

February 2013

### Reflections from Pastor Allen

This upcoming Lenten season I will be sharing with you in a Wednesday night study five practices of the faith that will support you walking on the way of Jesus. I want to give you a “taste” of some of what we will be discussing with an excerpt from Dorothy Bass’ book, “Practicing the Faith” which is my primary resource for our Wednesday night studies.

“I never thought I’d be living this way,” she says. “Somehow I imagined that life would be simpler.”

She has reached forty and she thinks she should have her life together by now, but things are just not right. Too few evenings include nourishing suppers shared with loved ones; too many are given over to the demands of paid work or housework, or lost to worry and exhaustion. Her closest friends are spread across several time zones. The old neighbors she entrusted with the house key are gone, and she barely knows the new ones. She finds community here and there, and she volunteers to help out as she can, but she is wary about getting too involved. Showing up at a PTA meeting, she has learned, probably means getting stuck with a fundraising assignment,

so increasingly she stays away, in spite of her intense concern about her children and all the others. She does not feel right about this. “This is not how I intended to live my life,” she sighs, turning from one task to the next.

The sighs of this woman and so many of us today come only in part from having too much to do. Even more, these sighs are born of our yearning to understand what the too-much-to-do adds up to. We long to see our lives whole and to know that they matter. We wonder whether our many activities might ever come together in a way of life that is good for ourselves and others. Does all this activity make a difference beyond ourselves? Are we really living in right relation to other people, to the created world, and to God?

These concerns engulf the unemployed as well as the busy professional, the retiree as well as the young parent, the recent immigrant as well as the lifelong citizen. Lacking a vision of a life-giving way of life, we turn from one task to another, doing as well as we can but feeling increasingly uncertain about what doing things well would look like.

*Continued on page 2*

*Continued from page 1*  
All the while, an uneasiness lies just beneath the surface - an uneasiness made of personal restlessness, worry about our loved ones, and apprehension about the well-being of the world.”

As your pastor, I believe there is a way to negotiate life and make the necessary choices to live a whole life with purpose and meaning. But this requires practical commitments and support from a faith community. The good news is that we have centuries of Christians who have faced the challenges that we face and have sage advice for us to follow. We are a people of the Way. I invite you to join me for an exploration of that Way this upcoming Lenten season.

Shalom!  
Pastor Allen

*Bass, Dorothy C. (2009-12-15). Practicing Our Faith: A Way of Life for Searching People, Kindle Location 491-495). John Wiley and Sons. Kindle Edition.*



Allen at his installation January 13, 2013



**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Kevin Cole**
- 2 Taylor Holland**  
**Tim Schubert**
- 4 Charles Hambrick-Stowe**  
**Leona Staton**
- 5 Alberta Fine**  
**Pam Vargo**
- 6 Bruce Anderson**  
**Linnea Karpenske**
- 7 Kim Naydenoff**
- 10 Elizabeth Baird**  
**Tom Barker**  
**Marilyn Geise**  
**Kirk Stubbee**
- 11 Charlene Cooper**
- 12 Stuart Blake**
- 13 Andrew Sorgatz**
- 14 Daniel McGrath**  
**Amber Quinn Spicer**
- 16 Courtney Christensen**  
**Lee Craig**
- 19 Abby Johnson**
- 21 Mike Starr**
- 22 Carl Anderson**  
**Tom Macauley**  
**Karl Miller**
- 24 Liliana King**
- 25 Joyce Boyd**  
**Anthony Kresl**  
**Amanda Starr**
- 26 Tracey Blake**



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

We all know how music plays an important part in our daily lives- from our favorite songs to make us feel good, a ballad with special meaning, even the jingles that get stuck in our heads- but I always get a special kick when I see the different ways that music plays a special part in our worship. Not only do our hymns speak to us in concert with the scriptures and sermon, our choir, praise band, and bells try to choose selections in harmony with the message too, and when we tweak our selections they add an extra special feeling and therefore create a more memorable service.

