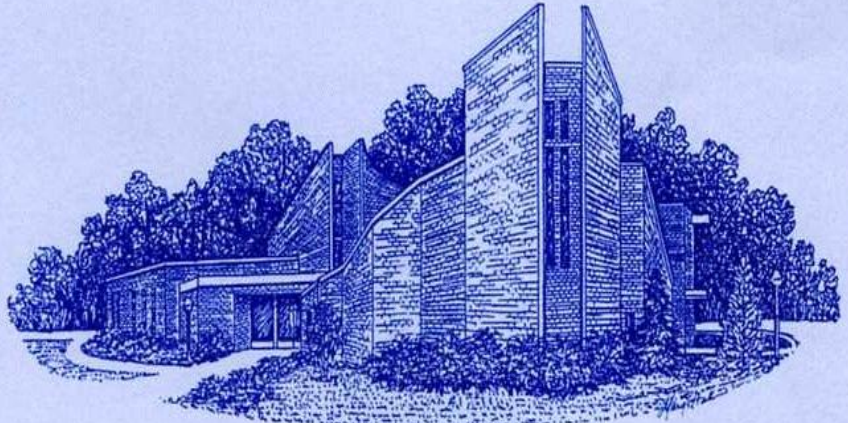


THE VOICE OF

St. Matthew

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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



May 2015

More than Tolerant

I've been thinking a lot about the word tolerance. When I was younger and we were going through the racial issues in the South, the idea of being tolerant was a high goal for the people and the communities I knew. But now the word tolerant seems rather weak and unattractive. Just think of how we use that word. We tolerate a headache. We tolerate the traffic jams driving into the city. We tolerate the annoying person talking loud on their cell phone while sitting at the table next to us in a restaurant. To tolerate is to put up with someone we don't like but still may allow for feelings of hatred. Our being tolerant is far better than acting on our more base impulses, but it does not go far in building bridges of love with people different from ourselves.

In Paul's letter to the Galatians, Paul gives the argumentative and conflicting Galatians the list of the fruits of the Spirit: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." Tolerance was nowhere in that list. I suppose forbearance is close to tolerance, but Paul adds to that kindness, goodness, and gentleness. That suggests that we are to be far more than a tolerant people.

We need to hear Paul's list of fruits of the Spirit in our church. We have a diversity of people with different ideas, different expectations of worship and church, and quite different political and social views. We are not composed of liberal OR conservative people but liberal AND conservative AND somewhere in between. We have different generations visiting who see the world in alternative ways than previous generations. We are the United Church of Christ, but that does not mean we are a church for only like-minded people.

The idea of church is far different than any other social group. Church is to be the place where we gather and break bread with people unlike us. This was the remarkable quality of the first Christian communities who followed the example of Jesus. They acted just like Jesus, who in love pulled together as ragtag a group of people as you could find on earth. In the Spirit of Christ we work together to be a people who are not afraid to discuss and even argue our differences, but who know how to come together around the same table and lovingly break bread with one another and share the cup of Christ's salvation. Healthy families are not afraid to be different and to discuss differences because at the end of the day they are on each other's side. May we be a healthy family together.

Christ's Peace,

Pastor Allen

Food on the First

For those who donated last month, a big “thank you”! Here is what is needed for the month of May:



- Canned pineapple
- Ketchup
- Mustard
- Mayonnaise
- Honey
- Jam or jelly
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Diapers (size 1)

As always, please make sure the food is not expired and packages are not opened. If you have any questions, please call Betty Greer at 630.682.4084.

Thank you for your generosity!

