

# MATTHEWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 28, 2025  
16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



## CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN A ME, MY, MINE WORLD

# Welcome!

If you're visiting for the first time, we'd love to connect with you!  
Please complete the **Guest Welcome Form** at [MatthewsUMC.org/Getting-Started](https://MatthewsUMC.org/Getting-Started)  
and stop by the **Welcome Center** to receive your visitor gift.

For families with children, **Praise Packs** are available outside the Gym doors  
(inside The Commons). These special activity bags, designed for kids ages 3–6 and 7–12,  
help engage them in worship. **Sensory Bags** are available at the **Welcome Center**.



### MOBILE CHECK-IN & ONLINE GIVING

Scan the QR code to download our **Realm Connect Church App** and  
stay connected with events, registrations, groups, the church directory,  
and more! You can also sign in, sign up, or learn more by visiting  
[MatthewsUMC.org/Realm](https://MatthewsUMC.org/Realm).

For those without a smartphone, a check-in station is available at the  
**Welcome Center**, and attendance books can be found in each pew for  
guests and members to register their presence.



### EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stay informed with the latest ministry opportunities and access the  
bulletin through the [Celebration Newsletter](#).

*Printed copies are available at the Welcome Center. Thank you for helping us reduce paper waste!*

# TRADITIONAL CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

THE COMMONS | 8:15 AM

## WE GATHER

### CHIMING OF THE HOLY TRINITY

### WELCOME

### † OPENING HYMN

No. 111 | How Can We Name a Love (v. 1, 2, 3)

TERRA BEATA

### † AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

No. 881 | The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;  
the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### † SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

### CHILDREN'S TIME

## WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS AND GIFTS

### TIME OF PRAYER

Prayer Concerns | Pastoral Prayer

### THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

On Eagle's Wings

Michael Joncas, arr. Craig Kingsbury

Craig Estep, *Tenor*

### † RESPONSE TO GIVING

No. 95 | Doxology

OLD 100TH

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### † SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ecclesiastes 4: 9-12 (NRSVUE)

### SERMON

"Who's Holding The Rope?"

Rev. David Christy

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

## WE GO OUT TO SERVE

### † CLOSING HYMN

No. 643 | When Love is Found (v. 1, 2, 5)

GIFT OF LOVE

### † BENEDICTION

*† Please Rise in Body or in Spirit*

Rev. David Christy, Senior Pastor | Rev. Dr. Susan Heafner-Heun, Executive Pastor  
Craig Estep, Director of Music & Worship Arts | Eon Malan, Music Ministry Associate & Organist  
Susan Chambers & Jonnie Hildreth, Worship Coordinators

# CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

GYM | 9:30 AM

## Welcome

### † MUSICAL PRAISE

Good Grace  
The Way

Joel Houston  
Ben Smith, Danial Bashta, Pat Barrett

### † PASSING OF THE PEACE

### CHILDREN'S TIME

### PRAYER | OFFERING

### A SONG OF GIVING

All the Poor and Powerless

Leslie Jordan, David Leonard

## The Word

### † LESSON

Ecclesiastes 4: 9-12 (NRSVUE)

### MESSAGE

"Who's Holding The Rope?"

Rev. David Christy

## Response

### † MUSICAL PRAISE

Rescue

Lauren Daigle

*During the final song, we warmly invite you to come to the kneelers for a time of prayer. Whether you're seeking comfort, guidance, or simply a quiet moment with God, this sacred space is open to you. If you would like a pastor to pray with you, please raise your hand as you kneel. Otherwise, we honor this as your personal time with God.*

### † BLESSING



*† Please Rise in Body or in Spirit*

Rev. David Christy, Senior Pastor | Rev. Dr. Susan Heafner-Heun, Executive Pastor  
Byron Murphy, Director of Contemporary Worship | John Biggers, Associate Worship Leader  
Greg Faucette, Drums | Brian Lassahn, Bass | Bryan Crisp, Electric Guitar  
Kristen Williams, Vocals | Joel Mullis, Worship Production Director | Donna Balisado, Screens  
Susan Chambers, Worship Coordinator

