

THE VOICE OF St. Matthew

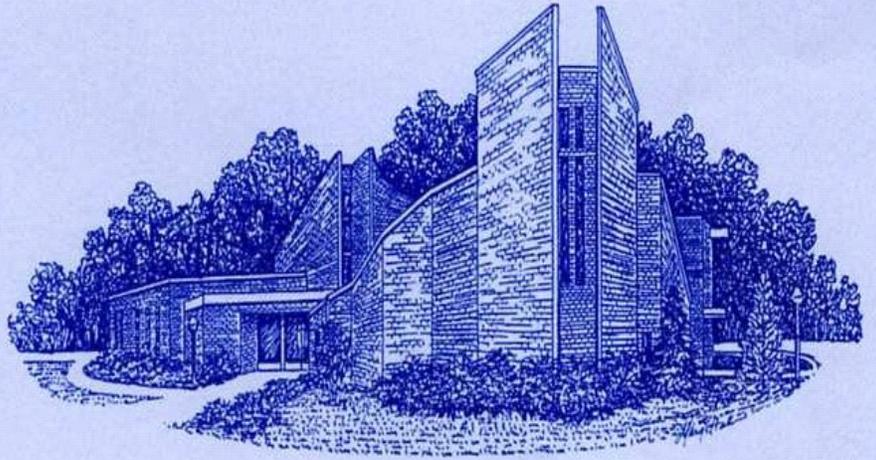
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1420 SOUTH GABLES BLVD.
WHEATON, ILLINOIS 60189

630-665-1236

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www.stmatthew-ucc.org



May 2014

“Jesus Moments”

I was impressed this past Holy Week and Easter Sunday by the particularly powerful experiences of worship we shared with one another. Thanks go to many people who came together to make this season meaningful and transformative to our faith.

Our staff brought alive the themes of the seasons in drama (thanks, Susan and Jamie) and in music (thanks, Jamie, Brian, and Kim). But also thanks for the time commitments and positive energies of all the lay folks who were in the “Last Supper” dramatic presentation and for all the choirs and choir members who tugged at our hearts as well as our minds with both somber and joyful selections. Many thanks also to Diana and Karen, who worked behind the scenes to pull it all together.

Susan told me one morning that Giovanni, her son-in-law, was going to play the part of Jesus for da Vinci’s Last Supper performance at our Maundy Thursday worship service. That same day I decided to run to Target on my lunch break and who should I see at Target? It was Giovanni. So I had the joy of being able to shout out to him, “Jesus!” He also looked at that moment remarkably like Jesus. I had never noticed that before about him. It was a “Jesus moment” for me.

I wonder how many moments in our lives we miss that really are “Jesus moments.” Of course, I am not just talking about seeing someone who might look the part of Jesus in physical form, but especially those many moments when one of us acts with grace, compassion, and truthfulness that causes us to think about Jesus. I suspect that we all shy away from being raised to the level of Jesus, that not one of us feels we could ever adequately play the part of Jesus.

But that is our role. We are all called to reflect something of the character of Jesus in our own unique lives and vocations. We are not in fact the light, but we are to reflect the light, as the moon reflects the light of sun into the darkness of our world. We take the dirt-smudged mirror of our lives, polished with the dirt-removing baptismal waters of our baptisms, and hold it up towards the light of Christ. We go about our daily routines and live in a way that the light of Christ shines in us and into the dullness and the darkness around us.

May you experience the joy of this Easter Season and may you announce the Good News of Easter in your unique ways of reflecting the light of Christ.

*Christ’s peace,
Pastor Allen*

crazies

St. Matthew UCC

crazies Shout Out/Update

crazies have been meeting on Sundays from 6-8 p.m. with a combined group (middle school and high school). The group still has dinner together and is looking for volunteers to prepare and bring a simple meal for 10-12 to share (around 6 pm). If

you are interested, please call Dawn Schubert (630) 665-9860 or email her at rural_rococo@msn.com. A new electronic sign-up will be available soon.

Andrea DiOrio and Melissa Guido will be co-directing crazies and the summer HOT (Hang Out Tuesdays) program. Both have backgrounds working with kids and youth and are anxious to lead the program during this interim.

Jennifer Buhmann is leading a 3-part series which began in late April, and then Andrea and/or Melissa will be leading most Sundays beginning this month. There will be no crazies on Mother's Day (5/11). As always, watch the youth bulletin board and read the crazies happen'ns for details.

