

# September

# 2019



of



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## Pastoral Message

*Pastor Allen Mothershed*

## Enough for Now

This past week I attended freshman orientation at Wheaton Warrenville South High School, and the principal, Dave Claypool, introduced a guest speaker, Dr. Michael Maniaci, a psychologist, to guide us in our new role as parents of a high-schooler. It was a remarkable presentation that I found not only relevant for parents and teenagers, but with spiritual undercurrents relevant to all of us.

He began by telling us that, at this age, we should no longer be focusing on controlling our teenager, but on controlling the situation. Most important is that we should no longer attempt to regulate our young person's sleep. It is time to buy them an alarm clock, so they can learn to manage their own going to bed and waking up. At this age, they need to learn to listen to their own body when it is sleepy and time for bed, and then be responsible for waking up, even if it means letting them have to learn the hard way by being tired or late the next day. Sleep controls mood, eating healthy, and being alert intellectually and socially. (I take it that not letting them have their phone or computers past a certain time might still be a good idea.)

Studies show that the regulation of sleep is a life skill that foreshadows how well our young people will do managing other aspects of their lives. When we learn to stop and go to bed, we learn to choose to put limits on ourselves. The reason people of all ages do not sleep well is that they do not want to wait to complete or do something at a later time. Some examples: We stay up and finish homework that we should have started earlier. We watch a YouTube video that is not a priority or answer emails that can wait. We stay up with our mate and try to argue out a problem or a conflict that could be resolved at another time. The problem is that we do not want to have to manage our impulses and wait. Maturity is knowing when enough is enough.

When we learn to listen to our bodies and manage sleep, we learn to manage other aspects of our life. We learn to make choices like our calendar and choosing priorities, our sexual involvement, when to and when not to click "Buy It Now," when our body is full and needs to stop eating. We learn patience and the importance of planning ahead.

(con't)

"When is enough enough?" is an old phrase that I grew up hearing often. Spiritually speaking, we live in a world where we do not want to accept limits. It is why we have billionaires who can never make enough money to feel satisfied, at the expense of many who do without. It is why we have far too many packages left at our front door. It is why we continue to eat and fill our stomachs with unhealthy food and still feel hungry. It is why so many have a hole in the bottom of their affirmation buckets and crave endless praise and adoration. I am talking about a few of the seven deadly sins: greed, gluttony, pride. The solution is taking in the joy of being the beloved children of God and simply learning to say, "That is enough for now."

*Peace, Pastor Allen*

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## Sacred Life, Sacred Work Worship Series

When I was young, I wanted to hold on to the idea that we human beings are good. But I have come to realize that life is not so simple. We seem to have a human propensity to mess things up, both as individuals and in society. But what if the problem is not that we are inherently evil, but that we have lost our way and forgotten God's original blessing of life:

"That's good, that's very good." (Genesis 1)

This fall, we begin a worship series exploring the ancient scriptures that we may use to restore in us the original goodness at our creation.

September 8th: Rally Day	Genesis 1:2-4 <i>"Creation as a Blessing"</i>
September 15th:	Luke 10:25-37 <i>"Spirit of Compassion"</i>
September 22nd:	Isaiah 6:1-8 <i>"Creative Vocations"</i>
September 29th:	John 4:7-11 <i>"Healing Relationship"</i>
October 6th:	Genesis 11:1-9 <i>"Glorious Diversity"</i>



## Notes from the Music Room.....



September has arrived, so it's back to our normal busy schedule. Just like back to school, we are back to rehearsals and regular singing and playing schedules. The rehearsal schedules have not changed for any of the groups which is one nice constant in our ever changing routines.

There is one slight change as we start the year. As some of you know, I have had some health issues this summer with vision and balance. At this writing, it is unknown if I will be able to start the choir rehearsals. Joe Hall has stepped up and will direct rehearsals and Sundays if I am still incapacitated. Joe has directed many times for us, most recently last Music Appreciation Sunday. I am grateful for his support and can rest easy that the choir is well supported.



