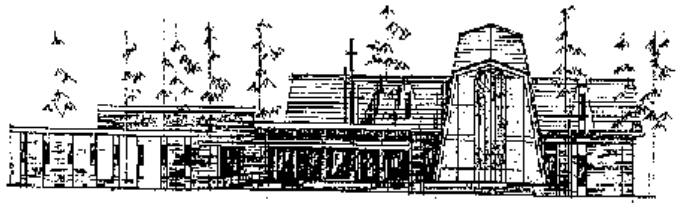


The Encounter



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

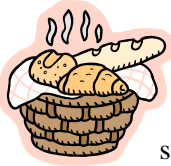
"The Church with a
WELCOME"
1892-2007

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Volume 8

JANUARY 2008

Number 1



Donuts and baked goods will be offered between the services

by our youth each Sunday starting on Jan. 6th. Donations will be gladly accepted and will be used for activities and projects the youth participate in on Sunday afternoons. If you wish to donate any baked goods to the youth please contact Sandra Humphrey or Sheila Mallo.



The American Guild of Organist Choral Festival

will be held here at
St. Matthew's
Sunday, January 13th at 4:00 pm

Come be a part of this concert, it
Will entertain you and lift your spirits for the
new year.

BUDGET FORUMS

Saturday, Jan. 5, 2008, 4:30 p.m.

Sun, Jan. 6, 2008, 9:45 a.m.

Open discussion and Q&A on the near-final, more detailed 2008 draft budget

STEPHEN MINISTRY

INFORMATION MEETING

Join the leaders of our Stephen Ministry program on *Sunday, January 13th at 9:45 in McCombs Hall (Room 104)* to learn about this vital ministry for this congregation. The leaders will be able to answer your questions and provide you with information to make a prayerful decision to serve in this ministry. Be God's ears and heart for His sheep in this world today.

Our First New member Class for 2008

January 12, 2008 from 9-12 for those new to the Lutheran Church

February 2, 2008 from 9-12 for those that completed the January 12th class and for those Lutherans that wish to transfer.

February 2 and 3, 2008 New Disciples will be received at the service they normally attend.

Sunday, Jan. 27, 2008, 12:15 p.m.
Vote on the final 2008 budget

CIRCLE MEETING SCHEDULE IS ON THE BACK COVER



High School Lock-in...

Friday Jan. 11th from 8pm-9am. You may bring a friend, but make sure you sign them up when you sign up. Information is on the youth board.



Service opportunity for ages 12 and up!

On **Saturday, Jan 12th** from **9:30am until 4pm** we will be painting the inside of a local residence that has sought out help from the a local refurbishing group WARM, we worked with them over the summer. If you are interested in giving us a hand please sign up on the youth board.

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

The mystery of the incarnation – that the Lord God became human in Jesus Christ – is a greater scandal to the human mind than even the resurrection. In an age that deifies science, even when and where it is highly speculative, bringing people back from the dead is old hat. It happens multiple times each hour in hospitals all across America.

The existence of God is often questioned by those that want to have no other gods before themselves (curiously, often an indicator, in my life experience, of alcoholism on the part of the so-called atheist). Thus, when and where God has been banished, the human is free to do whatever she or he wants without thought of consequences to others or to self. Because one tells oneself one is able to do something, one is permitted to do it, having learned nothing from the stories the ancients told about Pandora's Box or Babel's Tower.

At the same time, for Americans born after 1940, there seems to be a strange fascination with the exotic spiritualities of the Orient. Those that dismiss Judaism and Christianity as tired old morality may readily embrace the do-it-yourself religious ideas of the East precisely because such an approach yet leaves them in the driver's seat. Spirituality that offers no guilt and no challenging external Word of God is highly attractive to the emotionally adolescent. Even the submission required of those that practice Islam leaves the practitioner free to reject the idea of an incarnate God and hence of a God that shares our suffering and death and calls us to follow Him.