A Selection Committee for a new Director of Youth Ministries has been formed with Hi Baird as the chair. This committee includes several students as well as other adults and parents, and they have already begun reviewing resumes of some of the candidates. We will keep you informed of their progress.



Pennies from Heaven

We have two fundraising opportunities that do not require our members to spend any extra money – St. Matthew receives “Pennies from Heaven” from your regular shopping. Through these programs, retailers have agreed to give a portion of your purchase to St. Matthew. Simply plan ahead and order pre-paid (gift) cards through the **Manna** program for your normal shopping – grocery, gas, movie theaters, department stores, restaurants, pharmacies, etc. Order forms are available every Sunday after church, and your cards will be ready the following Sunday. If you make online purchases, register with **iGive** on our page: igive.com/stmatthewucc. Then click on the **iGive** button in your browser and do your shopping. **iGive** will track your purchases and the retailers’ donations to our church. It’s that easy!

Tell your friends and family – they can participate, too! More information can be found on the Donate page of our website at www.stmatthewucc.org



Notes from the Music Room...

It's time for Summer Music!!

Or, to be more accurate, it's time to sign up for Summer Music!!

We are at the beginning of May, when our flowers are supposed to bloom from all the rain in April. The month of May brings us – we hope – more moderate temperatures, longer days, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, and the beginning of summer.

May 18th is the last Sunday of the 2013-2014 church year for music. Our many musical groups go on their well-deserved hiatus and we look forward to hearing from individuals and small groups. We need volunteers to sing, play, or do both to enhance our worship from May 25th through August 31st.

The sign-up sheet is on the table in the Narthex. Please sign up early for two reasons: first is to make sure you get the date you would like, and second, some years it does fill up fast.

Thank you in advance for sharing your talents.

Peace....

Jamie

Lanni1@comcast.net

630-202-6788

Reminder: St. Matthew Domain Name Change

Several months ago we changed our domain name for our church's website and email addresses. Some people still have the old one in their system and the auto-type brings that one up rather than the new one.

Our new website address is www.stmatthewucc.org, NOT www.stmatthew-ucc.org. All the new staff email addresses that include the name stmatthew also do NOT have the "dash." Please be sure to note this change. You cannot reach the church website with that old domain name and neither will emails go through that have the dash in them.



Thanks, Diana Padilla.



Please Help!

Do you remember Food on the 1st? That was when we asked for donations for our food pantries. Everyone would bring something for the first Sunday of the

month. Our food pantries are always looking for help, and not just the first of each month.

Outside the church office there is a bin for donations. If you can't donate on the first Sunday, it is there for you to donate anytime and I will make sure that it gets delivered. Each month I will find out their greatest needs and pass that along to you.

Here is what they need now:

- canned tuna
- peanut butter
- jelly
- canned fruit
- pasta (no spaghetti)
- cake mixes and frosting
- Non-food items: toothpaste, toothbrushes, and shampoo.



Please make sure the food is not expired and the packages are unopened. Please contact me at (630) 682.4084 if you have any questions.

Thank you for your generosity!

-Betty Greer

Matthew 25:35

for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me...



MAY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----|-------------------|
| 1 | Curtis Holland |
| | Howard SooHoo |
| 3 | Marilyn Guerrieri |
| | Linda Leinweber |
| 4 | Brian Anderson |
| | Jamie Craig |
| | Jackie Tobin |
| 6 | Jay Grove |
| | Wendee Passini |
| 7 | Robert Guerrieri |
| 11 | Zack Leinweber |
| | Dixie Miller |
| 12 | Alison Chatten |
| | James Ogorzalek |
| | David Wold |
| 13 | Daniel Ciner |
| | Michael English |
| | Kelly Gonzalez |
| | Susan Neufelder |
| 15 | Nigel Barnhill |
| 18 | Barbara Giordano |
| 20 | Monnie Stoller |
| 22 | Jason Schubert |
| | Barbara Stevenson |
| 27 | Mike Cetina |
| | Ann Ogorzalek |
| 31 | Griffen Price |

Children's Ministry

May 2014

THANK YOU, CHILDREN'S MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS!!

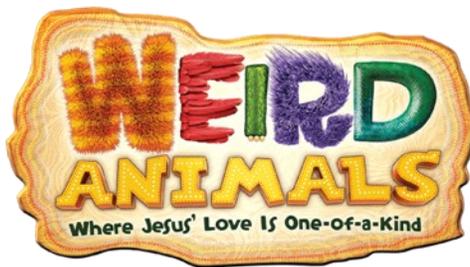
We will wrap up the Sunday school year making Mother's Day/Father's Day gifts and going on a Prairie Path Prayer walk.

