

THE VOICE OF

St. Matthew

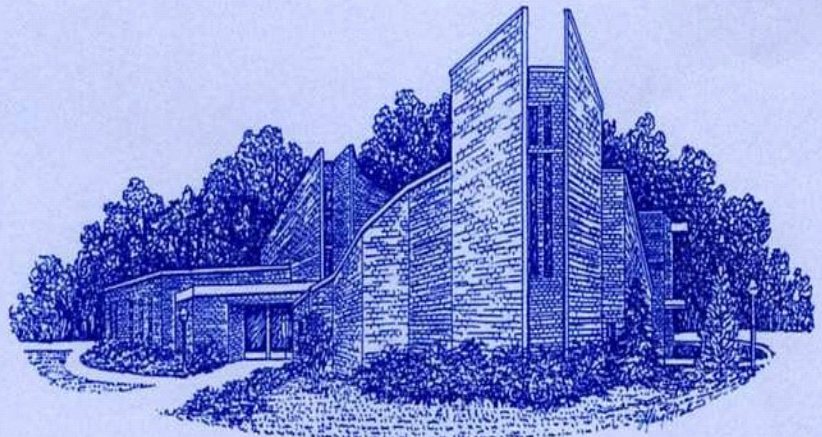
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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www.stmatthew-ucc.org



June and July 2013

Having Pleasure

With the summer holidays and warm weather finally making an appearance, the season of summer fun and leisure has begun. Tis the season of music festivals, warm weather sports, dinner on the patio, and picnics with friends. Summer is a season for pleasure.

I do not think I have ever preached or heard a sermon on "pleasure." If I did it would have been a negative one, warning of the danger of pleasure and the destructive road it can lead you down. At least that is one I might have heard when I was growing up in the South.

A couple of summer ago we spent a summer in Italy and were introduced to a different way of thinking about pleasure. The Italians seem to have no problem with pleasure. They laugh freely and often. They congregate, hold hands, embrace, linger, take a couple of hours to eat dinner and drink wine. Teenagers are not seen texting, but in groups playing and joking. Two or three hours in the afternoon life shuts down for rest and family. After dinner there is always time for a "passeggiata" or evening stroll arm in arm with a relative or a friend. My favorite line in the movie "Eat, Pray, Love" was one by an Italian telling Julia Roberts' character: "You Americans know everything about entertainment, but nothing about pleasure." Too true.

We become overly serious when we grow up. I remember my Luke telling me when I said we were going to an adult party, "That is so boring! All you do is talk and you don't have any fun." He wasn't the slightest interested in joining us. It reminds me of our Puritan ancestors.

One person defined a Puritan as "a person who fears that somewhere, somehow, there might be someone having fun." While that is not actually true, it does point to our tendency to be overly serious.

I remember back to our time in Italy to one of the "*sagras*" we attended. Musical bands, food from home sold cheap, activities for the children, and joyful dance, which all made for a whopping good time. Marla and I stood on the sidelines as we watched Kira and Luke be the first to jump out on an empty dance floor, Kira with her cartwheels and dancing with an Italian girl and Luke with his utterly uninhibited and free style interpretive dancing. Soon others were following the children and taking delight in the cool summer breeze and evening with friends.

What prevents us all from letting go and following our children's lead? Surely we would do well to loosen up and dare to believe that God created pleasure and takes pleasure in our pleasure. King David danced with reckless abandon in a loin cloth when the Ark of the Covenant was brought back to Jerusalem. For many of the religious leaders, Jesus was too much a partier in which he included the wrong sort of folks. The prodigal son's arrival home to his father was one big party with the fatted calf and all the servants.

May you all have a blast this summer. Live it up. I also hope you will come to church, which is the grandest celebration of all. After all, the God we worship gave us pleasure and knows how to take pleasure in all the life that she has created.



Notes from the Music Room.....

Thank you to everyone that was involved in music in any way in the past year. It was another wonderful musical year thanks to all of you.

We are now in our summer schedule of special music. I am pleased to announce that as of this writing, there is only one open Sunday in July left to fill. In looking over the list it is nice to see some new names that have signed up as well as some that we know. We are in for a treat.

It may just be the 1st of June, but it will be August before we know it when music will kick back into gear. I wish everyone a safe and wonderful summertime.

