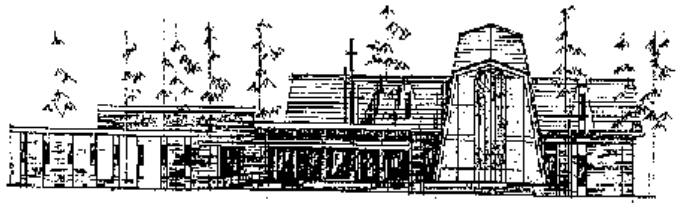


The Encounter



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 7

SEPTEMBER 2007

Number 9



Is **SEPTEMBER 9TH** at 9:45 am
Sunday School resumes on this date. We begin in the Sanctuary and then breakout into sessions for classes.

The 4 adult classes will begin on October 21st. Only one adult class will be held from September 9th-October 14th. We will study the ELCA proposed statement on Sexuality. On October 14th Tim and Sarah Walter will give a presentation on their mission work in Russia.

Mark your calendar

O.W.L.'s group will meet on Thursday September 20th at 11:30a.m. in McSwain for a catered meal.

OWL's is our older wiser Lutherans group. It is open to anyone over the age of 55 and able to attend during the daytime.

MENU: Chicken Pot Pie, Pork Roast with Dressing Mashed potatoes, green beans, squash casserole and apple crisp for dessert. Cost \$7.00 per person.

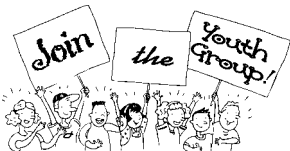
Reservations: Make your reservation when you are called in the next two weeks by your Owl's caller or Call Nancy Magruder at 791-4582, Ext 212.

ROAD TRIP: Look for signup sheets on the OWL's bulletin board for a trip to Christmas at Biltmore in Ashville. This will be an overnight trip. It will be in late November or early December. SIGN UP ASAP so we can finalize the plans.

**Youth Group Rally Day...
Sept. 9th**

Middle and High School youth meet at **6pm in the gym** for a meal and some get to know you time. Then each Sunday

we meet together at 6pm for a meal and split into our two groups for activities and fellowship with your peers. Can't make it for Rally Day, join us any Sunday, our doors are always open!



Youth Mission Stock Dinner will be held on Sunday Sept. 23rd at 12:30pm in the McSwain Center. If you did not purchase a ticket you are still welcome to sign

up and join us.

The youth have prepared an excellent presentation for you.

Sign up is in the commons area.

Movie Night at 6:30pm on Saturday, Sept. 29th



Bring your friends! Bring your comfy chair! We supply the popcorn and drinks.

Movie is to be announced soon. ☐☐☐



**ST. MATTHEW'S SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 15,16, 2007**

**COME TO THE COVERED
DISH LUNCHEON ON SUNDAY
THE 16TH AT 12:30 PM.**

It's potluck. Just bring a meat and a salad or veggie to share. Bring enough for your family plus 2. All else will be furnished.

The signup sheet is in the Commons.

WELCOME our guest pastor, *Pastor James McDaniels*, Lutheran Service for the Aging Chaplain from Winston Salem. He will be here for all three services for the St. Matthew's Weekend celebration.

See back cover for more youth events and special dates for Oct., Nov., and Dec.

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Many of us remember the excitement and regret that accompanied the end of each summer during those summers between the ages of 6 and 18. So many of those fall seasons marked major milestones in our lives – starting first grade, starting middle school, starting high school, starting the year we would get our driver's license, and then, at last, the start of our senior year. With great anticipation we began new adventures!

Ah, but saying goodbye to the freedom and joy of summertime was always hard as well. Many of us had hardly worn shoes all summer long. Getting up early was fun when we were little. Staying up late was fun as we got older. Hours of play, summer ball games, time away at camp, and a family vacation now and then – what memories were made! Then, it was time to get back into the discipline of studies and classes and various and sundry activities.

Despite the warmer temperatures here in coastal Carolina, it's time to think fall at St. Matthew's – time for new beginnings and renewed participation. Here are a few important dates to remember:

- August 29 @ 7 p.m. – Middle school Confirmation orientation for parents and students in grades 6th through 8th
- September 5 @ 6 p.m. Crossways Bible Study Resumes (Repeated on September 6 @ 10 a.m.)
- September 9 @ 9:45 a.m. – Rally Day activities in the sanctuary for all ages with new Bibles given to all 2 year olds, 3rd, and 6th graders
- September 16 @ 9:45 a.m. – New Sunday School classes begin for all ages
- September 15/16 – St. Matthew's Weekend with dinner on Sunday at noon
- Coming in October – a new contemporary worship service – more details later!

