

# CONNECTING THE COMMUNITY



**OPPORTUNITIES FOR LIVING OUT YOUR MINISTRY**  
How may we help you find a place in the St. Matthias community?

*St. Matthias' Episcopal Church*

We, though many, are one body in Christ.

Romans 12:5



*Welcome to St. Matthias!*

**Our Mission: Come and be nourished in Jesus Christ  
and go into the world to live and share God's Gospel.**

**Our Vision: To become a center for outreach  
and Christian education for all.**

Whatever brings you to us, and whoever you are, we are glad you are here. St . Matthias' is a place open to all. As an Episcopal community, we take our baptismal covenant seriously. When we say we "strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being," (Book of Common Prayer, p. 305) we mean all people, regardless of age, culture, disabilities, ethnic origin, gender, gender identity, marital status, nationality, race, religion, sexual orientation or socioeconomic status.

At St. Matthias, we are able, by God's grace, to commit and dedicate ourselves to many ministries. St. Matthias is committed to assisting every member of this congregation to become as involved as they wish. We are blessed to have such highly competent members willing to serve and minister to those in need.

"Connecting The Community" profiles the various ministries of the St. Matthias congregation to articulate the manifold ways we live out our Christian faith. This information also includes contact people so you may learn more about a particular ministry.

We have an amazing group of staff and volunteers who do God's work with willingness and cheerfulness.

This Booklet is a starting place... your calling may go beyond these pages and we encourage you to let St. Matthias be the springboard for your work to make the world a better place.



The Rector & Vestry  
St. Matthias Episcopal Church  
Midlothian, VA

## CONNECTING

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*He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?*

### ***The EPISCOPAL CHURCH***



### ***WELCOMES YOU***

### **ST. MATTHIAS FROM A TO Z**

Welcome to St. Matthias Episcopal Church,  
a place of warmth and hospitality.



## **ST. MATTHIAS STAFF**

The Rev. Brenda S. Overfield  
 Rector, St. Matthias' Episcopal Church  
 Email: [bsoverfield@stmatmidlo.com](mailto:bsoverfield@stmatmidlo.com)  
 804-464-1842 x. 101

Ordained in 1993, Brenda holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Missouri, a Masters of Divinity from The General Theological Seminary and is a Board Certified Chaplain with the Association of Professional Chaplains.

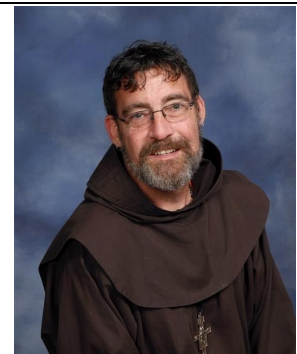
Brenda is married to Richmond P. Lykins, Jr., has 3 sons: Brian, Ben and Geoffrey, and three Grandsons: Ishaan, Hudson, and Harvey. Fun facts: Brenda is a certified SCUBA diver, has ridden an elephant in Thailand, and is a licensed Formula One Race Car driver. She has a regular practice of meditation and prayer daily, and loves spending time with

John Murdock  
 Director of Music  
 Email: [jamurdock@stmatmidlo.com](mailto:jamurdock@stmatmidlo.com)  
 804-464-1842 X103



John A. Murdock is the Director of Music and Organist at St. Matthias since 2005. John oversees the music ministry for both the 8:30 and 11:00 worship services, and special services throughout the year. Mr. Murdock also serves as the Music Director for the St. Matthias' Cultural Series. John received his Bachelor of Music degree from Christopher Newport University where he studied piano performance, voice and organ. In addition to his work here, John teaches piano at Salisbury Presbyterian's Music Academy, and studies organ with Grant Helmers.

Br. Mark Jenkins, CFC  
 Parish Administrator & Membership Secretary  
 804-464-1842 x100



Mark is a native of Virginia. After spending 20 years away from Virginia he returned home in 2011. Mark is a life vowed member of the Community of Francis and Clare, a dispersed Franciscan order made up of Brothers and Sisters with members in the US., Canada, Mexico & Great Britain. When not overseeing the day-to-day operations of St. Matthias' Parish, he serves in various rolls at his Parish, St. John's Warsaw VA. He also leads alcohol/drug recovery groups for those who are transitioning out of intensive outpatient programs. Mark has served in various ministry rolls over the years in parishes in Southern CA, Tucson AZ, New Jersey and South Florida and has made mission trips to Honduras. Mark has

Kristen Ketron  
Director of of Formation Ministries for Children & Youth  
kristen.ketron@stmatmidlo.com

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Kristen studied speech-language pathology at Radford University which led to a profession in teaching. Kristen moved to Paris, France in 1997 where she became a member of The American Cathedral. While there, she taught Sunday school, was a LEM, served on the Convocation Youth Task-Force Committee, as Director of Sunday school, as the Youth Program Coordinator and on the Vestry. After moving back to the U.S. in 2015, Kristen joined the staff at St. Matthias in October of that year. Her husband, Rob, also was a Sunday school teacher. They have two sons - Nathan is a chef in Richmond, VT and Marshall is a U.S. Marine.



