13** 8:30 Frank/Renate Gray, Dick/Sophie Williams
- 11:00 Richard Chinn, Sherri Hiler, Susan Shearin, Kelly Stansbury
- 20** 8:30 Kathy Bink., John Stemke, Barbara Moore Florence Schorschinsky
- 11:00 Melinda Knoerzer, Helen Stansbury, Ellen James, Carol Comeskey
- 27** 8:30 Kathren Miller, Florence Schorschinsky, Thelma Walter, Allan Warrington
- 11:00 Ruthann Getsinger, Stephanie Price, Kris Hall, Shirley Melito

**USHERS**

**Saturday Service:** Pete Koder

- 6** 8:30 Charles and Saville Riesz
- 11:00 Arthur Moore, ( **2** ) **NEEDED**
- 13** 8:30 Joe Rumsey, Butch Ruefle
- 11:00 John Antonelli, Trevor Hornick
- 20** 8:30 Jim Bauer, Jamie Price
- 11:00 Jeff Hollamon, Walter Brehm, ( **1** ) **NEEDED**
- 27** 8:30 Tyler and John Antonelli
- 11:00 Happy/Jake Wade, Stan Brunt

**GREETERS**

- 6:00 Jean Manley, Kay Thompson
- 8:30 Larry/Pat Mahl; John/Deborah Pollard
- 11:00 Bob/Helen Stansbury; Al/Peggy Barr

**LECTORS** *Saturday Services:* (5) *Brigitte Walters;* (12) *Mary Lou Byrne;* (19) *Jim Harshbarger;* (26) *Phil Bloedorn*

**Sunday Services**

- |           |                  |              |
|-----------|------------------|--------------|
|           | 8:30             | 11:00        |
| <b>6</b>  | Sophie Williams  | Zan Bramley  |
| <b>13</b> | Kay Rose         | Carol Chinn  |
| <b>20</b> | Sheila Whitmeyer | Ellen James  |
| <b>27</b> | Steve Morgan     | Sherri Hiler |

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

- |           |                      |           |                  |
|-----------|----------------------|-----------|------------------|
| <b>6</b>  | Schorschinsky, Brehm | <b>13</b> | Gray, Johns      |
| <b>20</b> | O'Donnell, Morgan    | <b>27</b> | Johnson, Zumwalt |

**NURSERY**

- |           |                   |                   |
|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|
|           | 8:30              | 11:00             |
| <b>6</b>  | Sheila Whitmeyer  | Barbara Smith     |
| <b>13</b> | Janna Bauer       | <b>Needed</b>     |
| <b>20</b> | Keri Rutland      | Jennifer Kitchens |
| <b>27</b> | Jennifer Kitchens | Kelly Stansbury   |

**ACOLYTES**

- |           |                                     |                                  |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|           | 8:30                                | 11:00                            |
| <b>6</b>  | Peyton Hughes<br>Laurel Melito      | Dale Stansbury<br>Ian Brambell   |
| <b>13</b> | Natalie Watkins<br>Meredith Allison | Robert Perry<br>David Robey      |
| <b>20</b> | Megan Stemke<br>Sarah Davis         | Amy Erkes<br>Riley Tucker        |
| <b>27</b> | Marisa Turner<br>Shauna Ruefle      | Meredith Deily<br>Carson Plumley |

**ALTAR GUILD** *Saturday: Janet Wise*

- 6** Amy Tucker-Morgan, Kathie Tucker, Kathren Miller
- 13** Thelma Walter, Linda Renzaglia, Karin Cook, Barbara Moore
- 20** Carol Chinn, Lynette Farmer, Laura Zumwalt, Carol Comeskey
- 27** Jodi Davis, Kristi Wade, Sonja Stroehl

