

THE VOICE OF St. Matthew

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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www.stmatthew-ucc.org



OCTOBER
2016

PASTORAL MESSAGE

Rev. Allen Mothershed

Why I Like Making Money

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If you are like me, there is a time every month that causes you a bit of dread: the time you must set aside to take an accounting of how well you are doing financially. How much is in the bank? Will there be enough to pay the credit card bill that you just received in the mail? Are we meeting our savings goals? Will we have what we need when tuition costs come due? Can my life savings see me through to the end of my retirement? Money can make us all anxious.

We have lots of different attitudes toward money. For some, maybe most, having money bestows on us a degree of status. To have it and enough of it is a sign that we have done well in the world and we feel we can be included in the crowd we like to run with. Others are private with their money because they hate the idea of money being a significant factor in how they judge themselves or other people. Often, in the church, money and financial well-being are considered a necessary evil. We may think of money as dirty when compared to more spiritual matters. When the church brings up **money in worship, it is a breach of the sacred with the profane. "Ok, do what you have to, but let's get back to God and worship as quickly as possible."**

From the Christian faith perspective there is another way of seeing money. If we read our Scriptures closely we will discover that the Christian faith is **materialist. "The earth is the Lord's and all that is within it." This world belongs to God and has been shared with us. Possessions and also money are part of God's grace. We receive what we have and give thanks. The only real issue with money in the Scriptures is our willingness to receive it as a gift. Gifts are not solely to be grasped by the receiver, but are also meant to be shared. We are called not to see possession of wealth as "mine and keep your hands off" like children in a playroom. We are called to see our wealth as providing for what we need and an opportunity to share with others who are in need.**

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A former member of a church I served said to me, "I just cannot bring myself to retire. I make a lot of money and my real joy in life is that I have an opportunity to give so much away." That's the attitude of generosity. I hope his attitude is contagious.

Grace & Peace - Pastor Allen

MISSION NEWS

FOOD ON THE FIRST

Thank you for the September donations. Here is what is needed for October:



- Canned chicken
- Canned, sliced pineapple
- Canned tuna
- Juice
- Hamburger, Tuna, & Chicken Helper
- Baby Wipes
- Diapers—all sizes
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste & toothbrushes

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

CHILDREN & YOUTH

DR. SEUSS PARTY

We ended the summer Sunday School Dr. Seuss series with a Dr. Seuss party. The children played games, made Cat-in-the-Hat masks and ate Cat-in-the-Hat kabobs. Thank you to Kenna Anderson, Judi Gonzalez, Deb Felsenthal, Summer Scalora, and Dawn Schubert for helping teach over the summer months. Thank you Kenna, Dawn, Kelley, Kira and Tyler for helping with the party and to Mary Henderson for making cute Dr. Seuss clothespin magnets for the children to take home.



GOING GREEN IN GOD'S WORLD

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to Him. Psalm 24:1

In Workshop Rotation, September 25th through October 23rd, the children will learn that we have a responsibility, not just to future generations, but to God who created the earth for us to enjoy. I wrote **Going Green in God's World** to teach the children that they too are part of God's creation and that they must respect and cherish the divine gift that God has entrusted to us. In five workshops - Movie, Art, Science, Gardening and Cooking - the children will learn what harm comes to the environment when they make simple mistakes. They will learn how they can glorify God by making a simple change and turn harm into help. The workshops are based on the Dr. Seuss book, The Lorax and The Creation Story in Genesis. Combined, the children will not just learn about their environment, they will desire to make a difference in their world.

M&M, MOMENTS TOGETHER AND MEMORIES FOREVER

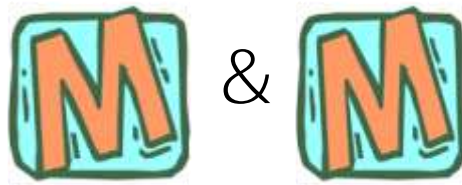
Sign-up continues in the narthex for adults and children preschool – 6th grade. Fill out a form and help yourself to a bag of M&Ms. If you have any questions, call or email Miegán Bresingham, 630.865.5196 or msbres@yahoo.com.

DECORATED CARS NEEDED

Please sign up in the narthex if you would be willing to decorate your car for our Trunk or Treat community outreach event. This is a wonderful way to show our neighbors that we are a giving church that comes together to offer a safe and fun event for children.