Yours in Christ through Song,

Jamie Craig
Director of Music

And now for something completely different...
A poem for June from Linda Leinweber

Hope

By Emily Dickinson

“Hope” is the thing with feathers—
That perches in the soul—
And sings the tune without the words—
And never stops—at all—

And sweetest—in the Gale—is heard—
And sore must be the storm—
That could abash the little Bird—
That kept so many warm—

I’ve heard it in the chilliest land—
And on the strangest Sea—
Yet, never, in Extremity,
It asked a crumb—of me.

It’s the end of May, and, although we have had some warm weather, it has gotten pretty cold again, so somehow this poem seems appropriate. I hope that by the time this gets printed, it will actually be spring and I hope that you enjoy this poem, which seems simple, and yet makes us all think about the nature of hope.

Children's Ministry June 2013

THANK YOU to the Children's ministry volunteers who have served over this past Sunday school year. You have been a blessing to the children and their families, and have served God with love and faith.

Our Sunday school year ended with the children showing their appreciation to the children's ministry leaders by singing "This Little Light of Mine." They also made a Thank you banner and a graffiti banner with words describing the leaders. The children understood that our ministry was served by St. Matthew members who love children, love God and love our church.



Summer Sunday school begins on June 2nd. The children will meet as a group with a different leader each week. They will take part in fun, meaningful activities from 10:00 – 10:30. Some of the ideas for Summer Sunday school are walking on the Prairie Path, making bird feeders, planting flowers, movie and popcorn, games, etc. This is a fun way for your family to stay connected to God throughout the summer. **Attending Church in the Summertime shows your children that because God never takes a break from us, we will not take a break from God.**



**June 17 – 21
9:00 – Noon**

For five days the children will learn about Jesus through stories, games, crafts, snacks, songs, science experiments, moon jump and more.

Please invite your neighbors, family and friends. Often we are uncomfortable inviting others to visit our church, but through VBS you can tell about great decorations, safe environment, hands-on activities, new friends and lots of fun. Please take a few registration forms off the table in the Narthex and share with others.

June Birthdays

Susan Wold
Director of Children's Ministry

Lillian Felsenthal – 6/23
Kathy Chumas – 6/1

Prayer Chain Series

This is the 2nd of the "7 Prayers That Will Change Your Life Forever" book by Stormie Omartian.

The Prayer of Salvation

"Jesus come live in me and be Lord over my life".
AMEN.

As quoted from the book:

The Prayer of Salvation brings God's Mercy and Grace.

The Prayer of Salvation brings freedom from guilt.

The Prayer of Salvation brings entry into The Kingdom of God.

The Prayer of Salvation brings Peace and Abundant Life.

The Prayer of Salvation gives entrance to the Holy Spirit.

Some Scripture Verses:

John 6:40

John 14:6

Psalm 68:20

Barbeque for Marian Park Citizens on June 20th

St. Matthew is planning a barbeque event for Marian Park residents on **June 20th**. We are planning to grill burgers and hot dogs, and we expect to serve estimated 195 family members and senior citizens. We need to borrow a few grills for this event. An Art show will start at 2PM followed by the community picnic and barbeque at 4:30pm till 7:30pm. St. Matthew members are invited to attend the art show. For any question, please contact Bob Barnshaw or Alex Alavi.



Father's Day Car Wash-

On Father's Day, **June 16th**, the St. Matthew UCC youth group, crazies, will be washing cars in the parking lot during the church service as a fundraiser. We'll have the students ages 15 and 16, with their driving permits, move the cars so that they can get more practice... just kidding.

Updates to Church Directory

With so many changes in many of our members' cell phone numbers and emails, we have decided to update our membership directory. This is a directory we print and make available to all the members and active guests of the church. Please send your updated information if anything has changed. You can email the office at office@stmatthewucc.org or call Mary Lee at 630.665.1236. Thank you!

Summer Sunday School

June 2nd – August 25

Where learning about God is Fun!!



God never takes a break from us, so this summer; don't take a break from God.

**Have fun in Summer Sunday school with activities such as
planting flowers, making bird feeders,
walking on the Prairie Path, playing games,
movies and popcorn, outdoor activities, crafts, and more.
Children go upstairs after the Children's sermon and dismiss at 10:30.**

The Third Sacrament?