# TRADITIONAL CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

GYM | 11:00 AM

## WE GATHER

### CHIMING OF THE HOLY TRINITY

#### PRELUDE

Fanfare on Regent Square  
Stumptown Brass

arr. Eddie Fargason

#### WELCOME

#### † OPENING HYMN

No. 111 | How Can We Name a Love (v. 1, 2, 3)

TERRA BEATA

#### † AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

No. 881 | The Apostles' Creed

#### † SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

#### CHILDREN'S TIME

## WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS AND GIFTS

#### TIME OF PRAYER

Prayer Concerns | Call to Prayer | Pastoral Prayer

#### THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

#### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Blest Be the Tie That Binds  
Sanctuary Choir

arr. David M. Cherwien

#### † RESPONSE TO GIVING

No. 95 | Doxology

OLD 100TH

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

#### † SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ecclesiastes 4: 9-12 (NRSVUE)

#### SERMON

"Who's Holding The Rope?"

Rev. David Christy

## WE GO OUT TO SERVE

#### † CLOSING HYMN

No. 643 | When Love is Found (v. 1, 2, 5)

GIFT OF LOVE

*During the final hymn, we warmly invite you to come to the kneelers for a time of prayer. Whether you're seeking comfort, guidance, or simply a quiet moment with God, this sacred space is open to you. If you would like a pastor to pray with you, please raise your hand as you kneel. Otherwise, we honor this as your personal time with God.*

#### † BENEDICTION

#### POSTLUDE

Allegro from the Flute Sonata  
Stumptown Brass

Georg P. Telemann, arr. David Marlatt

*† Please Rise in Body or in Spirit*

Rev. David Christy, Senior Pastor | Rev. Dr. Susan Heafner-Heun, Executive Pastor  
Craig Estep, Director of Music & Worship Arts | Eon Malan, Music Ministry Associate & Organist  
Sanctuary Choir | Joel Mullis, Worship Production Director | Tom Amann, Livestream  
David Wilkinson, Production Assistant | Susan Chambers, Worship Coordinator  
David Bigham, Acolyte Shepherd | Garyn Wilkins, Acolyte

# Our Prayers

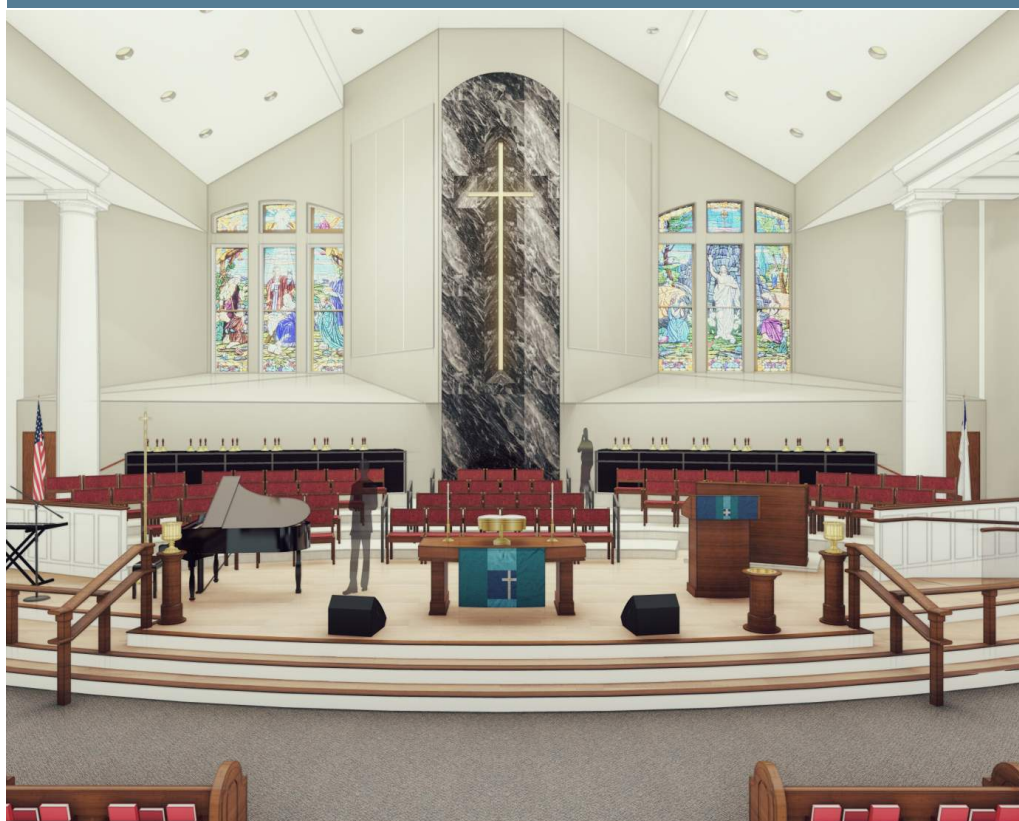
In care and sympathy, we lift up family and friends of those who have lost loved ones.

