

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

St. Matthew United Church of Christ

(630) 665-1236 (Office) (630) 665-1436 (Fax)

Office Email: office@stmatthew-ucc.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.

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Our Staff

Rev. Milton Allen Mothershed, Senior Pastor Allen.mothershed@stmatthewucc.org Susan Wold, Director of Children's Ministry Susan.wold@stmatthewucc.org Mark Restaino, Director of Youth Ministries Markrestaino@stmathewucc.org Jamie Craig, Director of Music/ **Choir Director** Jamie.craig@stmatthewucc.org Brian Dobbelaere, Organist/Pianist

Brian.dobbelaere@stmatthewucc.org

Kim Congdon, Handbell Director Kim.congdon@stmatthewucc.org

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Karen.lindquist@stmatthewucc.org

Mary Lee Banie, Administrative Assistant

office@stmatthewucc.org



2013 April

An Odd Conversation

Suggested Reading: Mark 10:46-52

One day I was having lunch in a downtown restaurant in Chicago, finishing up my sandwich. I was about to leave and throw away a bag of chips that are half eaten. I had noticed this man strangely looking around the place, but not going up to the counter to order any food. He looked lost - like he was looking for something. When he sees that I am about to leave, he comes over and ask a strangest question: "Are you going to eat the rest of those chips?" How so very odd. I had to be sure I heard him correctly. "Can I have the rest of your chips?" he repeated his question. I stutter an answer, "Yes...you can have them...if you want." He takes them, thanks me, and walks out of the restaurant.

What was that all about? It had never occurred to me that someone might be so hungry they would dare do such an bewildering thing. I cannot imagine myself being so bold and vulnerable.

How willing are we to name before God and one another our deeper desires and needs? Think about it. In this moment be honest with yourself: How difficult is it for you to acknowledge your need to others and to God?

All of us are needful. Some are so insistent on what they need that they become punitive when they do not receive it. Others, rather than risking any sign of vulnerability, create dramas rather than just being direct about what they want. Some live in quiet desperation, feeling there is no chance what they need will be taken seriously.

We can feel ashamed of our dependency, but we all have this in common: God made us as people who need each other. Community is built on shared need and by our learning to risk asking for what we need.

"What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus says to a blind man. What a strange question to ask a blind man. But Jesus knew this man need to ask for what he needed. And when the man named it, the love of Jesus healed the man.

What is the desire of your heart? Jesus is asking you and waiting for your response. -Pastor Allen

Information on sharing music and videos from the St Matthew Web Site

As mentioned on the music page in this issue of the Voice, we have obtained licensing that allows us to post videos and recordings of music from church events on our web site. I am sure that many of you will want to share these with your friends and families; however there are a few items you need to be aware of when attempting to share these.

First, any video and audio recordings made at any St Matthew sanctioned event must be verified that we have the license to record it and post it online.

Second, the recording must reside on a St Matthew site - such as the church web site or the church YouTube account.

Third, you may share these recordings via links on your own YouTube/Facebook/etc. accounts, but these recordings cannot be copied and pasted onto your sites.

We have purchased two licenses to allow us to post recordings of music. Each song must be researched to confirm if our licensescovers them as though they cover many, they don't cover all songs we use. This not only includes bells, choirs, children's choir, cantatas and musicals, but also any praise band selection and congregational singing to hymns. Special music also falls under these restrictions such as youth Sunday, solos, small groups, etc., and songs at other events. Please be aware that our licenses do not cover the performance and recording of secular music as well as many of the songs heard on radio stations such as K-Love.

Please be aware that there is a common misconception that if a song is on YouTube (etc.) it is OK to record and/or use it in a performance without licensing. This is not true.

I truly hope you don't look at these limitations negatively. They are designed to protect the church from copyright liabilities. As we move forward as a church, post more of our services and activities on the website and consider streaming parts of the service, we must continue to ensure St Matthew is not in danger of copyright infringement.

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Thank you for observing these few limitations and please see me with any questions.