On August 25/26 we welcomed a great group of newcomers who have brought with them a lot of enthusiasm and energy. They are delighted to be part of St. Matthew's. I hope that their excitement will bubble out into the congregation and that many of you, as fall begins, will remember what a great congregation this is and how much it has to offer everyone.

Ask the Holy Spirit to give you the grace and faith you need to say hello to the opportunities for growth in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ that are set before you this fall. If you haven't taken the Crossways Bible Study, then sign up to find out what you have been missing. If you haven't been attending Sunday School, pick a class and bring those in your household or a friend along with you. If you have been sporadic in worship attendance or have been nursing a gripe or two, then let it go and get back into the joy of our fellowship in the Gospel.

If you would like to be part of a discussion of next Sunday's preaching text, join the Conversation each Monday at noon in the library. If it's been ages or even never since you sang in the choir, or rung bells, or played an instrument to God's glory, then join in a musical ensemble. Build new friendships in a youth group, or the new men's group, or a women's group, or a spiritual formation group. Or perhaps start to usher, or greet visitors, or read the lessons, or serve the Eucharist, or serve in the nursery, or join the Altar Guild, or help out with one of our various ministry teams! It's time to get up and at 'em!

Summer 2007 will soon be a memory. Fall will be a great time to make some new memories at St. Matthew's, along with new Christian friends, and even perhaps a deeper and richer relationship with Jesus Christ and His Father and the Holy Spirit!

You are a vital part of the body of Christ here at St. Matthew's. So please make the body stronger by being willing to fully participate in God's life and love now and always.

Your brother in Christ,

Pastor Sam Zumwalt

Worship – the Highlight of My Week

By John Antonelli

We live in a busy world. Some people call it progress. I'm not so sure. Are we "progressing" toward something or just spinning our wheels? Workers are working more hours. Businesses are open 24 hours, 7 days a week. Traffic is worse than ever. Some people seem to thrive on this busy-ness. Multitasking (was that even a word 10 years ago?) is now a skill one puts on his or her resume.

I'm not complaining. Some of this is good, for sure. But, admittedly, it is very easy to get caught up in it all and lose our place. My typical week – whether its work, family life, leisure activity – is full of highs and lows. Only one constant keeps it all together for me – and that's worship. Confessing my sins and receiving complete forgiveness, singing praises to God, hearing the Word, stating with conviction the core of my faith in the creeds, remembering my baptism, and receiving the fully present Christ in body and blood, create for me a deeper sense of calm, and nourish me for the upcoming week.

But it's not just about refreshment and nourishment. It's a challenge too, and sometimes a wakeup call. It never ceases to amaze me how the scriptures seem to be the exact thing I need to hear at that moment. It happens every week. A different way to look at a problem, a reminder of a relationship I need to attend to, a call to slow down, a call to speed up, a reminder to serve, or a simple message to just be thankful and willing to accept God's amazing grace.

People ask me all the time, "What can I do at church?" I usually answer, "Come to worship – if possible every week, and invite others. Make it a habit. And pray hard. Ask God. He'll guide you right to where He needs you."

□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

August Council Summary

- This business and visioning meeting of the Congregational Council was held on August 9, 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 July totaled \$ 45,248. Expenditures for July totaled \$ 43,606 reflecting a **positive** result of \$ 1,642. Income from January thru July totaled \$ 324,693. Expenditures for the same period totaled \$ 332,062 reflecting a **negative** result of \$ 7,369.
- Council heard a report from Joe Rumsey in connection with our roof repair project. A motion was made to raise the authorization for cost of work on the roof and related repairs project from \$46,200 to \$65,000. The \$65,000 includes approximately \$8,000 in organ repairs not included in the original motion.
- Council was addressed by Jerry Bramley on behalf of the Emily Wade Memorial Fund for Family Assistance. Jim Mees will be retiring from service, his work acknowledged with love and gratitude from Council. Kristi Wade has been nominated and approved for a seat on the committee.
- Stan Brunt, our Stewardship Team Leader provided a discussion document for a capital drive for our roof and organ repairs. It is expected that this drive will begin during the first week of September around the time that work is expected to commence.
- The meeting adjourned with the praying of the Lord's Prayer at 8:30 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday evening, September 13, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Gimbal, Recorder

TREASURER'S REPORT July 2007

Income for the month of July totaled \$45,248. Expenditures for July totaled \$43,606 reflecting a **positive** result of \$1,642. Income from January thru July totaled \$324,693. Expenditures for the same period totaled \$332,062 reflecting a **negative** result of \$7,369.