NEVER WORRY ABOUT  
NUMBERS. HELP ONE  
PERSON AT A TIME, AND  
ALWAYS START WITH THE  
PERSON NEAREST YOU.  
~MOTHER TERESA

## CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT

### CHILDREN & YOUTH CHRISTIAN FORMATION

But Jesus called for them and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. (*Luke 18:16*)

#### Christian Formation

St. Matthias' Episcopal Church Christian formation program provides a safe and loving environment for our youngest parishioners to learn about God's grace, love and promises as revealed through His Word.

**Nursery** (infants to 5 years old) – Nursery hours are during both services, as well as during the Formation hour (during the school year). Experienced adults and youth provide loving and engaging care for infants and children to 5 years of age in Room 111 in the Education wing.

**Sunday School** (3 years through 12th grade) – Classes are held from 9:45-10:45 am during the school year.

Pre-K through 5th grades use a variety of current curricula. Focus is on Old and New Testament Bible stories, celebrations within the church calendar and relevant issues tied in with the teachings of Jesus – Earth Day, justice for all people, loving our neighbors, etc. We use a variety of learning media, including music, art, visual and movement, which appeal to the learning styles of all ages and types of students. Sunday school classes meet in Rooms 101, 102 and 104 in the Education wing.



**Youth Ministry** (includes youth formation programs and youth group activities)

6th through 12th grades use the GROW curriculum. The lessons include a wide range of biblical stories while tackling spiritual habits at the same time. The kids love the videos, graphics and games that go along with each series. The youth meet in the Youth Room in the Education wing. Just look for the room with the ping-pong table and table full of snacks in it!

St. Matthias' is blessed with dedicated Sunday school teachers who encourage our youngest parishioners to grow in their faith and trust in God. All our staff and volunteers who work with children and youth are fully trained in the *Safeguarding God's Children* program.

Many opportunities are available to participate in this vital ministry including Sunday school teachers, assistants or substitutes, special activities coordinators, and music leaders. Forming relationships with our youngest parishioners is an important part of supporting them on their spiritual journey and can make a huge, positive impact on their lives. Contact the Director of Formation Ministries for more information on ways you can participate.



## CHRISTIAN FORMATION

### CHILDREN & YOUTH ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

Our program enables young people to discover and experience the love of God and His creation. St. Matthias' Episcopal Church provides thoughtful and nurturing programs for all children and youth at St. Matthias. Activities & Programs work for growth and fellowship of parish youth and their participation in parish life.

St. Matthias offers numerous opportunities both faith-based and socially based experiences for all ages. The programs are taught by church members who fundamentally believe every child deserves someone who is fearlessly devoted to them. The St. Matthias congregation supports all aspects of the Children & Youth Ministry. Our congregation generously donates its time and talent as well as financial support.

Some of the many programs and activities include:

- Vacation Bible School
- Blessing of the Backpacks
- Monthly service projects
- Christmas Pageant
- Spring Break Shenanigans
- Mission trips
- Opportunities to participate in our weekly church services
- Retreats
- Movies on the Lawn
- Advent programs
- Fun activities geared toward teens
- Lenten programs
- Spring Fair/Easter Egg Hunt
- Palm Sunday Passion Play
- Activities with other churches in our Convocation
- And more!



The Children & Youth Ministry is an experience that is meant to be meaningful and spiritual:

- Celebrates young people's individuality and their creative potential
- Enables young people to discover and experience the love of God
- Seeks to guide them in connecting their faith to today's world in a relevant manner.

**Friends are always welcome to join us!**

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION

### EXTERNAL YOUTH MINISTRIES WE SUPPORT

#### **Boy Scout Troop 1829** (Ages 11-17)

Meetings: Monday evenings at 7:15 p.m. at St. Matthias Episcopal Church

The Boy Scouts of America is one of the nation's largest and most prominent values-based youth development organizations. The Mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people (boys 11-17) to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.



