

ST. MATTHEW'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
**PARISH MINISTRIES**  
2025-2026



502-895-3485

[www.stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org](http://www.stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org)

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Adult, Children, and Youth Ministries</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Adult Formation (Clingman Forum &amp; Virtual Adult Education)</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Book Club</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Confirmation and Reception</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Daughters of the King</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Dimensions of Faith</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Education for Ministry (EfM)</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Godly Play</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Going Deeper Spiritually</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Foyer Groups</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Intergenerational Programming Committee</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Ladies Lunch Bunch</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Louisville Showing Up For Racial Justice (LSURJ)</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Men in Conversation Breakfast Group</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Monday Morning Bible Study</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Sacred Ground</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Seasonal Bible Study</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>St. Matthew's Health Ministry</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>The Friends and Family Dementia Support Group</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Tool Library</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Women in Conversation</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Youth Group</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Buildings and Grounds</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Buildings and Grounds Committee</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Church Garden Ministry</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Memorial Gardens</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Care Team Ministry</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Hospitality and Fundraising Events</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Kitchen Ministry</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Trivia Night and Home &amp; Garden Sale</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Library and Archives</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Music</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Outreach</b>	<b>11</b>

<b>Backside Ministry</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Calvary and St. George's Food Collection Ministry</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Flower Delivery Ministry</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Food Pantry</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Habitat for Humanity</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Kentucky Refugee Ministry (KRM)</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Kenya Kids at Rongo</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Scarf Ministry</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>St. George's Christmas Boxes</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>St. George's Scholars Institute</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Woman's Board of the Episcopal Church Home</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Skill Sharing Classes</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Planned Giving</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Worship</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Eucharistic Visitors</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Acolytes</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Lectors and Intercessors</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Altar Guild</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Flower Guild</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Clergy and Staff Information</b>	<b>17</b>

# Program Ministry Descriptions & Contacts

## Adult, Children, and Youth Ministries

### **Adult Education**

The people of St. Matthew's have a long tradition of continuing our theological, biblical, and community formation beyond church on Sundays. We gather for regular small-group meetings to discuss and learn a world of theological and scriptural topics and more.

Virtual Adult Education: We get together via Zoom for Virtual Adult Education every Monday from 6-7 p.m. year-round, typically sharing a musical selection to center us spiritually, an introduction opening some aspect of the day's topic, and an engaging video featuring a well-known theologian, scripture expert, or other speaker, after which we debrief with an extended discussion of the points we've just heard. We also plan occasional special Pub Theology gatherings in which we get together in person for discussions over food and drink.

Clingman Forum: Our in-person adult education programming takes place Sundays after the 10 o'clock Eucharist in Clingman Chapel. This is an open discussion in which we may incorporate our thoughts about the Lectionary readings for the day, a current news event that may have theological implications, or questions about how our baptismal covenant calls us to respond. We also host guest speakers from time to time, and they, too, are invited to participate in our open discussion.

All interested adults and youth are welcome to take part in our Adult Education programming. You can keep up with the week's activity by following the eSpirit and Sunday service bulletin; however, if you register for our Adult Ed email, you can stay informed about all sessions and participate in additional discussion via email or text. Contact Robin Garr (robingarr@gmail.com) to add your name to the list.

### **Book Club**

Book Club meets on the fourth Monday of the month at 1:00p in the lounge at the church. There is no need to purchase books, as we read from local library book kits. Genres run from fiction to non, history, biographies, mystery and local writers. The focus of the group is lively discussion of the books and any other subject that may present itself. Join us! We will resume meeting in September. Watch for notices in the Sunday bulletin and eSpirit.

### **Confirmation and Reception**

Our youth confirmation class is composed of parish youth who make a four-month commitment to attend class, guided by adult volunteers. Each confirmand has an adult sponsor who supports the youth candidate on his/her/their journey. The curriculum explores all aspects of Christian faith and involves the *Book of Common Prayer* as well as scripture. We typically have one field trip. For more information, contact Gaylee Gillim (ggillim@gillimlaw.com) or Julie Mushkin (jmushkin@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org).

Our adult confirmation and reception class welcomes those adults who would like to be confirmed in the Episcopal faith and those who have been confirmed but would like to be received into the St. Matthew's congregation. Classes run during March, April, and May and follow the book *Your Faith, Your Life*, by Jennifer Gamber and the *Book of Common Prayer*. For more information contact Julie Mushkin.

### **Daughters of the King**

The Hildegard Visionary Chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the King was installed at St. Matthew's Episcopal in January 2005. It is a religious order founded in 1885, with chapters all over the world. The Reverend Jan Scholtz is our chaplain, Cynthia Stringfield is our current president, and Connie Savells is our secretary. As a Daughter of the King, each Daughter takes a lifetime vow to live by the rules of life: prayer and service. A Daughter pledges herself

to a life-long program of prayer, service, and evangelism, dedicated to the spread of Christ's Kingdom and the strengthening of the spiritual life of her parish. Each Daughter is given a cross of the order, which she wears proudly.

DOK meets on the first Sunday of the month at 12:15pm in Meeting Room A, and all women are welcome to visit or become members of the Daughters of the King. We offer training for women who are interested each year. Please let us know if you feel called to this ministry! For more information, contact president Cynthia Stringfield (cynthiajo842@att.net) or secretary Connie Savells (cmsavells@yahoo.com).