There will be **no Sunday school on May 18th**, as that is **Volunteer Appreciation** for Children's Ministry. The children made wonderful gifts for the volunteers that they will present to them on the 18th. Please come on that Sunday to honor our volunteers. There will be an appreciation coffee following worship.

There will be **no Sunday school on May 25th**, as that is the Memorial Day weekend.

Summer Sunday school begins on June 1st. Our summer Sunday school is a more relaxed time spent as a group from 10-10:30 a.m. We do fun activities with a Christian message: games, planting, movies, Prairie Path walk, cooking, crafts, etc. If you have an idea for a summer activity and would like to teach it one of the summer Sundays, please contact me.

Vacation Bible School 2014

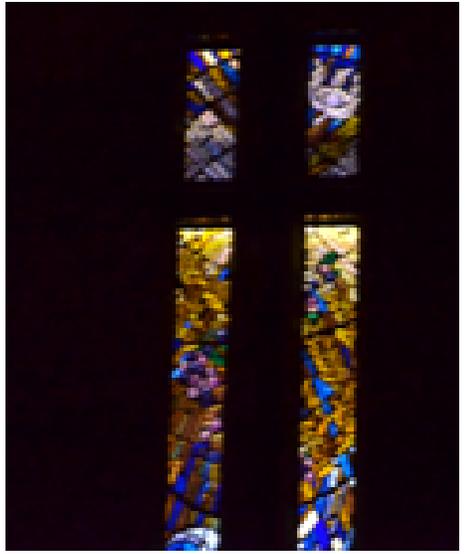


**Songs/Games/Stories/Crafts/Science Projects/Snacks/Photo Booth and more
June 16 th– 20th / 9a.m. – 12p.m.**

Sign-up has begun for this year's Vacation Bible School. Join us for a fun week which will close with an all-family Ice Cream Social. Invite friends, family, neighbors, and grandchildren: all are welcome! Registration forms are in the narthex and the church office. T-shirts are provided for all children who are registered before the first day of VBS. Those registering on the first day will receive an iron-on transfer to put on their own t-shirt. Each family will also receive a *Weird Animals* music CD.

May Birthdays: Jeremy Passini 5/1, Kelley Passini 5/2, Evelyn Hutchison 5/23

Susan Wold
Director of Children's Ministry



And now for something completely different...the poem for May.

from Linda Leinweber in Bangkok

The Rhodora

On being asked, Whence Is the Flower?

By Ralph Waldo Emerson

In May, when sea-winds pierced our solitudes,
I found the fresh Rhodora in the woods,
Spreading its leafless blooms in a damp nook,
To please the desert and the sluggish brook.
The purple petals fallen in the pool
Made the black water with their beauty gay;
Here might the red-bird come his plumes to cool,
And court the flower that cheapens his array.
Rhodora! if the sages ask thee why
This charm is wasted on the earth and sky,
Tell them, dear, that, if eyes were made for seeing,
Then beauty is its own excuse for Being;
Why thou wert there, O rival of the rose!
I never thought to ask; I never knew;
But in my simple ignorance suppose
The self-same Power that brought me there, brought you.

I think this is a lovely poem, contemplating the nature of beauty and the beauty of this flower in the woods. A rhodora, by the way, is a type of purple rhododendron, I believe. What am I doing in Bangkok, you ask? Josef has to attend a class there, so I decided to get myself a ticket and tag along. I will report on my exotic change of scenery when I get back.





Bags Tournament

A lot of fun was had at the annual Bags Tournament on April 27th.

Thanks to all the participants and those who came to cheer.



The Bag Bombers (Bob and Amy Barnshaw) won the Novice Division and the English Boys (Brian and Michael English) were the Experienced Division winners.

Last P.A.D.S. of the Season

May 14th and 15th will be our last time to “staff” the Interim (Overnight) Housing site at Peace Lutheran for the 2013/2014 season. We are planning a picnic for our clients, and your donations of time, food, drink, and dollars (to buy food items and supplies) will ensure the season ends on a great note.



Although we all know that there are homeless people year round, Peace Lutheran (the site that we are committed to support) does not host P.A.D.S. June through August. There are other sites in DuPage County, however, that are open year round and could certainly use help (see www.dupagepads.org for more information).