Troop 1829, established in 1982, is a member of the Huguenot Trail District of the Heart of Virginia Council. The Troop provides and encourages the development of leadership skills in young men through the use of Boy Scout skills. Adventure, learning, and fun for both Scouts and their parents are essential elements of this highly successful program.

**Camp Chanco** - Chanco on the James is an adult and youth retreat center as well as a summer camp program located on 125 acres in Surry County along the James River. Chanco is an outdoor ministry supported by the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia. The residential camp program offers climbing skill classes, waterfront and pool activities including swimming, canoeing, kayaking, and sailing instruction, as well as nature photography instruction, arts and crafts classes, archery classes, and zip line.

Meeting new friends, learning new things, living away from home in a safe, supportive environment is what makes camp a valuable experience. *Camp Chanco provides a safe place for youth of all ages...it's the place where kids have fun!*

Limited scholarships are available for summer camping.



## **ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

Spiritual growth through education and Christian nurture is a life-long process for the purpose of maturing into the fullness of Christ (Ephesians 4)

The commission provides opportunities and encouragement for adults to grow spiritually within a Christian community, the ministries include:

### **The Village**

This is a group of adults and parents who meet during the Children's Formation programs. It has self-directed discussions based on a variety of topics ranging from Christian faith to parenting. It meets on Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:45 am during the school year in Room 109 in the Education wing. Coffee and snacks provided.

### **The Seekers**

This group meets on Sunday mornings between services in the library. It takes place from 9:45-10:45 am. During the regular school year and between 9:15- 9:45 am during the summer. A variety of spiritual disciplines, literature and scripture are topics for the group discussions. The study material is available at each gathering, so no prior reading is necessary.

### **Lenten and Advent programs**

These programs help to enrich the parish community. Pamphlets and other supplemental materials are available to enhance these important observances both individually and for an entire family.

### **The Monday Bible Study**

This study group meets virtually between 11:00 am -.12:00pm. This is an academic approach to the study of scripture. It is for members who want to delve deeper into scripture and its meaning on a collegiate level.

### **The Men's group**

This group meets virtually on Tuesdays at 8:30 am. They examine a wide range of Christian literature which provides thought-provoking reflections and lively discussions. Most importantly this gathering provides mutual support, community, and camaraderie.

### **The Co-Ed Book Group**

This group meets once a month on Tuesdays at 4:00 pm. A highlight is the guest speakers and authors who give talks on books and topics of interest. This group explores both religious and non-religious literature and meets a wide range of interests.

### **Monday Kerygma**

This group meets in the afternoon between 2:00 -4:00 pm. Kerygma is part of an adult learning community. There is an assigned reading which is reviewed and discussed during each session. Every Kerygma class is unique. Mutual support and a sense of community are an essential part of every group.

### **Wednesday Morning Kerygma**

This group meets at 10:00 -11:30 am. Every group has their own literature and individual focus. These selections of Christian literature provide for enriching discussions on faith and spirituality. Each group helps to support every member in their faith journey, while providing a sense Christian community.

<p>Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance you must keep moving. Albert Einstein</p>
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## EXPERIENCING GOD

### WORSHIP

#### Altar Guild

- The Altar Guild prepares all things necessary for the conduct of worship and provides a prayerful and rewarding ministry to a group of meticulous volunteers.
- A team of two prepares the Altar each Sunday and any services during the week.
- Each team is responsible from Monday to Monday for cleaning and polishing the silver communion pieces, laundering the linens, refilling the candles and picking up the fresh altar flowers.
- An Altar Guild Manual is located in the Sacristy as a guide on how to "dress the altar" for the liturgical seasons and special services.



#### Flower Guild

The Flower Guild is an opportunity to learn the art of creating centerpieces while preparing the altar flowers for our Sunday services and other occasions. We are fortunate to have an experienced Master Gardener and a Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judge. The flower guild would welcome your participation.

#### Lay Eucharistic Ministers/Lay Readers/Youth Readers

- licensed through the Diocese of Southern Virginia
- assists the clergy in reading lessons from Holy Scripture,
- leads the Prayers of the People, and
- administers the consecrated bread and wine.

#### Lay Eucharistic Visitors

A selected number of parishioners are licensed as Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEV) and distribute Holy Communion from the Reserved Sacrament to those hospitalized or homebound. They visit hospitals, nursing homes, private homes and extended care facilities. The ministers are charged with carrying love, hope and prayers for the community to our absent family members.

#### Ushers

A dedicated group of ushers extend the love of Christ by welcoming parishioners and assisting in distributing bulletins, collecting the offering, and straightening the pews.

