

THE VOICE OF

St. Matthew

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1420 SOUTH GABLES BLVD.
WHEATON, ILLINOIS 60189
630-665-1236
Fax 630-665-1436
www.stmatthew-ucc.org



December 2015

The Wonderful Life

I remember well the first time I watched “It’s a Wonderful Life” with Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed. I was on a large church bus driving through the night to bring a bunch of United Methodist college students home from skiing in Winter Park, Colorado. In the closing scenes I cried like a baby, though I tried to hide my tears from those who were around me, most of them fortunately asleep. Now it is a holiday tradition to watch the movie.

I have watched the movie enough to allow some of the other scenes I might have missed that first time to have an effect on me. I remember Mr. Potter, the wealthiest man in town, who owns most of the town and wants to own it all, making his offer to hire George Bailey, the Jimmy Stewart character, to manage his property. Greedy and conniving Mr. Potter has George sitting in that low chair at the front of his desk. He recites the truth of George’s situation: a young man with a beautiful wife and young children, trying to care for his family and his widowed mother as he has traded his dreams to remain home and care for the family’s Savings and Loan. What he leaves out is that the Savings and Loan is the only institution in town that cares about its working class clients and the community. Potter reminds him of how on the edge he lives and what he cannot provide for his growing family. He then makes him a financial offer that no one in their right mind would refuse. But George comes to his senses. As much as he lives in regrets of what he has sacrificed, he angrily rejects the offer and calls a spade a spade. Only at the end of the movie does he come to understand the great value of his life in what he does in service to others and the love of family and friends.

In the movies, we often see life as a battle between good and evil, but in our lives we either do not see the contrast or see lots more shades of gray.

But the truth be told, we are in a struggle between good and evil. We make choices all the time about the sort of person we are going to be. I think of Christmas as a fine example of the struggle. The paradox of Christmas is just how subverted its message has become. When we think about it, we should be amazed that a holiday about the savior born to a poor family in a manger who taught generosity and devotion to the disenfranchised has become a holiday about accumulation and satisfying our lust for more.

I offer some suggestions this holiday season for living the faith and staying on the side of what is good. Try to bicker less and judge less those members of your family who have been a disappointment. Allow yourself to focus on what is right about people, including yourself. Refuse to buy more stuff you will throw away a few months after the holidays or longer if your guilt prevents you from acknowledging you wasted your money. When you have the urge to take care of an all-important shopping detail or other item on your “Christmas to-dos,” stop and do something in the moment to share and receive love. Offer to work at a PADS shelter and sit down and have a holiday meal with strangers who will relish a warm place and a nourishing meal. You may be surprised that it could be the best conversation of the holidays. Don’t buy the gifts you feel you must buy, give the money away to those who need it most. Really, you have a choice in all this. Live your faith in the holidays and subvert the culture’s practice of Christmas, rather than participate in the culture’s subversion of the true Christ.

*Christ’s Peace,
Pastor Allen*

Food on the First

Thank you to all who donated in the month of November.

Here is what is needed for December:

- Feminine pads
- Diapers - Size 5
- Baby wipes
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Body wash
- Canned pineapple slices
- Canned carrots
- Cereal (no corn flakes)
- Ketchup and mustard
- Birthday candles



As always, please make sure items are not expired or opened. Thank you for your generosity and if you have any questions please call Betty Greer at 630.682.4084.



Pennies From Heaven

Manna cards are always a great gift for Christmas - one size fits all, without the hassle of returns. Not only are you giving gifts to your family and friends, but the retailers also donate to St. Matthew. Wow – two gifts in one!

Stop by the Manna table in Dobstaff for a list of ideas for men, women, and stocking stuffers. Are you hosting celebrations this season or making dozens of yummy cookies? Get your cooking and baking supplies with grocery cards from Manna. Orders will be taken as late as December 20th. They will be available for early pickup at church by December 23rd or on Sunday, December 27th. No orders will be taken on December 27th because the Manna office will be closed the following week.