Most indicative of the popularity of do-it-yourself religion are the books of teachers of religion that are decidedly post Christian in their ideas about the historical Jesus. It is as if they learned nothing from the previous quests for the historical Jesus that told more about the ones on the quest than about the One for whom they were searching.

Ask the typical post Christian who they have been reading, and typically they will mention Borg or Ehrman or Pagels or an old work by Bertrand Russell or the latest atheist manifesto on the Times bestseller list. Ask if she or he had worked through major works by N.T. Wright or the even more challenging historian

Jaroslav Pelikan (The [multi-volume] History of Christian Doctrine) or even Luther's Works or the Ante-Nicene Fathers, and you may well get a "who's that" stare. Ask if the typical post Christian has seriously studied the Bible over the course of several years within the context of a traditional Christian congregation, and again you may get a confused look reminiscent of the dumb blonde in the movie "Must Love Dogs" ("WHY?").

Someone once said that it was not so much that Christianity had been tried and found wanting as it had not been tried! For the spiritually minded person that considers her or himself post Christian, I would invite that person to begin to reexamine the sophomoric rejection of Christianity by reading Pope Benedict's latest book on Jesus the Son of God, and, of course, by actually trying to worship and study regularly here.

All of this is to say that the incarnation of God in Jesus of Nazareth is still a threat to the person that wants to stay in control of her or his own life. If God has become flesh, then God is loose upon the world. If God is loose upon this world, then those that do not acknowledge Him as Lord and God have chosen not to be His. And God's response to such rejection is sadness that the rejecter does not want His great love or help.

A friend of mine, a recovering alcoholic, used to give the person that wanted to keep drinking a dollar to speed him or her on the way in hopes that the futility of that life would ultimately land that person on her or his knees and elbows, if not flat-faced, before the God who alone can save.

Back to the promises of Christmas, the angel told Joseph that the child would be called Jesus [Yeshua], for He would save God's people from their sins (Matthew 1:18-25). Sadly, the wages of sin is still death, but, blessedly, there is only One Lord and God who has become human to deliver us from sin, death, and evil.

I wish you each a blessed and merry Christmass, encouraging you to pray that this Lord Jesus would claim your flesh, your life, as His own, so that you may live under Him in His kingdom and follow Him in a life of humble service to God and neighbor in 2008.

May His peace be yours today and always!

- This business and visioning meeting of the Congregational Council was held on December 13, 2007 beginning with a devotional led by Pastor Sam at 7:00pm. The meeting continued at 7:25 pm with John Antonelli presiding.
- The treasurer's reports indicated that income for the month of November totaled \$ 41,488. Expenditures for November totaled \$ 47,082 resulting in a **negative** \$ 5,594. Income for the period January thru November totaled \$ 491,366. Expenditures for the same period totaled \$ 522,529 resulting in a **negative** \$ 31,162.
- The newly elected officers and council members were welcomed at this meeting, Richard Chinn, President, Jerry Bramley, Vice President, Butch Ruefle, Secretary, Chuck Malmberg, Treasurer and council members Kathren Miller, Rich Walter, Mark Williams, Mike Roberts and Jaimee Miles.
- Regards and thanks to the retiring members John Antonelli, Stan Brunt, Zan Bramley, Eddie Weaver, Helen Stansbury and Christine Deily.
- Council heard from the Parish Records Audit Team. Council and the team wish to remind us that the black sign in folders are important for parish record keeping. They are the principal document used in recording our attendance at services.
- Joe Rumsey reported that the roof repair work is about 90% complete. Council acknowledges with gratitude the efforts and work of Needham Hall in this endeavor.
- Scott Holzberger will be heading up the Vacation Bible School for the upcoming year. He and his team are eagerly looking for help, ideas and support. The program is set to begin the week after school ends.
- A Stephen Ministry meeting is to be held on January 13th between Sunday Services at 9:45am.
- The meeting adjourned with the praying of the Lord's Prayer at 9:00 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday January 26, 2008 at the conclusion of the annual council retreat.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Gimbal, Recorder

Dear Members of St. Matthew's,

It's Sunday evening and I'm reflecting on the week the WIHN families spent in the McSwain Center. Overall, I believe the families had a positive and welcoming experience. I struggle with some of the attitudes and behaviors of the families but feel encouraged with the involvement and giving of so many.

