

# June/July

## 2019



of



### **Pastoral Message**

#### **Kindness and the Spirit of God**

Not so long ago I received hate mail. This is not the first time. From time to time in my ministry, I have received such mail, usually handwritten, loaded with quotes of scripture, used as a beating stick to hammer their point. Such use of scripture is a way to say "This is not just me speaking, but a word from on High...I know I am right!" This time the hate mail was an email and, for once, it was signed. I was informed that my teachings were an abomination to God and as such, I was surely going to hell. He went further, even if I were to repent now, it is too late. My fate is sealed. I have misled the flock of God. I suppose this person had found my sermons on the web.

I do not allow such judgmental attacks to get to me. I am tempted to laugh it off, but I know that the person who wrote this is one immature in his faith. I feel saddened that someone abides with such anger in his spirit as to judge a person he does not know. So do I write back a response? I know there is no changing his mind, and I do not feel a need to defend myself. I simply wrote back that I am glad that God is OUR judge (and not him), and one day all will be made known.

All this brings me to two points worthy of thought. One is that humility is at the essence of a Christ-like spirit. The need to be "right" and to prove it so is a hurtful path that leads to all sorts of harm. Just think of a time when this need to be right got you into an argument with someone close to you. Humility is leaving room for the possibility that you can be wrong even when you know you are not.

The second point comes from the Apostle Paul, who said, "Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave you." The heart of God is loving-kindnesses toward all people. In these times of divisiveness and us-versus-them, we do well not to forget these words of Paul even as we struggle to put them into practice.

-Pastor Allen

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June 2nd	Acts 1:1-11 Communion	"Things Are Looking Up"
June 9th	Acts 2:1-21 John 20:19-23	"Take A Deep Breath"
June 16th	Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Father's Day	"Wising Up"
June 23rd	Litany of Psalm 42 1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a	"The Voice of God"
June 30th	Luke 9:51-62	Guest Preacher
July 7th	2 Kings 5:1-14 Communion	"God's Cure"
July 14th	Deuteronomy 30:9-20	"A Word From God Not Too Hard"
July 21st	Luke 10:38-42	"God in the Kitchen"
July 28th	Genesis 18:20-32	"Arguing with God"

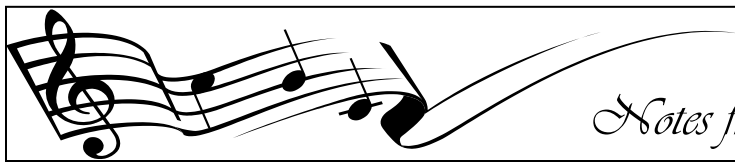


## **SUMMER OFFICE HOURS**

Summer office hours will begin the week of June 3rd and will be in effect through Labor Day.

***Summer hours are Monday-Thursday from 9am-noon and closed on Fridays.***

Email will be monitored on Fridays, so please email any urgent needs to [office@stmatthewucc.org](mailto:office@stmatthewucc.org).



*Notes from the Music Room.....*

What a wonderful morning of worship, music and fellowship! The last Sunday of the church education and music year was absolutely wonderful. The energy, the different styles of music, the message in word and song – it was an honor and privilege to be part of it. Thank you to all who were in any way involved musically during the year.



Of course, with the music groups going on hiatus, we need volunteers for our Music for Worship each Sunday. Looking back, we had several new individuals participate in different ways. Some played preludes on Christmas Eve. Some played in a quartet. There were those that hadn't sung before but now have, maybe more than once or twice. Now is not the time to be shy, but to sign up for a Sunday or two. The talent in this congregation seems almost never-ending. Whatever you play or sing, it is what comes from your heart that is important.

While the groups go on hiatus, not everything stops. Worship, of course, continues and our Praise Band will be singing most Sundays. This is a great time to come out and join in. Most of the songs will be known to all, and Sunday morning is enough time to practice, starting between 8:45 and 9am. Please check with Brian for exact times and watch the Happenings for updates. In the meantime, KC and I are starting to receive new Christmas music.

Have a great summer, and see you in August.

Peace,

Jamie Craig

630-202-6788

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



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

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

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

July 21st, August 18th, September 22nd, October 20th,  
November 17th, and December 15th.