Jamie Craig Director of Music



APRIL 2013

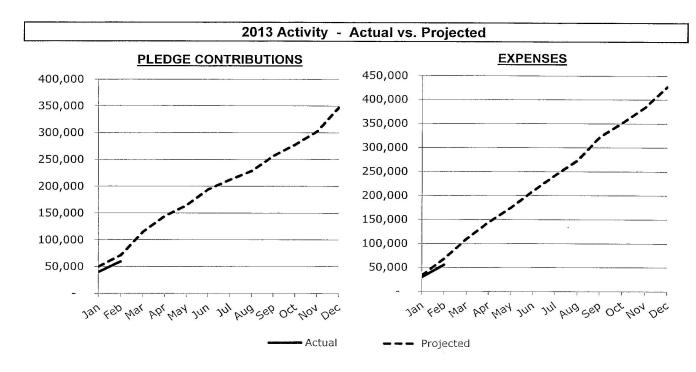
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Every Sunday: 5p crazies Homework Hour 6p crazies	I 7p Christian Education	7p Membership Committee 7:30p Mission Committee	3	4	5	6
7 9:30a Worship Service with Communion	8 7p Worship Committee	9	10 P.A.D.S.	11	12	13
14 9:30a Worship Service 2p Bags Tour- nament	15 7p Finance Committee	16	17	18 6p Staff Relations Committee 7p Church Council	19	20 8am Men's Fellowship Sikh Presenta- tion
21 9:30a Contemporary Worship Service May VOICE Articles Due	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 9:30a Worship Service	29	30	Every Wednesday: 6:30p Praise Band 7:30p Choir	Every Tues-day: 6p IntergeneR-ingers 7p Bells Pot-luck 7:30p Chancel Ringers		

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

For the Period Ended February 28, 2013

	ACTUAL CURRENT MONTH	ACTUAL YEAR-TO- DATE	ANNUAL BUDGET
RECEIPTS:			
Pledge Contributions	19,577	59,157	347,136
Loose Offerings	433	1,433	8,000
Rental Income	750	1,150	6,000
Fund Raising	100	100	10,000
Investment Income	(17)	(33)	500
More Property	=	19,929	54,500
Miscellaneous Income			500
TOTAL RECEIPTS	20,843	81,736	426,636
EXPENDITURES:			
Ministry	15,710	30,371	224,061
Building	7,405	19,489	121,775
Mortgages & Notes	2,229	4,458	26,750
Mission / OCWM	=	200	29,000
Committees:			
Christian Education	745	885	10,150
Membership	231	231	3,900
Music	32	214	4,200
Worship	- 245		3,500
Congregational Life	-	-	800
Misc. & Contingency	-	-	2,500
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	26,352	56,093	426,636
CLIDDLIE / (DEELCIT)	¢ (5 500)	¢ 25 C42	•
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	\$ (5,509)	\$ 25,643	<u> </u>



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



Notes from the Music Room....

Thank to you all the musicians that worked so hard in March to make every Sunday's music, but especially Easter Sunday, very special. It is always a treat to hear these special selections knowing the hours that go into preparation.

April holds many exciting musical variation with something each Sunday. On April 7th we will enjoy the special musical sounds of Dulciloquy Celtic Harps during our worship service. Marilyn Wilgocki and Cathy Eyberger will provide special music for us on these unique instruments. Many of you will remember that Marilyn's choir has joined ours in the past for some special musical presentations. April 14th will see another in our series of contemporary services led by our praise band. Our handbell choirs will share their music on April 21st, always a joy. Finally, on April 28th, our children will be providing the special music AND we will have another hymn sing as we did in December.

Here is how the hymn sing works. You will see a ballot in your bulletin on April 7th, 14th, and 21st. Each week you will get to choose 5 of your favorite hymns from our hymnal with the exception of Christmas, Advent, and Lenten hymns. Please turn them in with your offering. We will tabulate them and choose the top five to sing during worship. We are looking forward to your choices. So in true Chicago fashion, be here each week to vote early and often!