December Birthdays

- 3 Joe Chumas
Elizabeth Hambrick-Stowe
- 5 Judi Gonzalez
- 6 John Adams
- 7 Jerry Stoller
- 8 Jan Beaton
Mike Thornton
- 10 Laura Christensen
- 11 Alex Alavi
- 13 Anna Neufelder
- 16 Dave Boyd
Matt Guerrieri
- 18 Laurel Caldwell
- 20 Lisa Stubbee
- 23 Rachel Cole
Cathy SooHoo
- 27 Dave Mook
- 28 Jeannine Adams
Carol Domal
Blake Erickson
- 29 Tyler Faith
Sharon Schlenker
- 30 Bob Barnshaw



Annual Reports

Annual Reports are due Friday, January 15th. Reminder emails and a copy of last year's report will be emailed out later this month. Please contact Kathy in the office with any questions or if you would like a copy of your committee's report sooner. Thank you.



Notes from the Music Room....

We have made it to December and the season of Advent, which leads us to Christmas. This is a joyous time, yet also very busy and sometimes stressful. One way to ease some of that stress is to take time to recharge by enjoying the music that is part of the Advent worship services. Sunday, December 6th, the Sanctuary Choir will present "Morning Star," a cantata written by Joseph Martin. The beautiful melodies, harmonies, instrumentation, and the narration tells us the story of Christ's birth. The following Sunday our bell choirs will be sharing music, and the Praise Band will complete our journey through Advent on December 27th. On Christmas Eve, you will find the Sanctuary Choir and the Bell Choirs gracing our 10pm candlelight service.

I hope you are able to make it each Sunday to worship together and enjoy wonderful musical presentations of the season.

From all those involved in music—KC, Brian and myself—we wish you all a very Merry Christmas, and a safe and happy New Year.

Peace to All,

Jamie Craig
630.202.6788
Lanni1@comcast.net

Open and Affirming Exploration

The Open & Affirming committee wishes to thank all who attended the discussion forum on November 1st and for the feedback we received both then and afterward. As we continue to explore the question of whether we will officially become an Open & Affirming church, the committee has informational materials available, including examples of statements from other UCC churches and a reflection on the Biblical context from Rev. Jeffrey Phillips of the First Church of Lombard. Please contact the church office or Lee Hood Staton (leehood@gmail.com) if you would like to receive these materials.



Children's Ministry December 2015

I loved the Peanuts comic when I was a child, but because of my soft heart it always bothered me that Charlie Brown never got a break. I'm sure many others felt the same way. Maybe Schulz had a message in mind, as he liked to implement messages into his cartoons, but come on, not one break? Couldn't he let Charlie catch the football, fly the kite or win the ball game once and a while? Then to top it off, in the 1965 Charlie Brown Christmas Special, he gets the smallest and least attractive Christmas tree, causing him to be humiliated in front of his friends...again. If Charlie wasn't being mocked, he was being ignored. I really hurt for him. (Yes, I know he is fictional.) However, the one shining light for Charlie was that he had Linus for a friend, and what a wise and good friend Linus was. I tear up whenever Linus starts telling Charlie the true meaning of Christmas. How wise Mr. Schulz was to bring Christ into Christmas that year. He couldn't have known that the low budget television special that took him only a few weeks to write and was deemed a failure by the producers and network before it aired would go on to receive outstanding critical acclaim, winning an Emmy and a Peabody Award. He never could have fathomed that the little Charlie Brown special that he threw together in a few weeks would still be viewed every year since it first aired and has been shown in 75 countries and translated into 21 languages. We can't even begin to guess how many hundreds of thousands of adults and children have heard Linus give that message of what Christmas is all about, year after year. It touched my heart way back then, but it took many more years for me to realize that Charlie had something bigger and greater than getting the lucky breaks in life: he has Jesus as his Savior, and of course, Linus to remind him of it. Schulz once said that he created Linus to represent himself and his Christian faith. Charlie Brown may be fictional, but his story is very real. Many people cannot get a break, are ignored and misunderstood. My prayer this Christmas is for all those Charlie Browns out there. I pray that God will put a Linus in their life, leading them to Him who loves them just as they are.