Your St. Matthew P.A.D.S. Coordinators thank all of our faithful, mission-minded volunteers for all of their help this season.

One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing is the refugee, relief and development offering of the United Church of Christ. This important program transforms lives through health, education, agricultural and emergency relief initiatives in 138 countries.



GIVE TO
ONE GREAT
HOUR OF
SHARING.

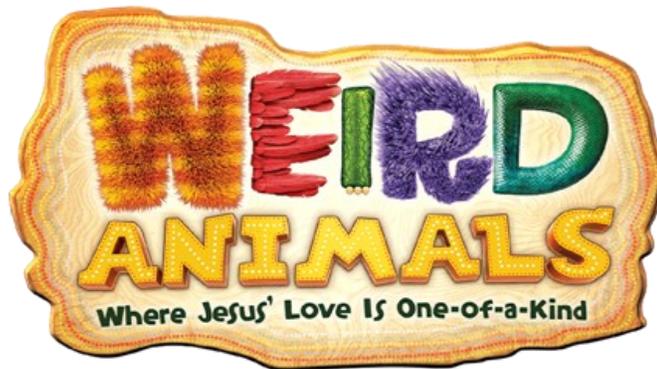


From supporting impoverished countries in Africa, tsunami relief in Japan and recovery from natural disasters here in the U.S., money from this offering supports those in need in our community and around the world. St. Matthew will be taking up this collection on Mother's Day, Sunday, **May 11th**. Envelopes are available in the narthex.



**Christian Education
Volunteer Appreciation Sunday
May 18th**

Please join us as we celebrate those who have lovingly volunteered to teach and lead the adults and children in their Christian education. We will honor the volunteers during worship and celebrate during the reception following. Volunteers, please come to be honored on your special day and members, please come and show your appreciation to our volunteers.



Vacation Bible School 2014

**June 16th – 20th / 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Songs, Games, Stories, Crafts, Science Projects,
Snacks and more!**

Registration forms in narthex and office

UPCOMING EVENTS



MARGE HALL ART SHOW

You are invited to Marge Hall's reception on **May 2nd**, from 6-9pm, to view her latest floral oil paintings. The show is called "Festival of Color" and will be on display the month of May at **Gallery 200** on Main Street in West Chicago. This show is guaranteed to put some "Spring" into your life.

LADIES TEA PARTY Stop by to sip tea and show off your hat (if you still own one)! Open house Saturday, **May 3rd** from 2-4 p.m. at Marla Mothershed's home: 1011 Arbor Ave., Wheaton. Please RSVP by email to mmothershed63@gmail.com or of-



office@stmatthewucc.org, by phone to 630.441-5963 or 630.665-1236, or sign up in the narthex.

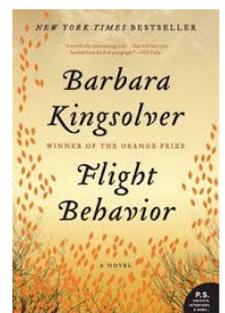
2014 CROP WALK On **May 4th**, members of St. Matthew UCC will join other churches in Glen Ellyn and Wheaton to walk in the 30 year anniversary of the CROP Walk to fight against poverty and hunger in our communities and in over 80 countries around the world. If you are unable to walk, please consider making a donation by writing a check to "CWS/ CROP Walk" or donate online at <http://hunger.cwsglobal.org/goto/stmatthewucc.com> On May 4th, registration will start at 1pm and the walk will begin at 2pm. The starting and ending point is in downtown Wheaton at Gary United Methodist Church, 224 N. Main St. Please contact Alex Alavi (alex.alavi@sbcglobal.net) if you have any questions. Thank you for your support!



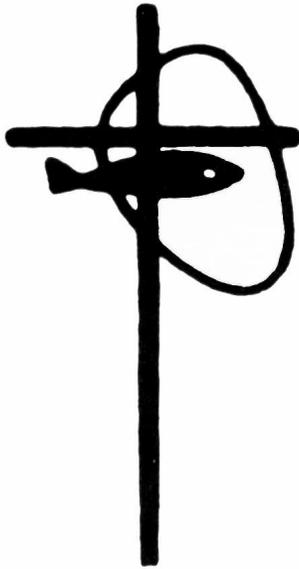
CITY OF WHEATON HISTORIC COMMISSION PRESENTS "THE CHURCHES OF EDWARD DART"