There will be Open Choir Sundays again this year. However, based on comments, they will not be on the same Sunday each month. **I would like to kick off the year and have Open Choir on Rally Day, September 8th. Rehearsal will start at 8:25**, so as to allow time for the Praise Band to do their run-through at 9am. And for your planning, October's will be on the 20th.

Looking forward: **Cantata rehearsals are not far away. They will begin on October 2nd from 7:30 to 8:30(ish) and continue every Wednesday evening until the performance on December 8th during the morning service.** There is a dress rehearsal the day before from 9am-noon. I have a couple of works in mind but need your help. I need to have an idea of who may be joining us. At the music table on Rally Day there will be a sign-up sheet. If you know you are joining us, or are even thinking of joining us, please leave your name and what part you sing. PLEASE stop by and sign up. It will really help.

Finally, both the Sanctuary Choir and the Praise Band can always use more voices and/or instruments. We rehearse far enough ahead where it is possible to miss some rehearsals. As you have seen, our numbers go up and down based on other commitments. The more who are involved means more can be present on any given Sunday to add to the worship experience. Please come out and join us any time.

Peace,

Jamie

630-202-6788

[jamie.craig@stmatthewucc.org](mailto:jamie.craig@stmatthewucc.org)

### WEEKLY REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Tuesday

**IntergeneRingers**

6pm

**Chancel Ringers**

7:30pm

Wednesday

**Praise Band**

6:30pm

**Sanctuary Choir**

7:30pm

## Pennies From Heaven

It's back-to-school time. Get school supplies through our SCRIP program at places like Office Depot, Best Buy, Target, Walmart, Meijer, and many shoe and clothing retailers.

By the end of September, we'll be through 3 quarters of the year. We have a **\$2,000** budget line for fundraising, and through August, we've made **\$1,283**.

*THINK ABOUT WHERE YOU SHOP EVERY WEEK, EVEN IF IT'S ONLY FOR YOUR GROCERIES AND GAS, AND BUY THOSE CARDS!*

We need everyone's help.



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Rob Kirincich
- 7 Edith DeBoard  
Ruth Greer
- 9 Liz Henderson
- 11 Summer Scalora
- 13 Diane Mook
- 16 Monica Holland  
Marty Philipchuck
- 17 Steven Gimre
- 19 Karen White  
Joyce Miller
- 20 Lee Anderson
- 21 Kendal Franz
- 23 Annette English
- 24 David Johnson
- 25 Laurie Jordan  
Becky Cole
- 29 Jen Fanning
- 30 Alex Johnson



Pastor Allen's schedule varies from week to week. He is in and out of the office during the day for meetings, visits, and study.

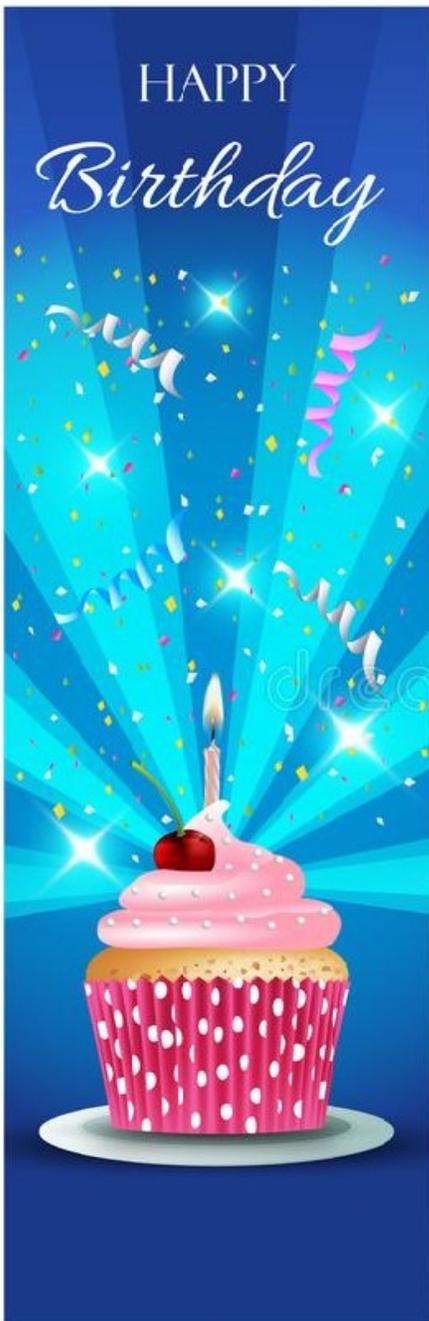
Please call ahead to check his schedule or to set up an appointment. His cell phone number is 630.441.5962. He is available by phone when not in the office.