## EXPERIENCING GOD

### PASTORAL MINISTRIES

#### Healing Ministry

The healing ministry is a vital part of our worship service and is extended to those confined to home or hospital as an expression of the care and concern of the St. Matthias church family, developing a stronger sense of community through the efforts of everyone who contributes time, talent and treasure to pastoral care. During the Eucharist, Healing Ministers are present for those who desire special prayers of healing. The Healing Ministers will be at a prayer desk in the front of the nave, to the left of the Altar.



#### Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers – lay caregivers - provide one-to-one Christian care to those facing a crisis or life challenge. Stephen Ministers provide distinctively Christian care to people in one-to-one confidential relationships and use their care giving skills to touch the lives of others. The name comes from St. Stephen, who was the first Deacon commissioned by the Apostles to provide caring ministry. (Acts 6). People Who Need Care receive quality, Christ-centered, confidential care for their needs in times of personal difficulty. Lay People grow spiritually as they see God working through them to bring healing to a hurting person.



#### Comfort Ministries:

The Pastoral Care Commission assists in meeting the spiritual care needs of parish members and their families. This can range anywhere from home visitation to formal counseling provided by the pastor. Pastoral care is listening, supporting, encouraging and befriending. It can encompass a wide variety of issues including health, social and emotional support at time of need or celebration and is a loving way of caring for people. Volunteers provide meals, books, plants or cards, as well as home or hospital visits and rides to medical appointments.

Pastoral Visitation Teams: At St. Matthias, we have dedicated and trained Pastoral Visitation teams who serve as the hands and feet of Christ, visiting and maintaining connection with those parishioners who, for a variety of reasons, are unable to attend St. Matthias—whether it be for a short or longer period of time.

Eucharistic Visiting Teams: We have teams of Eucharistic Visitors who bring Communion and a brief prayer service with music to three local Assisted Living Centers monthly.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Effective communication is essential for the health and wellbeing of parish life. Through accurate and consistent messaging to present opportunities to gain experience in faith and the love of Christ. This commission promotes communications to all parishioners, the church, and the wider church community.

### **Other responsibilities:**

Web site - [www.stmatmidlo.com](http://www.stmatmidlo.com). The St. Matthias Website contains information regarding events, inclement weather announcements, upcoming events, service times, and recordings of previous Sunday Sermons

E-news and Sunday announcements - Sign up for weekly email updates on church news

and events

Social media - Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter

Emergency notifications

Hard-copy publications such as The Channel

Annual Reports

Zoom & Live Stream services

Outdoor banners and signage

Information regarding parish life on "Commons TV"

## *TOUCHING THE DIVINE*

### MUSIC AND CULTURAL ARTS

#### MUSIC

The music ministry adds immensely to each Sunday service as well as Special Occasions during the liturgical year. The music ministry uses vocal and instrumental music to enhance the spoken part of the worship service. The Music Ministry also prepares special services such as 'Festival of Lessons and Carols' during Advent, Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday, and 'Tenebrae' for Good Friday.



- Chancel Choir

Chancel Choir sings for the 11:00 am worship service and for special services such as Festival of Lessons & Carols, Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday, and Good Friday. The Chancel Choir is open to those in 7th and older and rehearses at 6:30 pm on Thursday evenings.



- Holy Apostolic Band

The Holy Apostolic Band leads the music for the 8:30 AM worship service and for special services such as Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday and Holy Thursday. This band is open to those in Middle School, High School, College and older who sing and/or play instruments. We rehearse at 7:00 pm on Tuesday evenings.

## TOUCHING THE DIVINE

### MUSIC AND CULTURAL ARTS

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands; Serve the Lord with gladness:  
Come before His presence with singing. Psalm 100:1-2



### *Cultural Series~Food~Friends*

To

Be



God  
Alone  
the  
Glory

The

Cultural Arts Committee of St. Matthias Episcopal Church sponsors several Cultural programs featuring music and art throughout the year. We are committed to providing visual arts and performing arts at the same event. The performers and artists usually come to us from the wider community and, from time to time, may include performers and artists who are also members of the congregation of St. Matthias. We offer a venue for the various talents of artists and musicians in our community, and we recognize that the beauty you experience are gifts from God.

## **PARISH LIFE COMMISSION**

The Parish Life Commission supports maintaining the church as a healthy body by providing opportunities for our members to get to know and appreciate each other. The Commission coordinates a variety of social functions throughout the year.