Special thanks need to be given to: Carol Comeskey, Rowanne Lane, Minnie Larson, Patrick Potter, Bonnie Weaver, Dick Williams, Jim Mees, Bethel Paris, Irene Shea, Ken Shea, John Stemke, Jerry Bramley, Messiah Lutheran, Cindy Antoneli, Linda Riesz, Axel Erkes, Shirley Morrow, Elaine Brown, Ana Marie Jackson, Carol Chinn, Richard Chinn, Jan Christine, Carolyn Hooker, Lynette Farmer, Jenna Ricketts, Chris Bocchino, Mary Friedrichs, Phil Anderson, Kure Beach Memorial, Judy Daniels, Margaret Ballentine, Zan Bramley, Judy Huffman, Wayne Huffman, Shiela Whitmeyer, Amy Tucker-Morgan, Kathie Tucker, Tracy Gourville, Vivian Alexander, Jean Manley, Florence Schorschinsky, Jennifer Kitchens, Laura Zumwalt, Carol Roberts, Sophie Williams, Dianne Vickery, Karen Ruefle, Susie Wakild, Loretta Brehm, Shirley Melito, Betty Lentz, Lyanne Hughes, Norma Vics, Lucy Hieronymus, Diane Rumsey. I sincerely appreciate the sacrifices of time and giving of your treasures that you all provided for the sake of the three families that stayed with us. The total volunteer hours were just over 220. Reggie & Shia, Kenneth, Pierce & Kiki and Loletta & Shandaya thank you also.

I also have an important observation after coordinating this ministry for the last year, my list of those who have provided their time and treasure hasn't changed much from the list for August 2006. My experience over the year has been to offer the opportunity to everyone to volunteer to help. I still need to make calls the week prior to the families arriving to fill in for overnights, dinners, hosting, and transportation. My calls are always graciously considered and accepted and the help is available.

I also notice a reluctance to get involved just for the brief moment in the lives of the families to nurture, encourage, challenge, or share faith journeys with them.

This makes me wonder, "Have we reached a point where the parish doesn't want to support this ministry? Should we support this ministry in other ways? Is it acceptable to continue to call on the same volunteers when the sign up sheets are not complete? How do we get new volunteers to step forward? Are there other options that we need to explore?"

This is a situation that I believe needs prayer and discussion so that we are accepting of the call to support the homeless. The families will be back to St. Matthew's on February 17th.

*Thanks,
Bill Fox*



Attention youth group parents!

A new meal sign up list is on the youth board. Please take a moment and sign up for a turn. The meals have really been a great asset to our program and without your help in providing them, along with the clean up, and your extra willing hands with the groups I would be at a loss to do it all. Any questions please call Nancy Magruder.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Join a Sunday School Class in 2008! We offer classes for ages 2 years to adult. We offer 4 adult classes: 1) Paul: The Man from Tarsus, led by Bill Davis, 2) Sacred Seasons, Holy Days, led by Frank Howard, 3) Christian Parenting, led by Kathren Miller, and 4) Divine Drama, a shortened version of Crossways Bible Study led by Pastor Sam.

We are always interested in ideas for new classes.

Sister's Bible Study begins in January. Look for sign up sheets on bulletin board in front of church office for exact dates and more information.

The Christian Education Team will meet on *Tuesday, January 15th @ 7:00 P.M.* All Sunday School teachers, church council members and anyone with ideas to improve Christian Education at St. Matthews are invited to attend. Any questions please contact Tammi Gates @ 796-9686.

The Christian Education Team would like to **THANK Renate and Frank Gray** for their generous donation of Advent Calendars for our Sunday School children. The children look forward to the calendars every year and their faces light up with anticipation as they receive them. Several students and parents told us how the calendar is one of their favorite gifts of the season. Thank you Renate and Frank for continuing the tradition of Renate's German childhood for our Sunday School families.