Lastly, please check out the music ministry section of the church web site. You will see that videos of some of the selections by each group are posted. We have obtained licensing that allows this on most of the music we perform. Elsewhere in this issue of the Voice are a few instructions on how to share these with friends.

Yours in Christ through Song,

Jamie Craig Director of Music 630-202-6788 Lannil@comcast.net

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Children's Ministry April 2013

The Rich Young Man

Beginning April 7th, Workshop Rotation will teach the story of "The Rich Young Man, A Test of Faith". The children will enact the story of the rich young man's encounter with Jesus, hear the story 'The Quiltmaker's Gift,' make angel food cake and learn how it relates to the story, play games, and discuss Mark 10:23-2.

Vacation Bible School, June 17 – 21, 9:00 to Noon

During this summer's Kingdom Rock VBS experience kids will learn to stand strong for God. St. Matthew will be transformed into a glorious Kingdom with fun games, crafts, experiments, stories, songs, snacks, moon jump and more. Registration forms are available on the St. Matthew web site, in the narthex and the church office. Please tell neighbors and friends about this fun five days that will end with a family Ice-Cream-Social on Friday June 21st at 7:00 p.m.



If you are interested in volunteering for this fun five days, please contact Susan Wold by phone or swold45@hotmail.com. We are always looking for adult and youth volunteers and you are guaranteed to have as much fun and learn as much as the children do.

Children's Spring Musical

Wendee Passini has already begun working with the children on the songs that they will be singing for the spring musical. Wendee will be sending out information regarding rehearsals. If you have any questions you can contact Wendee by phone or email: wtpassini@gmail.com

April Birthdays- Christopher Achammer 4/7, Nicole Bute 4/12, Nicholas McGrath 4/22

In the news:



crazies Plant Sale 2013

Name of crazies student:

Customer Name:		Customer pho	ne:	
Flats of 32 @ \$19.0	00			
	Qty	Mix Violet White Orange Light Pink Marigold: Large Orange Large Yellow Small Orange Small Yellow Petunia: Bi-color Blue Bi-color Rose Blue Mix Pink Red Lilac White Burgundy		Light Blue Lilac Bi-Color Red Portulaca: Mix Pink Yellow Orange Salvia: Blue Red, Tall Red, Dwarf Snapdragons: Mix, Dwarf Mix, Tall Vinca: Mix Rose White Purple @ \$19.00=\$
" Pots @ \$4.00			skets@\$24.00	Vegetables: 4" Pots@ \$3.00
	Qty.	Geraniums:	Qty	Qty. Pepper:
Asparagus Fern Spikes Vinca Vine Begonia-Dragon Wing: Red Lantana: Yellow/Orange Yellow/Pink New Guinea Imp: Pink Red White Lavender Geraniums: Red Pink White		Red Pink Impatiens: Mix Red Hot Pink White New Guinea Imp: Pink Red White Calibrachoa (trailing petunia): Pink Lavender White Red Fuschia: Growers Choice		Bell Jalapeno Tomato: Better Boy Early Girl Roma Sweet 100 Cucumber: Slicing Burpless Total Qty@ \$3.00 = Grand Total: \$ Check # Checks payable to St. Matthew UCC Orders due Sun., 4/28 Plant pickup is Fri., 5/17, 5-7pm Questions? Contact Judi Gon-
Total Qty@ 4.00 =		Total Qty@ \$24.00 =9		zalez 682-8619 or judi@thosegonzos.com

Crazies Shout Out

If March comes in like a lion, then lions must be winter-loving crazies students! We started out this month with ice skating and hanging out and snowball fights on a snow day. We also looked forward to summer with a Hawaiian themed party. Lessons this month included discipleship, gender differences, and Holy Week. During spring break (which happened to be Holy Week), we had a few volunteering adventures and watched The Passion of The Christ on Good Friday. March left us like a lamb on Easter Sunday when we ushered at the later service. In April, we are participating in World Vision's 30 Hour Famine on the 26th and 27th.