For example, our praise band is working up another contemporary service for February 10<sup>th</sup>. These types of services add another dimension to our worship. The IntergeneRingers have been part of our children's message (like the last Sunday in January) as well as a different way of presenting scriptures. Our Sanctuary Choir shares different styles of music from traditional to contemporary to jazz and gospel, in addition to major works. We have a harpist, trombone and trumpeters, flutes, guitars, violins, and others not mentioned here. And while we don't think of it often, there are many songs in the secular world that can speak to our worship, as evidenced in a recent message by our outgoing Council President, Brian English. Those excerpts from five songs had a message for us.

Have you noticed a few new faces in the different groups? The more people we have, the more variety we can do musically. This is a great time to join us for even a short time such as through Easter. And in addition to making wonderful music, the fellowship is a great mid-week lift.

Yours in Christ through Song,

Jamie Craig  
Director of Music  
630-202-6788  
[Lanni1@comcast.net](mailto:Lanni1@comcast.net)



## Children's Ministry February 2013

**Annual Sunday School Care Package Mission Project** – We are collecting care package items for St. Matthew Military family and friends and St. Matthew College students. If you would like to donate items you can select items from the list posted in the Narthex or choose your own items and place them in the basket in the Narthex. **If you have a college student or Military family member or friend who you would like to receive a care package, please send their name and address to: [swold45@hotmail.com](mailto:swold45@hotmail.com)** Be sure to put 'Re. Care Package' in the subject line.

**Celebrating God's Love - February 17th - John 3:16, For God so loved the world that He gave His only son.** The children will spend the Sunday school hour celebrating God's Love by eating heart-shaped donuts, playing Valentine Bingo, and making cards for Military and College student care packages.

**On February 24th, the children will begin the Lenten/Easter Workshop Rotation.**

**Homework Club Mission Project** - On January 28th, Julie Schubert and I delivered books and school supplies that were collected by St. Matthew members to the refugee children of the Homework Club where Julie volunteers her time. The children of the homework club made a beautiful calendar for our Sunday school with colored pictures for each month of the year. The calendar is hanging above the children's altar in Temple of Truth. **Thank you, Julie Schubert,** for introducing us to the children and leaders of the Homework Club. You are a blessing to those children. **Photos of my visit with Julie Schubert to the Homework Club are posted on the CE bulletin board.**

**Thank you teachers and shepherds** for leading our Jesus Miracles Workshop: **Julie Schubert, Patti Woods, Kenna Anderson, Judi and Kelly Gonzalez, Beth and Grace Buhmann, Leslie Ortman, Julie Barnshaw, Cindy Bute, and Hi and Nancy Baird.** You did a wonderful job teaching and guiding the children as they learned an important part of Christ's ministry. Thank you to **Dawn Schubert and Mark Restaino** for continuing to lead our 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. **Thank you to KC Congdon and the Bell Choir** for the wonderful Children's sermon teaching the children the lesson from I Corinthians about working together.

**Susan Wold**

**Director of Children's Ministry**



**Workshop Rotation – Jesus Miracles**

**Donating books and school supplies to the Homework club for refugee children.**



**Workshop Rotation – Jesus Miracles**



### **Feed My Starving Children:**

A big THANK YOU to the 50 people who took two hours out of their day to help out at Feed My Starving Children! In total, we packed 110 boxes to feed 65 children for a year. Thanks to all who participated!



### **Responding to the Newtown Mass Shooting and Gun Violence in Chicago**

On Christmas Eve, I said that the senseless and brutal murder of 28 children and adults in Newtown, Connecticut and the over 500 people murdered by gun violence last year in Chicago requires us as Christians to respond in a meaningful way. I said that after this last mass shooting, we cannot simply move on as if nothing ever happened.