AND THERE WERE IN THE SAME COUNTRY SHEPHERDS ABIDING IN THE FIELD, KEEPING WATCH OVER THEIR FLOCK BY NIGHT.
AND, LO, THE ANGEL OF THE LORD CAME UPON THEM, AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD SHONE ROUND ABOUT THEM AND THEY WERE SORE AFRAID.
AND THE ANGEL SAID UNTO THEM, FEAR NOT: FOR, BEHOLD, I BRING YOU GOOD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY, WHICH SHALL BE TO ALL PEOPLE.
FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN THIS DAY IN THE CITY OF DAVID A SAVIOUR, WHICH IS CHRIST THE LORD.
AND THIS SHALL BE A SIGN UNTO YOU; YE SHALL FIND THE BABE WRAPPED IN SWADDLING CLOTHES, LYING IN A MANGER.
AND SUDDENLY THERE WAS WITH THE ANGEL A MULTITUDE OF THE HEAVENLY HOST PRAISING GOD, AND SAYING,
GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND ON EARTH PEACE, GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN.
LUKE 2:8-14

Christmas in Sunday school

The Reaction to the Promise – Jesus' Birth: For every action there is a reaction. This Christmas the children will examine God's action of sending Jesus and the reaction of the Christ Child on Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, the Magi and King Herod. We will also talk about our reaction to the Christmas story and how it affects our lives. **Workshops** in art, a movie, Birthday Party for Jesus, cooking and astronomy will tell the Christmas story in a new way. **Dec. 6,** Art: The children will make ornaments for the outdoor Mary Jane Schnack memorial tree. The children were very special to Mary Jane. It was her request that they decorate her tree every year at Christmas. **Dec. 13,** Movie and popcorn: throughout the Christmas story, the children and teacher will discuss the reactions of those who were close to Jesus at His birth. **Dec. 20,** Birthday Party for Jesus: The children will play games pertaining to the Christmas lesson. When worship ends we will bring them downstairs to sing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus and have birthday cake with their St. Matthew family. **Dec. 27,** Cooking: the children will make "Promise Shortcake" and learn that the promise God gave to us is Jesus. **Jan. 3,** Astronomy: The children will become astronomers and react to God's galaxy as they lie under an awe-inspiring constellation canopy. They will learn how the wise men reacted to the birth of Jesus as they followed the Star of Wonder. The children will learn, like the three wise men, that they can be wise and seek Jesus, too. Thank you to the Sunday school teachers and shepherds who taught and led the children during the Esther workshop: **Marla Mothershed, Annette English, Jan Beaton, Patti Woods, Deb Felsenthal, Miegane Bresingham, Dawn Schubert, Carol Honeywell, Emily Ciner, Dave Boyd, Jeannine Adams, Leslie Ortman and Bob Barnshaw.** Thank you to everyone who donated items for People's Resource Center. The children learned that giving to those in need is part of the Jewish Purim celebration. The children also donated their Sunday school offering to PRC, giving a full Thanksgiving meal to two needy families.

December Birthdays: Heidi Bourne 12/5, Justin Kirincich 12/22, Evelyn Henderson 12/25, Kylie Caprini 12/25

*Amelia Roser received her 4th grade Bible on November 1st.
Keep her in your prayers as she grows in knowledge and faith.*



calling All School-Aged Musicians!

All kids, grandbabies, nieces, nephews and neighbors age three and up who will be attending the 6pm Christmas Eve service are invited to participate in a hand chimes performance. No experience is needed. If the kids can read words, they can participate by themselves. If they cannot read words, the kids will require mom or dad, big sister or brother, or grandma or grandpa to assist. The helper does not need to read music, just make sure they know these lyrics please. Rehearsal starts at 5:15pm on Christmas Eve and the performance will be during the Christmas Eve service. Questions? Contact KC at handbell.director@stmatthewucc.org.

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS

Wanna-Bees

Flute

C F

We wish you a mer - ry Christ - mas, we

G7 G7 C

wish you a mer - ry Christ - mas, we wish you a mer - ry

F G7 C

Christ - mas and a ha - ppy New Year.



JOY TO THE WORLD

Audience Ring

Flute

C G7 C C

Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let

F G7 C C

earth re - ceive her King; Let ev - ery

G7 C G7 C

heart pre - pare Hine room, And heav'n and na - ture

G7 G7 G7 C

sing, and heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n, and

G7 C G7 C

heav'n and na - ture Sing.