Proverbs 19:17

*“He who is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and
He will reward him for what he has done.”*

Newcomers Welcome

If you are a frequent visitor and would like to know more about St. Matthew, Pastor Allen will have a brief get-together on Sunday, May 17 immediately after Worship to answer your questions. The informational meeting will last less than an hour. Church members will also be available to answer your questions. We will provide babysitting. Please sign up in the narthex or email of-fice@stmatthewucc.org



MAY BIRTHDAYS

1	Curtis Holland
	Howard SooHoo
3	Marilyn Guerrieri
	Linda Leinweber
4	Brian Anderson
	Jamie Craig
	Jackie Tobin
6	Wendee Passini
7	Robert Guerrieri
11	Dixie Miller
12	Alison Chatten
	David Wold
13	Daniel Ciner
	Michael English
	Kelly Gonzalez
	Susan Neufelder
15	Nigel Barnhill
18	Barbara Giordano
20	Monnie Stoller
22	Jason Schubert
	Barbara Stevenson
26	Dan Eugene
27	Mike Cetina
	Ann Ogorzalek
31	Griffin Price

MANNA Program

Spring is in the air! Mother's Day is May 10. What about a Mario Tricoci gift card for a body treatment, nail service, or hair salon service? They are giving bonus coupons with each card. Need gardening supplies? Ace Hardware, Stein Mart, Menards, and Sears are just a few of our Manna retailers. Ready for some outdoor activities? Check out Bass Pro, Dick's Sporting Goods, Golfsmith, or Sports Authority. The Manna table is “open for business” every Sunday in Dobstaff Hall.



“Thank You” from Virginia Jackson

Dear Friends,

Words of thanks seem inadequate to express how I feel about all of the expressions of concern for my welfare. But please accept my words of appreciation for all of the prayers, hugs, telephone calls, cards, visits, flowers and delicious foods.

May God continue to shine on you and bless each and every one of you.

*Love,
Ginnie Jackson*



Notes from the Music Room....

We are fast approaching the end of the year for the Music Ministry. May is the home stretch, starting with Confirmation Sunday. On Mother's Day, our children will present their spring musical, "What's up Zac?" They have been working hard and are putting on the finishing touches. Then we have Music Appreciation Sunday, when all the musical groups share their gifts on the same Sunday. After that, the summer music schedule goes into effect. This is where YOU come in!!

It's time to Sign Up for Summer Music!!

We need volunteers to sing, play, or do both to enhance our worship from May 24 through September 6 – vocal, instrumental, or both at one time. Solos, duets, trios and quartets, and combos too would be nice. All are welcome and needed.

The sign-up sheet is in the narthex. Please sign up early for two reasons: first is to make sure you get the date you would like, and second, some years it does fill up quickly. Thank you in advance for sharing your talents.

Peace....

Jamie
Lanni1@comcast.net
630-202-6788

Children's Ministry

May 2015

As we finish up the Sunday School year (before heading into Summer Sunday School), I want to thank all those who helped make this past year wonderful for the children at St. Matthew. Thank you to the teachers and shepherds who taught the Zacchaeus unit: **Judi Gonzalez, Miegan and Michelle Bresingham, Diana Padilla, Deb Felsenthal, Leslie Ortman, Julie Barnshaw and Emily Ciner.**

End of the year schedule:

May 3: Music Rehearsal and Teacher appreciation craft

May 10: Teacher Appreciation Sunday, Children's Musical, Mother's Day

May 17: Last day of Workshop Rotation Sunday School

May 24: Memorial Weekend, Movie and Popcorn. Start of 10:30 summer dismissal.

May 31: Start of Summer Sunday School, Prairie Path Prayer walk and ice cream.

Teacher Appreciation Sunday, May 10th: Please join us as we honor our Christian Education volunteers who have given so much of their time to our children throughout the year. We will honor them during worship and have a reception for them in Dobstaff Hall following worship.

Children's Musical, Sunday, May 10th: The children will perform "What's Up Zac?" during the Sunday morning worship service. The performance is in honor of the Christian Education volunteers and all St. Matthew mothers. Please come to support the hard work of our Sunday School boys and girls. There will not be Sunday School as we want the children to be at the reception following worship.

May 24: The start of our summer 10:30 dismissal time.

May 31st: Summer Sunday School begins. The children will be read a book each Sunday over the summer during the children's sermon. The books will be meaningful, fun, funny or thought-provoking. Following the children's sermon, the children will gather together upstairs to share in an activity pertaining to the message received from the book. Activities will include outdoor fun, games, crafts, library time, Prairie Path walk, etc. Summer Sunday School will run until September 13th, Rally Day. If you would like to read a favorite children's book and share a half hour activity with the children on Sunday morning this summer, please contact me.