A fun morning in summer Sunday School.



Moments Together and Memories Forever

M&M is an ongoing program intended to give adults and children of St. Matthew an opportunity to get to know one another better. Those who sign up will be randomly paired together for an opportunity to become better acquainted over the next twelve months.

During the year events will be planned by the M&M coordinator. These events include lunch, games, mission projects, crafts, and more.

We hope that you will sign up for this fun program. It is a great way to make new friends within our church family. Children preschool-6th grade and adult men and women of all ages are welcome. Sign-up continues throughout the early fall, and partner pairing will take place in October. If you have any questions, please contact Miegan Bresingham, 630.865.5196, msbres@yahoo.com.



Greetings, Church! I'm almost two crazies meetings in and things have been going great with the youth so far. Just to update everyone on some upcoming events: the night of Sunday, October 9th, crazies will be having a Star Wars Lock-In (in which we watch all seven Star Wars movies in a row without interruption), and mark your calendars for the summer mission trip to Boundary Waters the second week of August. In addition, we always need adult helpers for crazies on Sunday nights and folks to volunteer to offer meals to the youth group. Drop me an email if you're interested in helping out in either capacity. See you around!

Quinn Rosenthal
Director of Youth Ministry

ADULT EDUCATION: ISLAM

What do you know about Islam? Are you afraid of what you think Islam teaches and preaches? Starting Sunday, October 9th, adult education will be presenting this topic from the "Living-The-Question" series.

This series is titled "The Jesus Fatwah" and it will provide information and discussion by both Christian and Islamic scholars regarding the two religious experiences.

Understanding the Muslim faith experience provides an insight regarding the religious and political issues of our time - what unites us, what divides us, what is important and what is not important. Join us for just one or all three sessions: October 9th, 16th and 23rd from 10:45-11:45am.



NOTES FROM THE MUSIC ROOM

October is here! Cool nights are the norm and trees are turning colors. The church year is in full swing, as is the school year. It is time for Cantata rehearsals to start on October 5th from 7:30 to 8:30pm. Many join in each year to share the story and, truth be told, we get to look forward to the season a bit early without any of the commercialization we see in the stores. I hope you are able to be a part of this event. We will present it to the congregation on Sunday, December 11th during worship service.

Our first "Open-Choir Sunday" was in September and the next opportunity is scheduled for October 30th. When the fall dates were announced, some indicated that they were unable to make the first one. **That's ok; as we have said, this is for all who like to sing but are unable to make weekly rehearsals for the choir.** Sometimes we know that even means missing a Sunday. Please come to as many as you can make. We will meet at 8:15am on the 30th to rehearse the anthem for the service. There is one more for this fall on November 27th, which is the first Sunday of Advent. Hope to see you with us.

Of course, if you are also able to make some Wednesday rehearsals and some additional Sunday mornings, you are always welcome, as we try to work far enough ahead so missing a rehearsal or two is manageable. The Praise Band can always use additional instrumentalists as well as singers.

Please see KC, Brian, myself, or anyone in these groups if you have questions.

Peace - Jamie Craig
630.202.6788

music.director@stmatthewucc.org.
Lanni1@comcast.net

WEEKLY REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Tuesday

IntergeneRingers
6pm

Chancel Ringers
7:30pm

Wednesday

Praise Band
6:30pm

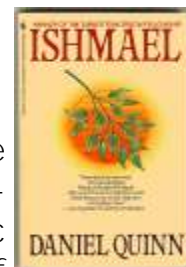
Sanctuary Choir
7:30pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEL APPROACHES

The novel to be approached in October is "Ishmael" by Daniel Quinn.

Ishmael is a philosophical novel that examines the mythological thinking at the heart of modern civilization, its effect on ethics, and how this relates to sustainability and societal collapse on a global scale. The novel uses a style of Socratic dialogue to deconstruct the notion that humans are the pinnacle of biological evolution. (Wikipedia) *Join us for lively discussion, food and fellowship.* Where? The Boyds, 510 South Aurora Way in Wheaton



When? Friday, October 28th - 7:30pm.