- Please lift up **Walking By Faith Community Church**, that their ministry may flourish and be richly blessed.
- **Ruth Andrews**, upon the death of her mother.
- Also remember those in our church family with **special needs and concerns**. We pray for the care and protection of all serving in the military, emergency services, law enforcement, healthcare, long-term care, and education.



## STUMPTOWN BRASS

Tim Goforth, David Brewer, *Trumpet*; David Mickus, *Horn*  
Wes Broome, *Trombone*; Max Mensing, *Tuba*



## SANCTUARY RENOVATION PROJECT UPDATE

During the Sanctuary renovation (August 11 - November 25), all worship services – including **Family Worship** – will be held in the **Gym** and **The Commons**.

We look forward to worshipping with you in our temporary space as we embark on this exciting season of renewal.

**8:15 AM**  
TRADITIONAL SERVICE  
+ WEEKLY COMMUNION  
**THE COMMONS**

**9:30 AM**  
CONTEMPORARY  
SERVICE  
**GYM**

**11:00 AM**  
TRADITIONAL  
SERVICE  
**GYM**

**12:30 PM**  
CCH  
SERVICE  
**GYM**

**6:00 PM**  
YOUTH  
WORSHIP  
**THE COMMONS**



**SUICIDE  
PREVENTION**  
AWARENESS MONTH



# From the Pastors & Congregation

All are welcome here ... and we do mean all. We take these words seriously. We strive to be a community as diverse and hospitable as God's kingdom. We don't all look or act alike; God knows we don't all think alike. We don't all read the Bible the same way. We bring different questions and carry different burdens, but every Sunday, we worship together as one. Our nearly 150-year-old church is filled with some traditional and inspiring untraditional ways. We study the teachings and actions of Jesus. We sing modern songs and old hymns. Yet, in our preaching and prayers, we wrestle with the challenges of the modern world. We hope your heart will hear something personal and relevant –a word of comfort, a spur to action, a call to a deeper relationship with God. After the service, please stick around. Introduce yourself to one of our pastors or someone at our Welcome Center. We have lots of programs and community groups to feed your soul and expand your spirit. Try one out. You never know – you just might be home!

## Live CLOSED CAPTIONING DURING WORSHIP

Enhance your worship experience with **live closed captioning**!

Enjoy a more accessible worship experience!

How to Access:

1. **Connect to WiFi** or ensure your device (tablet/smartphone) has an active data plan
2. **Scan the QR code** for your worship service (9:30 AM, or 11:00 AM).
3. **A session will open** in your browser, where you can customize the font size, text color, and background color for optimal readability.

WiFi (WPA2): MUMCguest

Password: methodist

9:30 AM



11:00 AM



## COME JUST AS YOU ARE - SUNDAY MORNINGS AT MUMC

8:15 AM Traditional | 9:30 AM Contemporary\* | 11:00 AM Traditional\*

9:30 AM United Kids Family Worship (2nd Sundays in the Gym)

12:30 PM Centro Cristiano Hosanna (Servicio en Espanol)

6:00 PM Youth Worship (in the Commons)

\*Services Livestreamed at [MatthewsUMC.org](https://MatthewsUMC.org)



MATTHEWS UNITED METHODIST

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