### **Dimensions of Faith**

Dimensions of Faith is an endowed lecture series that brings distinguished speakers to St. Matthew's, usually twice a year. It aims to offer intellectually stimulating and provocative forums on social, ethical, and theological issues. It is intended to reflect the Episcopal tradition of being open to diverse points of view. In March of 2025, we welcomed author and noted peacemaker the Rev. John Dear. In November 2025, we will welcome author and theological commentator Diana Butler Bass. In Spring 2026, Kentucky Documentary Photographic Project photographers Ted Wathen and Bob Hower will host an exhibit and lecture. Finally, in October 2026, we will welcome writer and theological teacher Jeff Chu. For further information or to join the Dimensions of Faith committee, please contact Julie Mushkin (jmushkin@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org).

### **Education for Ministry (EfM)**

The EFM program offers students an opportunity for intense study of biblical scripture, spending one academic year studying the Hebrew Scriptures, and a year studying the New Testament. Students read scripture and textbooks that offer an opportunity to learn the context for the scripture they are reading. A third year is spent studying the History of Christianity, that covers more than 3,000 years. The final year of the program is focused on the study of theology, looking at several authors who offer this study from different perspectives. It is a major commitment but offers many Christians their first opportunity to really study the bible and understand how we as a religious community have arrived to where we are today. The SMEC EfM group will continue to meet online in order to meet the geographically spread group's needs. Our online format has allowed the group to be much more accommodating for those who travel frequently for work or pleasure, is less time consuming, and has allowed us to include persons from around the Diocese of Kentucky and others beyond our borders. For more information, contact Harvey Roberts, Deacon of St. Luke's Chapel, at 502-744-6830.

### **Godly Play**

Christian formation for our children in kindergarten through 5th grade is provided using Godly Play. Through this program, we share stories of our faith from the Bible, church history, and our liturgy. We use simple materials in a Montessori-style, allowing all present to be one with the story. Godly Play seeks to give each child the vocabulary to express their inherent relationship with God and encourage their faith journey in our community. Two adults are needed for each class. The "Door Person" welcomes the children into the Godly Play space (room), helps with craft materials, preparing feast (snack & drink), and supporting any other needs. The "Storyteller" leads the class by memorizing and presenting the story using provided materials, wondering about the story with the children, praying with the children before the feast, and blessing each child before leaving the space.

Since 2023, the Godly Play story and wondering conversation will be during part of the 10am church service. Children begin worship with their families, leave during the Alleluia, and return in time for Communion. We will also offer Extension Sundays periodically that offer Godly Play activities for all members of the church. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Julie Mushkin (jmushkin@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org).

### **Going Deeper Spiritually**

Going Deeper is a group who meet for fellowship and support as we participate in various studies that lead us deeper spiritually. Going Deeper meets from 10a – 11:30a on the second

and fourth Thursdays of each month, except during Advent and Lent, when the group meets weekly. We meet either on Zoom or in person in the library. Our meeting location will be available in the weekly *eSpirit*. Depending on the study, we may have one leader for the study or several leaders who use a Leaders Guide in a shared leadership.

Anyone is welcome to join us anytime. The beginning of a study is an especially good time to start. We value different perspectives, and we look forward to seeing new members. For more information, to be added to our group email list, or to join a Zoom meeting, contact Denee Bannister ([dancedenee@bellsouth.net](mailto:dancedenee@bellsouth.net)) or Ellie Britt ([ellie451@yahoo.com](mailto:ellie451@yahoo.com)).

### **Foyer Groups**

Foyer--a French word meaning 'hearthside'--implies the warmth of a close group of friends sharing a common love and concern for each other. There is something about gathering around a table. We relax, enjoy a meal, get to know each other, and strengthen the bonds of community. Groups are diverse, and we welcome new members. Foyers is open to all.

Restaurant (dinner and brunch): Louisville has great restaurants, and folks from St. Matthew's are huge supporters. We love good food, making new friends, and are eager to explore. Each year, a growing number of parishioners join this foyer concept. Restaurant foyers, both dinner and weekend brunch, are open to all. Sign-ups begin at the Ministry Fair, continue through September, and we begin dining in October.

Home: We invite individuals or couples of all ages to participate and then divide into groups of 7 to 10 people, who meet in the home of one of the members of the group each month. Generally, the host provides the main course while the other members fill in the rest of the meal such as appetizers, bread, salad, veggies, dessert, etc. A simple soup and bread or an evening of wine and cheese works, too!

Singles: Singles of all ages meet for dinner in someone's home for conversation and a meal. The group has been fun and very well attended. Contact Jan Scholtz ([jan.scholtz@janscholtz.com](mailto:jan.scholtz@janscholtz.com)) for more information.

### **Intergenerational Programming Committee**

The Intergenerational Programming Committee works with Julie Mushkin, the Ministry Coordinator, to plan intergenerational events that occur during the programming year, especially those in the 11a hour after the Sunday Eucharist. As we go forward, we will continue to grow our intergenerational programming to strengthen relationships between members of all ages in the church. For more information, contact Julie Mushkin ([jmushkin@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org](mailto:jmushkin@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org)).