### **OFFICE HOURS**

office@st.matthewucc.org

Monday-Thursday: 10am-2pm

Friday: 9-11am



# Adult Education

## ***Adult Education Celebrates 60 Years of Ministry at St. Matthew United Church of Christ!***



Plans are underway to focus on St. Matthew milestones this fall.

Our church will mark our 60th anniversary in 2019. It is important to reflect and reminisce on the pathway we have shared, and give attention to Finding God in Our Story. There will be five Sunday Adult Education sessions dedicated to an exploration of our congregation's ministries and relationships with each other, our community, and our denomination.

### **September 29th *Finding God in Our Story***

**10:50am**

Pastor Allen will introduce this series in his sermon and lead the Adult Education follow-up session.

### **October 6th *Telling Our Personal Stories***

**10:50am**

Pastor Allen will lead us in sharing how our personal life journeys brought us to St. Matthew and what we have learned from our experience.

### **October 13th *Telling the Story of Wheaton***

**10:50am**

Guest speaker and author of "32 Wheaton Notables," Mary Anne Phemister will share milestones of Wheaton's development, and we can reflect on St. Matthew's impact on the community.

### **October 20th *Telling the Story of the UCC Denomination***

**10:50am**

Guest Speaker Rev. John Thomas will outline how the UCC has grown and changed over these years. We can discuss how St. Matthew has participated in the greater ministry of outreach.

### **October 27th *Telling the Story of St. Matthew***

**10:50am**

Charter, long-time, and newer members will have an opportunity to create a timeline of events and remembrances that have forged the St. Matthew family over the years.

It is in the telling of the story that we find God's presence. Come join us! Tell your part and celebrate our journey. Contact Al or Kathy Skwara with questions.

## ***Happy 60th Anniversary, St. Matthew!***

***In honor of St. Matthew's 60th anniversary we are collecting old photos and memories to create a history photo archive.***

***If you have any photos from decades past, please send them to [fice@stmatthewucc.org](mailto:fice@stmatthewucc.org) or the office can scan them for you.***



# Mission News



## Prairie Path Clean-up

Prairie Path Clean-up #3 on August 18th is but a memory, but hearty thanks to Nancy and Hi Baird, and Dave Johnson who helped.

**The final 2019 clean-up will be on October 20th.** Rain date is November 2nd. A one-time annual waiver must be filled out prior to helping, and these can be found in the narthex. Please call Dawn Schubert with any questions at 630.542.0160.

## Food on the First

Thanks to those who donated in August!

Here is what is needed in September:

- Canned fruit
- Canned chicken
- Canned vegetables
- Canned tuna
- Cereal
- Cake mixes and frosting
- Birthday candles
- Baby wipes
- Shaving cream
- Feminine pads (no tampons)
- Disposable razors



Please make sure items have not expired and are unopened. If you have any questions, please call Betty Greer at 630.682.4084.

Blessings to all.

