

October  
2019



of



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**Pastoral Message**

*Pastor Allen Mothershed*

**Our Blessed Place in Creation**

This month in worship, we have been talking about reclaiming our original blessing; the blessing God gave all of creation after God rested on the 7th day and said, "it's good, it's very good." The source of evil is that we forget our original blessing and fail to understand the gracious gift we have been given. Creation spirituality does not ask us to rise above who we are but to claim the goodness of being created human and to see that goodness in others and in all of creation. This poem is an invitation to embrace your place in God's whole. I invite you to meditate on it.

*You do not have to be good.  
You do not have to walk on your knees  
for a hundred miles through the desert, repenting.  
You only have to let the soft animal of your body  
love what it loves.  
Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.  
Meanwhile the world goes on.  
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain  
are moving across the landscapes,  
over the prairies and the deep trees,  
the mountains and the rivers.  
Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,  
are heading home again.  
Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,  
the world offers itself to your imagination,  
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting –  
over and over announcing your place  
in the family of things.*

by Mary Oliver from "Wild Geese"

*Peace, Pastor Allen*



# Worship

## The Parables of Judgment Worship Series

On Sunday, October 13th and going through the end of November, we will be focusing on the Parables of Jesus, with a special focus on the ones which have something to say about judgment. A challenge parable makes you uneasy. It takes your absolute political, economic, religious, and social assumptions and tells you a story from the opposite direction that just might change your perspective. Be sure to join us for this series.

October 13th:	Matthew 13:24-30 "Leave Those Weeds Alone"
October 20th:	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 "Wasting Good Seeds"
October 27th:	Luke 21:29-31 "Noticing the Fig"
November 3rd:	Luke 12:13-21 "Playing the Fool"
November 10th: Commitment Sunday	Matthew 13:44-46 "Today is Your Lucky Day"
November 17th: Heritage Sunday 60th Anniversary Celebration	Hebrews 11:39-12:3 "So Great a Crowd of Witnesses"
November 24th:	Matthew 25:31-46 "Where Are We Going?"



## Cantata Time!



Wednesday, October 2nd starts rehearsals for our annual Christmas Cantata. This year it is a compilation of songs by several composers that we have sung on Sunday mornings titled "*God With Us!*" This work contains some very nice and different arrangements of familiar carols. I am looking forward to rehearsals as we put this together. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30(ish)pm, followed by the regular Sanctuary Choir rehearsal. I do hope you singers who are unable to commit to the regular choir schedule will come and join us.

Open Choir continues in October on the 20<sup>th</sup>. It is always nice when we get several to come in. I will even have coffee ready by the end of rehearsal!

As the trees start to turn and the annual color show starts, may it be a reminder of yet another example of God's awesome grace.

Peace,

Jamie

630-202-6788

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

### WEEKLY REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Tuesday

**IntergeneRingers**

6pm

**Chancel Ringers**

7:30pm

Wednesday

**Praise Band**

6:30pm

**Cantata Rehearsal**

7:30pm

**Sanctuary Choir**

8:30pm

## 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 our church, so it's a way to make your dollars stretch to 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 YOUR GROCERIES AND GAS, AND BUY THOSE CARDS!**

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



### **OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

2	Kevin Bute
5	Doug Miller
14	Bill Beaton
15	Kerin Sancken
	Jessica Edgar
16	Lynn Thornton
17	Rocio Chumas
	Lou Holland
18	Cameron Rosenthal
22	Cheryl Heck
23	Sarah Muntz
	Greg Henderson
25	John Umbeck
26	Amy Barnshaw
	Abby Jung
	Bernie Rudnik
28	John Kouns
	Monte Schroer
30	Carol Young



Pastor Allen's schedule varies from week to week. He is in and out of the office during the day for meetings, visits, and study.

Please call ahead to check his schedule or to set up an appointment. His cell phone number is 630.441.5962. He is available by phone when not in the office.