### **Ladies' Lunch Bunch**

The Ladies Lunch Bunch is open to all women in the parish and meets every month on the third Thursday at 11:30. We gather at The Irish Rover on Frankfort Ave to enjoy each other, good conversation, and a tasty lunch at this local restaurant. It is not unusual when life-long friendships are formed. Keep your eyes open for news of our next outing. Information appears monthly in the Sunday bulletin and *eSpirit*. Join us when you can! Reservations are, of course, necessary and can be made with Peggy Enriquez ([peggy\\_enriquez@twc.com](mailto:peggy_enriquez@twc.com)).

### **Louisville Showing Up For Racial Justice (LSURJ)**

In order for deep change to occur in our racially divided culture, it is essential that white people recognize the depth of their continued complicity in creating and supporting unjust systems, even when unaware and unintentional. Louisville Showing Up for Racial Justice is part of a national organization working through community organizing and education to mobilize white people to work for racial justice. That work cannot be done in isolation or disconnected from the powerful leadership of communities of color. It is one part of a multi-racial, cross-class movement centering people of color leadership. LSURJ works with accountability partners of color to help recognize and end systems created through a culture built on white supremacy.

### **SURJ Values:**

We call people in, not out  
We build accountability through collective action  
We take risks, make mistakes, learn, and keep going  
We organize out of mutual interest  
We believe there is enough for all  
We trust that growing is good  
We center class

There are many ways to be involved through the work of this group. Their website is [www.louisvillesurj.org](http://www.louisvillesurj.org). Their Facebook page has information about activities ([www.facebook.com/SURJLouisville/](http://www.facebook.com/SURJLouisville/)). Contact Peggy Woolley ([candpwoolley@gmail.com](mailto:candpwoolley@gmail.com)) about joining a regular monthly hybrid meeting to listen and learn about this essential work.

### **Men in Conversation Breakfast**

Men in Conversation Breakfast is a group of men of St. Matthew's that meet to enjoy a good breakfast and an inspirational time of sharing. The focus is on caring for one another as well as discussing topics of interest and concern. Please watch the eSpirit for meeting times and contact John Shelby ([j.shelby@icloud.com](mailto:j.shelby@icloud.com)) if you wish to be included in the email notices.

### **Monday Morning Bible Study**

This Bible study takes place on Monday mornings in the library during the program year. We gather at 10a to visit with one another and ask questions about what is going on in our parish and in the larger church. At 10:15a, we begin the study with a prayer. We take turns reading through the text and then ask questions together. Examples include the following:

- When was it written?
- What is happening in the text?
- What did it mean for the original audience?
- What kind of literature is it?
- How does this passage connect with other passages in the Bible?
- What does it mean for us?
- Where was it written?
- What does it tell us about God?

Most of the time, the study is spent asking questions of the text and searching for answers. Bible Study is beginner-friendly, for we rely on the wisdom of the group to increase our biblical knowledge and understanding. We end at 11:00 by praying the Lord's Prayer together. We usually have a Christmas party, and, in February, we take a field trip to the Temple. Contact the Rev. Kelly Kirby ([kkirby@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org](mailto:kkirby@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org)) for more information.

### **Sacred Ground**

Sacred Ground is part of Becoming Beloved Community, the Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation and justice in our personal lives, our ministries and our society. The series is open to all, and especially designed to help white people talk with other white people. Participants are invited to peel away the layers that have contributed to the challenges and divides of the present day, all while grounded in faith, hope, and love.

It is an 11-part series built around a powerful on-line curriculum of documentary films and readings that focus on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity. Participants envision a labyrinth walk as a way of learning to live out our baptismal vows. For more information, please contact Peggy Woolley ([candpwoolley@gmail.com](mailto:candpwoolley@gmail.com)).

### **Seasonal Bible Study**

For those interested, there will be a seasonal Bible Study on Zoom led by John Manzo for the four Tuesdays of Advent and the six Tuesdays of Lent. Last year during Advent, we did the songs of Luke, and this year we will read and reflect on the two infancy narratives we find in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. During Lent, we'll examine and parables of Jesus in depth. For more information, please watch for notices in the eSpirit or email the leader John Manzo (jemanzo324@gmail.com).

### **St. Matthew's Health Ministry**

In 2025, St. Matthew's developed a health ministry to better serve the physical, emotional & spiritual needs of the congregation. The leader of this ministry, with the support of the Health Ministry Advisory Group, will inform and invite the congregation to participate and learn about the Health Ministry as it unfolds. Currently, the group is seeking medical professionals (MD, DO, PA, PA-C, RN, NP) to help individuals interpret after-visit summaries. The Friends and Family Dementia Support Group has also been established and meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 11a in Clingman. For more information about the St. Matthew's Health Ministry, contact The Rev. Kelly Kirby (kkirby@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org).

### **The Friends and Family Dementia Support Group**

This group meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 11a in Clingman and is run by volunteer leaders Robin McNally, Faith Huff, Vicki Zurlage, and the Rev. Dr. Georgine Buckwalter, who is the former Family Support Group Leader of the Alzheimer's Association.

This thriving parish ministry was created in response to a St. Matthew's parish survey at the close of 2024, in which 67% of the respondents expressed a desire for a support group for Alzheimer's. The four-person planning committee met with The Rev. Kelly Kirby to discuss potential days/times/formats for their meetings. Early on, it was clear that caregivers, those cared for, and a cadre of the curious were attending. Information sharing emerged as the first general priority. Firmly established by April 2025, presentations from expert community speakers, followed by a time for questions and answers, have been drawing an average of 20 participants per meeting. Soon, the format will be more evenly divided between fact-sharing and communally addressing caregiving needs. In the words of Maya Angelou, "When we know better, we do better."