Thank you to the St. Matthew church family for your generous love offering. I feel very blessed to serve St. Matthews as Christian Education Director.

*In Christ's service,
Tammi Gates*

FYI Lutheran Services for Aging (LSA) wants to announce to the congregation that after twenty five years of requests to the state of North Carolina, they have been granted permission to construct a one hundred bed nursing home in Wilmington. While other businesses that also submitted requests to construct a nursing home can appeal the award, an appeal is not expected. If an appeal were to be lodged with the state,

LSA expects to prevail on the strength of their application. The location for the nursing home is in Monkey Junction, on the East side of South College Road. The entrance to the property will be directly across the street from the entrance into the Lowe's/Walmart shopping center, through a business park. That will place the facility out of sight of South College Road, behind the Myrtle Grove/Monkey Junction library. Construction will commence in the near future, with a completion date projected for October 2010. The LSA Strategic Planning calls for both an independent and assisted living facility to be added in the foreseeable future. Mr. Ted Goings, Chief Executive Officer of LSA, is very excited about the award, and thanks our congregation for their support during the application process.

Carolyn Gimbal has been accepted into the 2008 People

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER

to People Student Ambassador Program. People to People is an organization that was established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956 in response to the Cold War and the aftereffects of World War II. The mission of the organization is to promote world peace through increased understanding between citizens of the world. Students apply to the program by recommendation and must supply several references and attend an interview to qualify for consideration into the program. Delegations are formed to visit foreign countries and learn about their cultures. Carolyn will participate in the Exploring Western Europe program in the summer of 2008, visiting Ireland, Wales, England, The Netherlands, Belgium and France. *Way to go Carolyn, congrats!*

IN THE NEW YEAR! *As your new Council President I look forward to working with all church leaders and members as we go into the future.*

I am excited about the possibilities that we will be building on and explore to help this congregation grow closer to God and to each other through service in God's world and the church.

The new year will begin with a **LEADERSHIP EVENT** which includes the Old and New Officers and Council Members, Ministry Team Leaders and the Staff of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. The event will take place the **weekend of January 25/26**. It will conclude on Saturday the 26th with our regular monthly Church Council meeting at 11:30 am.

Keep the leadership of this congregation in your prayers as we move forward into the NEW YEAR!

Thanks, Richard Chinn

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Choir Schedule 4:00 Luther Choir 4:00 Little Luther Choir 4:00 Instrumental Ensemble 4:45 Tone Chime Choir 5:00 Handbell Choir		1 NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSED	2 8:00 Devotional Breakfast 9:30 Spiritual Form. 5:30 Cadette GS #354 6:30 Cub Scouts #274 7:00 Confirmation 7:30 Adult Choir	3 9:00 Women's Fitness Brownie #739 4:00 7:00 Boy Scouts	4	5 6:00 Worship/Comm 8:00 AA 8:00 AL-ANON
6 Epiphany of Our Lord 8:30 Worship/Communion 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 FORUM BUDGET MTGS. 11:00 Worship/Communion 1:30 Senior GS #139 1:30 Junior GS #226 6:00 MS/HS YOUTH GROUP	7 9:30 Spiritual Form. 12:00 Conversations	8 9:00 Women's Fitness 9:30 Faith Circle 10:00 Prayer Group 1:30 Peace Circle 6:00 Praise Circle 6:30 Contemporary Svc Practice 7:30 Love Circle 8:00 AA	9 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	10 9:00 Women's Fitness Crossways 4:00 Brownie #739 7:00 Boy Scouts	11 HS LOCK-IN 8:00 PM.... Until 9:00AM Saturday	12 9-12 New Member Class 9:30-4:00 Youth Service Opportunity 6:00 Worship/Comm 8:00 AA 8:00 AL-ANON
13 8:30 Contemp. Worship 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Stephen Ministry Info Mtg Rm 104 11:00 Worship/Communion 4:00 AGO Choral Festival NO CHOIRS 6:00 MS/HS YOUTH GROUP	14 9:30 Spiritual Form. 12:00 Conversations	15 9:00 Women's Fitness 10:00 Prayer Group 8:00 AA NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16 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	17 9:00 Women's Fitness Crossways 4:00 Brownie #739 7:00 Boy Scouts	18	19 6:00 Worship/Comm 8:00 AA 8:00 AL-ANON
20 8:30 Worship/Communion 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship/Communion 1:30 Senior GS #139 NO YOUTH GROUPS	21 HOLIDAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	22 9:00 Women's Fitness 10:00 Prayer Group 6:00 Worship Plng. 6:30 Contemporary Svc Practice 7:00 Stephen Ministry 8:00 AA	23 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	24 9:00 Women's Fitness Crossways 11:30 OWLs Fellowship 4:00 Brownie #739 7:00 Boy Scouts	25 Cub Scout 274 Pinewood Derby COUNCIL LEADERSHIP RETREAT BEGINS 7:00 Via de Cristo	26 COUNCIL LEADERSHIP RETREAT AND COUNCIL MEETING 6:00 Worship/Comm 8:00 AA 8:00 AL-ANON
27 8:30 Contemp. Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship/Communion 12:15 BUDGET MTG. VOTE 6:00 MS/HS YOUTH GROUP	28 9:30 Spiritual Form. 12:00 Conversations	29 9:00 Women's Fitness 10:00 Prayer Group 7:00 Ministry Teams 8:00 AA	30 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	31 9:00 Women's Fitness Bible Study 4:00 Brownie #739 7:00 Boy Scouts		