Charles D. Malmberg, Treasurer

Crossways Bible Study

will begin on **Wednesday, September 5th at 6:00 pm in McCombs Hall and Thursday at 10:00 am.** Please sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office and indicate whether you need the second year's study or the entire set.



Confirmation classes begin Wednesday, September 5th at 7:00 pm in McCombs Hall.



SISTERS BIBLE STUDY GROUP

"Unfailing Love: Growing Closer to Jesus Christ" begins Monday, September 17th at 7:00 P.M. at the home of Debbie Gimbal, 317 N. Hampton Rd. Workbooks are \$8.50 if ordered by **September 1st**. Make checks payable to Jodi Davis. Please sign up on sheet outside office door. Any questions, please contact Jodi Davis @ 790-9064 or Tammi Gates @ 796-9686.



Oct. 27th from 10am-3pm...

Have a special talent, craft, cooking skills, game or donation of prizes and auction items? We need to hear from you! Call Nancy Magruder at 791-4582 ext. 212 or home-791-6057

This year's proceeds are for our youth fund to help offset the cost of retreats, special activities and van rentals. We are opening it up to the public again this year so be sure to help us spread the word.

A REMINDER



Please remember that when taking offerings to the bank that all offering bank bags must be deposited at the Wachovia University Branch located at 590 S. College Road next to The Room Store Furniture and across from the BP gas station. There have been occasional instances where deposits were inadvertently taken to the Wachovia Branch next to Best Buy. Feel free to call me with any questions at 392-9918. *Thank you for your cooperation, Elmer Wild, Finance Team Chairman.*



ST. MATTHEW'S WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL BREAKFAST GROUP will meet again starting **Sept 5th at 8:00 am** in the church library (Rm. 116).

Bring your breakfast with you or eat prior to coming. Coffee will be provided. Join us in this new year for fellowship. ☐



DO YOU WANT A NAME TAG?

The sign-up booklet for name tags is on the pedestal by the alcove off the Commons. Samples of styles available are in the booklet. Follow direction inside the booklet to order a tag. **TAGS TO BE PICKED UP** – Tags for recent new members are on the easel in the Commons as well as those ordered by other members.



IF YOU UNLOCK IT, BE RESPONSIBLE AND LOCK IT BACK AFTER ENTERING.

The red entry doors off the parking lot do not automatically lock upon entry. You must relock each time you enter the building by these doors. Please be good stewards of the church building by always locking the door you enter. We wish to provide a safe environment for our staff and the children and staff of the School House that uses our facility. *Thank you for your cooperation in this urgent request. The Property Team.*

WE EXCEEDED

THE FIFTH SUNDAY/BOST CHALLENGE

We not only met the recent Fifth Sunday/Bost Challenge but exceeded our goal of \$75,000 by raising \$84,312.31 during the challenge period. We again thank the generosity of Herb and Lucy Bost for making this matching challenge possible.

Status of the Fifth Sunday Program

Since the inception of the Fifth Sunday Program in early 2004, and including monies raised during the Bost Challenge, we have now saved \$83,727.80 in interest payments and have paid off the equivalent of 34 months of mortgage payments. These figures do not yet include the impact of the matching \$75,000 being contributed by the Bosts, which should be substantial. While we have made great progress toward our goal to be debt free, we still have a ways to go with our mortgage debt presently at \$420,000, down from \$1,050,000. Remember, by eliminating our debt, we will be able to use the funds currently required to pay our mortgage to improve and expand St. Matthew's ministries.

Our next Fifth Sunday in 2007 is September 30, but you can make contributions at any time.



THANK YOU for your 100% response for altar flowers for the 2007-2008 year. All 104 slots were filled for the year. This year we will be using Verzaal's Florist. You will see a slight increase in the cost of the flowers and prettier arrangements on the altar each week. Again, thank you for your support of this worship ministry. ☐☐☐☐

NEEDED We need someone to serve on the Altar Guild on Saturday night for the months of October and April. If you can serve in this capacity or have questions contact Lynette Farmer at 791-1224.





It's COOKBOOK time again!

The Adult Choir is in need of funds for new robes, music, choir chairs and a retreat. Proceeds from the sale of the cookbook will benefit the choir. Books will be on sale in the spring just in time for Mother's Day and graduation gifts.