Our approach is a "strengths-based" emphasis that seeks to "protect the dignity of every human being" (Baptismal Covenant, *BCP*). Considering the pervasive prevalence of dementia in the Boomer demographic, perhaps friends and family members over 70 should start saying "When I get dementia" as soon as possible, with a wink and a hug. Our theology can be summed up in the Japanese art of Kintsugi, that recognizes humanity's shared imperfections as we celebrate the ongoing gleaming gold of God's repairing joinery of Frace. Dementia in the "family and friends" systems we're all a part of stirs up conflicting feelings. Feelings are neither good nor bad, they just are. All kinds of support groups are meant to be "safe places" to explore facts and feelings. We aim to both inform and to "rejoice with those who rejoice (and) weep with those who weep." St. Paul would approve (Romans 12:15). Snacks are provided, and all are welcome.

### **Tool Library**

The Tool Library is a St. Matthew's ministry designed to serve parishioners and non-parishioners by providing them access to tools for basic home and yard maintenance, automotive upkeep and repair, and other projects around the home. We have hundreds of tools available for checkout at no cost. Our goals are to share with our neighbors, save patrons from the costs associated with purchasing tools, and reduce the waste associated with tools that will be rarely used. The Tool Library helps St. Matthew's fulfill its mission of community outreach and environmental stewardship. To learn more, contact Brian Ceresa (bpc73034@gmail.com) and William Bogel (williambogel@gmail.com).



### **Women in Conversation**

Women in Conversation is a lay-led conversation group that discusses topics of interest. We meet on most Tuesdays at noon at the church for 1½ hours. The group usually discusses a source, such as a book or podcast, which may or may not cover a religious topic. When we read a book, we usually discuss a chapter a week. Our conversations often branch out from our chosen source into our daily lives or topics in the news. Currently, we are discussing Elia Griswold's *Circle of Hope*, about crises in a tight-knit church in Philadelphia. For more information, contact Judy Fischer (judy.fischer@louisville.edu).

### **Youth Group**

The Youth Group is for youth in grades 6-12. It meets regularly 1-2 times a month for service, social and spiritual engagement. Youth enjoy serving the community at the Food Pantry, performing in the Christmas Pageant, and leading the Youth Sunday Service. In addition to service projects, the youth enjoy creating programming that will foster community at the church and just get together for fun and activities such as the Road Rally, pool parties, and games. The Youth program is a chance for youth to connect with and support each other. For information, contact Julie Mushkin (jmushkin@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org).

## **Building & Grounds**

### **Buildings and Grounds Ministry**

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church is fortunate to enjoy beautiful facilities within a park-like setting. As such, it is part of our responsibility as a congregation to maintain our buildings and grounds, not only for ourselves, but for future generations. Do you have a passion for gardening? We hope you will consider getting involved with our community garden. Do you have professional experience in the building trades? We would be happy to consider your expertise as we make important decisions regarding the care of our buildings and grounds. Maybe you just like rolling up your sleeves and getting involved with various chores that need to be done during the course of the year and, if so, we would love to have your help. Contact Catherine Banks (cbanks@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org) for more information.

### **Church Garden Ministry**

Our church garden has continued to host 10 plots that parishioners and neighbors "own" for a year. Gardeners have found special enjoyment in the flowers and vegetables produced as well as a community built around a passion for gardening. For \$25, you can take advantage of a sunny plot in a fenced area with access to water, tools, and great soil. If you want to garden with us, please contact Catherine Banks (cbanks@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org).

### **Memorial Garden**

The St. Matthew's Memorial Garden is a peaceful garden space located between Massie Ave. and the sanctuary that houses the remains of former parishioners and friends. Church members are invited to visit any time to remember the promise of Heaven and our resurrection. People who enjoy landscaping work are always needed to maintain this sacred space. Tasks typically include weeding, mulching, trimming, and planting. Please contact Catherine Banks (cbanks@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org) or LaVonne Fingerson (lfingerson@att.net) for more information.

## **Care Team**

### **Care Team Ministry**

The Care Team Ministry continues as a volunteer team of 33 parishioners. Teams are composed of one (1) Team Leader and five (5) or more team members. Each team is in rotation for one week, once every five (5) weeks. This is about ten times a year. We make connections with our parish family through cards, emails, visits, phone calls, and meal

deliveries. Working closely with our clergy, the Care Team provides support to parish members in need and enables our clergy to focus on areas of ministry beyond the Care Team mission. We welcome new volunteers to provide care and, if you are interested in joining our ministry, please contact the Rev. Suzanne Barrow ([sbarrow@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org](mailto:sbarrow@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org)).

## **Hospitality and Fundraising Events**

### **Kitchen Ministry**

The Kitchen Committee strives to keep the Saints Hall kitchen clean and orderly and well stocked with the necessary cooking supplies and equipment. Members of the committee clean and establish order in the kitchen on a regular basis, particularly following an event that uses the Saints Hall kitchen. The Committee meets as a group several times through the year for major cleaning and organizing. Members of the committee are:

Ann Hendren  
Marilyn Keith  
Diane Perry

Faith Huff  
Sharon Nesmith  
Barbara Uligian

We welcome anyone interested in joining our kitchen volunteers, and we appreciate suggestions for improving the kitchen. Address questions to any committee member or to Sharon Nesmith ([snsmith@mindspring.com](mailto:snsmith@mindspring.com)).