Upcoming Events!

Red: Adult/Parent Meetings | Black: crazies Special Events

Green: crazies Regular Events | Blue: All-Church Events

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| Christmas Cantata | Sunday, December 6 th | 9:30-11am |
| crazies Fellowship and Study | Sunday, December 6 th | 6-8pm |
| crazies Fellowship and Study | Sunday, December 13 th | 6-8pm |
| Birthday Party for Jesus | Sunday, December 20 th | 9:30-11am |
| crazies Christmas Party | Sunday, December 20 th | 5-8pm |
| Christmas Eve Services | Thursday, December 24 th | 6pm & 10pm |
| NO crazies | Sunday, December 27 th | OFF |
| NO crazies | Sunday, January 3 rd | OFF |
| crazies Fellowship and Study | Sunday, January 10 th | 6-8pm |
| crazies Winter Retreat | Sat., Jan. 15 th – Sun., Jan. 17 th | 6-8pm |
| NO crazies | Sunday, January 17 th | OFF |
| Feed My Starving Children | Monday, January 18 th | 2:30-4:30pm MLK Day |
| Youth-Led Worship | Sunday, January 24 th | 9:30-11am |
| crazies Fellowship and Study | Sunday, January 24 th | 6-8pm |
| Annual Meeting | Sunday, January 31 st | 10:30am |
| crazies Fellowship and Study | Sunday, January 31 st | 6-8pm |

Winter Retreat is Coming Soon!

Keep your eyes peeled for an upcoming mailing about Winter Retreat. We'll be at **Pilgrim Park from Friday, January 15th – Sunday, January 17th**. Permission slips will be due SOON. Contact Emmy for more details!

Sign up to provide meals and a loving presence!

We need YOUR help, adults, to make crazies happen every Sunday. Please use the sign-up sheet outside of our sanctuary or email Emily Davis at youth.ministry@stmatthewucc.org to sign up to help out on Sunday evenings by providing a meal for 12 or giving two hours of your time to hanging out with some awesome kids.

FREE STUFF for crazies & Parents!

All crazies who get their Registration Forms turned in will receive a surprise gift from the infamous Trunk 'o Junk! Don't have your Registration Form—complete with **FREE TOTE BAG**—yet? Pick 'em up any time from Emmy at the church office.



"Love Came Down at Christmas"

Advent Worship Series

November 29th: *"Love Came Down at Christmas: Loving Justice"*

We hear the word "love" used in so many ways that it has become almost useless. The scriptures use other words to describe what love actually looks like. Words like justice and righteousness. Join us as we begin our Advent Season with the prophet Jeremiah and words of hope.

December 3rd (Thursday): *"A Service of Taize"*

Gathered in the presence of Christ, we sing uncomplicated repetitive songs, uncluttered by too many words, allowing the mystery of God to become tangible through the beauty of simplicity. This worship service, that has become popular around the world, focuses on meditation. Candlelight, simple music, readings, and time for quiet reflection all with a focus on God rather than the worship leaders are the essence of Taize worship. A beautiful way to slow down and begin the Advent and Christmas Season.

December 6th: *"Love Came Down at Christmas: Stand Up for Something!"*

This Sunday we are blessed with the Christmas Cantata by our Sanctuary choir. Our worship will focus on what it means to "Stand Up for Something," that our lives may be relevant and reflective of the love that came down both in John the Baptist and in Jesus. Join us for beautiful, heartfelt music, an early taste of Christmas, and for a simple message to prepare us for the coming of Christ.

December 13th: *"Love Came Down at Christmas: He's Naming Names"*

Love is more than a nice idea, but one that points the finger at what needs to change. Love requires us to reorder our lives and to live God's dream for creation. Join us to reflect on what it means to make the way clear for the coming of the Lord.

December 20th: *"Love Came Down at Christmas: To Those Not Expecting"*

Our children's excited voices will be heard as the anticipation of Christmas builds and they celebrate "A Birthday Party for Jesus." In worship, we rejoice with Mary and Elizabeth, two mothers-to-be, who both share the joy of unexpected pregnancies. How does the God of surprises come to meet us in our lives and world?