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

[office@st.matthewucc.org](mailto:office@st.matthewucc.org)

Monday-Thursday: 10am-2pm  
Friday: 9-11am

# **Adult Education**

## ***Adult Education Celebrates 60 Years of Ministry at St. Matthew United Church of Christ!***



Plans are underway to focus on St. Matthew milestones this fall.

Our church will mark our 60th anniversary in 2019. It is important to reflect and reminisce on the pathway we have shared, and give attention to Finding God in Our Story. There will be five Sunday Adult Education sessions dedicated to an exploration of our congregation's ministries and relationships with each other, our community, and our denomination.

**October 6th  
10:50am**

### ***Telling Our Personal Stories***

Pastor Allen will lead us in sharing how our personal life journeys brought us to St. Matthew and what we have learned from our experience.

**October 13th  
10:50am**

### ***Telling the Story of Wheaton***

Guest speaker and author of "32 Wheaton Notables," Mary Anne Phemister will share milestones of Wheaton's development, and we can reflect on St. Matthew's impact on the community.

**October 20th  
10:50am**

### ***Telling the Story of the UCC Denomination***

Guest Speaker Rev. John Thomas will outline how the UCC has grown and changed over these years. We can discuss how St. Matthew has participated in the greater ministry of outreach.

**October 27th  
10:50am**

### ***Telling the Story of St. Matthew***

Charter, long-time, and newer members will have an opportunity to create a timeline of events and remembrances that have forged the St. Matthew family over the years.

It is in the telling of the story that we find God's presence. Come join us! Tell your part and celebrate our journey. Contact Al or Kathy Skwara 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 [fice@stmatthewucc.org](mailto:fice@stmatthewucc.org) or the office can scan them for you.***





# Mission News

## Prairie Path Clean-up

**The final 2019 clean-up will be on Sunday, October 20th at 2pm.** Rain date is November 2nd. 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.



A one-time annual waiver must be filled out prior to helping, and these can be found in the narthex. Please call Dawn Schubert with any questions at 630.542.0160.

## Food on the First

Thanks to those who donated in September!

Here is what is needed in October:

- Canned pineapple slices
- Canned chicken
- Canned peaches
- Canned tuna
- Cereal
- Ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise
- Soap
- Baby wipes
- Shaving cream
- Feminine pads (no tampons)
- Disposable razors

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.



Thanks to the following individuals who volunteered at ESSE in September: **Lee Anderson, Carol Honeywell, Betty Greer, Liz Westergaard, Linda Raymond, Tracey Blake, and Wendy Fanning.** Your service to the clients of ESSE is very much appreciated!

Speaking of ESSE... the 23rd Annual Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser will be held this year on **Saturday, November 9th** from 7:30-11am at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Dawn Schubert has these \$5 tickets, and she would be happy to sell them to YOU. Please join us for breakfast. We have many fabulous raffle baskets and Silent Auction items as well.

*St. Matthew is turning 60!*

*Join us on Sunday, November 17th for a  
special worship service!*

*Watch the bulletin and Happenings  
for more details!*

**crazies**

**We've "Fall"en into October!**

**October 6th: NO crazies**

**October 13th: NO crazies (Columbus Day weekend)**

**October 20th: 6pm crazies**

**October 27th: Following Trunk or Treat at 3pm,  
the crazies will have a Halloween  
party from 4:30-5:30pm upstairs.**

**-Mel Jerome, Youth Director**



### **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 Tuesday for the week it runs.

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

October 20th, November 17th, and December 15th.

# Children's Ministry

**Happy Fall to all!** We are off to a great start in the 2019/2020 Sunday School year. The Rally Day Fun Fair and Backpack Blessing were both a huge success due to the wonderful volunteers at St. Matthew. **Thank you Dawn Schubert and Diane Mook for organizing Rally Day, and to Kenna Anderson and Deb Felsenthal for stepping in for me as Backpack blessing and Sunday School leaders** so I could enjoy the aftermath of my daughter's beautiful wedding. I am so blessed to have wonderful volunteers who share my passion for the Children's Ministry program.