### **Trivia Night and Home & Garden Sale**

All are welcome to join us for a fun night of trivia on Saturday, November 1st from 6:30-8:30. The doors open at 5:45, giving you time to socialize and check out the great things that can be won with \$2 and \$5 raffles. Registration is \$25 per person, \$150 for a table of 6, or \$175 for a table of 8. Admission includes two adult beverages, and there will be soft drinks and light snacks for purchase throughout the event. The theme this year is "Groovy Trivia," so feel free to decorate your table, dress up, bring snacks, and choose a team name! Prizes for top three teams as well as best decorated table! Reach out to Joanne Coleman ([jcoleman@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org](mailto:jcoleman@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org)) at the church office with any questions. Space is limited.

On September 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, St. Matthew's will host our first ever Home and Garden Sale – an upscale sale of housewares, goods, and collectibles, with proceeds to benefit the church. This sale will include furniture, housewares, books, collectibles, artwork, kitchen items, dishes, seasonal décor, and more. The Home and Garden Sale committee meets quarterly to prepare for this biennial event. For more information or to join the committee, please contact Julie Mushkin ([jmushkin@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org](mailto:jmushkin@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org)).

## **Library and Archives**

### **St. Matthew's Episcopal Library**

The library, with its organized collection of materials, provides an accessible, inviting space for study and research for individuals and groups. It circulates over 3,000 books and media to parishioners of all ages. In addition to its Sunday morning hours between and after services, the library is available by appointment. The library's OPAC (online public access catalog) is available 24/7 on the church's website ([www.stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org/library](http://www.stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org/library)).

The library committee is led by librarian Lee Fletcher. Many parishioners assist with the library's operation. Newcomers to St. Matthew's are welcomed to the library as both patrons and prospective volunteers. Volunteers assist parishioners and check out items after each Sunday morning service. A wonderful way to support the library is to take a peek before or after church and check out a book! Contact [library@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org](mailto:library@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org) for more information about volunteering and our services.

## **St. Matthew's Archives**

The Archives of St. Matthew's were developed over 40 years ago to collect and organize materials that are part of our church history. The Archives include documents, photographs, oral histories, scrapbooks, reports, minutes, pictorial and other directories. It also includes items in print, media, and ephemera. Some of the material is in digital format, and some historical information can be accessed online.

The Archives, while part of the Church Library, is housed in Meeting Room B, located above the library. For information and volunteer possibilities, contact Lee Fletcher (lee.fletcher@twc.com) or 693-4145. Interest in areas such as topical church histories, photography, and computers is helpful when volunteering.

## **Music**

The music ministry of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church undergirds the parish's worship and encourages the spiritual and musical growth of its members. We gather on Wednesday evenings for rehearsal and occasional social events. The adult choir consists of 25 singers, including three paid section leaders. The adult handbell choir performs regularly in the 10AM worship service. A basic knowledge of music is required for both groups.

Weekly rehearsals are as follows: Bell choir, Wednesdays 6:30 - 7:25 PM in the Nave; Adult choir, Wednesdays 7:30 PM in the choir room.

We invite you to continue this tradition of musical prayer with any of the choirs here at St. Matthew's. For more information contact Robert Lee, Director of Music, rlee@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org.

## **Outreach**

### **Outreach Committee**

St. Matthew's is active in a variety of outreach opportunities that honor our commitment to being Christ's hands in our world. Some ministries receive funding through our budget to operate as sponsored outreach ministries of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, including the St. George's Scholar Institute and St. George's Episcopal Church Relief Fund (Christmas food boxes). We also support the Episcopal Church Home Woman's Board (providing financial assistance for residents), Habitat for Humanity (partnering in new home construction), we co-sponsored a Syrian family through Kentucky Refugee Ministries in the spring, and Kenya Kids @ Rongo (orphanage and school). We also support the clergy discretionary funds.

In addition to these good works, St. Matthew's sponsors collection ministries, including quarterly canned food for St. George's and Calvary's food pantries, warm coats for refugees through KRM in the fall, and the Advent tree Christmas gifts. Our parishioners are exceedingly generous, and these ministries are much appreciated throughout the communities we touch.

If any of these ministries interest you, don't hesitate to contact Kelly Kirby for more information. All are welcome!

### **Backside Ministry**

The Backside Ministry provides dinners for backside workers at Churchill Downs. They often serve up to 100 individuals in one night. There is often a sign-up sheet on the church bulletin board for all these activities as well as requests for food donations. For questions or to sign up, contact Penny Shaw (pennyshaw454@gmail.com).

### **Calvary and St. George's Food Collection Ministry**

The St. Matthew's Food Collection ministry is an ongoing effort to support the food pantries of our friends at Calvary and St. George's Episcopal churches. These pantries help provide relief to those in need in the local downtown communities. Each pantry serves over 1,200 people per month. Food collection and deliveries are made quarterly during the months of January, April, August, and October.

Here's how to participate: donate shelf-stable, non-perishable food items by leaving them in the shopping cart located in the Narthex during the months announced in the eSpirit. The food will be picked up at the end of these months and delivered to the churches by a team of volunteers.