Since that time I have been in prayerful reflection about how to respond as well as listening to many different points of view. The issues are not simple to address as the Newtown event has generated emotionally reactive responses from opposing camps of the political and social divide. I am inviting you to join me over coffee and tea for a discussion of the issues involved and how they relate to our faith. My intentions are that we have a respectful discussion where all points of view are welcome and that we begin to find a way we can respond to these ongoing acts of violence in our communities and schools. Remember that change only occurs when ordinary citizens care enough to take action. I also want this to be a prayerful time that honors those who have died rather than only talking about the politics involved. Hopefully, we can discern some clear ways we can come together and make a response and perhaps recognize that there are other ways we will not find agreement.

**My suggested date is Thursday, February 28 at 7:00 p.m. at the church. Let me know your thoughts and your interest.** That will be helpful as I prepare to structure our time so that we use it well.

Pastor Allen



**DuPage PADS Announces The Ultimate Dining Experience To Benefit Homeless**  
*Tickets Now On Sale For The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual DuPage PADS Taste of Hope*

Wheaton, IL (January 18, 2013) Tickets are now available for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual DuPage PADS *Taste of Hope* that will be held on Thursday, March 14, 2013 from 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. at Abbington Distinctive Banquets in Glen Ellyn, IL.

Guests of the *Taste of Hope* will once again enjoy an array of culinary delights from more than 25 of the area's most elite restaurants with wine pairings and an open bar. Chef Amaury Rosado of Chef Amaury's Epicurean Affair will return for this 4<sup>th</sup> year as the Honorary Chair for the event and Dave Savini, CBS 2 News Reporter, will entertain guests as the evening's emcee and auctioneer. Music, auctions, a unique raffle and the opportunity to benefit a local charity, will leave everyone feeling like winners!

Sponsors for the night's festivities include: Continental Motors of Naperville, Aon, West Suburban Bank, Villa Park Office Equipment, Inc., Starbucks Coffee Co., Whole Foods Market and Wentz Vineyards. Additional sponsorship, advertising and auction item donation opportunities for local businesses and restaurants are still available. For more information, contact Jennifer Pudwill at 630.682.3846 x2520 or by email at [jpudwill@dupagepads.org](mailto:jpudwill@dupagepads.org).

Tickets for the event are \$75 per person (purchased on or before 2/28) or \$85 per person (purchased after 2/28). Make sure to purchase your tickets early as last year's event was **SOLD OUT!** Tickets may be purchased online at [dupagepads.org](http://dupagepads.org). Funds raised will support DuPage PADS programs that provide housing and support services, including education and employment to assist individuals and families who are homeless in DuPage County. Please join DuPage PADS on March 14<sup>th</sup> and be part of the solution to end homelessness!

*DuPage PADS, founded in 1985, is the largest provider of interim (overnight) housing, the largest provider of permanent supportive housing in DuPage County and the acknowledged leader in ending homelessness through individual support services ranging from counseling and education to employment preparation and placement. The DuPage PADS administration offices are located at 601 W. Liberty, Wheaton, IL 60187. Additional information can be obtained by contacting DuPage PADS at 630.682.3846 or at [www.dupagepads.org](http://www.dupagepads.org).*



DuPage PADS • 705 W. Liberty, Wheaton, IL 60187 • Tel: 630.682.3846 • Fax: 630.682.3874 • [www.dupagepads.org](http://www.dupagepads.org)

## Practicing Your Faith - Lenten Study

Our faith is not only a set of beliefs that we affirm, but a way of life that we live. As we need support for making and keeping commitments for putting our faith into practice, Pastor Allen will be leading a Lenten study series on five essential faith practices.

The study will be 7:00 p.m.- 8:15 p.m. on Wednesday nights (February 20, 27, March 6, 13, & 20) in the church parlor.

February 20	The Practice of Sabbath Keeping: finding balance in life
February 27	The Practice of Saying “Yes” & “No”: clarifying one’s purpose
March 6	The Practice of Honoring the Body: ways to affirm our bodies
March 13	The Practice of Discernment: ethical decision making.
March 20	The Practice of Forgiveness: the power of letting go

We hope you can attend most of the session but as they do not build on one another, you are welcome to come as you are able. We are using a book called “Practicing Our Faith: a way of life for searching people” by Dorothy Bass. The book is not required for the class but will be available for purchase for those who wish. Childcare will be provided upon request. Please let us know if you are interested so we have an idea of how many to prepare for ([office@stmatthewucc.org](mailto:office@stmatthewucc.org) or 630-665-1236).