Chicago modernist architect Edward Dart designed numerous churches, homes, and businesses throughout Chicago and the suburbs. Wheaton's Dart-designed properties include about a dozen homes, and one church, our very own St. Matthew United Church of Christ, built in 1962. Come hear Matt Seymour, who has written extensively on Dart, present a program on the architect's life, design philosophy, Mid-Century religious design, and his churches, both historically and in their current status. The lecture will be followed by a short discussion on Dart's residential design in Wheaton. Come with your questions and information about Dart, as more documentation remains to be gathered about this under-appreciated architect. Matt Seymour works as an assistant project manager for Central Building & Preservation LP in Chicago. Matt earned his MS in Historic Preservation from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, where he completed his thesis on Edward Dart. He has written articles for the *Association for Preservation Technology (APT) Bulletin*, the *Chicago Modern: More than Mies* website, and he has been quoted in *Preservation Magazine*. Meet in the sanctuary on Monday, **May 5th** at 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served, followed by an optional tour of our church.

NOVEL APPROACHES The novel to be approached in May is "Flight Behavior" by Barbara Kingsolver. Characters and reader alike are quickly carried beyond familiar territory here, into the unsettled ground of science, faith and everyday truces between reason and conviction. *Flight Behavior* takes on one of the most contentious subjects of our time: climate change. With a deft and versatile empathy, Kingsolver dissects the motives that drive denial and belief in a precarious world." **The date:** Friday, May 30th at 7:30 pm. **The place:** the Skwaras, 2035 Cromwell Drive, Wheaton. Everyone is welcome. Please join us for lively discussion, food and fellowship!



Visiting St. Matthew and want to learn more?



Have you been visiting and want to learn more about us or consider membership? On Sunday, **May 18th** after the fellowship time we will have a luncheon and a discussion about the ministries of St. Matthew, information about the United Church of Christ, and what is involved in being a member. This will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Childcare will be provided upon request. Please email or call the office to let us know so we can prepare the meal accordingly. On Sunday, **June 1st**, those who would like to join will have that opportunity. We have quite a few expressing this interest and are happy as well to be having a baptism that day. Let us know if you have any questions or if you are unavailable on those dates and we can find other ways to connect with you.

Graduating?

If you have a friend or family member graduating from high school, college or graduate school this year, please let us know. Please contact the office at office@stmatthewucc.org or 630.665.1236 with the name of the graduate, the school they are graduating from and their future plans. We will be honoring graduates during Worship on Sunday, May 25th. *Thank you and congratulations, graduates!*



CLASS OF

2014

“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.”