Check the eSpirit for specific requests. Densely caloric foods such as canned meats (with flip-top cans), peanut butter, and side-dish-mixes are always needed, but variety is also welcomed! Household and personal care essentials like toiletries and laundry and paper products will be allocated to St. George's low-income seniors' program. If you wish to volunteer or have questions, please contact Bill Weinberg (weinberg9@twc.com) or David Lee (vdlee78@gmail.com).

### **Flower Delivery Ministry**

Would you love to deliver a little joy to people? Are you willing to drive on a delivery once a month? Then give the Flower Delivery Team a try! Each week, the Sunday altar flowers are divided and sent out to let people know we are thinking of them and care for them. The arrangements are made by the Flower Guild and are ready for pick up in the narthex on Tuesdays, so you just pick up the flowers during office hours. You will find the name of the recipient on a Google Map already printed along with the vase. The Delivery team is scheduled through Ministry Pro, so you set your own availability. Deliver a little joy to parishioners by joining the Flower Delivery Team today! Please contact Catherine Banks to be added to the schedule (cbanks@stmatthewsepiscopeallouisville.org).

### **Food Pantry**

The St. Matthew's Food Pantry operates on the third Saturday of each month from around 8a.m. to 11:00 a.m. We receive our food from Louisville's Dare To Care Food Bank. Adults, youth, and families, even those that include little ones, volunteer side-by-side with volunteers from the community, other churches, and service organizations. Cars line up and drive through the parking lot loading line behind Saint's Hall to receive food.

There is something for everyone to do—greet our guests in their cars, set up tables, unload food onto the tables, load food into boxes and bags in shopping carts, return shopping carts to storage, clean up after, and many other tasks. Very importantly, we take care to represent St. Matthew's with smiles and welcoming conversation.

If you're interested in receiving more information or in joining the pantry's email information list, contact Lynn Miller (millris426@gmail.com) or Robin Garr (robingarr@gmail.com).

### **Habitat for Humanity**

St. Matthew's Episcopal has supported Louisville Habitat home construction financially since 1987, typically in the range of \$5,000-\$10,000 each year. We have co-sponsored homes in the past with Holy Trinity Catholic church; an interfaith build with Jewish, Muslim, and Christian congregations; and other partners. The 2023 build is our first home sponsored entirely by Episcopal parishes and the Diocese of Kentucky. Louisville Habitat truly makes a difference in our community by carrying zero-interest loans on homes for qualified buyers. Close to 600 homes have been constructed in Louisville since Habitat's formation in 1985, and over 120 families have paid off their mortgages. Volunteers find joy in this work by being part of the solution for our city's housing crisis, developing friendships with partner families and other volunteers, and sharing or learning construction skills. Church members have dedicated many hours volunteering in construction, serving as Advocates for homebuyers, and providing lunches for volunteer workers. Financial gifts or donations of household items to the Habitat ReStore also support this organization. For more information, please visit

[www.Louisvillehabitat.org](http://www.Louisvillehabitat.org) or contact Habitat Volunteer Coordinator Sunny Smith [ssmith@louisvillehabitat.org](mailto:ssmith@louisvillehabitat.org), 502-805-1415.

### **Kentucky Refugees Ministry**

As an Outreach ministry, the KRM committee annually collect new and gently used winter apparel for children and adults, including the following: coats, hats, gloves, scarves, blankets and baby clothes.

Kentucky Refugee Ministries is a non-profit that welcomes and helps resettle refugees from all over the world. They also work with a large group of Cuban arrivals seeking asylum in Louisville. St. Matthew's has had a long-time relationship working with KRM. We have also partnered with KRM to co-sponsor refugee arrivals.

KRM is in constant need of household goods donations (kitchen supplies, sheets, towel, etc.). In addition, furniture, especially dining room tables, chairs, and coffee tables are needed, and KRM has a truck to pick up large items. Other than the winter items that we collect in the fall, clothing donations are not accepted now. If you wish to donate furniture or household items, please complete the donations form on the website ([KRM.org](http://KRM.org)) to notify KRM of your interest in donating items. You will receive a confirmation email with the details of your form, and a KRM representative will be in touch with you if you are scheduling a pickup.

Those interested in volunteering with this ministry or need help with a donation may contact Denee Bannister.

### **Kenya Kids at Rongo**

Kenya Kids at Rongo, Inc. is a 501 (C)(3) non-profit corporation operating in Louisville, KY, since May 2017. The focus of Kenya Kids at Rongo is providing financial support for the operation of Ebenezer Children's Center outside of Rongo, Kenya. Ebenezer is a product of the faith, vision, and long-term commitment of Kenyan Daniel Ochieng and his wife Damaris who have had strong ties with St. Matthew's Episcopal Church for many years. Daniel and Damaris live on-site with their family and are responsible for the management and supervision of Ebenezer operations. Ebenezer provides for the basic human needs of 60-75 vulnerable Kenyan orphans. Young children attend an on-site primary school. In addition, we support tuition-based secondary school and university education opportunities for older Ebenezer orphan scholars. Vocational training (tailoring and welding) is available for orphans that do not pursue further educational opportunities. Ebenezer Children's Center is recognized by Kenya as a Charitable Children's Institute (CCI.) This is the desired and appropriate certification for a Kenyan orphanage. Take a pictorial tour of Ebenezer Children's Center by visiting our website: [www.kenyakidsatrongo.org](http://www.kenyakidsatrongo.org). There are currently (4) SMEC parishioners of SMEC on Kenya Kids at Rongo, Inc. Board. If you have a calling to help the efforts of this worthy cause, please contact Speed Stodghill ([WmSpeed2@aol.com](mailto:WmSpeed2@aol.com)).