\* \* \* \* \*

## Childcare Help Needed During Lenten Bible Study

During the Lenten Bible Study (above), we would like to provide childcare so that more families are able to attend. If you’re interested in helping , please contact the office. A sign up sheet will also be available in the Narthex.

\* \* \* \* \*

## New Member Class on February 10th

Pastor Allen will be holding a new member orientation class for anyone interested in joining St. Matthew United Church of Christ. This will be held on **Sunday, February 10th from 11:30am to 2pm**. Lunch will be provided as well as child care, if needed. Those interested will then be taken into membership during the worship service on **Sunday, February 24th**. For more information or to sign up for the class, please call the church office at 630-665-1236.





## Military and College Care Package Mission Project

**We are collecting items to send to St. Matthew Military friends and family and St. Matthew college students.**

### **Suggestions:**

Candy - Cookies - Crackers - Spray Cheese – Slim Jims

Mints – Gum – Snack food – Granola Bars – Power Bars – Beef Jerky

Small Game items: - Cards, dice, etc. - Stamps - Gift cards – School supplies

Outdoor items: - Frisbees, football, soccer ball, etc. - Flashlights - Room décor

Bath items:-Tooth paste, tooth brushes, hair brush - Shampoo, soap, hand cream, sanitizer, etc. - Lip balm - Colored pictures by children - Hand written notes –

Any other ideas you can think of are appreciated

**Send name and address of your Military friend or family member and College student to: [swold45@hotmail.com](mailto:swold45@hotmail.com) Re: care package**

### NOVEL APPROACHES

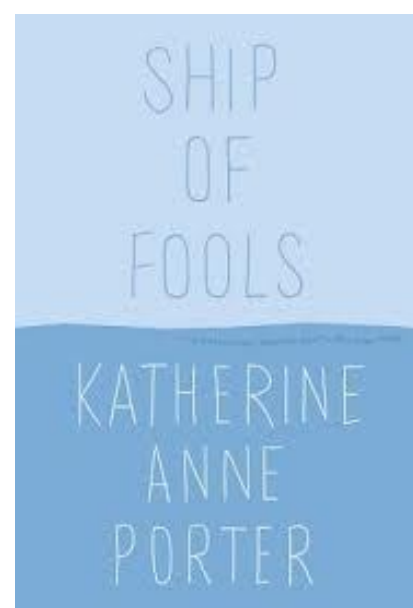
The novel to be approached in February is Ship of Fools by Katherine Anne Porter.

“With this book Miss Porter has succeeded in creating the brilliant panorama of life in all its glory and depravity. Her ‘Ship of Fools’ is the ship of humanity, and it is an unforgettable masterpiece.”

The date is **Friday, February 22, 2013 at 7:30 pm**

He place is **Barbara Evans’ home, 1226 Aurora Way, Wheaton**

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



## Pictures from Allen's Installation





## The Shrimp Boil restarts an enjoyable St. Matthew Tradition



Printed below is the Macaroni and Cheese recipe that was made for the Shrimp Boil. Many people requested the recipe. I thought the easiest way to make sure everyone has access to the recipe is to put it in the Voice! Enjoy!

Thanks,  
Amy B. Barnshaw

### **SHRIMP BOIL MACARONI AND CHEESE**

2 tbsp salt  
4 qts boiling water  
12 oz elbow or long Macaroni  
6 tbsp of shortening (I would substitute butter).  
4 tbsp enriched flour  
2 tsp salt  
dash pepper  
2 tsp dry mustard  
3 cups of milk  
4 cups sharp cubed (or diced fine, shredded) Cheddar Cheese, such as Cracker barrel (about 1 lb)

Add salt to boiling water. Gradually add macaroni and cook until tender, about 15 minutes. Drain and rinse. While macaroni is cooking, melt shortening (butter) in saucepan. Add flour, salt, pepper, and dry mustard. Mix well. Gradually add milk, stir constantly until thickened. Remove from heat, add cheese and stir until melted (you may need to have the heat on while melting the cheese). Fold in macaroni. Pour into a greased 3 quart casserole pan. Add more cheese on top, if desired. Bake in oven at 350 degrees for about 45 minutes (watch carefully to ensure you don't overcook it).