In congregational tradition there are two sacraments: baptism and communion. But it seems there is a third: **Coffee Hour**. This is not belittling the sacraments. It simply seems that Coffee Hour is another indicator of communion and belonging. Coffee Hour can be ho-hum or a vibrant, boisterous and truly intergenerational extension of the service where people are standing, sitting, eating, talking, reading, signing up for opportunities.

When members gently invite visitors for coffee and cake before they slip out the door, many decline at first, although they feel good to be invited even though not quite ready or able to participate - but they usually return for church and fellowship.

In baptism God comes to us. In communion we come to God. In Coffee Hour we come to each other. We break a different bread and share a different cup than we do in communion. We use different water than we do in baptism. We touch the same souls in a different way. Do we want to feel "a part of" rather than "apart from" the congregation? Do diligence to Coffee Hour and watch the multiplication of the loaves and fishes.

- An excerpt from the Still Speaking Daily Devotional, March 4, 2013.

Dwight Lee Wolter

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Aimee McGrath
- 3 Noah Baird
Allan Franz
- 6 Bob Armstrong
- 8 Britta Loucas
Jim Mathieson
- 9 Ginnie Jackson
Wendy Fanning
Randy King
- 12 Daniel Gonzalez
- 13 Daniel Gimre
- 14 Andrea DiOrio
- 15 Kenna Anderson
Robert Ortman
- 16 Thomas Cetina
Bill SooHoo
- 17 Beth Buhmann
- 18 Brooke Adams Luedemann
June Adams
Aimee Legatzke
Will Matthei
- 19 Michael Lindquist
Bridget Shrigley
Susan Crooks Simpson
Jan More
- 20 Justin Ciner
Ellen Ribe
- 21 Carolyn Ridgway
- 23 Ryan Dome
Kurt Madsen
Kelly Chapple
Tim Raymond
- 25 Roseanne King
- 26 Andrew Craig
Mike Skwara
- 28 Dennis Luehring
- 29 James Ribe
- 30 Janelle Chrisman
Julie Schubert
Elizabeth Trout



JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Derek Breese
Martin Breese
Mikaela Breese
David Uhrig
- 3 Diane Breese
- 4 Roxanne Roberts
- 5 Becky Luehring
Brooke Stubbe
- 7 Elizabeth Ribe Baumann
Jessica Rauch
- 8 Glenn Sapa
- 9 Nancy Lewis
Becca Staton
- 11 Krista Caprini
- 15 Patti Woods-Jungk
Ruth Nelson
- 16 Marla Mothershed
- 17 Priscilla Barnett
- 18 Brett Mathieson
- 19 Cindy Bute
- 22 Gary Leonard
Karen Banaszewski
- 23 Suzanne Kouns
- 24 Edie Franz
- 27 Lindsay Blake
Marco Colella
Michele Kirincich
- 29 Carol Honeywell
Jack Schlenker
- 30 Brandon Krynicki
Dan Miller
- 31 Marge Brooks
Jeff Chatten

“Pot Luck” Coffee Fellowship during Summer Months (June, July, August)

On **Sunday, June 16th**, we begin our “Pot Luck” Coffee Fellowship after the worship service. Anyone can bring a treat (sweet, fruit, cheese/crackers) on any Sunday. But to give this program some structure/direction, the Membership Committee would like to suggest the following:

- 1st Sunday - those with last names starting with A B C
- 2nd Sunday - those with last names starting with D E F G
- 3rd Sunday - those with last names starting with H I J K
- 4th Sunday - those with last names starting with L thru Z
- 5th Sunday - whoever

We look forward to a wonderful summer of fellowship during coffee hour!

Adult Christian Education Movie Night June 9th at 6pm

Adult Christian Education will be hosting a Movie Night at Church on June 9th from 6 - 8 p.m. The movie will be "The Third Miracle" starring Ed Harris, Anne Heche and Armin Mueller-Stahl.

Come join us for this intriguing, romantic, thought-provoking story of faith. There will be time for discussion afterwards. We will be serving appetizers and beverages. There will be a sign-up sheet on the opportunity table. Any questions - contact Francine Alavi - 630-752-1655.