## **September is a fifth Sunday month at the DuPage Convalescent Center!**



**Sunday, September 29th** is a 5th Sunday at the DuPage Convalescent Center. Can you volunteer some time to help residents get to worship and also enjoy their company? Arrive about 9:45am and be done before noon. If you can help, please contact John Adams at jadams1958@gmail.com.

## **PADS ALERT**

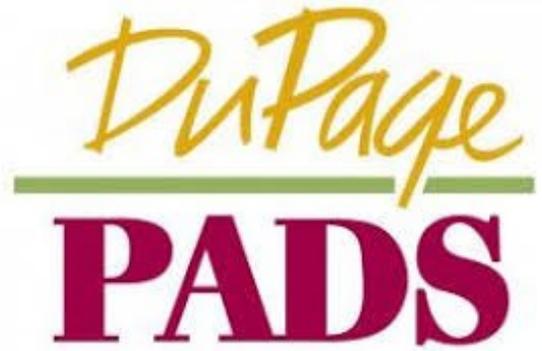
Wow! That was a quick summer break!

The new Pads season is already upon us! From September through May, St. Matthew is responsible for providing food and staffing on the 2nd Wednesday evening through Thursday morning of each month.

It takes a LOT of volunteers to fill all of the slots and we hope that this will be the year YOU decide to help. Please look for the Pads sign-up sheet in the narthex.

If you want to know more about St. Matthew's commitment to Pads, please stop by our table in Dobstaff Hall on Rally Day, September 8th.

Any questions, please contact the Pads committee:  
Tracey Blake, Wendy Fanning, or Lynn Thornton. Many thanks!



# crazies

**Remember your creator in the days of  
your youth. Ecclesiastes 12:1**

Crazies will be participating in Rally Day. For more information please speak with Mel or Dawn.

The crazies will not meet on September 1st (Labor Day weekend)  
or September 8th (Rally Day).

Regular meetings resume on September 15th.

We have not forgotten about our trip to Great America. More info to follow.

**-Mel Jerome, Youth Director**

## **2019 Voice, Happenings, and Bulletin Due Dates**

All submissions for the weekly Happenings and bulletin should be submitted to the office no later than 9am Wednesday for the week it runs.

**Remaining 2019 VOICE deadlines: Typically the second to last Sunday of the month, with exception of December.**

September 22nd, October 20th, November 17th, and December 15th.

## **St. Matthew is the ESSE Church Of the Month for September!**



In September, St. Matthew is the volunteer church of the month for ESSE Adult Day Services at St. Paul Lutheran Church located at 515 S. Wheaton Avenue. As we have done for MANY years, we will provide treats for the 12-15 clients and provide volunteers as we are able. They have asked us to provide treats any day.

Here are some ideas of how you can help:

### **I can bring TREATS!**

Need ideas? In an effort to meet newer health guidelines (and because they get donations of baked goods from local stores—Jewel, Trader Joe's, and Panera), we are trying to have more donations of cheese, crackers, fruit, etc. rather than baked treats. If you LOVE to bake, you can still bring in a baked treat!

The guests LOVE fruit, cheese (individually-wrapped sticks are good), crackers, veggies and dip, fruit/pudding cups. Please avoid anything with nuts. You do not have to cut up the fruit—the staff will be happy to do that. A donated watermelon or cantaloupe is much appreciated. Grapes are always welcome.

### **I can help with LUNCH!**

I can help from 11:30am-1pm to set up lunch, help clients with their food, and help clean up afterward. This gives the staff a little break as well, although they are always present and available to help.

### **I can VISIT or ENTERTAIN!**

An hour or less is ALL it takes. Feel free to sign up on any of the other days to help or entertain in some way. Need ideas? You can share a collection or a hobby, play a musical instrument, tell or read a story or poetry, lead a game, or bring a child or pet. They LOVE pet visits, and they LOVE kids.