## Pennies From Heaven Scrip (Manna) Program

### It's vacation time!!

Thinking about travel? *American Airlines, Delta Airlines, Avis, Budget, Hilton Hotels, Royal Caribbean, and Disney (Cruises, Stores, and Resorts)* are all Scrip retailers.

### Father's Day is June 16th. Treat Dad to a gift card!

By the end of June, we'll be halfway through the year. We have a \$2,000 budget line for fundraising and if we expect the Scrip Program to do that for us, our target is \$500 per quarter.

Keep participating in our Scrip program throughout the summer. School may be out, but Scrip is still running and we need your help!



**Remember, you get full value for the cards you buy. There are no fees!**



### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

3	Noah Baird
	Allan Franz
6	Bob Armstrong
9	Wendy Fanning
	Randy King
14	Andrea DiOrio
15	Kenna Anderson
16	Bill SooHoo
17	Lesley Ebel
18	June Adams
	Aimee Legatzke
	Will Matthei
20	Justin Ciner
23	Kurt Madsen
	Kelly Chapple
	Tim Raymond
25	Roseanne King
26	Andrew Craig
28	Dennis Luehring
30	Julie Schubert

### JULY BIRTHDAYS

1	Derek Breese
	Martin Breese
	Mikaela Breese
	David Uhrig
3	Diane Breese
5	Brooke Stubbee
9	Nancy Lewis
	Becca Staton
11	Krista Caprini
15	Patti Woods
16	Marla Mothershed
17	Priscilla Barnett
19	Cindy Bute
22	Karen Fernandez
25	Hope Erickson
27	Lindsay Blake
	Michele Kirincich
29	Carol Honeywell
	Jack Schlenker
	Dan Miller
31	Marge Brooks



# Mission News



## Food on the First

Thank you so much for the May donations. They are always appreciated!

Here is what is needed in June/July:

- Canned fruit
- Canned vegetables
- Juice
- Shampoo, body wash
- Deodorant
- Shaving cream
- Diapers—all sizes
- Disposable razors
- Baby wipes
- Feminine pads—no tampons
- Boxes of band-aids

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

Blessings to all.

## Prairie Path Clean-up #2

Join us for Prairie Path Clean-Up #2 on **Sunday, June 23rd at 2pm**. The back-up date is Sunday, June 30th. Meet in the parking lot of the convenience store at the corner of Liberty and West (although we should park in the lot across the street). Collection bags, gloves, and safety vests will be distributed.



If you want to participate, you will need to complete a waiver (once a year), and they are available in the narthex. Please call Dawn Schubert at 630.542.0160 with questions.



## Happy 60th Anniversary, St. Matthew!

***In honor of St. Matthew's 60th anniversary we are collecting old photos and memories to create a history photo archive. If you have any photos from decades past, please send them to [office@stmatthewucc.org](mailto:office@stmatthewucc.org) or the office can scan them for you.***





**GROWING  
HOPE**  
G L O B A L L Y

Formerly  
Foods Resource Bank

## **Growing Hope Globally** **(formerly Foods Resource Bank)**

St. Matthew is once again sponsoring acreage in Forrest, Illinois, which 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 handout 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. Full acres can be sponsored for \$250 each, and you have until the end of September to pay. Please contact Terry Young with questions or for more information.

**Please consider how you can help the hungry people in the world.**

## **The St. Matthew UCC Shopping Cart Crew is Back!!**



**4th of July Parade  
Downtown Wheaton  
10am**



To support the urgent needs of the People's Resource Center and the Interfaith Food Pantry, please bring any of the following:

- **Diapers** (size 4-6)
- **Canned goods** (especially low-salt or no sugar added)
- **Whole Grains** (whole-wheat pasta, brown rice, low-sugar cereal)
- **High Proteins** (peanut butter, tuna, beans, canned chicken, chili, or stew)
- **Personal hygiene products** (bar soap, toothpaste, detergents, shampoo, toilet paper, shaving cream, disposable razors, feminine hygiene)

Any other non-perishable items or cash donations are always appreciated!