The Armor of God Vacation Bible School 2015: June 15 – 19, 9:00 to Noon Sign-up has begun for this summer's Vacation Bible School, The Armor of God. Registration forms can be found in the narthex and turned in to the church office. I encourage all of our church family to take a couple fliers or registration forms and pass them on to neighbors, family or friends. We have an awesome program, where the children have fun and grow in faith. This is a wonderful opportunity to be a disciple and spread God's word to families in our community. Pray, asking God to put the name of a family on your heart. By doing this, you just might change the life of a young boy or girl! *See the VBS ad in this issue of the Voice for more information.



May Birthdays:

Jeremy Passini 5/1, Kelley Passini 5/2, William Jung 5/5,
Evelyn Hutchison 5/23, Amelia Roser 5/27, Cristian Padilla 5/27

*Submitted by, Susan Wold
Children's Ministry Director*

crazies

St. Matthew UCC

End of Year Party

Come celebrate another great year with the Crazies on Sunday, May 17. We'll gather from 5:00-7:00pm for a night of food, fun, and friendship, and we'd love to see YOU there!

It's Not Too Late to Sign Up for the Mission Trip!

This summer, from June 21-27, we'll embark on an urban mission trip to Chicago. The trip cost is \$350 for all meals, lodging, and projects (with scholarships and fundraising opportunities available!). Our official sign-up date has passed, so the sooner the better for getting your name on the list. Contact Emmy for more details.

Get on Our Mailing Lists

Have a kid who's entering 6th-12th grade? Want to get involved with the Crazies? Wish you knew more about what the church's youth are up to? Send your e-mail and snail-mail addresses to Youth Ministry Director Emmy Davis at youth.ministry@stmatthewucc.org to receive the most up-to-date information about everything our program has to offer.



thank
you!

Plant Sale Thank-You

Thank you to everyone who placed an order through our Crazies Plant Sale this year. Please remember to pick up your plants on Friday, May 15. We hope your gardens are as beautiful as the love we feel here at St. Matthew.

Join us for Graduation Sunday!

All high school and college graduates are invited to be honored in worship on Sunday, May 31 as we celebrate YOU.

Please fill out the following form, and return to the church office by Friday, May 22. Then join us in worship on May 31 to receive a special blessing and gift from your church family.



Name: _____

Graduating from: _____

What I'll Miss Most:

What I'm Looking Forward to:

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! All Are Welcome!

Join us for five fun days learning about God's armor of protection.

Share the news with your friends, family, and neighbors.

Fliers and registration forms are in the narthex.

St. Matthew Vacation Bible School 2015



St. Matthew United Church of Christ
1420 South Gables Boulevard, Wheaton, Illinois 60189
630.665.1236 - office@stmatthewucc.org - www.stmatthewucc.org

The Armor of God VBS

Games - Crafts - Experiments - Bible Stories - Songs - Snacks

When: June 15 – June 19 9:00 - 12:00

Family Ice Cream Social Open House: Thursday June 18, 7:00 pm

Who: Age 3 - 4 (Must have completed at least one year of preschool) and
Grade K - 5th Grade (Completed grades K-5th)

By order of the Queen, a decree goes out asking the people of
St. Matthew Kingdom to consider volunteering for:

- Paint sets, date to be determined
- VBS Set-Up on Friday, June 12, 9:00 a.m. to ?
- VBS Tear-Down, Friday, June 19, Noon to ?
- Volunteers willing to help during the VBS week, (five day commitment 9am-12pm)
- Volunteers willing to make felt banners, fabric supplied

Contact Susan Wold at swold45@hotmail.com,
630-665-1236 (church office), or 630-373-4323 (cell)

Get to Know Some of Our Newest Members

Greg and Mary Henderson + Evelyn and Olivia

In 2014 the family moved from Lombard to Wheaton in a search for the right school system for their children. They decided to attend St. Matthew Sunday services after participating in last year's Easter Egg Hunt. Evelyn is 5 years old and enjoys attending Sunday School.