Watch for the recipe sheets in the Commons area.

It is **REQUIRED** that you use these sheets for your submissions. Men and women of St. Matthew's give us your special recipes. Any questions contact Sherri Hiler, Ruthann Getsinger or Nancy Thompson.

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	Love Circle Tuesday, Sept 11 at 6:30 pm at Renate Gray's home Date changed due to Labor Day Holiday Faith Circle Tuesday, Sept 11 at 9:30 am at the home of Bethel Paris Peace Circle Tuesday, Sept 11 at 1:30 pm in the Church Library Praise Circle Will not meet in September					1 6:00 Worship/Comm 8:00 AA 8:00 AL-ANON
2 8:30 Worship/Communion 11:00 Worship/Communion 12:30 LAFF POOL PARTY at the Mallo's home	3 	4 9:00 Women's Fitness 10:00 Prayer Group 6:30 Contemp Svc Practice 8:00 AA	5 8:00 Devotional Breakfast 10:30 Spiritual Formation 5:30 Cadette GS #354 6:00 Crossways 6:30 Cub Scouts #274 7:00 Confirmation 7:30 Adult Choir	6 9:00 Women's Fitness 10:00 Bible Study 4:00 Brownie #739 7:00 Boy Scouts	7	8 6:00 Worship/Comm 8:00 AA 8:00 AL-ANON
9 RALLY DAY 8:30 Contemp. Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship/Communion 1:30 Senior GS #139 1:30 Junior GS #226 Choirs/Bells as above 6:00 MS/HS YOUTH GROUP RALLY DAY ACTIVITIES	10 930 Spiritual Form. 12:00 Conversations	11 9:00 Women's Fitness 9:30 Faith Circle 10:00 Prayer Group 1:30 Peace Circle 6:30 Love Circle 7:00 Stephen Min. 8:00 AA	12 8:00 Devotional Breakfast 10:30 Spiritual Formation 5:30 Cadette GS #354 6:00 Crossways 6:30 Cub Scouts #274 7:00 Confirmation 7:30 Adult Choir	13 9:00 Women's Fitness 10:00 Bible Study 4:00 Brownie #739 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Church Council HOSPICE MEAL <i>Brandi Bocchino</i>	14	15 FUN DAY K-2 10AM-12 3-5 2-4PM ST. MATTHEW'S SUNDAY <i>Celebration Service</i> 6:00 Worship/Comm
16 ST. MATTHEW'S SUNDAY 8:30 Contemp. Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship/Communion 12:30 POT LUCK SUPPER Choirs/Bells as above 6:00 MS/HS YOUTH GROUP	17 930 Spiritual Form. 12:00 Conversations 7:00 Sister's Bible Study Group <i>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</i>	18 9:00 Women's Fitness 10:00 Prayer Group 6:30 Contemp Svc Practice 8:00 AA	19 8:00 Devotional Breakfast 10:30 Spiritual Formation 5:30 Cadette GS #354 6:00 Crossways 6:30 Cub Scouts #274 7:00 Confirmation 7:30 Adult Choir	20 9:00 Women's Fitness 10:00 Bible Study 11:30 OWL's Fellowship 4:00 Brownie #739 7:00 Boy Scouts	21	22 6:00 Worship/Comm 8:00 AA 8:00 AL-ANON
23 8:30 Contemp. Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship/Communion 12:30 STOCK DINNER 1:30 GS Troops #139/226 Choirs/Bells as above 6:00 MS/HS YOUTH GROUP 30 8:30 Contemp. Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship/Communion	24 930 Spiritual Form. 12:00 Conversations 7:00 Sister's Bible Study Group	25 9:00 Women's Fitness 10:00 Prayer Group 7:00 Ministry Teams 8:00 AA	26 8:00 Devotional Breakfast 10:30 Spiritual Formation 5:30 Cadette GS #354 6:00 Crossways 6:30 Cub Scouts #274 7:00 Confirmation 7:30 Adult Choir	27 9:00 Women's Fitness 3:30 Brownie #739 7:00 Boy Scouts HOSPICE MEAL <i>Dick and Sophie Williams</i>	28 7:30 pm MS LOCK-IN 7:00 Via de Cristo	29 9:00 am LOCK-IN Ends 9-12 New Disciple Retreat 6:30 MOVIE NIGHT 6:00 Worship/Comm 8:00 AA 8:00 AL-ANON