### **crazies Shout Out**

For the St. Matthew youth group, crazies, this year started out with a winter retreat at Dickson Valley. We developed our faith and bonded with each other through prayer and activities like Capture the Flag, Broomball, GaGa Ball, and Rock Climbing. Many of us went to Feed My Starving Children, organized by our fellow student Alex Johnson. We had loads of fun helping to feed God's children and build teamwork within our group. Weekly lessons in January included prophecy, testimonies, denominations, and temptation. During these lessons, we discussed different ideas and opinions while learning about God and the church. In February, we are planning on having a Super Bowling Party during the Super Bowl. To see what we're up to now, log onto Facebook and visit our group at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/stmatthewcrazies/>.

### **Parenting Class Childcare**

We need help with childcare during the Parenting Class. We need at least four people to help each evening and we do not have full coverage for any evening. The childcare is from 4:45 to 7:15 pm on Sunday Evenings February 10, 17, 24 and March 3, 10 and 17. Please call Mary Lee at (630) 665-1236 or e-mail at [stmatthewparenting@gmail.com](mailto:stmatthewparenting@gmail.com).

### **COSTA RICA MISSION TRIP**

**Sunday, July 14, 2013 – Tuesday, July 23, 2013**

In partnership with the First Church of Lombard, United Church of Christ, our Mission Ministry is sponsoring an international mission trip to Costa Rica to build simple, wood houses for the poorest of the poor. The basic house is about 400 square feet, the construction is simple, and all can join in and help.

There are informational sheets regarding this trip in the narthex. If you are interested in participating, please sign the 'Costa Rica 2013 Participants' list, complete an application form – both found with these informational sheets - and turn your application in to the church office.

**There is an informational meeting scheduled for 11:45 am on Sunday, February 17th at the First Church of Lombard.** Any questions, call Dave Mook at 630-690-7562.

### **YOUTH PANCAKE BREAKFAST on FEBRUARY 10th**

On Feb 10th, the St. Matthew UCC youth group, crazies, will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast after the service. This Sunday, Feb 3rd, we will need two adults to sell tickets after the service, I will be out of town that morning (I will get the tickets, poster, and cash box to you). On the 10th, we will need some students and adults to help set up tables and decorations at 8:30am before the service. Right after the sermon, students and adults will be excused to begin food preparation. We will also need two adults to collect money and tickets. Students who aren't cooks or assisting with the coffee, will be servers. All students are expected to help with clean-up after the breakfast. You can go online to our Google Documents page to sign up, or contact Mark.

## **Some Affirming News- How Mission Contributions Make a Big Difference**

I just thought you all might enjoy hearing of an encounter I had after the New Year. For me personally, it just made my day (and week and month).

I received a call from a young woman that works for an Oak Brook organization. She told me that her company, American Utility Management (AUM) had arranged to have a Christmas tree placed in their company lobby during the holiday season. It was a “mitten” tree, and all of the employees were encouraged to bring in new mittens, gloves and hats to decorate the tree. Before Christmas then, the decorating mittens would be donated to children in need, and the Children of Bridge Communities had been chosen to receive them.

When the phone call came to me it was mid-January. The Christmas season had become hectic at AUM and the mittens/hats had not been delivered as they had planned. The young woman phoning me was looking for an address so that she could ship the boxes to Bridge. I asked where AUM was located and she told me they were in Lombard on Butterfield Road. Because I go that way quite often and really wanted to have a personal presence with the donors, I volunteered to just stop by and pick up the boxes a few days later.