Olivia is 2 years old, and the family will be expanding in July with the addition of a baby. The family also has a shih tzu named Tito. The Hendersons look forward to becoming more involved in the future at the church. We are happy you chose to become a part of the St. Matthew family – welcome!



Want to Become a Member of St. Matthew?

We are welcoming New Members into the St. Matthew family on June 7th. Please contact the Church Office at office@stmatthewucc.org if you are interested in joining.

And now for something completely different..

The poem for May from Linda Leinweber, in transition from Kazakhstan to the U.S....

Their Lonely Betters

By W. H. Auden, 1951

As I listened from a beach-chair in the shade
To all the noises that my garden made,
It seemed to me only proper that words
Should be withheld from vegetables and birds.

A robin with no Christian name ran through
The Robin-Anthem which was all it knew,
And rustling flowers for some third party waited
To say which pairs, if any, should get mated.

No one of them was capable of lying,
There was not one which knew that it was dying
Or could have with a rhythm or a rhyme
Assumed responsibility for time.

Let them leave language to their lonely betters
Who count some days and long for certain letters;
We, too, make noises when we laugh or weep:
Words are for those with promises to keep.

This poem appealed to me for a couple of reasons. The first is that it points out, somewhat tongue in cheek, the linguistic uniqueness of humans, who, as a result have responsibilities beyond those of nature. The second is that it captures via the beach chair a warm climate, which indeed has also come to Kazakhstan. And finally, it places humanity in a transitional position, in nature, but not totally of nature...and because I, too, am in transition, that appealed to me. I took this from the Norton Anthology of English Literature, Volume 2, but it is pretty widely anthologized. I look forward to seeing you all Memorial Day weekend!

Shining Light into the Darkness of Human Trafficking

**Saturday,
May 30th
10am**

Featuring Alicia Kozakiewicz

**FREE
EVENT**

Alicia Kozakiewicz's story begins at the age of 13 when she was lured, abducted, and held captive by a "friend" she met on the internet. Alicia has since become a television and media personality, and has been featured on, among others, **CNN, PBS, Oprah**. She has won a **Jefferson Award** and others for her efforts to educate the public and rescue victims of trafficking.

Alicia and Vick will educate parents on the importance of setting devices to protect their children. They will discuss the latest tricks and trends of human trafficking and how it could affect any of us.

We will also learn what legislation, such as **Alicia's Law**, needs to be in place in Illinois and how we can encourage lawmakers to make it a safer world for our children.



**St. Matthew
United Church of Christ
1420 S. Gables Blvd.
Wheaton, IL 60189**

www.aliciaproject.org



THE Alicia PROJECT

**Guest Speaker: FBI Special
Agent, Vick Lombardo**

Marla Mothershed
630.665.1236
office@stmatthewucc.org
www.stmatthewucc.org

630-260-1820 | www.wheatondrama.org

Directed by Peter Lemongelli

**BEST
MUSICAL**
2005 TONY AWARD®

MAY 22—JUNE 14



Monty Python's Spamalot is presented by special arrangement with Theatrical Rights Worldwide.

**MONTY PYTHON'S
SPAMALOT™**

A new musical lovingly ripped off from the motion picture
MONTY PYTHON and the Holy Grail

SPAM is a registered trademark of Hormel Foods, LLC, used with permission here.

Go See St. Matthew's Very Own Mark Hutchison in Spamalot!

Wheaton Drama, 111 N. Hale St., is proud to present Spamalot, a musical lovingly ripped off from the 1975 film "Monty Python and the Holy Grail." The production runs from May 22 to June 14. You'll see Mark Hutchison singing, dancing, and sword-fighting while playing the parts of Sir Lancelot, The Black Knight, and the French Taunter. Come expecting silly accents, coco-nuts, and a hilariously good time! Visit www.wheatondrama.org or call 630.260.1820 for tickets or more information.