Annual St. Matthew Church Picnic

The annual St. Matthew Church Picnic will be held after worship service on **Sunday, June 9th**. We will have a sign-up sheet for people to volunteer to bring a salad or sweet, and number of guests. We also need volunteers to grill. Bring a chair or blanket. Church will supply hotdogs and burgers, buns and drinks. Come and have a great, old-fashioned time with friends from church!



*David E. Biener
and
Michael K. Marquardt
are honored to
share the baptism of
Apple and Marcelo Biener Marquardt
with our St. Matthew family
during worship on Sunday, June 23, 2013
Please join us for a reception in
Dobstaff Hall
following the service*

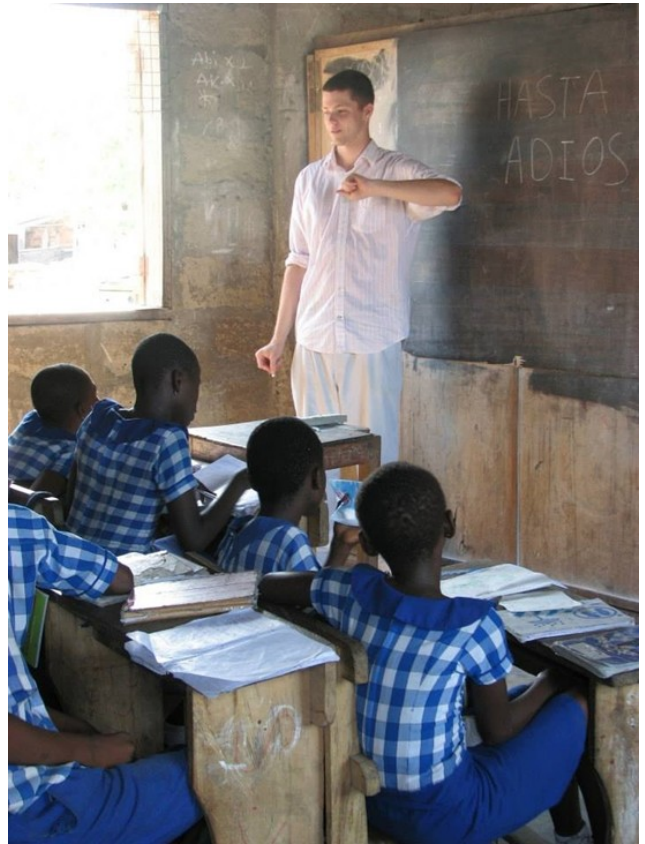
In The News

Jason Schubert in Accra, Ghana

Jason is currently on a fact-finding trip to the area around Accra, Ghana as the Student Director for ASB (Alternative Service Breaks) at the University of Kentucky. ASB is part of the community outreach program at UK. In Jason's new role, he will be responsible for the selection, planning and execution of 11 mission trips for the UK students during the upcoming year.

His first international experience was a trip in 2010 to Belize with the group from St. Matthew's to teach vacation bible school. Since that time Jason has participated in additional trips abroad to Ecuador and most recently the Dominican Republic during spring break in 2013.

While in Accra, Jason is involved with site visits and reviews as well as teaching Spanish and Math to local children in their school. Jason is already making plans to revisit Ghana plus several other locations around the world. More information on ASB can be found at <http://ukasb.org>.



Bridge Communities Donation

St. Matthew is currently sponsoring a single mother through the Bridge Communities program. Members of St. Matthew meet with her weekly to guide in her road to self-sufficiency. She is moving out of the apartment provided by Bridge Communities in mid-June and is in need some furniture for her new apartment. In particular she is looking for a small kitchen table with chairs, a tall dresser and a sofa with a loveseat. If anyone has items they could possibly donate please contact Rick Jungk or Patti Woods at 630-357-7146. Thank you.

Family Game Night June 30th at 6pm

Come eat and play board games with the St. Matthew UCC family. Please sign up in the narthex to bring appetizers, drinks, or desserts. Board games will be provided, but if your family has a favorite game, please don't hesitate to bring it. Hope to see you there!



SAVE THE DATE!

Please mark your calendars for **Saturday, October 26th 2013** for a fun-filled evening here at St. Matthew. Our much anticipated fundraiser will take place that night-- we have Cabaret singer Kym Frankovelgia coming to perform, and there will be refreshments and a silent auction.