Upon arrival at AUM the receptionist asked me to wait while she called two co-workers, Amy and Cara, to give me the boxes. I recognized Amy’s name as the person who had called me, but did not know who Cara was. I met the two women and as I was thanking them for their efforts I asked them why they had chosen Bridge Communities as the recipient. I asked how they knew of us.

Cara responded to me that she was a graduate of Bridge Communities. She disclosed that she had been in the Bridge program in about 1997. She had fled a domestic violence situation, found Bridge Communities through Catholic Charities and eventually graduated from the program. She had been employed by AUM for the past 13 years.

The thing is, we do not often get to see the product of our work over a long period of time. We are usually so intensely involved with the here and now of transitional housing that we do not have the luxury of seeing how the most successful of our clients turn out in the long run. They are able to use our services for a very short period of their lives, return to the “real world” of life after transitional housing, raise their families, and become productive members of our society.

Bridge Communities and the partnering church did for Cara what we do for every client that enters our program. We gave her an opportunity. We gave her nothing more. Cara did the work. The opportunity was what she needed. My thanks to all of you that do your part in giving Cara, and all those other hard working folks who are in a difficult place, an opportunity.

**And now, for something completely different...**  
**The poem for February, from Linda Leinweber**

**The Way**

By Lynne Bryer (1990)

He came out, walked free  
looked like an ordinary, sweet grandfather  
from the eastern Cape:  
those lovely old men we children knew  
were wise and saintly  
when we saw them walking down the streets  
in ancient suits, greatcoats  
from the First World War. We always  
greeted, an exchange both  
courteous and right.

So, now, grown older, we salute  
Mandela. Not the bogeyman whose face  
was a forbidden sight (abroad,  
we looked in libraries): nor charismatic  
warrior, giving tongue in blood and flame.  
The Heavens did not fall.  
But then, for days before, the mountain  
(struck by lightning) burned,  
the dark alive with crimson snakes  
writhing on air, black elevation of the night,

Omens alone foretold the change.  
And confirmation came  
less from our eyes, watching the images that flew  
about the world, than from the way we felt:  
elated, cool, not doubting this was true,  
the destined time and place.

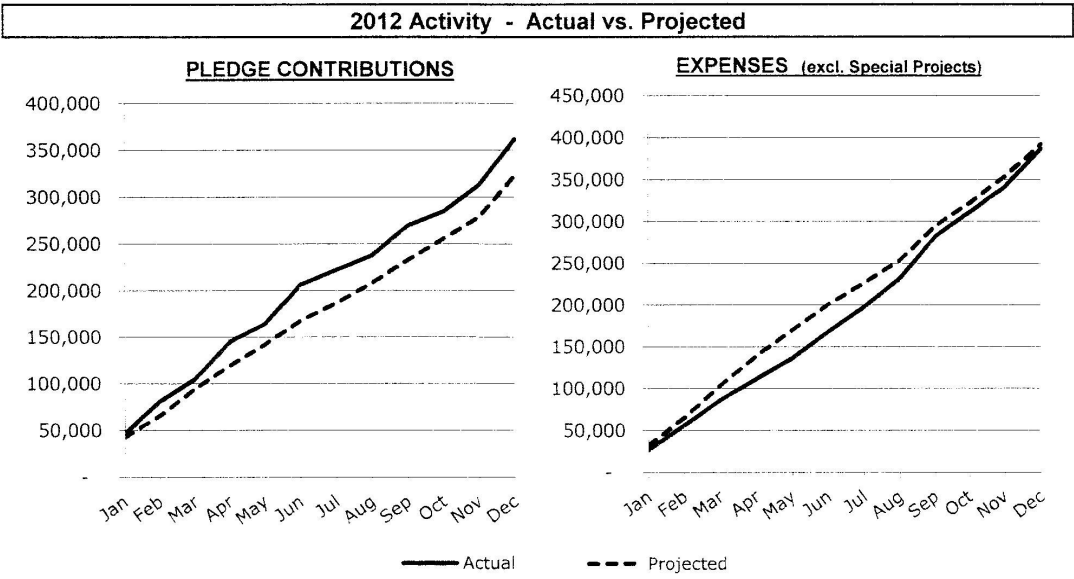
This is the way messiahs come—  
when time can stand no more delay,  
and people walk the streets, mill in the square,  
climb trees to see. Even the soldiers,  
nervous in the mob (since they alone were armed,  
and hence not free) are part of the rightness,  
the dislocated , sudden calm of knowing:  
This was the way it had to be.