There is a calendar in the narthex to sign up. Any questions? Call Dawn Schubert at 630.542.0160. Thanks in advance for your help with this VERY worthwhile experience and a true service to the elderly in our community.

# Family Camp

Family Camp – Purple Mountains Majesty

It's time for another installment of "Fond Remembrances" – this month Marla Mothershed looks forward to another visit to our favorite location.

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When we moved here and I heard we were going to "Family Camp" I was apprehensive...but YMCA of the Rockies turned out to be one of the best family vacay's ever!!!

I tie-dyed with new-found St. Matthew friends, held a hummingbird (!! ) on an educational hike, took a mountain painting class outdoors, hiked with Allen while our kids were in day camp (riding horses, no less!) and dined and worshipped and relaxed in the evenings with our church family. Everything is optional, of course, so one could just simply take in the vistas and enjoy God's beautiful mountainous handiwork. Ok, one more favorite: the Night Hike, admiring the stars and night sounds.

Next July, I will be leading a daily sunrise yoga class, too, for all ages.

Next summer is this same extra-special Family Camp destination. This is such a wonderful opportunity for all of us, singles or families, and I encourage everyone to sign up!

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Marla is not alone in her love for the YMCA of the Rockies. This has been our most popular location for Family Camp, and we're going back next year! Come be a part of this great St. Matthew tradition and find out why everyone loves this location—Family Camp will be July 19th-25th, 2020, at the YMCA of the Rockies, just outside Estes Park, Colorado. Space is limited and rooms are going fast, so sign up today! Sign-up sheets are in the narthex, and Mark Hutchison would be happy to answer any questions. Find him at 630.639.1448 (call/text), markah22@gmail.com, or at church.



# Children's Ministry

## Rally Day Fun Fair and Blessing of the Backpacks



**On September 8<sup>th</sup>** the children and educators at St. Matthew will be called up front to receive a blessing for the upcoming school year. Each will receive a keychain to put on their backpack and school bags to remind them that God is with them throughout their day. **Parents, please remember to have your children bring their backpacks or school bags to church this Sunday. They will be asked to bring their backpack with them when they go up front for the blessing.**



Following the Worship service, we will have our annual Rally Day Fun Fair. Each committee will have a table with information regarding the purpose of their committee and why it matters to St. Matthew. Each table will have a committee member host to answer questions and run a game for the children when you visit their table. There will also be outdoor games, prizes, sno-cones, popcorn, snacks, drinks, face painting, and a moon jump.

## Workshop Rotation

### Creation

### God's "Work in Progress"



In our first Workshop Rotation of the 2019-2020 Sunday School year, the children will learn that God's creation is not finished but is a work in progress. As they explore God's "earth machine" as a wondrously balanced ecosystem, they learn that God gave them responsibility for its care. Being created in God's image challenges them to reflect God's Spirit in their daily lives. They learn that they, too, are a work in progress and through Jesus they can be a new creation.

## Children's Choir

In Children's Choir, the children will pair with our lesson learning ***The Earth Promise Song*** which tells of the promise we will make to care for God's creation. The children will sing the song during the Sunday morning worship service on **October 13<sup>th</sup>**.





**Moments Together and Memories Forever** is an adult and children's ministry where Sunday School children and St. Matthew adults pair up to create a friendship for the upcoming Sunday School year. Our M&M coordinator will plan several get-together events for the friendships to flourish. The events include: holiday celebrations, mission projects, games, crafts, and snacks. The get-togethers are scheduled on Sundays after church throughout the year. Adults and children, please stop at the Christian Education table on Rally Day to sign up and receive a bag of M&Ms. Partner pairing takes place in the fall.

**September birthday:**

**Maddie Legatzke September 18th**



**-Susan Wold, Children's Ministry Director**



St. Matthew United Church of Christ  
invites you to attend...

Bounce House!  
Face Painting!  
Bake Sale!  
Fun Food!  
Games!  
Prizes!