FACEBOOK UPDATE

Calling all Committee and Ministry leaders! Please contact Mary Henderson, mary.g.henderson@gmail.com with any requests to promote St. Matthew UCC events on either our public Facebook page or internal Facebook group for members. Mary will handle posting updates to the pages, including event reminders, calls for volunteers, post-event pictures and promotions, community news and more.

ST. MATTHEW SAFETY TEAM

Today, most organizations such as schools, places of worship and workplaces have formal safety policies that address how to respond to various emergencies. Types of emergencies include fire, weather, medical, environmental or intruder.

St. Matthew is in the process of developing and implementing a safety policy that will provide guidance on how to respond to emergencies and will provide recommendations on how to improve safety.

Rick Jungk is leading the project to develop our safety policy and needs people to help create and implement the policies. Please let Rick know if you would be willing to participate in this project or provide recommendations to the team.

As part of this project, the Wheaton Police Department has conducted a site survey to review our physical security infrastructure and has made some recommendations on how to improve our physical security. We are going to start implementing some of the recommendations that are easy and inexpensive to do. We will lock all of the doors when our Sunday service starts and someone will be posted at the doors to admit people. You will also start to see some new signage in the church that will address things like evacuation routes, safe areas and the numbering of exterior doors.

Please feel free to contact Rick with any questions you may have.



Sunday, October 30th
3-5pm

hosted by St. Matthew UCC
www.stmatthewucc.org

① St. Matthew UCC
1420 S. Gables Blvd. in Wheaton

Bring your little ones to trick-or-treat from trunk to trunk.
A hotdog lunch, dessert, crafts and games will follow indoors.
This event is FREE and open to the entire community!



facebook.com/St-Matthew-United-Church-of-Christ-160999860587776 office@stmatthewucc.org

630.665.1236



PENNIES FROM HEAVEN

If you are like some of us who have a limited income, this is the fundraiser for you. The retailers donate to the church, so it's a way to make your dollars stretch and include a little extra for St. Matthew.

No need to buy things you really don't want. Think about where you shop every week, even if it's only for groceries and gas, and buy those MANNA cards!

By October 1st, we will be through three-quarters of the year. We have an \$8,000 budget line for fundraising, but through mid-September, we've made only \$2,405.

If you are a Manna participant, thank you for your continuing support. If you have not tried it yet, stop by the Manna table in Dobstaff Hall on Sunday for more information on this no-cost fundraiser!

FAMILY CAMP 2017

We are excited to announce that you can now sign up for Family Camp 2017! Next summer we'll be heading to the Mt. Olivet Conference & Retreat Center, located in Farmington, MN. New this year, Family Camp will begin on a Saturday and run through Friday (July 22 - 28).

Mt. Olivet is an easy 6-hour drive from Wheaton. Surrounded by an exceptional area of natural beauty there are abundant opportunities for fun and relaxation. Possible group activities include hiking, golf, hot air balloon rides, a visit to a nearby historic river town, local brewpubs, wineries, craft spirits distilleries, day trips to Minneapolis or the Mall of America, and water activities such as a boat cruise or canoe trip on some of the nearby lakes. In addition, there are plenty of activities on-site, including over five miles of nature trails, volleyball and basketball courts, horseshoes, an outdoor patio with fireplace (which looks perfect for our Happy Hours!), a game room, an indoor pool, whirlpool, and sauna. We will also be building and flying kites and model rockets!

Sign-up forms are located in the narthex. Please contact Mark Hutchison, markah22@gmail.com or [630-639-1448](tel:630-639-1448) with any questions. We hope that you will be part of our great St. Matthew tradition!

TWO-MINUTE SURVEY!


Let us know how we are communicating with you.

Please take a few moments to let us know how St. Matthew is doing in sharing information with you and how you learn about upcoming events and activities. We have a variety of communication channels, coupled with a diverse group of members, and want to ensure we are communicating in the best way possible. The survey is very brief and we would greatly appreciate your participation!

Right-click your mouse on the link below to go to the survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DMMP97T>

Printed copies of the survey are available in the narthex. Please return completed printed copies to the church office by October 9th.