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

** Denotes Youth Birthday

1	Trisha Watts	9	E. A. Shands	20	Anna LeRoux
	Jaimee Miles **	11	Amy Morgan	21	Jeff Zuege **
	Alexander Miles **		Ivy Jane Fischl	22	Freda Brewbaker
2	Betty Lentz	12	Bill Rose	23	Al Lerch, Jr.
	Charles Schucker		Robert Williams		Sheila Whitmeyer
3	James Clemmons		Alanna Turner **	24	Wendy Ahrens
	Anna Haskins **		Donna Adams	25	Peter Koder
	Harold Shelton	13	Frank Howard		Jack Kuske
4	Kathie Tucker	14	Samuel Zumwalt		Marilyn Willson
5	Eleanor Davis	15	Travis Johns **	27	James Wells
	Kim Sabbagh	16	Lucy Hieronymus		LeRoof Poythress
6	Diane Rumsey		Teresa Hall		Brigitte Walters
	Emily Anderson **		Evan Watts, Jr.		Patricia Rose
	Jenna Ricketts		Cearra Meyer	28	Richard Brode
7	Samuel Dunaway **	17	Elaine Brown	31	Jane Bruce
8	Judy Williams		Ashley Perry		Jim Taylor
9	Mark Sewell **	19	Betty Ann Gesser		Loretta Brehm
	Travis Howard **		Clement Doniere		
	Lenore Howard **		Robert Rabozzi		

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES



2	Herb and Lucy Bost	4	Stephen and Bekki Lee	30	Bob and Jean Wooley
3	Lee and Iris Whiteside	8	Charles and Darlene Schuker		
	Trevor and Lisa Hornick	22	William and Audrey Shannon		
4	Ken and Irene Shea	28	Keith and Lynette Farmer		

