

June/July

2021



of



Pastoral Message
Pastor Allen Mothershed

The Best of Simple Pleasures

With the hot days of summer finally here, you may see our family, late in the afternoon, going for an ice cream fix. We like to mix it up. Sometimes it is Kimmer's Ice Cream downtown, McDonald's in a pinch, and good ole Dairy Queen when we want chocolate-dipped cones. A while back, we discovered Kona Ice, which I understand is now coming to Wheaton.

Kona Ice brings back memories of when my twin brother and I, at 11 years old, had our own shaved ice business. Dad wanted us early on to learn how to run a business and set us up with all the equipment, showed us how to keep the books and make payments for the equipment to pay him back. Every Saturday, we would set up near the old bandstand surrounded by shady oak trees in the town square. On Saturdays in our hometown, everyone came into Batesville from around Panola County to shop, make payments on their charge accounts, and especially to see all their friends in the town square. I was skeptical at first and did not really want to sacrifice my Saturdays in the summer with work outside in the Mississippi heat, but it did not take long before we realized we had invested in a mini-goldmine of making cherry, lime, peach, and rainbow snow cones. We could not make them fast enough. Good thing the ice house was nearby.

My dad was smart to teach us from an early age what it means to run a business and how to handle money. But looking back, what I learned most was how to relate to people from all walks of life. We got to know much of the town: white, black, young, old, difficult people and nice people, those with money and especially those without so much. I can say that after two summers of that business, I learned to appreciate the diversity of people and personalities and how to relate. For all the problems with race and poverty in my small town, I saw the beauty of community and the simple pleasure of conversation and killing time on a pleasant summer day with others.

Reconnecting is now what we are all doing, along with taking simple pleasures in conversation, looking at each other's faces and eyes, and laughing together, maybe even breaking bread with each other. Maybe we can reclaim the joy of fellowship. I hope so. For all the advancements, such as Zoom meetings and streaming worship services, it can never, ever, replace the personal contact of a handshake or a hug, singing joyfully together, and a smile. We fully reopen worship on June 13th. On June 6th, we will worship outside and have a picnic together. It is time to come together like God made us to be together. Hope to finally see everyone.

**WHAT'S
INSIDE**

*Pastor's
Message
Page 1*

*Music Ministry
Page 3*

*Birthdays
Page 4*

*Missions
Page 5*

*Membership
Page 6*

*New Website
Page 7*

*Children's
crazies
Pages 8-9*

*Announcements
Page 10*

*Online Giving
Page 11*

*Financials
Page 12*





June and July Scriptures

June 6th <i>Outdoor Worship/Picnic</i>	Mark 3:20-35
June 13th	Mark 4:26-34
June 20th	I Samuel 17:57-18:5, 18:10-16
June 27th	Mark 5:21-43
July 4th	2 Corinthians 12:2-10
July 11th <i>Outdoor Worship</i>	Jonah 3:10-4:11
July 18th	TBD
July 25th	John 6:1-21



Outdoor Worship

This summer, we will be holding one outdoor worship service each month: **June 6th, July 11th, and August 1st.**

No registration is required for the outdoor services. Masks are required and we will social distance. Please bring your own chair.

Indoor services will not be held on those days; however, we will be streaming a recorded service for those who are not able to worship in-person.



Starting June 13th, we will not require pre-registration for indoor worship.

All who wish to attend may do so. We will still require masks for all attending. As always, everyone's health and safety is important to us and we will adjust plans if necessary. Online streaming worship will still be available.

Notes from the Music Room....



"Summertime, and the livin' is gettin' easier"...Things are looking up and opening up. Something normal(ish) may be around the corner. For those who were not able to hear my thank you to the music ministry participants, here are the highlights of what I said.

This past year, KC has ensured that we have had bell music gracing our services. She has worked with small ensembles, arranging music, rehearsing them in Dobstaff so they can be socially distant from each other, and then, as you have seen, had them spaced out in different configurations on the Chancel and even in the choir loft. We have met approximately once a month to record these different sessions, ensuring that contact between individuals is kept at a minimum while observing CDC guidelines. To KC and all the ringers who have met and recorded, we all say thank you!