Bryer, a white South African poet, changed the name of this poem to *Release, February 1990*, to make more clear that the subject is Nelson Mandela. I thought this was a good choice for February, although I confess I was tempted to choose a love poem. Still, this is a love poem of sorts as well as a reflection on a monumental change, which started in February. Enjoy!



ST. MATTHEW UCC GENERAL OPERATING FUND  
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES  
For the Period Ended December 31, 2012

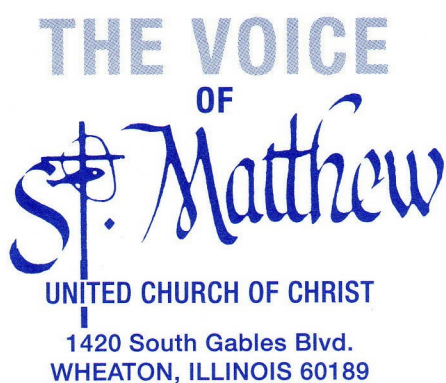
	ACTUAL CURRENT MONTH	ACTUAL YEAR-TO- DATE	ANNUAL BUDGET
<b>RECEIPTS:</b>			
Pledge Contributions	48,468	361,580	322,625
Loose Offerings	1,754	6,118	11,000
Rental Income	550	8,845	8,000
Fund Raising	100	1,965	15,000
Investment Income	(60)	(1,924)	1,000
More Property	-	34,646	34,000
More Property (special projects)	-	83,249	-
Miscellaneous Income	-	-	500
TOTAL RECEIPTS	50,812	494,479	392,125
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>			
Ministry	24,557	207,467	205,242
Building	12,459	106,667	106,433
Mortgages & Notes	2,229	26,748	26,750
Mission / OCWM	4,368	27,888	28,000
Christian Education	1,636	9,370	10,750
Membership	545	2,320	4,250
Stewardship	-	-	500
Music	187	3,326	3,750
Worship	175	887	3,500
Congregational Life	-	1,224	750
Fundraising	-	435	100
Yearbook	-	-	100
Search Committee	-	493	2,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES (before Special Projects)	46,156	386,825	392,125
Special Projects	-	83,249	-
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	\$ 4,656	\$ 24,405	\$ -



Please contact Karen Lindquist if you have questions or need additional information.

# February 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Every Sunday: 5p crazies homework hour 6p crazies</i>		<i>Every Tues- day: 6p IntergeneR- ingers 7p Bells Din- ner 7:30p Chancel Ringers</i>	<i>Every Wednes- day: 6:30p Praise Band 7:30p Choir</i>		<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>3 9:30a Wor- ship Service with Commu- nion</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5  7p Member- ship Commit- tee 7:30p Mission Committee</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>10 9:30a Wor- ship, 10:30a Youth Pancake Breakfast, 11a New Mem- ber Class, 5p Love and Logic</i>	<i>11  7p Worship Committee</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13  P.A.D.S.</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>17 9:30a Worship Ser- vice  5p Love and Logic</i>	<i>18  7p Finance Committee</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20  7p Bible Study</i>	<i>21  6p Staff Relations 7p Church Council</i>	<i>22  7:30p Novel Approaches</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>24 9:30a Worship Ser- vice  5p Love and Logic March VOICE Articles Due</i>	<i>25  7p Committee Chairs Meet- ing</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27  7p Bible Study</i>	<i>28</i>		



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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**St. Matthew United Church of Christ**

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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**

[pastor@stmatthewucc.org](mailto:pastor@stmatthewucc.org)

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**Jamie Craig, Director of Music/**

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