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

Nancy Heck	Kenneth Hufham	Ray Tyler
Jane Brunt	Diane Vickery	Pru Hovis
Naomi Era	Michael Vickery	Lillian Witter
Michelle King	The Wade Family	Ryan Family
Dick Bramley	John Geiger	Brenda Tyler
Kelsea Webster	Pat Dearie	Wally Schultz
Marie Brown	Leon Wade, Sr.	Mary Serkiz
Herb and Lucy Bost	Hilary Piper	Bertha Rankin
Carroll Strong	Bobby Seitter	Dean Carlisle
Marilyn Wilson	Clement Doniere	Fran Heidorn
Herb Fox	Elsie Heinlein	Ken Getsinger
Bonnie Nyhus	Josey Warrington	Bruni Kline
Military Families	Dorothy Heberling	Cecil Dutton
Charles Ramseur	The Price Family	Marti Felter
Mary Guerassio	Catherine Smith	Milton Moser
James Ammons	Beverly Chamberlain	Kurt Watchel
James Clemmons	Harshbarger Family	Dottie Bateman
Joycelyn Stevens	Tim and Sarah Walter	Iris Whiteside
Harold Shelton, Jr.	Sophia Mavrolas	Patricia Williams
Harriet Zumwalt	Earl Lindner	Rick Robey
Linda Parker	Tara S. Parker	Vera Wilson
Harriet Kuske	Doris Zube	George Thompson
Cathy Geiger's father		

REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND

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

SACREMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM was celebrated for *Ethan Kwon Gains*. His parents are Bryce Kwon and Elizabeth Catherine Gains. Grandparents are Ron and Judi Funke and his God Parent is Melissa Funke.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

My wife Jeanne and I would like to express our grateful appreciation and Thank You to all for the wonderful gifts of love and kindness which we have received during this Advent and Christmas Season.

It is our pleasure and joy to be able to serve the Lord here at St. Matthew's and we wish all of you a very blessed and joyful holiday season. May God's Grace and peace be with you and your and my your New Year be filled with happiness, joy and good health. Thank you for your love.

*Peace be with you,
Pastor Dale and Jeanne Kempainen*

I extend my heartfelt thanks to you for your thoughtfulness during the Christmas Season. The love offering you gave was so very generous and it is appreciated very much. Thanks also for the many gifts and goodies I received at Christmas. Your gifts blessed and humbled me and it is an honor and privilege to serve God through St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. Thank you all and may God bless you richly in 2008.

*Peace, In Christ,
Judy Clemmons*

A special thank you to the members of St. Matthews for my Christmas Love Offering. The gift was most appreciated from my "St. Matthews Family".

*Blessings,
Suzanne Murphy*

I want to thank all the people who sent me cards and also those who sent memorials to the church in memory of my husband, Glen. All was appreciated during a very difficult time.

*Peace in Christ
Bonnie Nyhus*

To My Church Family,

I am so blessed to have such a wonderful church family. You overwhelmed me with love and care when I had my fall in mid November and broke my arm. The cards, gifts and visits while at Cape Fear and Silver Stream helped keep my spirits up. Thank you for all you have done for me during my convalescence. I thank you as well for the Christmas gifts and food after returning to my home on December 18th. To the Vic and Brambell families thank you for having me to dinner on Christmas day. May God bless each of you in the new year.

*Thanks,
Mary Guerassio*

The Music Dept. of St. Matthew's would like to thank Nina and Robert Rabozzi for the most wonderful gift of the new Digital grand piano. The new instrument was first introduced Christmas Eve with Ash Stemke playing it at the 6:00pm service. Then Tim Antonelli and Bonnie Weaver accompanied the organ during the 8:30 am and 11:00 am services. This instrument will offer a wide variety of sounds and possibilities for the youth choirs as well as other programs. Again, many, many thanks for a most wonderful Christmas present to St. Matthew's.

Also, the music staff would like to thank two wonderful persons for making possible the movement of the New Digital Grand. It is a little heavy and not easily portable. However, a special dolly was made to move the piano and donated by Capt. Rich Walter and Kevin Gallagher. Again, many thanks for such a needed gift so we can move from the choir suite to the sanctuary or McSwain center.

And we also *Thank Ryan and Mary Allison* for the wonderful and needed piano for the Little Luther and Luther choir room. It is wonderful to have an instrument that all the notes work and sound right!! Our many thanks for your generosity and addition to the music program of the church.

We the music staff also want to thank the members of St. Matthew's for the Love Gift presented to us at Christmas time. We feel so blessed to be able to share out talents and love here with such a loving and caring congregation.