CROP Walk: On May 3rd, members of St. Matthew UCC will join other churches in Glen Ellyn and Wheaton for the CROP Walk. Twenty five percent of the funds raised will be used in our local community, with the rest going to fight poverty in more than 80 countries around the world. If you are unable to walk, please consider making a

donation by writing a check to "CWS/ CROP Walk" or donate online at <http://hunger.cwsglobal.org/goto/stm15>. On May 3rd, registration will start at 1pm, and the walk will begin at 2pm. The starting and ending point is in Glen Ellyn at Grace Lutheran Church, located at 493 Forest. Please contact Janine Orrico(jdorrico@gmail.com) if you have any questions. Thank you for your support!



You Are Invited

*to the 2nd Annual
"Ladies Tea Party!"*

Stop by to sip tea and show off your hat
(if you still own one)!

Open house Saturday, May 2nd
From 1-3 p.m.

At Marla Mothershed's home:
1011 Arbor Ave, Wheaton.



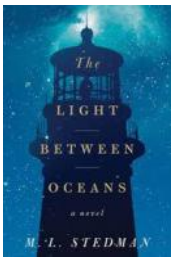
Please RSVP by email to office@stmatthewucc.org, by phone to 630.441.5963 or 630.665.1236, or sign up in the narthex.

Upcoming Events



BELLS CONCERTS BELLS IN MOTION, an auditioned jazz group, will be performing in Bloomington, IL! Come down and support our very own Kirsten Hendrickson and the director, KC Congdon (bonus - it's KC's birthday). Date: Sunday, May 3, at 4pm, St John's Lutheran Church, 1617 E. Emerson in Bloomington. Song titles include but are not limited to: Alexander's Ragtime Band, I Got Rhythm, In the Mood, Pine Apple Rag, and All That Jazz from the musical Chicago. The Agape Ringers (with Kirsten & KC) will be performing locally on Sunday, May 17, 4pm at LaGrange Bible Church, 850 S. 7th Ave. in LaGrange. A free-will offering will be taken.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING is the refugee, relief and development offering of the United Church of Christ. This important program transforms lives through health, education, agricultural and emergency relief initiatives in 138 countries. From supporting impoverished countries in Africa, tsunami relief in Japan and recovery from natural disasters here in the U.S., money from this offering supports those in need in our community and around the world. St. Matthew will be taking up this collection on Mother's Day, May 10th.



NOVEL APPROACHES The novel to be approached in May is "The Light Between Oceans" by M.L. Stedman. "This is a beautiful novel about isolation and courage in the face of enormous loss. It gets into your heart stealthily, until you stop hoping the characters will make different choices and find you can only watch, transfixed, as every conceivable choice becomes an impossible one." The date: Friday, May 29 at 7:30 p.m. The place: The Mook's at 1523 Surrey Drive in Wheaton Join us for lively discussion, food and fellowship.

5TH SUNDAY AT DUPAGE CONVALESCENT CENTER Come join us Sunday, May 31, to help get residents to Sunday Worship. It mostly involves pushing wheelchairs and talking a bit with our residents, who are a delightful bunch, including a couple St Matthew members. Join us at 9:30 Sunday morning, stay for worship, help folks back and you're done before noon. Questions - contact Ellen Ribe ellen.ribe@dupageco.org or Glenn Sapa. Looking forward to seeing you!



FAMILY CAMP 2015 Sunday 7/19 to Friday 7/24. This year is a close one (270 miles, about 5 hours) at the Landmark Resort in Egg Harbor, Wisconsin, in Door County. There are lots of activities at the resort as well as lighthouses, theaters, beaches, and wineries nearby. You've heard about Washington Island during Susan's children's sermons; now is your chance to experience it in person. Please fill out the sign-up sheet in the narthex. If you have any questions, please see Dianne Hutchison, John Kouns, or Hi Baird.

ST. MATTHEW VEGETABLE GARDEN It has been proposed that we create a garden at our church to support local food pantries. Besides being an educational experience for children and adults, we should have a lot of fun. If you would be interested in participating in this project, call Bob Barnshaw at 630-668-0014.