We have begun our **"God's Work in Progress" Creation rotation**. Workshops in games, Bible knowledge, yoga/dance, nature, science, and movie will tell the Creation story in a way that shows the children that Creation continues every day. We will end the rotation on October 27th with a group activity that will be fun, meaningful and involve a GREAT BIG cookie.

Looking ahead, we will begin our **Noah Rotation on November 3rd**, (the day Daylight Saving Time ends). I will tell more about the workshops in my November Newsletter but a sneak peak involves a tie-dyed t-shirt and a rainbow promise.



In Children's Choir, the children are singing **The Earth Promise Song**. Pam Leimberer will teach the children sign language to use as they sing about caring for God's Earth. A correction to the date they will **sing in the worship service is October 27**. It had been October 13<sup>th</sup> so please note this change in the schedule. Parents, if you want to help your children with the song, go to **youtube.com and key in Earth Promise Song**. It is the song with the cardboard robot. This is always very helpful, giving the children the confidence to sing in church.

Our **Annual Trunk or Treat is coming up on Sunday October 27<sup>th</sup>**. This fun event is a safe place for the children from St. Matthew and the neighboring community to trick or treat, have a snack and play games. As always, we are looking for many members to decorate their trunks/car and pass out candy during the fun afternoon. Please sign up in the narthex if you can bring your decorated car and/or donate candy.



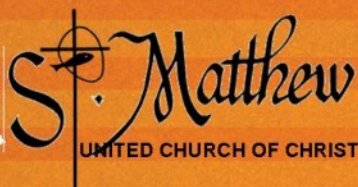
## **October Birthdays:**

**Natalie Bono**  
**Adrienne Hammond**  
**Anna Ortman**  
**Andrew Woods**  
**Cameron Miller**



**-Susan Wold, Children's Ministry Director**





**FUN!  
FREE!  
GAMES!  
TREATS!**

**Sunday, October 27th  
3-4:30pm**



**Bring your family for  
a safe trick-or-treat event.**

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

☎ 630.665.1236

📘 [facebook.com/stmatthewuccwheaton](https://facebook.com/stmatthewuccwheaton)

✉ [office@stmatthewucc.org](mailto:office@stmatthewucc.org)

## **DECORATE YOUR CAR FOR TRUNK OR TREAT!**

There are a lot of ideas online and hundreds on Pinterest! It can be simple or as elaborate as you want! You can provide your own candy or use the candy that has been donated by the congregation. **Please sign up on the board in the narthex.**

## **CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED!**

If you are willing to donate a bag or two of Halloween candy, snacks, or small trinkets (pencils/stickers) for Trunk or Treat, **please deposit your donations in the monster in the narthex.** Thanks so much for your help!



# Announcements and Events

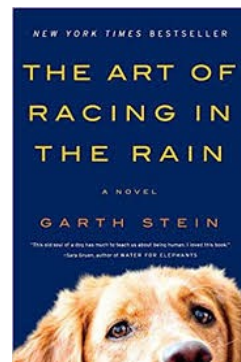
## NOVEL APPROACHES

The novel to be approached in October is "The Art of Racing in the Rain" by Garth Stein. "A beautifully crafted and captivating look at the wonders and absurdities of life...as only a dog could tell it." (Google)

The Date: Friday, October 25th at 7:30pm

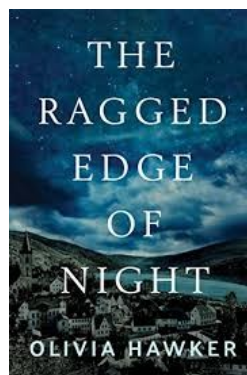
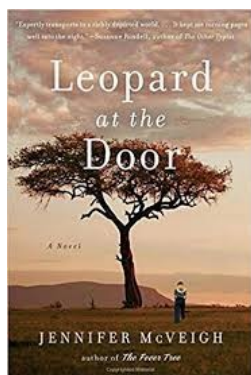
The Place: Linnea Karpenske's, 21W144 Glen Park Road, Lombard

All are welcome. Join us for lively discussion, food, and fellowship.