by Jennifer Buhmann

Boundary Waters Trip

On **Sunday**, **April 7th**, after church, those who are interested in attending the summer Boundary Waters trip, from July 7th-14th, please attend. The cost of the trip will be \$500 per person. We'll be going over the itinerary, the packing list, health forms, etc. Please bring a deposit check of \$100 to the meeting.

crazies Plant Sale

If you would like to order plants from the annual crazies Plant Sale, forms are in the narthex as well as under the crazies bulletin board. Proceeds go into the students' youth accounts which help pay for youth group activities and mission trips. Please get your orders in by Sunday April 28th. Plant pickup is Friday May 17th from 5-7pm.

Care Package Thank you notes This is why we do it!

-I received the care package from the congregation and I just want to say thank you so much!!! It's great to feel so loved from St. Matthew even though I am 6 hours away. College is tough but with support and faith from friends, family, the church and God I know that I will make it. I truly appreciate how I still feel welcomed and encouraged from St. Matthew. I hope that all is well back home and I will probably see you soon!

- I just wanted to thank you for the care package. Thank you so much for my care It was really nice to receive some mail and I really appreciated everything that was in it. Thank you to everyone who took part in making the package.
- -I'd like to thank everyone for the wonderful package I received the other day, which couldn't have arrived at a better time. I had absolutely no idea it was coming, and after opening it I was somehow just as surprised as last year. For one, I really like candy (and toiletries, incidentally) but much more important is how reassuring it is to know there is such a caring and generous group of people at home thinking about me. Thanks to all!
- package! It was so much fun getting a package in the mail. I loved all the goodies in it especially the girl scout cook ies:)
- I received the care package from church last week. Thank you so much! It's a great feeling to know that people are still thinking of you while you are at school. I appreciate the time that was put into creating these care packages.
- I was surprised and elated to receive a care package from St. Matthew. I was also touched that the children prayed over the boxes before They were sent. Thank you for making me feel loved and special.

And now for something completely different... The poem for April from Linda Leinweber

When Being began back in the days of the genesis

Translated from papyrus dated to the 52 year of the reign of Rameses II (ca. 1238 B.C.E.)

When Being began back in days of the genesis, it was Amun appeared first of all, unknown his mode of inflowing:

There was no god come before him,

nor was other god with him there

when he uttered himself into visible form;

There was no mother to him, that she might have borne him his name,

there was no father to father the one

who first spoke the words, "I Am!"

Who fashioned the seed of him all on his own,

sacred first cause, whose birth lay in mystery,

who crafted and carved his own splendor—

He is God the Creator, self-created, the Holy;

all other gods came after,

with himself he began the world.

Good grief, what is she bringing us this time? Well, Easter is over and hopefully, by the time you read this, something vaguely resembling spring will have arrived, so I bring to you a challenge in a truly ancient text, translated from papyrus and coming to us by virtue of an unknown poet and probably theologian from the time of Rameses II. And why? I think it is good for us to take a look outside the here and now from time to time and challenge ourselves to see humans long ago expressing that which ultimately is as mysterious to them as it still is to us – the Creator God. Amun, also called Amun-Re, Horus, is the ancient Egyptian sun god, and, although in a polytheistic belief system, there is the hint of one god above all others in these lines. Sometimes these ancient lines make me feel the human condition of trying to explain that which cannot ever be completely explained. Enjoy!



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Tama Menini
- 2 Rosalie Bromann
- 3 Ed Domal Drew Luessenhop Kendall Thornton
- 4 Amy Gimre Cindy Leonard
- 6 Wes Curda
- 7 Uriel Ambrosia Mary Beth Breitfuss Laura McKean
- 8 Leo Mittman Julie Price
- 10 Don Macauley

- 11 Joe Leinweber
- 12 Leslie Ortman
- 13 Francine Alavi Carol Justice Megan Munzing
- 6 Hiram Baird Victoria Cetina Ann Marie Matthei Lanie Munzing
- 18 Nancy Franz
- 19 Diane Battistella Sarah Madsen
- 20 Ken Munzing
- 21 Elise Anderson Dawson Price
- 22 Dawn Schubert
- 23 Craig Schlenker
- 24 Gwen Johnson
- 25 Krista Anderson Keith Chrisman
- 28 Natalie Tomes
- Kyle Papp

Is fund raising your passion – even a little bit?