*Peace and Blessings
Bonnie Weaver
Bill Glisson*

Those Serving in January 2008

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

- 6** 8:30 Wayne/Judy Huffman, Nancy Brennan, Scott Holzberger
- 11:00 Zan Bramley, Sandra Miles, Robert Rabozzi, Carol Comeskey
- 13** 8:30 Terri Dearie, Linda Renzaglia, Nancy Wells, Florence Schorschinsky
- 11:00 Ken Johns, Ana Marie Jackson, Saville Riesz, Lynette Farmer
- 20** 8:30 Jan Christine, Bill Fox, Bill/Bethel Paris
- 11:00 Sherry Bendahmane, Jerry Bramley, Melissa Hollamon, Melinda Knoerzer
- 27** 8:30 Sandra Humphrey, Mike/Carol Roberts, Nancy Magruder
- 11:00 Sherri Hiler, Linda Riesz, Pam Gudrian, Kelly Stansbury

USHERS

Saturday Service: TBA

- 6** 8:30 Phil Anderson and Larry Gates
- 11:00 Happy/Jake Wade, Stan Brunt
- 13** 8:30 David and Bob Trapp
- 11:00 John Pollard, Tony Irenze, TBA
- 20** 8:30 Wayne and Judy Huffman
- 11:00 Happy Wade, Saville Riesz, Fred Getsinger
- 27** 8:30 Bud Poythress and David Miller
- 11:00 Peter Gimbal, Keith Geiger, TBA

GREETERS

- 6:00 Pete, Grace and Kathy Koder
- 8:30 Ryan/Mary Allison and Peter and Virginia Parisek
- 11:00 Mary Horne, Cherry Horn and Tony and Delores Irenze

LECTORS *Saturday Services:* (5) Cindy Cornett; (12) Kathy Bink; (19) Mary Lou Byrne; (26) Nancy Fauser

Sunday Services

- | | | |
|-----------|--------------------|---------------|
| | 8:30 | 11:00 |
| 6 | Marti Felter | Jerry Bramley |
| 13 | Tammi Gates | Linda Riesz |
| 20 | Paul Haskins | Zan Bramley |
| 27 | Melissa Holzberger | Barbara Moore |

ALTAR FLOWERS

- | | | | |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 6 | Schucker, Miles | 13 | Wade, Rose |
| 20 | Marggraff, Doniere | 27 | Wohlbrueck, Brown |

NURSERY

- | | | |
|-----------|-------------------------|------------------|
| | 8:30 | 11:00 |
| 6 | Kathleen Gates | Rowanne Lane |
| 13 | Brandy Bocchino | Matt Weaver |
| 20 | Jeanna Fulton | Lisa Connaughton |
| 27 | Sandra/Shannon Humphrey | Natalie Watkins |

ACOLYTES

- | | | |
|-----------|------------------------------------|--|
| | 8:30 | 11:00 |
| 6 | Patrick Magruder
Carson Plumley | Dale Stansbury, Ian Brambell
Amy Erkes, Laurel Melito |
| 13 | Patrick Magruder
Danni Meyer | Travis Johns
Sarah Davis |
| 20 | David Haskins
Megan Stemke | Robert Perry
Natalie Watkins |
| 27 | Patrick Magruder
Shauna Ruefle | Caleigh Lockwood
Riley Tucker |

ALTAR GUILD *Saturday: Laura Gray*

- 6** Jodi Davis, Kristi Wade, Sonja Stroehl
 - 13** Margaret Ballantine, Nancy Fauser, Shirley Morrow
 - 20** Judy Benson, Robin Hueskes, Arlene Robie, Jan Christine
 - 27** Amy Tucker-Morgan, Kathie Tucker, Kathren Miller, Diane Vickery
- BUILDING** Sat: Pete Koder
SUNDAY: OPEN: John Stemke **CLOSE:** Bob Stansbury