LOOKING AHEAD: "Leopard at the Door" by Jennifer McVeigh

"The Ragged Edge of Night" by Olivia Hawker



## YOGA CLASSES

### *Yoga in the Sanctuary*



*Thursday, October 24th and 31st from 10-11am.*

*\$10 donation per class with all proceeds going to the Missions Fund. This is a gentle class, appropriate for all.*

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



# Family Camp

## Three Generations at Family Camp

Our series of "Fond Remembrances" has come to a close, and we are so glad to have been able to share these special memories with each of you. Please enjoy this final installment, which comes to us from Amy Barnshaw.

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My first Family Camp adventure was back in 1985 when it was in "La Foret" in Colorado. I don't remember much about that trip except for taking the tram to the top of Pikes Peak. That was a long time ago when I was in high school. Thirty-plus years later, I came back to St. Matthew. After hearing about the amazing adventures of others at Family Camp, I decided I wanted to go and take my niece, Grace, along with me. I had no idea what to expect.

Grace and I packed the car, picked up Linda Leinweber, and headed for Door County, Wisconsin. Grace and Linda talked the whole way and played games while I drove. We were having fun already, and we weren't even to camp! Upon arriving, we found out quickly that we were definitely not going to be 'camping.' We were staying at a resort with catered food. Grace immediately bonded with two other girls on the trip. They did everything together. We ate our meals in a room with everyone from St. Matthew, trying to sit with different people at every meal. This was a time to talk to people you didn't know and to hear about things people did that day. There was so much to do! The highlights for us were: a trip to Washington Island for the Fish Boil at Susan's, lighthouses, pools, playing in the park and, of course, the nightly trips to the ice cream shop.

The next year Family Camp was at Watson Homestead in New York. This year was special to me because not only was my niece coming again but so was my aunt. Watson Homestead was in a beautiful location surrounded by mountains with beautiful grounds. There were 16 of us, and we almost had the whole place to ourselves. Grace and my aunt quickly found friends amongst the group from St. Matthews. And the highlights of this trip were: Niagara Falls, wine tasting, hiking, and exploring the area.

Grace really enjoyed her trips to Family Camp as she reflects here: Family Camp has meant a lot to me. I went to Wisconsin with my Aunt Amy. I loved going to the lakes and playing cards into all hours of the night with the friends that I made. The next year, we went to New York. I enjoyed being with my aunt and great aunt, seeing Niagara Falls and going to the Finger Lakes. I always have a lot of fun and enjoy all of the activities and food.

My aunt also reflected on her experience at Family Camp in New York: I remember the peace I felt when I arrived in the beautiful mountains at Watson Retreat. No technology, which was an emancipation, quieted the inner spirit. And then to share experiences with my niece, Amy and great-niece, Grace as we explored the Finger Lakes and enjoyed the Corning Glass Museum. The food was exceptional, and the friendships I made with Kathy Oswald and Dianne Hutchison were fun every afternoon. And the intergenerational church services and experiences were memorable.

Overall, I define St Matthew Family Camp as traveling to a resort, eating catered food, with family and Church Family, in a beautiful place in the United States. The real meaning of Family Camp is spending uninterrupted time with the Church Family and my family. I encourage any and all to take advantage of this amazing fun and spiritual experience.

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Family Camp 2020 features a return to our most popular location, Estes Park, Colorado. Come join us for this great St. Matthew tradition! Family Camp will be July 19th-25th, 2020, at the YMCA of the Rockies, just outside Estes Park, Colorado. The registration deadline has been extended to **October 20th**, but space is limited and rooms are going fast, so sign up today! 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), [markah22@gmail.com](mailto:markah22@gmail.com), or at church.