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

** Denotes Youth Birthday

1	Beth Moore	9	Wayne McDougald	18	Thelma Walter
2	Mary Horne		David Haskins **	19	Steve Brewbaker
	Chris Wilson	10	Barbara Christmas		Nancy Magruder
	Barbara Mann		Andrea Anderson		William Paris
3	Mary Allison		Ann Strickland		Lindsey Schaefer **
	Ian Brambell **	11	Virginia Bjorkquist	20	Darlene Schucker
	Ray Blackburn, Jr.		Renee Mayberry	22	Karin Cook
	David "Dusty" Pilcher		Megan Brambell **	23	Ryan Christmas
4	Carol Comeskey	12	Jane Fulton		Jill Cummings
	Richard Wilson		Dean Weber	24	Richard Chinn
5	Karen Ruefle		Arlene Robie		Kristine Guthrie
	Preston Gourville **	13	Kaitlyn Davis **	25	Nell McArver
	Dennis McCain		Joe Nevers		Susan Wakild
	Nan Phillips		Jackie Robey **		Missy Funke
	Megan Kline **	15	Donna Connor	26	J. Hollamon **
	Samuel Sharpe		Elaine Willow		Dimny "Dee" Young
6	Irene Shea		Deborah Martin	27	Dawn Benton
7	Yvonne Jones		Mario Piccinin	28	Judith Benson
	Ina May	16	Sheila Mallo	30	Patti Erkes
	Tracey Kitchens		Alexandra Schwartz		Annette Janssen
8	Kevin Gallagher	17	Nadia Bendahmane		
	Nancy Thompson		Willilam Connor **		
	Gabriela Wohlbruek	18	Ted Hueskes		
	Nancy Brown		Jennifer Kitchens		

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



2	Paul and Lori Haskins	17	Elmer and Marie Wilde
3	John and Deborah Pollard	19	Tom and Suzanne Meyer
	David and Terri Robey	21	Jim and Sheila Whitmeyer
4	Bill and Tracy Gourville	25	Peter and Debbie Gimbal
	Pastor Sam and Laura Zumwalt	28	Bob and Betty Lentz
6	Norman and Helen Walter	29	Christopher and Sophie Braun
10	Christopher and Heather Catts	30	Curt and Kelly Stansbury
11	Jake and Deborah Sharpe		

For 3 years now, I've had the pleasure of studying the Bible through the Cross Ways course. I want to share my faith story with you, and invite you to consider joining the journey.

I attended a Baptist college in the late 70's and early 80's. We were required to enroll in at least two semesters of Bible study—one for the Old Testament and one for the New Testament. Dr. Burns Coleman was my instructor, and he and I had a wonderful relationship. I enjoyed this professor's teaching so much that I enrolled in another Bible course on the letters of Paul. Now, the sad news is I really do not remember very much from these courses! (Confession is good for the soul!) Part of my lack of memory may be that I was a young adult and needed to pass 4 other courses each semester, not to mention the fact that I was in love with Bonnie who attended the same college at the same time!

When my Cross Ways journey began, I purchased my study material and went to the first class. Becky Howard gave me the notebooks, and as she placed these into my hands, I thought "Mercy, what have I gotten myself into!" As most of you know, I am blind, and to be able to study these books, I had to consider several options that would make the course accessible to me. In order for me to have access to the printed material, I had planned to scan the pages into my computer and Braille each week's lesson. I soon realized this would be a mammoth task and very time consuming. After contacting the publisher, they willingly offered to e-mail me the lessons, thus eliminating the scanning step. I was able to Braille the e-mails, and as a result, I have somewhere between 1300 and 1500 pages of Braille material for this course.

Like many others, I had never read the Bible from beginning to the end. But I am now reading the Bible from the beginning for the second time in my second Cross Ways journey. And it's true—the more you listen and study, the more you learn and grow in your faith.

Pastor Sam is a superb teacher, presenter, and study guide, and I am very appreciative to him for bringing this Bible study to our congregation. My faith and faith journey have changed so much over the last 3 years. A statement from Harry Went, the author of Cross Ways, made this whole journey a reality to me. He stated that the "invisible Christ lives through you and me." You and I must live our lives as though this is our last day on earth. We must prepare our hearts and minds, fill it with the spirit of the Lord and share that gift with everyone we have contact with each day.

Here at St. Matthews, our worship goals have centered around the Six Marks of Discipleship: **Pray** daily, **Worship** weekly, **Read** (and study) the Bible, **Serve** at and beyond St. Matthew's church, **Be in relationship** to encourage spiritual growth in ourselves and others **Give** of time, talents, and resources.