**St. Matthew**  
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www.stmatthewucc.org  
Facebook.com/  
StMatthewUCCWheaton

***St. Matthew is running with the carts again this year in the Wheaton 4th of July parade, and we need volunteers!***

During the parade, we will need the following jobs filled:

**Carts** (Drills and collecting food donations), **Runners** (Run bags of food from carts to the truck), **Truck Driver**, **Donation Collectors**, **Banner Holders**, and **more!**

Volunteers of all ages are welcome. Sign-up board is in the narthex, or you can contact Alex Johnson (630.665.7577) with any questions, or to volunteer to march with us.

## **Family Camp**

Family Camp – Make it your Own

This month, Betty Luessenhop offers up the latest installment of "Fond Remembrances," where various church members share their Family Camp stories.

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I have been attending Family Camp since 1998. The first five were with my children, and the last six were with St. Matthew friends. Both with children and adult friends, Family Camp has been very enjoyable.

The activities available have been amazing and can test one's sense of adventure. I have been challenged by kayaking, white-water rafting, and zip-lining. Quiet hikes through God's beautiful countryside have been very moving.

My favorite memory from Family Camp was when we had vespers in a little mountain chapel in Colorado Springs with old friends and new friends.

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Thank you to Betty for sharing her Family Camp experience. Come be a part of this great St. Matthew tradition! The next Family Camp will be July 19th-25th, 2020, at the YMCA of the Rockies, just outside Estes Park, Colorado. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex, and Mark Hutchison would be happy to answer any questions. Find him at 630.639.1448 (call/text),



### **Congratulations, St. Matthew graduates!**

This spring, we celebrate the success of our students who are graduating high school, college, or post-graduate. We wish them the best of luck and future success! You have a church family who will always be here cheering you on!

Kaitlyn Bresingham

Taylor Holland

Kathleen Chumas

Eve Hutchison

Justin Ciner

Abby Johnson

Kendal Franz

Becca Staton

Join us during worship on Sunday, June 2nd  
when we will honor all of our graduates.



# Children's Ministry



As our Sunday School Workshop Rotation year comes to an end for the 2018/2019 school year, it is important that we show appreciation to our many volunteers who have taught, led and served the children and youth of our church. Please make the two upcoming dates a priority:

**Sunday, June 2nd, Music Video:** We are making a "Thank You" music video for our volunteers. This will be the last Sunday of filming. This video will include the children from Nursery, Sunday School, and Youth Group. We will have various leaders filming the children outside, in the nursery, in the youth room, and as a large group in the sanctuary after church. I hope your children can come on this Sunday to be a part of this video that will be in our church archives for years to come.

**Sunday, June 9th, Volunteer Appreciation:** Please come to celebrate the many volunteers who have shared their time, love, and faith with the children of our church. A music video will be shown during worship and the children will take part in the song. Following worship, we will gather in Dobstaff Hall for an Appreciation Celebration.

**Sunday, June 16th, Prayer walk and start of our 10:30 summer dismissal:** We will end our Sunday School year with our annual Prayer walk and ice cream. We will walk on the Prairie Path talking about God's creation and pray a prayer of Thanksgiving for all that we see. Inside, the children will have an ice cream treat. This is also the first day of our 10:30 summer dismissal time.

**Monday, June 17th – June 21st, VBS:** It is time to go camping in **Wildwood Forest**. Join us for five days of story, music, crafts, games, and snacks. Sign-up forms are in Dobstaff Hall and we ask that you take extras for family and friends. All are welcome in Wildwood Forest!

**Sunday, June 23rd, Summer Sunday School:** We are going to have a fun time with **KIDMO** this Summer. It is a fun interactive video geared for children of all ages. Fast-paced and fun for all.



I will be on my annual vacation beginning July 1st, returning early August. Our wonderful volunteers will run Kidmo while I am gone. Please contact Kenna Anderson or Dawn Schubert while I am away.

Have a wonderful summer!  
Ms. Susan

**-Susan Wold, Director of Children's Ministries**





## **VBS ITEMS NEEDED**

Artificial Christmas trees of all sizes  
Tents, sleeping bags, camping supplies  
Small one person canoe  
Stuffed forest animals  
Logs for a camp fire

Please mark your items with your name and put them in the room behind the nursery or behind the bulletin boards in the narthex. All donations should be turned in by Thursday, June 13th and can be picked up between Friday evening, June 21st, (after 8pm) and Sunday morning, June 23rd. We will try to have your items all together behind the narthex bulletin boards. Overflow will go in the cooking classroom behind the nursery.