**Sunday, September 8th**

9:30am Church Service and  
Blessing of the Backpacks

10:30am-12:30pm  
**FUN FAIR!**

*Bring the whole family!*

St. Matthew United Church of Christ  
1420 S. Gables Blvd., Wheaton

☎ 630.665.1236

f [facebook.com/stmatthewuccwheaton](https://facebook.com/stmatthewuccwheaton)

✉ [office@stmatthewucc.org](mailto:office@stmatthewucc.org)

# Announcements and Events

## BAKED GOODS NEEDED FOR RALLY DAY

Please join us for the Blessing of the Backpacks followed by Rally Day on Sunday, September 8th. Please invite your family and friends to join us as we enjoy committee booths and a bake sale and the kids have fun with games, sno-cones, face painting and the moon jump!



**Donations to the bake sale would be appreciated before the church service on September 8th.** Please package your goods on individual plates ready for sale. Proceeds of the sale will help Christian Education pay for the rental of the moon jump and the sno-cone machine. Thank you for your help!



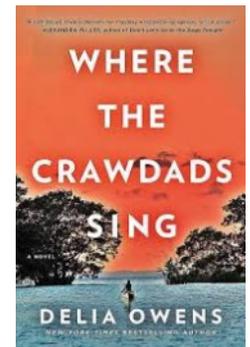
## NOVEL APPROACHES

The novel to be approached in September is "Where the Crawdads Sing" by Delia Owens. "A painfully beautiful first novel that is at once a murder mystery, a coming of age narrative and a celebration of nature" (New York Times Book Review).

The Date: Friday, September 20th at 7:30pm

The Place: the Mooks', 1523 Surrey Drive, Wheaton

All are welcome. Join us for lively discussion, food and fellowship.



**YOGA CLASSES** Last year, I noticed how yoga kept me healthier, stronger, and more in the present moment. I kept thinking how a church should be a place where we find and celebrate this mind-body-spirit practice. Beginning this summer, I am offering weekly classes on movement, balance, and mindfulness to all who are interested. Feel free to bring a friend!



### ***Yoga in the Sanctuary***

*Thursdays in September from 10-11am.*

*\$10 donation per class with all proceeds going to the Missions Fund.*

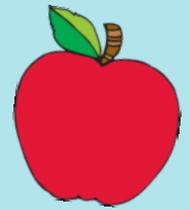
*This is a gentle class, appropriate for all.*

*Contact Marla Mothershed [mmothershed63@gmail.com](mailto:mmothershed63@gmail.com)*