 <i>Birthdays of the Month</i>	
2	Kevin Bute
5	Doug Miller
14	Bill Beaton
15	Kerin Sanken
16	Lynn Thornton
17	Rocio Chumas Lou Holland
18	Cameron Rosenthal
22	Cheryl Heck
23	Sarah Muntz
25	John Umbeck
26	Amy Barnshaw Abby Jung
28	John Kouns Monte Schroer
30	Carol Young

RALLY DAY 2016

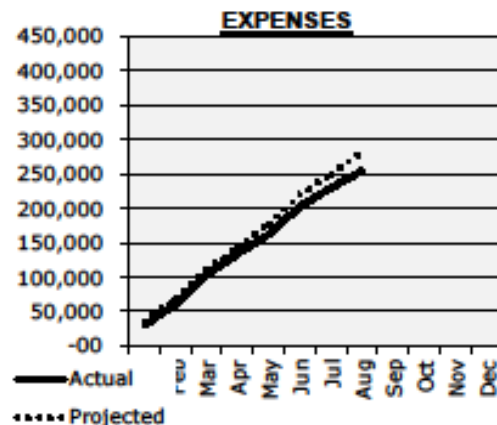
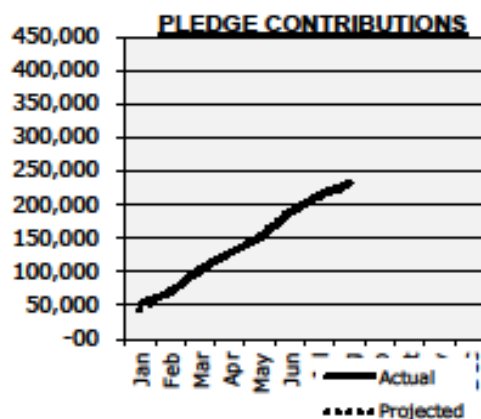


**ST. MATTHEW UCC GENERAL OPERATING FUND
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES**

For the Period Ending August 31, 2016

	ACTUAL CURRENT MONTH	ACTUAL YEAR-TO- DATE	ANNUAL BUDGET
<u>RECEIPTS:</u>			
Pledge Contributions	17,104	231,915	353,000
Loose Offerings	249	2,389	10,000
Rental Income	340	2,405	5,000
Fund Raising	745	2,873	8,000
Investment Income	120	133	-00
More Property	-00	-00	-00
Miscellaneous Income	-00	-00	-00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	18,558	239,716	376,000
<u>EXPENDITURES:</u>			
Ministry	16,025	148,451	234,195
Building	5,870	64,489	118,253
Mortgages & Notes	2,229	17,833	26,750
Mission / OCWM	-00	14,588	29,200
Committees:			
Christian Education	83	5,294	9,970
Membership	-00	630	2,750
Music	178	1,905	4,700
Worship	149	559	1,500
Congregational Life	216	541	800
Memorial	-00	45	100
Stewardship	-00	-00	500
Misc. & Contingency	-00	100	1,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	24,748	254,433	429,718
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	\$(6,191)	\$(14,717)	\$(53,718)

2016 Activity - Actual vs. Projected



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

October 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		TUESDAY NIGHTS 6pm IntergeneRingers 7:30pm Chancel Ringers	WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 6:30pm Praise Band 7:30pm Sanctuary Choir			1
2 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am Adult Education 6pm crazies	3	4 7pm Membership 7:30pm Mission	5 1:30pm Women's Prayer Group 7:30-8:30pm Cantata Rehearsal	6 7pm Finance	7	8
9 9:30 Worship Service 10:45am Adult Education 6pm crazies Lock-In BACK BAY MISSION TRIP	10 Columbus Day	11	12 1:30pm Women's Prayer Group 7:30-8:30pm Cantata Rehearsal PADS	13 PADS 6pm SRC 7pm Council	14	15
16 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am Adult Education VOICE ARTICLES DUE 6pm crazies	17	18	19 1:30pm Women's Prayer Group 7:30-8:30pm Cantata Rehearsal	20	21 4pm Barbara Stevenson Memorial Service	22
23 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am Adult Education 6pm crazies	24	25	26 1:30pm Women's Prayer Group 7:30-8:30pm Cantata Rehearsal	27	28 7:30pm Novel Approaches	29
30 8:15am Open-Choir 9:30am Worship Service 3-5pm Trunk or Treat 6pm crazies	31					



Find us at: www.stmatthewucc.org
Facebook, Pinterest and YouTube



St. Matthew United Church of Christ
630.665.1236 (Office)

Office Email:
office@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.***

STAFF

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