I mention these goals to say to you that reading and studying the Bible is the center of our faith. If I can, let me use a basketball metaphor. The Bible is like having a 7 foot center on your team. Who do you focus on, and who do you throw the ball to? The center of course. The Cross Ways course will give you the best chance to focus on the center of your faith and its impact

on daily life as it has for me. If you have not participated in the Cross Ways course, you are missing a great opportunity to learn the history of our religion and a wonderful opportunity to grow in your faith. Cross Ways is a two year Bible study, and we will get started again on Wed./Thurs. in September. Regular Bible study has been the corner stone of a closer walk with my Lord. These last three years have been amazing. I encourage you to join me in this Bible study and walk with me on the Cross Ways journey.

EMILY'S FUND

It's hard to believe that it has been one year since our daughter and Jake's sister, Emily, passed away. At the onset of her diagnosis, an inoperable brain tumor, in October of 2005, members of St. Matthew's and members of our Wilmington Community at large came to our spiritual and financial aid. Generous financial contributions and donations allowed my husband, Happy, and I to take time away from work to care for Emily. This afforded us the freedom of worry from routine living expenses, including, among many things, keeping a roof over our heads, gas in our car to get back and forth to Chapel Hill and food on the table. In January 2006, another young member of our congregation, Sarah Price, was also diagnosed with a brain tumor. Again, the congregation rallied to support both our families and help us financially survive these difficult medical diagnoses.

After Emily passed away in July 2006, St. Matthew's Church Council established a perpetual fund for family assistance, and named it the Emily Wade Memorial Fund for Family Assistance. It is a fund established to help individuals in financial need related to medical circumstances. We call it Emily's Fund, and our hope is that the fund will be a memorial that will help keep Emily's spirit alive at St. Matthew's.

Thankfully, we no longer need the Fund to sustain our family's financial needs; however, as was our hope, Emily's Fund continues to help other families struggling with financial hardships due to medical circumstances. We ask that you first, remember all those in need with prayer, and second, that you might consider continuing your contributions to Emily's Fund, so that the financial burdens of other families, like our's, might be lightened. The Fund is currently low, and there are urgent present needs for others.

In addition to our hope that year round continual contributions will be made, we are keeping a tradition of a benefit golf tournament started by our friend, Jeff Simon. This year's 3rd Annual Play for Emily will be Sunday, September 16. Proceeds will benefit The Emily Wade Memorial Fund for Family Assistance and the Ronald McDonald House of Chapel Hill. Everyone is invited to attend. If you don't play golf, there will also be an auction. There is information on the community bulletin board outside the church office.

Remember: "The smallest things can change our lives – one hand reaching out to another, one prayer whispered in faith, one moment that shines with His presence."

Our Church family has sustained us in so many ways. We thank you for the many ways you have shown your love for us and for God.

*Lovingly,
Kristi Wade*

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

Laura Zumwalt	Lois Padgett	Jane Brunt
Diane Vickery	Pru Hovis	Mary Serkiz
Allen Houston	Michelle King	Naomi Era
The Wade Family	Paul Murphy	Dick Bramley
John Geiger	Brenda Tyler	Astrid Cooke
Nell McArver	Betty Killian	Bertha Rankin
Kelsea Webster	Leon Wade, Sr.	Dean Carlisle
Charles Ramseur	Wally Schultz	Bobby Seitter
Karley Lewis	Marilyn Wilson	James Ammons
Military Families	Dorothy Heberling	
Clement Doniere	The Price Family	
The Ryan Family	James Clemmons	
Catherine Smith	Mabel Harshbarger	
Beverly Chamberlain	Tim and Sarah Walters	

REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND - Geneva Batson, Diane Koen, Emma Brunjes, Barbara Cook, Helen Hauns, Betty Lauver, Ruby Hubbard, Effie and Jane McDougald.

SYMPATHY is extended to *Barbara Moore* in the death of her aunt, Vivian Farris McFadyen in late July.

SYMPATHY is extended to *Bruce Seip* in the death of his mother Elda C. Seip of Allentown, PA on July 23rd.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM was celebrated on August 5th for *Megan Marie Connaughton*, daughter of Michael P. and Lisa M. Connaughton.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Jeffrey and Denise Simon
105 Blackwood Drive
Madison, AL 35757

Perry and Diane Guy
613 Robert E. Lee Dr.
Wilmington, NC 28412

The Nevers Family
20 Pintail Circle
South Windsor, CT 06074

The Schaefer Family
408 Passage Gateway
Wilmington, NC 28412

James Stallings
905 Shelton Court
Wilmington, NC 28412

**MAKE CHANGES IN
YOUR NEW DIRECTORY**

Thank You!