### **Scarf Ministry**

On a Sunday in November, you may have been in church when baskets of colorful scarves were blessed at the altar. You, too, can be a part of this rewarding ministry if you enjoy knitting or crocheting. Hats and cowls may also be created, and all these beautiful handmade items are gifts for our community. Easy-to-follow patterns are located on the bulletin board at the top of the staircase. Please contact Sarah Weston ([srweston@bellsouth.net](mailto:srweston@bellsouth.net)) for more information.

### **St. George's Christmas Boxes**

Each year, our generous members of St. Matthew's support St. George's Relief Ministry by donating money for their neighborhood Christmas boxes. Our funds allow members of St. George's parish to purchase food for Christmas dinner and household items that are distributed to neighbors in need who live near St. George's Episcopal Church. For more information, contact Lynn Miller ([millris426@gmail.com](mailto:millris426@gmail.com)).

## **St. George's Scholar Institute**

St. George's Scholar Institute is a youth development agency that provides quality, out-of-school time programming for social, emotional, and academic learning for vulnerable youth in the California, Parkhill, and Parkland neighborhoods. Our mission is to embrace, educate and empower youth in Louisville.

SGSI has been serving families for over 60 years. Its primary participants are middle and high school students. Over 91% of the young people we serve are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch. Significantly, much of SGSI's programming is offered free of charge. 98% of SGSI's participants are black, and almost all live in Southwest Louisville. The majority reside in zip codes 40210, 40211 and 40212. Residents living in these zip codes are documented to be both the unhealthiest and have the lowest life expectancy in all of Metro Louisville. Further complicating these statistical facts, it also has the highest unemployment, poverty, and violence rates. For example, the homicide rate continues to escalate in the West End, which is the most violent area in Metro Louisville.

SGSI's out-of-school programming includes academic enrichment, artistic expression opportunities, and social and emotional learning, through activities like the following:

- Providing a low tuition, six-week, Reading Rocket's summer academic enrichment camp to 60+ youth ages K-8th that limits summer learning loss among its students.
- So far in 2025, our youth have participated in 1:1 and group tutoring for reading and math and visited many locations around Louisville and southern Indiana, such as: The Roots 101 African American Museum, The Muhammad Ali Center, The Louisville Science Center, Huber's Orchard, the Jeffersonville Aquatics Center and more. They've also been greeted by many guests and groups on site such as WAGS Pet Therapy of Louisville, STEAM studies, hair & nail care classes, and step dance classes.
- Each morning our youth are visited by a volunteer adult who comes and reads a picture book to kick off their morning pep-rally. We are often told that this is incredibly meaningful to our guests. They love the excitement, songs and dancing the kids do each morning, and they love it even more because they're asked to dance with the youth as they prepare for their day.

Through our after-school college and career readiness program, we expose middle and high school youth to college or career opportunities. This includes learning how to write essays, research a college, research/apply for scholarships, complete the admissions process to a college and/or trade school, seek college tours, obtain tutoring, and receive referral support towards alternative career goals after high school. This past 24-25 school year, we were able to take 20+ youth on multiple college tours where they visited many local and out of state colleges, universities and HBCUs. We were also able to partner with Central High School and Western Middle School to provide free on-site ACT prep on two separate occasions. We are continuing our partnerships with local JCPS schools and principals to continue these on-site classes and expand the opportunity of our program to more local students. SGSI has always provided tutoring opportunities to our youth. Most often we dealt with on an individual need basis and used our partnerships with local teachers, principals, and local education majors from Bellarmine University to fill these needs.

We are also able to offer exposure to entrepreneurship opportunities through arts-related programming with our Urban Arts program. This Program includes photography, podcasting and radio broadcasting, audio engineering and production, DJ-ing, graphics arts and shoe and apparel design.

We were asked, for the second year in a row, to participate in the WHAS Crusade for Children kickoff event at Paristown Hall. We were able to have our DJ provide music and sound for the event. We were featured on live TV where our youth were able to showcase their skills. New to our UAI program this year was our Air Force 1 Custom Shoe Design class. WHAT A TURN OUT! We had over 100 youth sign up to participate in this class. Due to the huge interest in this program this course was offered multiple times during the school year. Youth were taught how to tape off, prepare the shoe to accept paint, and created their very own custom designs. Make sure to check out all the feet at our next SGSI event.

How can you become involved or support SGSI? There always is room for volunteers to assist in the Summer with the Reading Rockets program, tutoring, or simply giving of your time to help us organize and update our space.

Due to the sudden cut of federal grants, responses to those cuts to provide emergency funding to those that depend solely on that funding, and apprehension about the current funding environment, SGSI has been hit hard this with a lack and drying up of funding from the federal AND state departments. We have a small but devoted base of donors and local businesses who see the deep value or programming provides for our West End youth.

If you feel so led, we would love to have you as part of our Monthly Donor group. You can set your monthly donation up through our website, and donation portal, where even \$20 a month (\$5 a week), helps us keep our budget tight and money well spent to support our youth. THANK you for being part of team SGSI!

Additionally, there are activities that are open to volunteers, who should contact Executive Director, Arthur Cox (acox@stgeorgesky.org) or our Administrative Assistant, Tara Durnil (tdurnil@stgeorgesky.org).