*630.441.5963.*



# SEPTEMBER



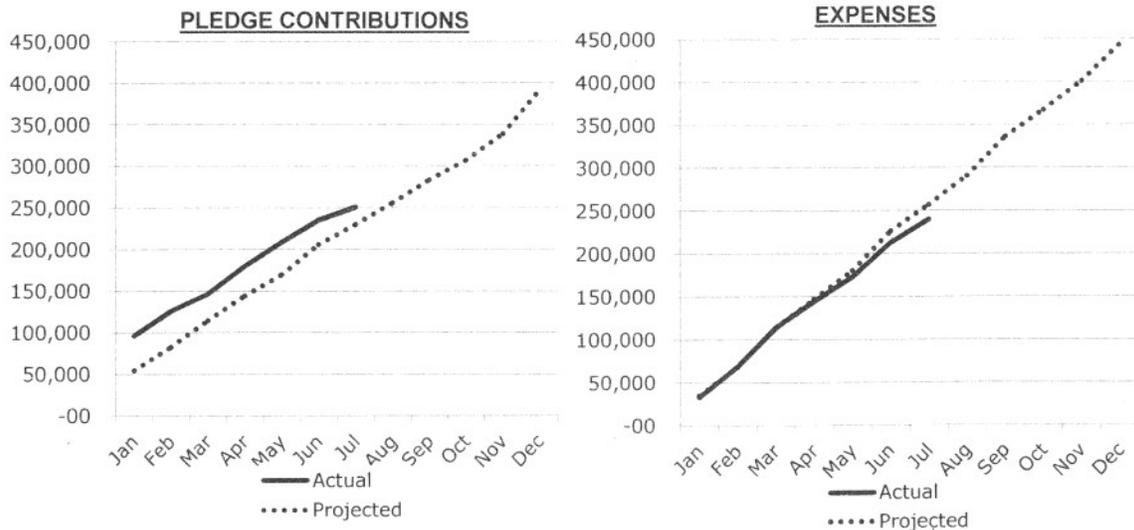
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9:30am Worship Communion  NO crazies	<b>2</b> Labor Day Office closed	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 1pm Women's Prayer Group	<b>5</b> 10am Yoga	<b>6</b> 7pm Euchre	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:30am Worship Open Choir Rally Day   NO crazies	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 1pm Women's Prayer Group  Pads	<b>12</b> 10am Yoga	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:30am Worship  6pm crazies	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 6pm SRC 7pm Council	<b>18</b> 1pm Women's Prayer Group	<b>19</b> 10am Yoga	<b>20</b> 7:30pm Novel Approaches	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:30am Worship  6pm crazies  Voice articles due	<b>23</b> 1st day of Fall 	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 12:30pm Digital Ministry meeting  1pm Women's Prayer Group	<b>26</b> 10am Yoga	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:30am Worship  9:45am 5th Sun- day at DuPage Convalescent Cntr  10:50am Adult Ed  6pm crazies	<b>30</b>	<b>TUESDAY            NIGHTS</b> 6pm Intergene- Ringers  7:30pm Chancel Ringers	<b>WEDNESDAY            NIGHTS</b> 6:30pm Praise Band  7:30pm Sanctuary Choir			

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

For the Period Ending July 31, 2019

	<u>ACTUAL CURRENT MONTH</u>	<u>ACTUAL YEAR-TO- DATE</u>	<u>ANNUAL BUDGET</u>
<b>RECEIPTS:</b>			
Pledge Contributions	15,278	250,732	391,001
Loose Offerings	241	5,186	5,000
Rental Income	750	5,700	10,500
Fund Raising	187	1,188	2,001
Investment Income	231	1,281	300
More Property	-00	-00	20,000
Miscellaneous Income	-00	5,375	1,000
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>16,688</b>	<b>269,462</b>	<b>429,802</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>			
Ministry	19,065	137,312	248,522
Building	7,655	66,977	123,050
Loans & Notes	-00	13,375	26,750
Mission / OCWM	500	13,550	27,250
Committees:			
Christian Education	(328)	5,066	8,000
Membership/Congregational Life	-00	1,612	3,000
Music	564	1,963	4,895
Worship	-00	234	1,500
Memorial/Endowment	-00	-00	100
Stewardship	-00	-00	100
Misc. & Contingency	-00	-00	1,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>27,456</b>	<b>240,089</b>	<b>444,166</b>
<b>SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b><u>\$(10,768)</u></b>	<b><u>\$29,372</u></b>	<b><u>\$(14,364)</u></b>

**2019 Activity - Actual vs. Projected**



Please contact Howard Peterson if you have questions or need additional information.

**THE VOICE**  
**OF**  
**St. Matthew**  
**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
1420 South Gables Blvd.  
WHEATON, ILLINOIS 60189



**St. Matthew United Church of Christ**

630.665.1236 (Office)

**Office Email:** [office@stmatthewucc.org](mailto:office@stmatthewucc.org)

**Web Site:** [www.stmatthewucc.org](http://www.stmatthewucc.org)

**Office Hours:**

Monday-Thursday: 10am-2pm

Friday: 9am-11am

**Sunday Worship:** 9:30am

**Sunday Church School:** 10am

**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.

**STAFF**

**Rev. Milton Allen Mothershed, Senior Pastor**

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