Details will follow, but please plan to attend and support this event!

Mark your calendars for the Annual Kane County Cougars Game!

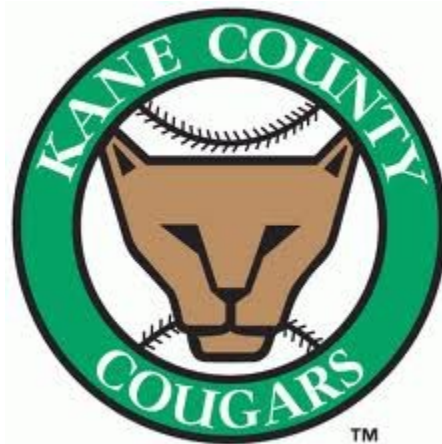
Annual Kane County Cougars outing is planned for **Saturday, August 17th** at 6:30pm.

Tickets are \$12, Parking is a separate cost of \$5

It is a fireworks night, hat giveaway, Jesse White Tumblers, and autograph session.

Contact Lesley Ebel for more info (630-310-6855)
iteach7math@yahoo.com

Please sign up by July 7th on the poster in the narthex.



Food Resource Bank

St. Matthew is once again sponsoring acreage in Forest, Illinois that will be planted, harvested and 100% of the proceeds used to help poor areas in the world learn how to grow crops to sustain themselves. This is not a hand-out but a hand-up. Please stop by the table in the Narthex and see for yourself how your contribution can multiply and help stop the hunger in less fortunate areas around the world. We need your help. Sponsorships are accepted for as little as 1/8 acre or \$31.00. Full acres can be sponsored for \$250 each and you have until the end of September to pay. Please consider how you can help the hungry people in the world. Sign up today!



2013 CROP Walk

Congratulation to all those who walked on Sunday, May 5th at CROP Walk; the sponsors and those who made donations to CROP Walk. We had a fabulous day for the walk. Seventeen people from St. Matthew walked this year. We raised and will contribute over \$1,926 this year.

Friends and Members of St. Matthew United Church of Christ
You Are Invited to an
Open House and House Blessing
at the Home of Allen and Marla Mothershed
1011 Arbor Avenue
Wheaton, IL
From 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
on
Sunday, June 30th
Children are welcome and there will be planned activities for them.

Confirmation 2013



A mentor.....
Is a friend

Gives Love

Shares their faith



crazies Shout Out

April showers aren't the only thing bringing May flowers; crazies held their annual plant sale this month! This month, we had a Cinco de Mayo party, a high school gathering, our first WHO event (Whovians Hanging Out), a Computer Tune-up fundraiser, saw Godspell at WWS, and played softball. Confirmation, one of the most important rites of passage, also happened this month. Rachel Lindquist, Allison McGrath, and Brody Stahulak confirmed their baptisms this year. This month's lessons included the Gospel, Identity, and Spiritual Gifts. Now that school will soon be out, it means more activities for the crazies. We're having an Awesome crazies Tournament at the beginning of June. Current fifth graders are welcome to join us at the middle school cookout on June 15th at Mark's house from 5-7pm and at the crazies Summer Kick-Off on June 23rd! Over the summer, we will be helping at Special Camps for Special Citizens and Vacation Bible School. We are also going to canoe in the Boundary Waters in July. HOT! (Hang Out Tuesday) will begin June 18th, during which we'll do all sorts of fun things like going to Enchanted Castle or the pool or park. Summer is our favorite time of year; see you in the fall!

by Jennifer Buhmann



An Opportunity to Serve

Please consider joining with 7 or 8 other St Matthew volunteers in helping Ellen Ribe with her ministry at The County Convalescent Home. Your help is needed and you will find it to be a very rewarding experience.

Here is how it works.

We meet at 9:30 am on any 5th Sunday

We assist patients that need help in attending the service

We attend the worship service

We assist the patients in their return to their floor...Done no later than 12 noon.

The next date for us is **June 30th**. Please contact me or the church office, if you would be willing to assist.