**BUILDING** Sat: Pete Koder

**SUNDAY: OPEN:** Stan Brunt

**CLOSE:** Elmer Wild



**February 24 – March 23, 2008**

**MEMORY OF NELL MCARVER'S NEPHEW**

Fifth Sunday *Aleda Marggraff*

**MEMORY OF JOHN FRYE'S SISTER**

Fifth Sunday *Aleda Marggraff*  
Property *Aleda Marggraff*

**MEMORY OF HARRIET KUSKE**

Pastor's Discretionary *Aleda Marggraff*  
Social Ministry *Dot Springs*  
*Bill and Bethel Paris*  
Stephen Ministry *Larry and Pat Mahl*  
Family Assistance Fund *John and Karen Matthews*  
Fifth Sunday *Needham and Sylvia Hall*  
Property *Jo Kallenborn*  
Memorial Garden *Phil and Nancy Singleton*

**MEMORY OF MABEL HARSHBARGER**

Roof and Organ Repair *Bill and Betty Killian*  
General Fund *Jerry and Zan Bramley*

**MEMORY OF NELL MCARVER'S SISTER-IN-LAW, TOMMIE MCARVER**

Property *Pete and Grace Koder*  
*Peter and Virginia Parisek*  
Fifth Sunday *Hilda Buck*  
*Vera Wilson*

**CONTINUED ON BACK COVER.....**

**TREASURER'S REPORT  
February 2008**

Income for the month of February totaled \$45,471. Expenditures for February totaled \$51,371 resulting in a **negative** \$5,900. Income for the period January thru February totaled \$94,301. Expenditures for the same period totaled \$99,648 resulting in a **negative** \$5,347.

*Charles D. Malmberg, Treasurer*

**St. Matthew's Lutheran Church**  
*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

**APRIL 2008**

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*The Rev. Dr. Samuel D. Zumwalt, Pastor*  
612 S. College Road  
Wilmington, NC. 28403-3202  
(910) 791-4582

E-Mail: [stmatth@bellsouth.net](mailto:stmatth@bellsouth.net)  
Website: [stmatthewsch.org](http://stmatthewsch.org)

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

TIME VALUE MAIL

**MEMORIALS CONTINUED....**

**MEMORY OF INA MAY'S SISTER**

Property *Peter and Virginia Parisek*  
*Aleda Marggraff*

**MEMORY OF SARAH PRICE**

Youth *Bob and Cheryl Trapp*  
General *Jerry and Zan Bramley*

**MEMORY OF EMILY WADE**

General *Jerry and Zan Bramley*

**HONOR OF JIM AND NANCY MEES' 50<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY**

Family Assistance Fund *Dale and Dorothy Blade*  
Landscape *Charles and Darlene Schucker*  
Debt reduction *Phyllis Smith*  
Choir *Phil, Barbara, Ryan and Lee Christmas*

**HONOR OF BINK'S 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

Choir *Phil, Barbara, Ryan and Lee Christmas*

**HONOR OF ASH STEMKE'S EAGLE SCOUT AWARD**

Youth *The Phil Christmas Family*

**Dates in May**

May 2<sup>nd</sup> High School retreat  
May 4<sup>th</sup> Cantate Sunday  
May 11<sup>th</sup> Pentecost Sunday, Confirmation Sunday  
and Mother's Day  
May 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> Greek Festival... parking cars  
May 18<sup>th</sup> Graduation Sunday  
May 18<sup>th</sup> Church picnic  
May 22<sup>nd</sup> OWL's luncheon... last until fall  
May 25<sup>th</sup> Veteran's Sunday  
May 31<sup>st</sup> Free Agape Day Camp Day!

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**Dates to plan for in May from the Christian  
Education Team**

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**MAY 7 Confirmation Dinner**

Come enjoy dinner and hear the confirmands present their papers. This is a very special time for our kids and your support is appreciated. Sign up in April.

**MAY 18 A Good Ol' Fashioned Church Picnic**

Remember the church picnics of our youth... fried chicken, lemonade, sack races, baseball, sweet treats, a shady spot...Okay, I'm from the South, so maybe this memory is from my youth, but you get the idea! I want everyone to come to our old-fashioned St. Matthews picnic- old, young, and in between. More details to come. Any questions or offers to help please contact Janna Bauer 313-3198