Among the regular Parish Life events are:

- Sunday morning coffee preparation
- Summer Lemonade on the Lawn
- Strawberry Sunday
- Annual Parish Picnic
- Progressive Dinner
- Annual Fall Barbecue
- Lessons and Carols Christmas Brunch
- Receptions following Cultural Series Concerts
- Funeral Guild
- Many of these events involve a need for many people to help with set-up, preparing food, serving food and drink, and cleanup.

## **COMMUNITY MINISTRIES COMMISSION**

The Community Ministries Commission at St. Matthias Episcopal Church strives to commit to St. Matthias to living the baptismal covenant in service to the broader community. This commission supports the mission of St. Matthias in fulfilling the baptismal covenant "proclaiming by word and example the Good News of God in Christ" and "seeking to serve Christ in all people by loving our neighbors as ourselves". Responding to the needs of others is part of the lessons taught by Jesus. Following this call to service, St. Matthias finances a number of organizations and programs which support the needs of our neighbors." The Community Ministries Commission is supported by funds pledged by St. Matthias parishioners. All of the ministries below receive funds from the Church to aid them in their work and many receive direct volunteer participation from the congregation.

### **Church Sponsored Ministries:**

- Sheltering the homeless
- Healing of Mind, Body & Spirit
- Feeding the Hungry
- Prison Ministries
- Building Community
- Disaster Relief



Other miscellaneous

### **Ministries Serving the Community** (With Parishioner Participation)

The Micah Initiative

KAIROS

The Food Pantry

Shelter Feeding

CARITAS

Liberation Veterans' Services

Christmas Mother

Home Again ( 3 Facilities)

### **Long Term Care Facilities**

Communion Services and Bible Study are offered to residents of the following facilities:

- Morningside
- Bickford

### **Organizations Receiving Monetary Support Through Community Ministries**

Liberation Veterans' Services	John B Carey Elementary School
Caritas	LESANA
Home Again	Chesterfield Senior Volunteers
VA Home for Boys and Girls	Africa Community Exchange
Refugee & Immigration Services	Episcopal Relief & Development Fund
Rector's Assistance Fund	Champ Chanco
Crossover Ministries	Meals on Wheels Special Needs
VIP Care	Christmas Mother
The Healing Place	
Child Savers	
Art for the Journey	
Stephen Ministry	
McGuire Hospital Food Cards	
Grace Inside	
Richmond Hill	
Project Homes	



## **FINANCE COMMISSION**

The mission of the Finance Commission **oversees the** establishment of policies and procedures regarding all financial matters of St. Matthias' Church, to ensure that policies and procedures are in accord with the ***Canons of the Diocese of Southern Virginia***, the Diocese's ***"Manual of Business Methods in Church Affairs"*** and good business practice.

## **BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

Our buildings and grounds team provide a safe, inviting, and functional space for parish life and ministry. They keep St. Matthias Episcopal Church looking lovely year-round. Drivers passing by can enjoy this attractive Church amid the trees.

## **STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION**

The mission of the Stewardship Commission is to help God's people of St. Matthias' Church grow in our relationship with Jesus Christ and each other, using the time, talents, and resources God has entrusted to us. Annually, the Commission plans, organizes and oversees the Parish giving programs for its General and Special Funds.



Revised October 2022



# St. Matthias' Episcopal Church

11300 West Huguenot Road, Midlothian, VA 23113

**Mailing Address:**  
**P.O. Box 73537**  
**Chesterfield, VA 23235**

## Office Hours

Monday through Thursday: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM  
Friday & Saturday: Closed  
Sunday: After Services Until 2:30 p.m. by Appointment  
Office Phone: 804-464-1842

## Food Pantry Donations

During normal office hours and placed in the blessing basket on Sunday.

For emergencies after hours: call the church office and select option #1  
Web Site: [www.stmatmidlo.com](http://www.stmatmidlo.com) ~ Email: [st.matthias@stmatmidlo.com](mailto:st.matthias@stmatmidlo.com)

Wednesday e-News & Sunday announcements (church sponsored) are due in the office by 12:00 PM, Tuesdays. All announcements should be submitted through our website.

Please see our community bulletin board in Morrison Hall for personal and community announcements.

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## THE STAFF OF ST. MATTHIAS'

### Clergy

The Rev. Brenda S. Overfield, Rector  
[bsoverfield@stmatmidlo.com](mailto:bsoverfield@stmatmidlo.com)

### Staff

Br. Mark Jenkins, CFC, Parish Administrator  
[mark.jenkins@stmatmidlo.com](mailto:mark.jenkins@stmatmidlo.com)

John Murdock, Director of Music  
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Kristen Ketron, Director of Formation Ministries for Children & Youth  
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A STEPHEN MINISTRY CONGREGATION