Christmas Eve: *"The Way of Love: The Divine Dance of Love"*

Two worship services: 6pm and 10pm. Our 6pm service is family-friendly and will begin with Christmas selections played by some of our children and young people before the start of the service. The children will also be gracing us with a short bell piece and song. We gather at 10pm for a traditional lessons and carols service with prayers. Both services include candle lighting.

While we are captivated by the dramatic high stakes of politics and economics as the means for the salvation of the world, our Christmas story surprises us with a dance of characters far off center stage. God chose to bypass the privileged and enter into our world through a poor, unmarried teen mother. This Christmas, we are moved by the simplicity of love that shatters expectations.



Worship Service and Music at Marian Park



This year St. Matthew celebrated the Gospel and love of Jesus with senior citizen residents of Marian Park. The residents of Marian Park are primarily immigrants who do not have transportation or means of going to church. On behalf of Mission Committee, we are so thankful to Allen Mothershed, Ellen Ribe, Emily Odean Davis, Tyler Spellious, Tina Ciner, Dan Ciner, and in particular Brian Dobbelaere for celebrating the worship service with our neighbors. We also want to extend special thanks to KC Congdon and the bell choir for celebrating the Christmas season with the residents of Marian Park on December 23rd.

Thank you, St. Matthew!

Feed My Starving Children

The annual Feed My Starving Children trip is coming up. It will be on January 18th, Martin Luther King Jr. Day. We will meet at the church at 1:45pm and carpool to FMSC to pack food for starving children in countries all over the world. We will pack from 2:30-4:30pm and then carpool back. If you haven't packed before, it is a great experience and we always love to have new people join us. There are 50 spots reserved, and the sign-up board will be up in the narthex in mid-December. Save the date!

- Alex Johnson



Thanks!

Thank you to the congregation for the many generous donations to the Foods Resource Bank Growing project. We collected \$6,199, which we are happy to report, exceeded our goal. St. Matthew has once again demonstrated that we are a church willing to work together to help alleviate world hunger by globally connecting local communities through agriculture. Thank you!

*-Terry Young and Gwen Johnson,
The Mission Committee*



Thanksgiving Dinner at Marian Park





*A thank-you note from Catalina Guzman,
Daniel and Claudeth's mother.*

San Pedro Sula, Cortes Honduras C.A.
23/9/2015.

Dear brothers and friend of church of
St Matthew.

I Sending kisses and hugs all your
waiting that you are enjoying
of a lot of blessing of God

I want to say that I'm so grateful what
all you for the help that you gave to my kids
perdonme for don't send a letter to all
you before.

I ask to God for you all days that open
the doors of the heaven and that
bless you for ever

I'm grateful because you gave me
graduate to Daniel and soon will be
Claudeth God will pay all things
that you have done for me and my
kids. for the that I give you
so much thank you
and God bless you with love
of Catalina

MARIAN PARK CHRISTMAS SHARING

As another Christmas season approaches, St. Matthew UCC once again will reach out with generosity to people in need in our own community. We are embarking on our 27th year of Marian Park Christmas Sharing, one of our most joyous missions! There is a wonderful Christmas tree in the narthex, filled with the Christmas wish list of individuals from Marian Park families and senior citizens ready for adoption. If you are a busy bee and don't have time to buy a gift, feel free to make a monetary donation in any amount! All monetary donations will be divided equally among families and seniors to purchase a grocery gift card for each. Checks should be made out to St. Matthew United Church of Christ.



All donations should be returned in the box in the narthex by Sunday, December 13th. Gifts will need to be wrapped, labeled and returned to St. Matthew by Sunday, December 13th for delivery on Wednesday, December 16th.

On a table near the Christmas tree there is a list of all gift recipients, listed by family letter and first name, with room for each donor to write down his/her name and phone number. Please take the time to fill out this important list to make sure that no present is lost. Additionally, we will have a sign-up sheet for drivers to help with delivering gifts to Marian Park on Wednesday evening, December 16th from 6-8pm. For more information, please contact Andrea DiOrio at oreoseven@yahoo.com or 630.881.8611.