### **Volunteers needed for VBS set up and break down.**

**Set up: Friday, June 14th at 9am (donuts and fruit provided).**

**Break down: Friday, June 21st after the 7pm ice cream social.**

Join us for ice cream beforehand.



#### **June Birthdays**

Sean Walsh, June 13th  
Annabel Sturm, June 14th  
Mikey Henderson, June 19th

#### **July Birthdays**

Noah Leimberer, July 6th  
Lily Hileman, July 18th  
Braden Lindberg, July 21st  
Linnea Miller, July 24th  
Kai Krasinski, July 31st

# crazies

The school year is ending, the weather is getting warmer, and we see green everywhere! June is the month to celebrate our graduates. Please join us as we honor our graduates on Sunday, June 2nd, during worship.

**June 16th is Father's Day. Don't forget to let Dad know how much you love him! Crazies will not meet that day, but we are once again holding the Father's Day Car Wash! Please bring every car you have!** Finally, what does summer mean for St. Matthew kids? Vacation Bible School! Don't be shy, sign up to volunteer. We can never have too many volunteers. The crazies are excited to help out at VBS.

Celebrate our FREEDOM on July 4th! Let's remember the brave men and women who make it possible for us to be free. St. Matthew will once again be marching in the Wheaton 4th of July parade. We'd love to see you there!

We are excited for the upcoming mission trip. Some of our crazies will travel to Philadelphia from July 14th-20th to participate in urban mission work with CSM (City Service Mission). Please contact Julie or Dawn Schubert for more information on this opportunity.

Please check the calendar pages for summer crazies dates!

**-Mel Jerome, Director of Youth Ministry**

# Congregational Life/Membership News

Thanks to all of you who participated in our events this church year, attended coffee hours, extended a warm St. Matthew welcome to visitors and guests, and helped us welcome new members. We appreciate the gifts each of you bring to our faith community. We know that summertime is busy and people tend to scatter and vacation, but we hope to see many of you at the following summertime events:

## Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars and Sign Up!



**All-Church Picnic – After Church, June 2nd.** The Committee will provide burgers and dogs, buns, chips, lemonade, and water. Please bring a salad, side, or dessert to share. Also, please bring your favorite lawn chair and join in the fun. We'll have corn hole, hula hoops, and our annual egg toss. Sign up in the narthex to help us plan how much protein to prepare.



**Chuy's at Cantera - Dinner meet-up, Monday, July 15th at 6pm.**

## **Kane County Cougars Game Friday, August 9th at 6:30pm, Fireworks night.**

Come enjoy a Kane County Cougars baseball game at a special Faith Night at Northwestern Memorial Field in Geneva. Fireworks and run the bases post-game! Tickets are only \$5 each plus a small processing fee which is \$8 off already low ticket prices. These are bleacher seats with a back rest, so they should provide plenty of comfort.



You can purchase tickets at <https://groupmatics.events/StMatthewUCC>. If you have any questions, please email Roseanne King at [kingzme.com](mailto:kingzme.com)

As always, if you have ideas on how we better engage our members and guests, please let Rob Neufelder or anyone on the committee know.



...that the calendar on the St. Matthew website  
([stmatthewucc.org/calendar](http://stmatthewucc.org/calendar)) is updated with all church events?

Check back often to keep up-to-date!



New members **Jason and Jessica Edgar** began attending St. Matthew in October 2018 after moving to the Chicagoland area in August. They recently purchased a home in Villa Park after moving here from California. As a native of San Diego, Jessica is still getting used to our cold winters! Jason originally hails from Aurora, Missouri. He is a speech and debate professor at Morton College in Cicero, and Jessica owns her own photography business, "Jess Behind the Lens." They also spend a significant amount of time caring for their adorable 3 ½-month-old son **Frankie**. Please introduce yourself to Jason and Jessica and help them feel welcome at St. Matthew.