For the Mission Committee,

Bob Barnshaw

ST. MATTHEW UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
STATEMENT OF FUND BALANCES
AS OF APRIL 30, 2013

	<u>04/30/13</u>	<u>04/30/12</u>
ASSETS		
Unrestricted Assets -		
Chase checking account	\$ 35,826	\$ 56,248
Chase savings account	1,162	54,665
Ameritrade brokerage account	14,256	1,025
Total Unrestricted Assets	<u>\$ 51,244</u>	<u>\$ 111,938</u>
Restricted Assets -		
More Proceeds		
Chase brokerage account	\$ 873,584	\$ 723,471
Chase C.D. (matured 3/1/13)	-	150,000
Chase savings account	2	41,920
Total More Proceeds (1)	<u>873,586</u>	<u>915,391</u>
Endowment funds - Vanguard (2)	68,829 *	30,744
Building fund - Chase savings	9,547	8,815
Building & Other Property	1,748,648	1,748,648
Total Restricted Assets	<u>2,700,610</u>	<u>2,703,598</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 2,751,854</u>	<u>\$ 2,815,536</u>
LIABILITIES		
Taxes & Notes Payable	\$ 5,552	\$ 5,090
Deferred Annuity - More	271,133	271,133
Restricted Fund Balances -		
Reserve funds (3)	84,616	65,212
Memorial funds (3)	8,847	10,371
Scholarship funds (3)	5,192	5,192
Memorial garden	12,395	11,448
Endowment fund (2)	-	34,508
Total Restricted Fund Balances	<u>111,050</u>	<u>126,731</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>\$ 387,735</u>	<u>\$ 402,954</u>
NET FUND BALANCE	<u>\$ 2,364,119</u>	<u>\$ 2,412,582</u>

(1) The beginning balance of the More property proceeds in 2010 was \$887,650.

Transfers of interest income from the More proceeds savings account to the General Operating Fund:
\$20,000.00 in March 2011; \$9,890.73 in September 2011; \$34,645.72 in March 2012; \$57,000.00 in July 2012;
\$19,928.75 in January 2013.

Transfer of funds from More funds C.D. to the General Operating Fund: \$27,000.00 in October 2012 (\$751 returned
Total transferred to date = \$167,714.20.

(2) Endowment reserve fund fully-funded and combined with UCC-invested endowment funds as of June, 2012.

(3) Summary of Restricted Fund Balances as of 04/30/13 -

June 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i> <i>12p Women's Fellowship Luncheon</i>
<i>2</i> 9:30a <i>Worship Service with Communion, Graduation Sunday</i> 10:30a <i>Endowment Committee</i>	<i>3</i> <i>7p Christian Education Meeting</i>	<i>4</i> <i>7:30p Mission Committee Meeting</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>9</i> 9:30a <i>Worship Service</i> <i>Church Picnic</i> <i>CE Movie Night</i>	<i>10</i> <i>7p Worship Committee Meeting</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>16</i> 9:30a <i>Worship Service</i> <i>crazies' Father's Day Car Wash! (during service)</i>	<i>17</i> <i>Vacation Bible School 9a-12p</i>	<i>18</i> <i>VBS 9a-12p</i>	<i>19</i> <i>VBS 9a-12p</i>	<i>20</i> <i>VBS 9a-12p</i> <i>6p SRC</i> <i>7p Church Council</i>	<i>21</i> <i>VBS 9a-12p</i> <i>6:30p VBS Ice Cream Social</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>23</i> 9:30a <i>Worship Service</i>	<i>24</i> <i>7p Finance Committee</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>30</i> 9:30a <i>Worship Service</i> <i>6p Family Game Night</i>						

July 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 <i>Office Closed, Happy Independence Day!</i>	5	6
7 9:30a Wor- ship Service with Commu- nion Boundary Wa- ters Youth Trip	8 7p Worship Committee	9	10	11	12	13
14 9:30a Worship Ser- vice	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 9:30a Worship Ser- vice Family Camp!	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 9:30a Worship Ser- vice Articles for the August VOICE Due	29	30	31			



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St. Matthew United Church of Christ

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(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

Mark Restaino, Director of Youth Ministries

Mark.Restaino@stmatthewucc.org

Jamie Craig, Director of Music/ Choir Director

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Brian Dobbelaere, Organist/Pianist

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Kim Congdon, Handbell Director

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