November 25 – December 24

MEMORY OF PAUL MURPHY

Youth Phil and Barbara Christmas
Ray and Marilyn Wilson

MEMORY OF JOHN FRYE'S SISTER – MRS. SLOOP

Love Offering Herb and Lucy Bost
Property Peter and Virginia Parisek
Pete and Grace Koder
Pastor Discretionary Laura Gray

MEMORY OF PASTOR BILL FINK

Missionary Fund Phil and Barbara Christmas
Roof Repair Jim Harshbarger

MEMORY OF GLEN NYHUS

Property Peter and Virginia Parisek
Pastor Discretionary Richard and Sophie Williams

MEMORY OF MARGARET ELLER'S SISTER

Property Peter and Virginia Parisek
Pete and Grace Koder

MEMORY OF HILDA HOWARD

Family Assistance Jo Kallenborn

MEMORY OF MABEL HARSHBARGER

Family Assistance Jo Kallenborn
Bluewater Birthday Club
John and Karen Matthews
Pastor Discretionary Ray and Marilyn Wilson

Jean Manley and Dick and Sophie Williams
Endowment Marvin Robison, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Zook,
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Arthur

Roof/Organ Repair Ray and Brenda Tyler

MEMORY OF MITCH MILLER

Pastor Discretionary Ray and Marilyn Wilson

MEMORY OF MICHAEL MCARVER

Roof/Organ Repair Ray and Brenda Tyler

MEMORY OF EMILY WADE

Little Luther Choir Vivian Alexander

MEMORY OF SARAH PRICE

Little Luther Choir Vivian Alexander

See back cover for in HONOR of...

TREASURER'S REPORT

November 2007

Income for the month of November totaled \$ 41,488. Expenditures for November totaled \$ 47,082 resulting in a **negative** \$ 5,594. Income for the period January through November totaled \$ 491,366. Expenditures for the same period totaled \$ 522,529 resulting in a **negative** \$ 31,162. Due to a Cash Deficit in November, a draw of \$ 5,000 was made on Reserves.

Charles D. Malmberg, Treasurer

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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

E-Mail: stmatth@bellsouth.net
Website: stmatthewsch.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME VALUE MAIL

JANUARY 2008

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
WILMINGTON, NC
PERMIT NO. 472



HONOR OF ALEXANDER RHE MONROE

Youth *Jean Manley*

HONOR OF GRANDCHILDREN - HALEY, AYDEN AND BRYCE

Youth *Jean Manley*

HONOR OF ADULT CHOIR

Choir Robes *John and Karen Matthews*

HONOR OF BONNIE WEAVER -GREAT CANTA

Choir *Rich and Thelma Walter*

HONOR OF BILL GLISSON

Choir *Rich and Thelma Walter*

HONOR OF NANCY MAGRUDER

Youth *Rich and Thelma Walter*

HONOR OF RICH AND THELMA WALTER

Missionary Fund *Phil and Barbara Christmas*

HONOR OF TIM AND SARA WALTER

Missionary Fund *Phil and Barbara Christmas*

Endowment *Rich and Thelma Walter*

HONOR OF HERB AND LUCY BOST

Endowment *Rich and Thelma Walter*

HONOR OF ETHAN GAINS BAPTISM

Pastor Discretionary *Ron and Judi Funke*

Family Assistant Fund *Ron and Judi Funke*

HONOR OF STEPHEN MINISTERS

Discretionary *Larry and Pat Mahl*
Anna Jackson
Bill and Bethel Paris

HONOR OF SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Discretionary *Anna Jackson*

HONOR OF PASTOR FRANK PERRY FOR ALEX MONROE'S BAPTISM

Youth *Scott and Christi Monroe*

CIRCLE MEETINGS FOR JANUARY

Faith January 8 at 9:30 am, Church Library
Love January 8 at 7:30 pm, Church Library
Peace January 8 at 1:30 pm, Church Library
Praise January 8 at 6:00 pm, Place TBA

Dates in February

Feb. 1st ... K-5th grade activity... check board
Feb. 8th ... Middle School lock-in
Feb. 10th ... Valentine meal after 11:00 service...
no youth groups
Feb. 15th ... Ski trip...