Dear St. Matthew's Family:

We thank you so much for all your support, calls, visits, meals and prayers during Jim's months of treatment at Chapel Hill and during Nancy's knee replacement and recovery. Words can not describe how grateful we are to be part of such a wonderful church.

May God bless and keep you in his loving care.

Jim and Nancy Mees

Dear St. Matthew's Lutheran Church:

Thank you so much for your support of our Agape` Day Camp Program! We appreciate all that you did for us very much. Thanks for opening your facility for us to use during the day and at night! Thanks for sharing your kids with us and for praying for us all week long. God was certainly here this week! Thanks again!

Allison, Shannon, Amy
Agape Counselors



St. Matthew's is blessed to be able to offer so many different small groups to our members; I guarantee there is one for you.

And the best part is you may participate in more than one!

O.W.L.'s - Older Wiser Lutherans meet on the third Thursday each month at 11:30 for a meal and fellowship, and is open to anyone 50 and older. For information contact Nancy Magruder

Betwixt and Between - Don't have children at home and are not quite ready for O.W.L.'s? This is a group for you. Look for activities on the board in the hallway by the office, and for information contact Renate Gray.

L.A.F.F. - Lutheran Adults Fun and Fellowship is open to all adults with and without children who enjoy good food and lots of laughter. Activity dates are posted on the board in the hallway by the office, and you may contact Sheila Mallo or Jodi Davis for information.

New Group - (to be named) This group is for the newly married and young families that are just finding their way into our church family. This group offers support for all the ups and downs of starting this phase of life. Fellowship activities will be posted on the hallway bulletin board and in our printed materials. You will also have opportunities for small group study times and gatherings. For information on this group contact Nancy Magruder.

Mens group - Open to men of all ages who want to make a difference in our community and in also in our church. For information contact Mark Whitmarsh.

Womens Circles - There are 4 circles with a different meeting days and time. There should be one to fit your schedule They are listed in the bulletin the week they meet and on the Encounter calendar page. You may also call the office for circle leader information.

Now seek out your group or groups and grow in the many friendships you will reap.

Those Serving in September 2007

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

- 2** 8:30 Tammi Gates, Allan/Josey Warrington
Butch Ruefle
11:00 Jerry/Zan Bramley, Melissa Hollamon,
Sandra Miles
- 9** 8:30 Terri Dearie, Sandra Humphrey, Linda Renzaglia,
Nancy Wells
11:00 Karin Cook, Ken Johns, Saville Riesz, Bill Davis
- 16** 8:30 Bob/Cheryl/David Trapp, Florence Schorschinsky
11:00 Stan Brunt, Brian Griegashamer, Kelly Stansbury,
Kristi Wade
- 23** 8:30 Bill/Bethel Paris, Dick/Sophie Williams
11:00 Nancy Miller, Shirley Melito, Pam Gudrian, TBA
- 30** 8:30 Scott Holzberger, Jan Christine, Bill Fox,
Sandy O'Donnell
11:00 Ruthann Getsinger, Stephanie Price,
Barbara Moore, Sherri Hiler

USHERS Contact Ryan Allison to serve at 8:30 service.

Saturday Service: Pete Koder

- 2** 11:00 Happy Wade, Saville Riesz, Fred Getsinger
9 11:00 Rick Brode, Peter Gimbal, Keith Geiger
16 11:00 Jerry and Zan Bramley, Dale Blade
23 11:00 Dale Blade, **2 Needed - Contact Happy Wade**
30 11:00 John Antonelli, Trevor Hornick, Arthur Moore

GREETERS

- 6:00 Milton Moser, Elsie Cates
8:30 James and Janna Bauer; David and Kathren Miller
11:00 Bob and Betty Lentz; Peter and Debbie Gimbal

LECTORS *Saturday Services:* (1)Cindy Cornett,
(8)James Harshbarger; (15)Brigitte Walters; (22)Becky
Mahler; (29)Nancy Thompson

Sunday Services

- | | | |
|-----------|--------------------|----------------|
| | 8:30 | 11:00 |
| 2 | Paul Haskins | John Antonelli |
| 9 | Becky Howard | Linda Riesz |
| 16 | Melissa Holzberger | Jerry Bramley |
| 23 | Bethel Paris | Jodi Davis |
| 30 | Nancy Fauser | Zan Bramley |