**Diane Maller** grew up in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and met her late husband, Dave, at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois. After marrying, they lived in Lake Forest before moving to Wheaton. She has a son in St. Charles and a daughter in Simpsonville, North Carolina, plus several grandchildren. Diane worked for several years as secretary to the bank president at Bank of Wheaton. She LOVES animals of all kinds and has always had pets...even a horse, when she was a child! She currently has a black, long-haired cat named Muffin. She and her husband Dave were members here in the early days of St. Matthew but she stopped attending when her husband passed away twenty years ago. She was encouraged to come back by her friends Carol Honeywell and Dawn Schubert, who are her PEO "sisters".  
WELCOME BACK, Diane - we're very happy to have you!!

**Joyce and Byron Miller** both grew up on small farms in Kansas, right next door to each other! Even so, they didn't begin dating until they were in college - she at Emporia State and he at the University of Kansas. Since marrying, they have been mission-minded, beginning with both of them teaching for two years in Tanzania with the Peace Corps. Following moves to Boston and Morton Grove, Illinois, they moved with their two young sons to Egypt. Joyce returned to the US to give birth to their third son (St. Matthew's own Pieter Miller), then rejoined her family in Egypt until they all came back two years later. Their oldest son, following his parents' example, served in the Peace Corps in Nepal and continues to be very involved with World Relief, helping Nepalese refugees. Byron and Joyce lived for several years in Glen Ellyn, but have downsized and now live in Maple Hill in Warrenville. They both enjoy reading, traveling, walking with their dog, Cassie, and spending time at their summer getaway near Mendota. Also, Byron remains on the board of a nonprofit organization in Africa and has begun volunteering on the Warrenville Planning Commission.

Former members of the Glen Ellyn Covenant Church, they became acquainted with St. Matthew through Pieter, Lisa, Linnea and Cameran. We're so happy they decided to join and are so appreciative of the way they began helping at PADS right way!  
WELCOME....and THANK YOU!!

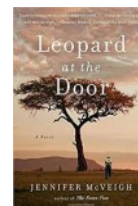
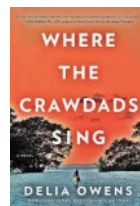
# Announcements and Events

## NOVEL APPROACHES

NOVEL APPROACHES is on hiatus until the fall. Watch the Sunday bulletins, the VOICE and email "events" for the September date, time, and place.

LOOKING AHEAD: "Where the Crawdads Sing" by Delia Owens and  
"Leopard at the Door" by Jennifer McVeigh

SUMMER READING: "Just Mercy" by Bryan Stevenson (non-fiction)



## Yoga Classes



Summer Schedule for new Prairie Path Yoga classes:

Thursdays: June 6th and June 13th

Thursdays: July 11th, July 18th, and July 25th

10am: Yoga in the Sanctuary  
(gentle yoga, appropriate for all ages)

Contact: Marla Mothershed 630.441.5963     [mmothershed63@gmail.com](mailto:mmothershed63@gmail.com)



Life Line Screening will be here at St. Matthew on Wednesday, June 12th, offering safe, painless, non-invasive preventive health screenings that are typically not a part of a routine physical. This event is open to the community. Flyers with more information can be found in the narthex.

We have 3 vouchers for free screenings. Please call the office if you would like a voucher.

Learn more by watching this short video: <http://www.lifelinescreeningblog.com/introduction/>

Three ways to register:

- Call toll-free: 866-229-0469
- Online: [www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle)
- Text: the word circle to 797979





# June



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Summer Office Hours:	Monday-Thursday 9am-noon	Closed on Fridays				1
2 9:30am Worship Graduation Sunday  All-church picnic  6pm crazies	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 9:30am Worship Volunteer Appreciation  6pm crazies	10	11	12  Life Line Screening	13	14  9am VBS set-up	15
16 9:30am Worship  crazies car wash No crazies Father's Day  	17	18  Vacation	19  Bible	20  7pm Council meeting  School	21  7pm Ice Cream Social	22
23 9:30am Worship  2pm Prairie Path clean-up No crazies	24	25	26	27	28  12-2pm crazies bowling	29
30 9:30am Worship  No crazies						