Advent Devotionals

Looking for a way to expand your personal spiritual development during the Advent Season? Daily devotionals are a wonderful opportunity to deepen your understanding of the Word of God and your faith. On the table in the narthex you will find two publications:

Wonder: Advent Devotional 2015 - from the United Church of Christ's Stillspeaking Writers' Group, a collection of unique devotionals and prayers for each day of Advent. (Limited copies are available).

The Upper Room: daily devotional guide which contains meditations that show real people struggling to live faithfully in real-life situations. according to the example of Christ. (November/December copies are currently available. For back issues of other Upper Room editions, please contact Kathy in the office).



Christmas Eve Prelude

If you are a school-age musician who attends St. Matthew or will be visiting family on Christmas Eve, please consider sharing your talents with the St. Matthew family. We would like the Prelude before the 6pm Christmas Eve church service to feature the talents of our young musicians. We are looking for performances on piano or cello or flute or....Please prepare a Christmas-themed musical piece to play for the congregation that night. Contact KC at handbell.director@stmatthewucc.org so she can add you to the schedule.



Congregational Life

Our first-ever Euchre Night was a great success – so much so, that we will be scheduling another one in the coming months. Thanks to Roseanne King for spearheading the effort.



Once again this year we have an opportunity for those interested in trying their hand at Curling to join fellow St. Matthew folks in Triumph, Illinois on January 2nd at the Waltham Curling Club from 5-8 pm. A sign-up sheet with more details will be posted soon in the narthex.

We want to thank everyone for their support and participation in our Congregational Life events this year. The goal of the committee is to provide opportunities to be in Christian community with each other through a variety of activities. We are currently planning events for 2016 - watch for updates.

Stewardship – Coming Together

Our Stewardship Drive is off to a good start. We have had 79 returned pledge cards on our way to a goal of 100. In football terms we have a first down at the 21-yard line with little time remaining. A total of 51% of those returning pledge cards increased their pledge from the current year! If you have already returned a pledge card, we want to extend our sincere thanks. If you have not yet done so, there is still time for you to help us reach our goal of 100 pledges and build a healthy 2016 church budget. Your contributions, no matter how big or small, are appreciated and help us pay for structural elements such as salaries, benefits, and mortgage/notes, as well as our many ministry budgets focused internally and externally. By Coming Together and combining our resources, we are able to do great things!



FAMILY CAMP SIGN-UP HAS BEGUN!

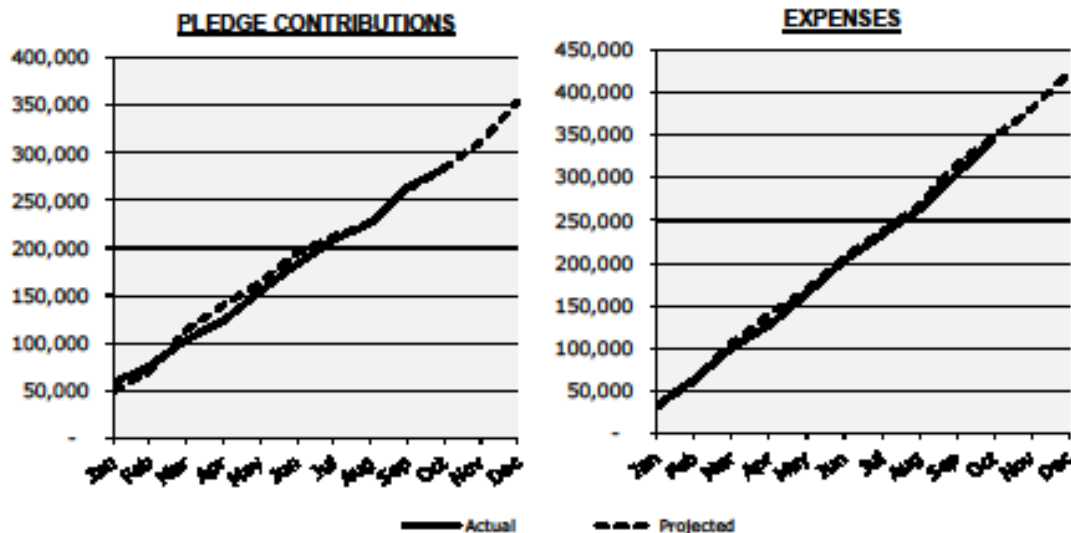
We are excited to announce that you can now sign up for Family Camp 2016! Next summer we'll be heading to Watson Homestead, located in the picturesque Finger Lakes region in western New York, from Sunday, July 24th to Saturday, July 30th. Join us for a "Week of Wine and Waterfalls" where possible group activities include hiking among the region's gorges and waterfalls, visiting some of the wineries and breweries in the area, and exploring the many museums in and around town--including the world-renowned Corning Glass Works. In addition, there are plenty of activities on-site at Watson Homestead, including an indoor pool, archery range, hayrides, and a climbing wall. Sign-up forms are located in the narthex. Please see Mark Hutchison, Dianne Hutchison, Sam Kouns, John Kouns, or Hi Baird with any questions. We hope that you will be a part of our great St. Matthew tradition!