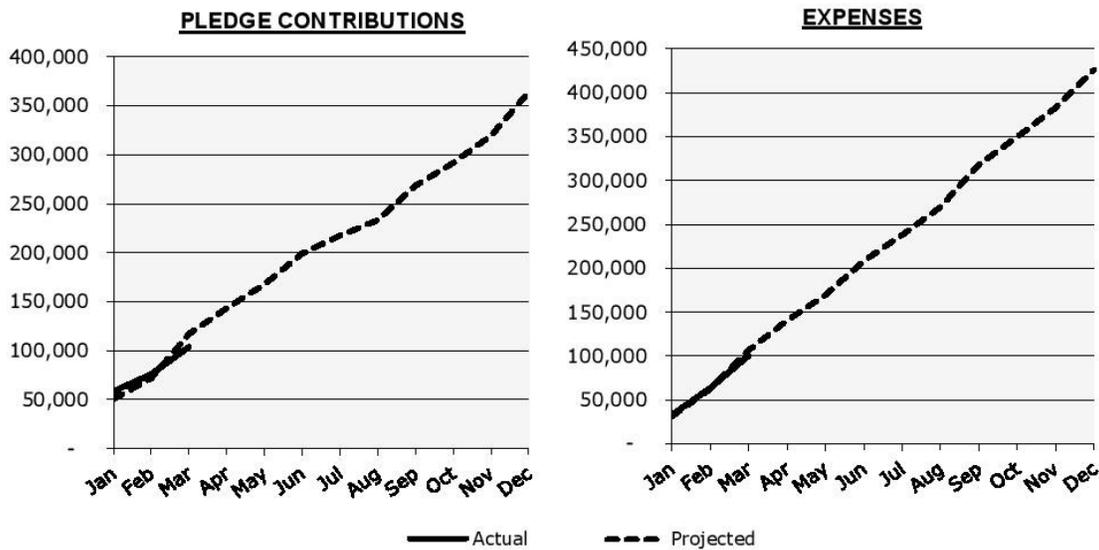
Jeremiah 29:11

**ST. MATTHEW UCC GENERAL OPERATING FUND
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES**

For the Period Ended March 31, 2014

	ACTUAL CURRENT MONTH	ACTUAL YEAR-TO- DATE	ANNUAL BUDGET
<u>RECEIPTS:</u>			
Pledge Contributions	28,139	103,824	363,658
Loose Offerings	468	1,084	6,000
Rental Income	400	650	5,000
Fund Raising	274	589	10,000
Investment Income	(12)	(102)	-
More Property	-	-	41,500
More Property (special projects)	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Income	-	-	-
TOTAL RECEIPTS	29,269	106,045	426,158
<u>EXPENDITURES:</u>			
Ministry	20,241	55,609	224,348
Building	12,742	32,852	122,810
Mortgages & Notes	2,229	6,687	26,750
Mission / OCWM	500	700	29,000
Committees:			
Christian Education	708	2,501	9,600
Membership	232	508	2,750
Music	100	1,031	4,500
Worship	-	582	2,500
Endowment	-	-	1,000
Congregational Life	29	29	800
Memorial	-	-	100
Misc. & Contingency	-	-	2,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES (before Special Projects)	36,781	100,499	426,158
Special Projects	-	-	-
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	\$ (7,512)	\$ 5,546	\$ -

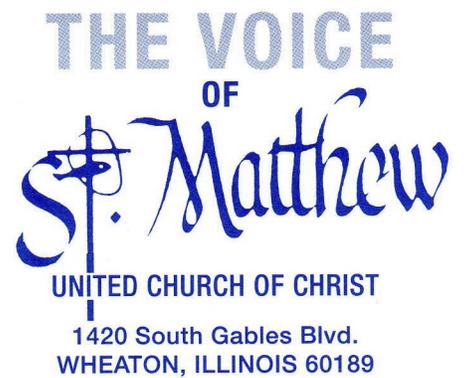
2014 Activity - Actual vs. Projected



Please contact John Adams if you have questions or need additional information.

May 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Every Tuesday: 6p IntergeneRing-ers 7p Bells Potluck 7:30p Chancel Ringers</i>	<i>Every Wednesday: 1:30p Prayer Group 6:30p Praise Band 7:30p Choir</i>			1	2 <i>6-9p Marge Hall's art show</i>	3 <i>2-4p Ladies' Tea Party</i>
4 <i>-9:30a Worship Service: Communion -1p CROP Walk -6-8p crazies</i>	5 <i>7p Wheaton Historical Society Presentation</i>	6 <i>-7p Membership -7:30p Mission</i>	7	8 <i>7p Finance Committee</i>	9	10
11 <i>9:30a Worship Service: One Great Hour of Sharing offering -no crazies</i>	12 <i>7p Worship Committee</i>	13	14 <i>PADS</i>	15 <i>7p Council</i>	16	17 <i>3p Memorial Service for Charles "Chuck" Trunkey</i>
18 <i>9:30a Worship Service: Bells-Music Appreciation -New Member Class -6-8p crazies</i>	19	20 <i>-1p Digital Ministry -Last Bell Rehearsal</i>	21	22	23	24
25 <i>9:30a Worship Service: Graduation Sunday -6-8p crazies -June/July Voice articles due</i>	26 Happy Memorial Day! <i>Office Closed</i>	27 <i>7p Combined Ministries Meeting</i>	28	29	30 <i>7:30p Novel Approaches</i>	31 <i>Therese Antuna Scrapbooking Event</i>



St. Matthew United Church of Christ

(630) 665-1236 (Office)

(630) 665-1436 (Fax)

Office Email: office@stmatthewucc.org

Web Site: www.stmatthewucc.org

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Church School: 10:00 a.m.

Our Purpose:

Become, Live, and Serve as Disciples of Jesus Christ.

Our Identity:

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome and accepted here at St. Matthew United Church of Christ.

Our Staff

Rev. Milton Allen Mothershed, Senior Pastor

allen.mothershed@stmatthewucc.org

Susan Wold, Director of Children's Ministry

susan.wold@stmatthewucc.org

Jamie Craig, Director of Music/Choir Director

jamie.craig@stmatthewucc.org

Brian Dobbelaere, Organist/Pianist

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Kim Congdon, Handbell Director

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Karen Lindquist, Business Manager

karen.lindquist@stmatthewucc.org

Diana Padilla, Administrative Assistant

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