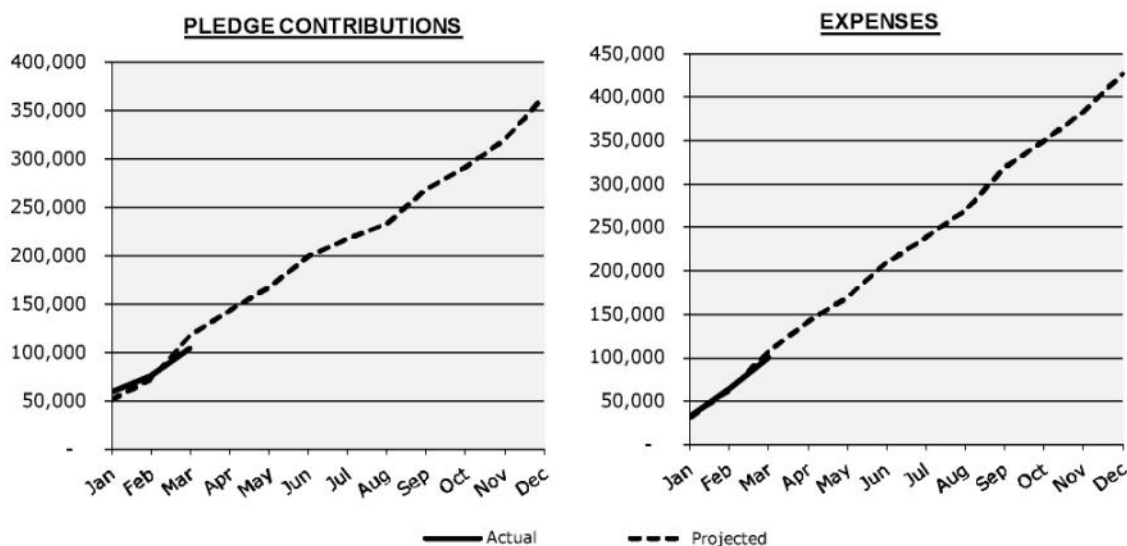


**ST. MATTHEW UCC GENERAL OPERATING FUND
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES**

For the Period Ended March 31, 2015

	ACTUAL CURRENT MONTH	ACTUAL YEAR-TO- DATE	ANNUAL BUDGET
RECEIPTS:			
Pledge Contributions	37,116	101,379	363,658
Loose Offerings	884	1,648	6,000
Rental Income	610	810	5,000
Fund Raising	478	1,063	10,000
Investment Income	1,141	1,109	-
More Property	-	-	41,500
More Property (special projects)	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Income	-	-	-
TOTAL RECEIPTS	40,229	106,009	426,158
EXPENDITURES:			
Ministry	21,896	55,706	224,348
Building	12,309	30,067	122,810
Mortgages & Notes	2,229	6,687	26,750
Mission / OCWM	80	80	29,000
Committees:			
Christian Education	707	1,667	9,600
Membership	-	139	2,750
Music	550	1,191	4,500
Worship	-	847	2,500
Endowment	-	-	1,000
Congregational Life	220	220	800
Memorial	-	-	100
Misc. & Contingency	-	-	2,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES (before Special Projects)	37,991	96,604	426,158
Special Projects	-	-	-
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	\$ 2,238	\$ 9,406	\$ -

2014 Activity - Actual vs. Projected



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

May 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 1-3p Ladies' Tea Party
3 -9:30a Worship Service: Confir- mation -6p crazies	4 7p Christian Education Committee	5 -7p Member- ship -7:30p Mission	6	7	8	9
10 -9:30a Worship Service: Chil- dren's Musical and Teacher Ap- preciation -no crazies	11 7p Worship Committee	12	13	14	15	16
17 -9:30a Worship Service: Music Ap- preciation -Memorial Commi- tee after worship -Newcomers Wel- come	18	19	20	21 6p SRC 7p Council	22	23
24 -9:30a Worship Service -6p crazies	25 Memorial Day Office Closed	26	27	28	29	30 10a Human Trafficking Presentation
31 -9:30a Worship Service: Gradua- tion Sunday -Voice articles due -6p crazies						



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: 9:30 am

Sunday Church School: 10 am

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

Diana Padilla, Administrative Assistant

diana.padilla@stmatthewucc.org