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

For the Period Ended October 31, 2015

| | ACTUAL CURRENT MONTH | ACTUAL YEAR-TO- DATE | ANNUAL BUDGET |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| RECEIPTS: | | | |
| Pledge Contributions | 19,685 | 283,631 | 354,327 |
| Loose Offerings | 483 | 5,201 | 10,000 |
| Rental Income | - | 2,480 | 5,000 |
| Fund Raising | 411 | 3,597 | 8,000 |
| Investment Income | 2 | 1,141 | - |
| More Property | - | 16,500 | 46,000 |
| More Property (special projects) | - | - | - |
| Miscellaneous Income | - | - | - |
| TOTAL RECEIPTS | 20,581 | 312,550 | 423,327 |
| EXPENDITURES: | | | |
| Ministry | 18,762 | 187,237 | 229,129 |
| Building | 13,103 | 96,976 | 116,028 |
| Mortgages & Notes | 2,229 | 22,291 | 26,750 |
| Mission / OCWM | 6,496 | 25,198 | 29,000 |
| Committees: | | | |
| Christian Education | 111 | 7,023 | 10,270 |
| Membership | 474 | 1,654 | 2,750 |
| Music | 332 | 3,343 | 4,500 |
| Worship | 55 | 1,277 | 1,500 |
| Endowment | - | - | - |
| Congregational Life | 136 | 627 | 800 |
| Memorial | - | - | 100 |
| Stewardship | 444 | 444 | 500 |
| Misc. & Contingency | 1,122 | 1,122 | 2,000 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | 43,264 | 347,191 | 423,327 |
| SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) | \$ (22,682) | \$ (34,641) | \$ - |

2015 Activity - Actual vs. Projected



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

December 2015

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|-----|-----|---|---|-----|
| Wednesdays 2:15pm Women's Prayer Group 6:30pm Praise Band 7:30pm Cantata Rehearsal 8:30pm Sanctuary Choir | Wednesdays 6pm IntergeneRingers 7:30pm Chancel Ringers | 1 | 2 | 3 7pm Taize Service | 4 | 5 |
| 6 CHRISTMAS CANTATA 9:30am Worship Service 6pm crazies | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 6:30pm Confirmation Class | 11 | 12 |
| 13 9:30am Worship Service | 14 7pm Worship Committee | 15 | 16 | 17 6pm SRC 7pm Council | 18 | 19 |
| 20 9:30am Worship Service Birthday Party for Jesus | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 Christmas Eve -6pm Family Friendly Service -10pm Candlelight Service | 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS OFFICE CLOSED | 26 |
| 27 9:30am Worship Service | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE | | |



St. Matthew United Church of Christ

630.665.1236 (Office)

630.665.1436 (Fax)

Office Email: office@stmatthewucc.org

Web Site: www.stmatthewucc.org

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 9am-4pm

Friday: 9am-1pm

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.

Our Staff

Rev. Milton Allen Mothershed, Senior Pastor

allen.mothershed@stmatthewucc.org

Susan Wold, Director of Children's Ministry

susan.wold@stmatthewucc.org

Emily Davis, Director of Youth Ministry

emily.davis@stmatthewucc.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

Joan Johnson, Business Manager

joan.johnson@stmatthewucc.org

Kathy Robson, Administrative Assistant

office@stmatthewucc.org