ALTAR FLOWERS

- | | | | |
|-----------|-------------------|-----------|------------------|
| 2 | Ogden, Ramel | 9 | Vics, Hill |
| 16 | O'Donnell, Gimbal | 23 | Geiger, A. Moore |
| | | 30 | Lentz, Piccinin |

NURSERY

- | | | |
|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | 8:30 | 11:00 |
| 2 | Missy Marcinowski | Bailey Riesz |
| 9 | Dawn Hill | Kelly Stansbury |
| 16 | Brandy Bocchino | Kristen Antonelli |
| 23 | Lori Townsend | Alison Oring |
| 30 | Samantha Gates | Lisa Connaughton |

ACOLYTES

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------------|---------------------|
| | 8:30 | 11:00 |
| 2 | Allison, Turner | Brambell, Stansbury |
| 9 | Stemke, Ruefle | Johns, Perry |
| 16 | Haskins, Davis | Watkins, Tucker |
| 23 | Magruder, Erkes | Lockwood, Plumley |
| 30 | Deily, Snyder | Hughes, Lambert |

ALTAR GUILD *Saturday: Nancy Thompson*

- 2** Margaret Ballantine, Nancy Fauser, Shirley Morrow
9 Judy Benson, Robin Hueskes, Arlene Robie, Jan Christine
16 Amy Tucker-Morgan, Kathie Tucker, Kathren Miller,
Diane Vickery
23 Thelma Walter, Linda Renzaglia, TBA, TBA
30 Carol Chinn, Lynette Farmer, Laura Zumwalt,
Carol Comeskey

BUILDING Sat: Pete Koder

SUNDAY: OPEN: John Matthews

CLOSE: Bob Stansbury



July 29 – August 19



MEMORY OF MARY PIERSON

Property

Pete and Grace Koder

MEMORY OF BRIGITTA STOLZ

Property

Pete and Grace Koder

MEMORY OF ALEX ALEKSANDRAVICIUS

Property

Peter and Virginia Parisek

HONOR OF JOHN FRYE'S BIRTHDAY

Fifth Sunday

Frank and Nancy Fauser

Needham and Sylvia Hall

Roof Repair

Jim and Mabel Harshbarger

Pastor's Discretionary

Morris and Joanne Johnson

Property

Pete and Grace Koder

HONOR OF MARY GUERASSIO

Pastor's Discretionary

Morris and Joanne Johnson

MEMORY OF EMILY WADE

Family Assistance

Robert and Cheryl Trapp

Chuck and Susan Wakild

Gary and Jill Cummings

MEMORY OF SARAH PRICE

Family Assistance

Chuck and Susan Wakild

MEMORY OF PETE MCARVER

Undesignated

Thomas and Sheila Wallace

HONOR OF CLARE ZUMWALT

Missionary Fund

Rich and Thelma Walter

Youth Fund

HONOR OF CURTIS WADE MCCAIN'S BAPTISM

Family Assistance

John and Karen Matthews

HONOR OF DAVID MILLER'S BIRTHDAY

Youth Fund

Rich and Thelma Walter

HONOR OF KELBY, HAYDON AND KENDALL BAUER

Missionary Fund

Rich and Thelma Walter

HONOR OF NELL MCARVER

Undesignated

Thomas and Sheila Wallace

HONOR OF TIM AND SARAH WALTER

Missionary Fund

Rich and Thelma Walter

HONOR OF NANCY MAGRUDER

Youth Fund

Rich and Thelma Walter

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

September 2007

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Youth Fun Day!
Saturday, Sept. 15th
K-2nd grades from 10am-12 in the
gym and 3rd -5th grades from

2pm-4pm in the gym. You may bring a friend! A
snack and drink will be provided.



Middle School lock-in Friday
Sept. 28th from 7:30pm-
9:00am in the gym.
Sign up is on the youth board.
Chaperones are needed!!!!

Please call me if you are interested in helping us
out... 791-6057 Nancy

October Dates

High School Retreat Oct. 12th and 13th
Ft. Caswell!
Fall Festival Oct. 27th

November Dates

Movie Night Nov. 9th 6:30pm
3rd -5th Grades Bowling 10am-12pm
Cardinal Lanes

December Dates

Parent Shopping Day Dec. 1st
K-5th grades Activity Dec. 8th 10-12 in
gym
Play set-up Dec. 8th 3pm
Christmas Play Dec. 9th 12:30
Christmas Caroling Dec. 14th
6:30pm meet in gym