As explained at the annual meeting we are planning on \$10,000 of income from fundraising as part of our church budget. Church Council is looking for people to spear-head or contribute to this effort. Please contact Hi Baird or Dawn Schubert if you are interested.

Men's Fellowship invites everyone to join them for a special presentation

On **April 20th** from 8-10am, Men's Fellowship will be hosting a breakfast and Sikhism Presentation lead by Simer Singh, a member of the Sikh community. Women are also invited to attend.

Volunteers Needed

ESSE (Ecumenical Support Services for the Elderly) continues to be an important ministry for St Matthew, and they are again asking for our help. ESSE <u>always</u> needs volunteers of any age; and in particular, the Wheaton site (St Paul Lutheran) and Warrenville site (Community Baptist site) are short of help. Our month to provide help has been September (for many years), and we will continue to staff that month. Many of the area churches are no longer providing volunteers. What we are currently looking for is folks who could perhaps give 30 or 60 minutes once a week or once a month (or whenever you have some extra time). They are ALWAYS looking for volunteers who can either share a talent, assist staff with games or crafts, share highlights or pictures from a trip, or bring a pet or child to visit with the seniors. Please call the Program Manager at(630) 260-3773 to offer your services, or speak with Dawn Schubert (630) 665-9860 for more information. Thanks in advance for your help!

Compassion Sunday

On **Sunday April 21st**, St. Matthew UCC will join over 2,000 churches around the nation to sponsor thousands of children around the world. During the service we will learn about children in need and how sponsorship through Compassion International, a 4 star Charity Navigator organization, helps provide food, education, and spiritual development for children in need. After the service you will have the opportunity to sponsor a child. If you do not already, please pray and consider sponsorship.

Novel Approaches

The novel to be approached in April is "The Lifeboat" by Charlotte Rogan. This book is a "layered and provocative tale of survival and impossible decisions".

The date is **Friday, April 26th, 2013 at 7:30p**The place is the Boyd's, 510 South Aurora Way, Wheaton

Everyone is welcome. Please join is for lively discussion, food and fellowship.

Will you think about it?

As we have said previously, the Membership Committee is committed to maintaining our Sunday morning coffee fellowship weekly. We would like to and need to get more people involved. There is a clip-board on the table in the Narthex for anyone who is willing to host a coffee on a given Sunday to sign up. You could find a buddy and two or more families could work together. If you feel intimidated about hosting, a member of our committee would be glad to mentor you regarding what is expected.

During the summer months, starting June 16, we will be having "Pot-Luck Coffees" This would be a good chance to see "how it is done" (make the coffee, set up, etc.) Contact any of the following people and be their "sidekick" for a coffee. Wendy Fanning, Nancy Franz, Carol Honeywell, Bill, Matthei, Diane Mook, Sandy Sapa, Al Skwara, Cathy SooHoo. They will be glad to 'show you the ropes' and you will find that it's a fun and rewarding thing to do.

Adult Education April Series!

8:30 - 9:30am on Sundays in April.

The theme is: "Easter Words To Live By: Abba, Hosanna, Alleluia, Amen". We'll focus on one of these Easter Words each week. All are welcome!

St. Matthew Bags Tournament

Sunday, April 14th starting at 2:00



Come join the fun at Congregational Life's 2nd Annual Bags Tournament. Come to watch, play for fun, or compete in the tournament. Teams of two can compete in the Novice or Experienced divisions with prizes awarded. To compete in the tournament, your team must be signed up by Wednesday, April 10th The sign up board is in the narthex. Call Tracey Blake at 630-579-8432 with questions.

<u>Drinks provided – bring snacks or sweets to share</u>

Pictures from the March M&M Peep Diorama Event!