© Can Stock Photo

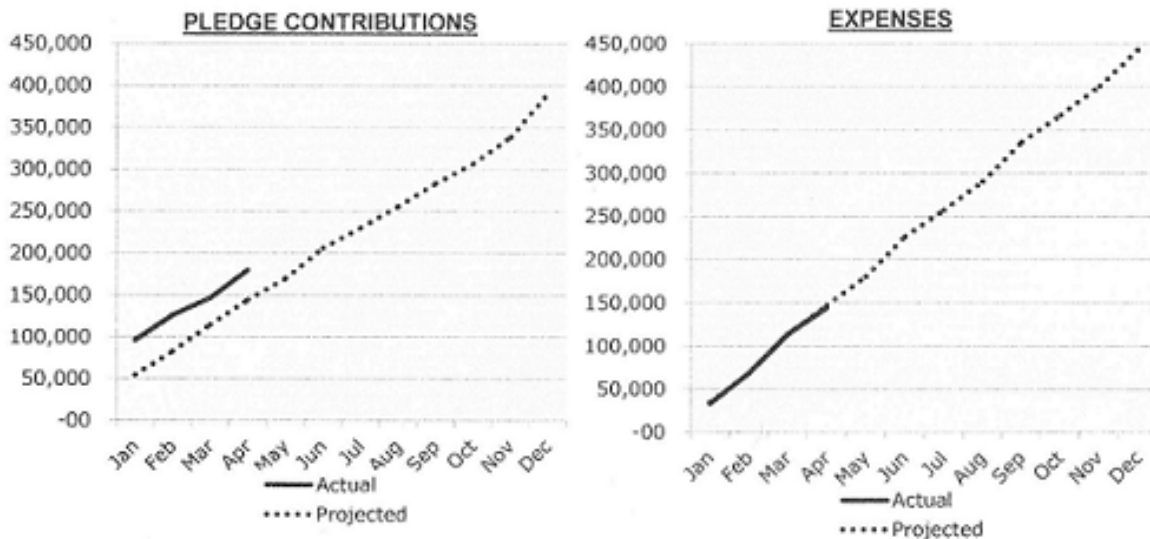
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 Happy 4th of July! 	5	6
7 9:30am Worship 6pm crazies	8	9	10	11	12	13 Youth Mission Trip 
14 9:30am Worship No crazies 	15	16 Youth	17 Mission	18 Trip	19 12-2pm crazies	20
21 9:30am Worship Voice articles due No crazies	22	23	24	25	26 crazies Six Flags OR local water park	27
28 9:30am Worship No crazies	29	30 Council meeting	31			

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

For the Period Ending April 30, 2019

	ACTUAL CURRENT MONTH	ACTUAL YEAR-TO- DATE	ANNUAL BUDGET
<b>RECEIPTS:</b>			
Pledge Contributions	32,998	179,433	391,001
Loose Offerings	2,411	3,941	5,000
Rental Income	800	3,200	10,500
Fund Raising	220	685	2,001
Investment Income	256	861	300
More Property	-00	-00	20,000
Miscellaneous Income	250	250	1,000
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>36,935</b>	<b>188,369</b>	<b>429,802</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>			
Ministry	18,787	78,156	248,522
Building	6,876	46,634	123,050
Loans & Notes	-00	6,688	26,750
Mission / OCWM	2,650	6,850	27,250
Committees:			
Christian Education	1,077	2,851	8,000
Membership/Congregational Life	352	1,176	3,000
Music	512	1,375	4,895
Worship	-00	234	1,500
Memorial/Endowment	-00	-00	100
Stewardship	-00	-00	100
Misc. & Contingency	-00	-00	1,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>30,254</b>	<b>143,963</b>	<b>444,166</b>
<b>SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>\$6,682</b>	<b>\$44,406</b>	<b>\$(14,364)</b>

**2019 Activity - Actual vs. Projected**



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

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



**St. Matthew United Church of Christ**  
630.665.1236 (Office)

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

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

**Office Hours:**

Monday-Thursday: 10am-2pm

Friday: 9-11am

**Sunday Worship:** 9:30am

**Sunday Church School:** 10am

**Our Purpose:**

Become, Live, and Serve as Disciples of Jesus Christ.

**Our Identity:**

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome and accepted here at St. Matthew United Church of Christ.

**STAFF**

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**Susan Wold, Director of Children's Ministry**  
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**Mel Jerome, Director of Youth Ministry**  
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**Jamie Craig, Director of Music/Choir Director**  
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**Brian Dobbelaere, Organist/Pianist**  
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