### **Woman's Board of the Episcopal Church Home**

Eleven members from St. Matthew's serve on the Woman's Board of the Episcopal Church Home. We are a volunteer organization that has been active since 1975, and we are made up of representatives from Episcopal churches in the area. Volunteers have been fundraising, working in the Gift Shop and chapel, and helping with mail delivery and other activities for the welfare and comfort of the residents. We are always interested in new volunteers. For more information, contact Barbara Uligian (b.uligian@outlook.com).

### **Skill Sharing Classes**

We are continuing our skill sharing classes that began as part of our Communities of Calling Initiative. These classes give parishioners and community members a chance to teach about one of their callings and give our whole congregation a chance to learn a new skill. Tuition for the classes raises money to support worthy nonprofit organizations in our city. Classes are posted in the eSpirit and on the church website. Interested in teaching a class or learning more? Contact The Rev. Suzanne Barrow (sbarrow@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org).

### **Planned Giving**

#### **Planned Giving**

Many people like to leave a gift to charity in their wills. The Planned Giving Committee was established in 2010 to encourage parishioners to include St. Matthew's in their will or estate plans. In 2014, the Planned Giving Committee created a legacy society known as the Stewards of St. Matthew's. Individuals are part of the Stewards of St. Matthew's when they share with the rector or a member of the Planned Giving Committee that they have included a gift to St. Matthew's in their will or trust or if they have named St. Matthew's to receive a future gift as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, tax-deferred retirement plan, charitable gift annuity, or other type of planned gift. If you have questions or are interested in becoming a Steward of St. Matthew's, please contact Kelly Kirby.

### **Worship**

#### **Eucharistic Visitors**

Our Eucharistic Visitors take communion to parishioners who cannot come to church. We have a group of dedicated volunteers who are trained and licensed to perform this ministry. They receive a communion kit at one of our Sunday services and are sent out with words

that remind us that even though we cannot all be together all the time, we are one body of Christ. Please contact the Rev. Suzanne Barrow for more information.

### **Ways to Help with the Liturgy**

We have a variety of ways for parishioners to participate in our communal worship each Sunday. Deeply rooted in our theology is the belief that the liturgy is the work of the people, not something that only clergy deliver. Below are some ways that you can get involved:

#### **Greeters**

Greeters are the first way that we welcome people into our church building. These volunteers are friendly people who are interested in welcoming newcomers to the church. They help orient new visitors to where they can find the restrooms, childcare, and the Nave. They are an essential part of our welcoming community. If you are interested in volunteering, contact The Rev. Suzanne Barrow.

#### **Ushers**

At all our services on Sundays, ushers serve by welcoming parishioners, helping them to their seats, distributing bulletins, collecting the offering, and directing people during the Eucharist. If you would like to serve, please contact The Rev. Suzanne Barrow.

#### **Acolytes**

Acolytes assist the clergy in religious services and lead processions. At St. Matthew's, youth in grades 4-12 serve as acolytes at the 10a service (1 adult at the 8a service). Any interested youth can be trained and added to the rotating schedule. Please contact The Rev. Suzanne Barrow for more information.

#### **Lectors & Intercessors**

Parishioners can take part in the Sunday services by volunteering to read the Hebrew Bible and New Testament passages as well as the weekly prayers of the people. New lectors and intercessors go through a brief training session before serving to acquaint new participants with the reading locations and service flow. If you are interested in learning more or would like to volunteer, please contact The Rev. Suzanne Barrow.

#### **Eucharistic Ministers**

Also called Chalice Bearers, these volunteers help distribute communion. If you are interested in helping the clergy during communion, contact The Rev. Suzanne Barrow.

### **Altar Guild Ministry**

St. Matthew's Altar Guild is a group of loyal women and men who serve the church by meeting every Saturday morning to prepare for three Sunday services. The Altar Guild service includes preparing the altar for worship, cleaning up between services, and caring for all the silver and linens. The Altar Guild is also responsible for other special services such as weddings, funerals, and baptisms. Qualifications include the following: being faithful and on time, having attention to detail, asking questions, valuing neatness, being a good team player, and enjoying the pleasure of working with and serving others. For more information, contact the church office or The Rev. Suzanne Barrow.

### **Flower Guild**

The Flower Guild members arrange flowers for the altar every Sunday, for the Easter and Christmas season, for the annual lunch meeting, for guest speakers, and for receptions for special occasions. We always have fun with any project, and it's always a learning experience. We would love to have anyone who just loves flowers, and our schedule is flexible because everyone is willing to switch dates. If you are interested, contact Heather Duffy (duffyheather3@gmail.com) or at (270) 227-9672.



## Clergy and Staff Information

The Rev. Kelly Kirby	Rector	kkirby@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org
The Rev. Suzanne Barrow	Director of Congregational Life	sbarrow@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org
The Rev. Deacon Jan Scholtz	Deacon	jscholtz@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org
Joanne Coleman	Accountant	jcoleman@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org
Julie Mushkin	Ministry Coordinator	jmushkin@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org
Charles Frank	Director of Communications	cfrank@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org
Catherine Banks	Parish Secretary	cbanks@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org
Robert Lee	Director of Music	rlee@stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church  
330 N Hubbards Lane  
Louisville, KY 40207  
(502) 895-3485  
[www.stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org](http://www.stmatthewsepiscopallouisville.org)