# OCTOBER



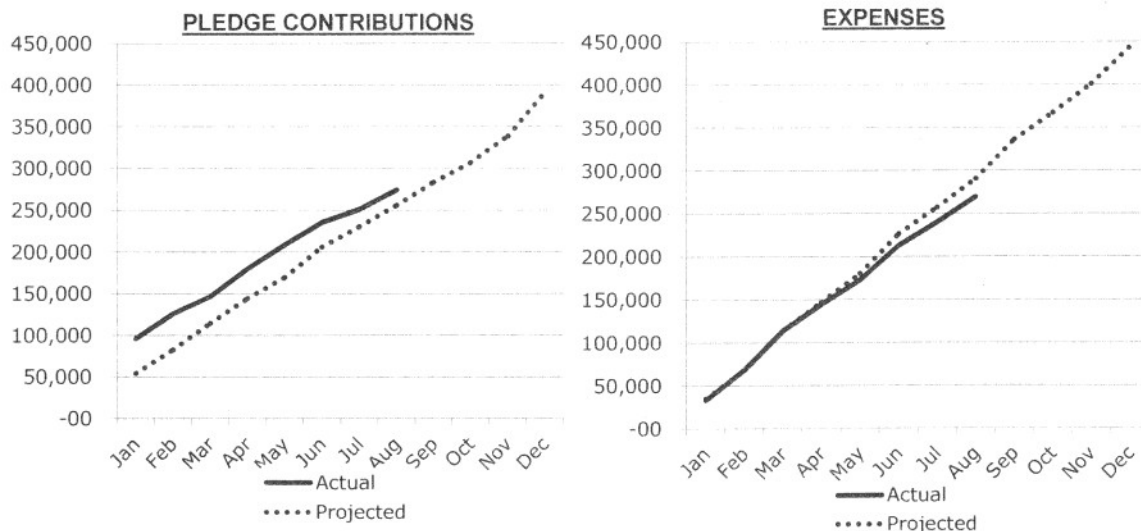
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>TUESDAY NIGHTS</b> 6pm IntergeneRingers  7:30pm Chancel Ringers	<b>WEDNESDAY NIGHTS</b> 6:45pm Praise Band 7:30pm Cantata 8:30pm Sanctuary Choir	1	2  1pm Women's Prayer Group	3  10am Yoga	4  5pm rehearsal	5  3pm wedding
6 9:30am Worship Communion, Bells  10:50am Adult Ed  NO crazies	7	8	9  1pm Women's Prayer Group  PADS	10  No Yoga	11	12
13 9:30am Worship  10:50am Adult Ed  NO crazies	14  Columbus Day  Office closed	15  6pm SRC 7pm Council	16  1pm Women's Prayer Group	17  No Yoga	18	19
20 9:30am Worship Open Choir  10:50am Adult Ed  2pm Prairie Path Clean-Up  6pm crazies  Voice articles due	21	22      Biloxi—Back	23  1pm Women's Prayer Group  Bay Mission	24  10am Yoga  Trip	25  7:30pm Novel Approaches	26
27 9:30am Worship Children sing 10:50am Adult Ed  3pm Trunk or Treat 4:30 crazies party	28	29	30  1pm Women's Prayer Group	31  Happy Halloween  10am Yoga		

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

For the Period Ending August 31, 2019

	ACTUAL CURRENT MONTH	ACTUAL YEAR-TO- DATE	ANNUAL BUDGET
<b>RECEIPTS:</b>			
Pledge Contributions	23,370	274,102	391,001
Loose Offerings	546	5,732	5,000
Rental Income	600	6,300	10,500
Fund Raising	95	1,283	2,001
Investment Income	224	1,505	300
More Property	-00	-00	20,000
Miscellaneous Income	-00	5,375	1,000
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>24,836</b>	<b>294,297</b>	<b>429,802</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>			
Ministry	18,757	156,069	248,522
Building	7,325	75,071	123,050
Loans & Notes	-00	13,375	26,750
Mission / OCWM	2,150	15,700	27,250
Committees:			
Christian Education	195	5,261	8,000
Membership/Congregational Life	-00	1,612	3,000
Music	-00	1,963	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>28,427</b>	<b>269,285</b>	<b>444,166</b>
<b>SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>\$(3,591)</b>	<b>\$25,012</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: 9am-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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[allen.mothershed@stmatthewucc.org](mailto:allen.mothershed@stmatthewucc.org)

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[susan.wold@stmatthewucc.org](mailto:susan.wold@stmatthewucc.org)

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