The Sanctuary Choir had a bit more difficult time. Singing and rehearsing together as a group is known to be much riskier than two or three singers spread out and behind plexi-glass shields. So there have not been rehearsals in any group form, no matter how small. What we have done is prepare some virtual choir selections. These involve preparing an accompaniment track and having the choir members rehearse their part, on their own, then record themselves while listening to the accompaniment track and upload it. This can be daunting to some people. Then all the videos are combined to present the final product you see. This is much easier said than done! The end result is not individuals singing solos, but a combined choir, much like when they sing live in church. To those who have spent the time practicing on their own, recording themselves, listening to their recording, uploading it, and to those who have helped throughout the year in editing these videos, we all say thank you!

To our Praise Band - Brian and a few singers and musicians have persevered all year so we have some live music. They have worn masks in rehearsal, sung spread apart, stood behind clear plexiglass barriers to maintain safety, and graced our services. They, too, have had some recording sessions when a few more people could attend and still meet recommended safety guidelines. To all of you, we say thank you!

So, to wrap this up, I offer my heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in some way in music this past church year. This included those who provided solos and duets, whether they were in a regular Sunday worship service, or for a special time like Christmas Eve. And I especially want to thank KC and Brian for all they have done to keep our music flowing with limited numbers. It's through everyone's faithfulness that music and worship have continued throughout this pandemic. May you all enjoy a safe and happy summer.

Thank you, and God Bless.

Jamie Craig

music.director@stmatthewucc.org

A Thank You Note:

Thank you to the virtual choir for creating such an encouraging show of support in my time of need.

Deepest Thanks,
Joe Hall

Pennies From Heaven (SCRIP)



SCRIP orders are suspended until we resume in-person activities.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Noah Baird
- 6 Bob Armstrong
- 9 Wendy Fanning
Randy King
- 14 Andrea DiOrio
- 15 Kenna Anderson
- 17 Lesley Sareny
- 18 Aimee Legatzke
Will Matthei
- 20 Justin Ciner
- 23 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
- 9 Nancy Lewis
Becca Staton
- 11 Krista Kapsa
- 15 Patti Woods
- 16 Marla Mothershed
- 17 Priscilla Barnett
- 19 Cindy Bute
- 22 Karen Fernandez
- 25 Hope Erickson
- 27 Lindsay Schaal
Michele Kirincich
- 29 Carol Honeywell
Dan Miller
- 31 Marge Brooks

MISSION NEWS

BACK BAY MISSION

BACK BAY
MISSION



Our annual mission trip to Biloxi will be from October 9th-16th. St. Matthew has been sending volunteers to Biloxi for over 30 years! Back Bay Mission serves the poor and marginalized of the Mississippi gulf coast. There will be many opportunities to volunteer: housing rehab, food pantry, soup kitchen, etc. **NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED**, although anyone with construction skills is **GREATLY** appreciated!

This trip, in addition to helping those less fortunate, also is a great way to get to know fellow St. Matthew members better. We also take time to explore the area, eat great seafood, bbq, and, in the past, we have had very meaningful, casual services with Communion led by Pastor Allen at the local beach. If you are interested in joining us this fall or you have any questions, please contact me for more information. I need to send an exact count **August 1st**.

Please consider this important mission.

Jeannine Adams, Mission Committee

jma1418@gmail.com

Food on the First

Thank you to all who have generously donated. It is very appreciated!

Here is what is needed in June and July:

- Canned fruit and vegetables
- Canned soup
- Cereal
- Salad dressing
- Mayo, mustard, ketchup
- Cake mix and frosting
- Birthday candles
- Baby wipes
- Adult diapers
- Diapers—size 6
- Bar soap
- Toilet paper
- Band-aids



[Click here to make a financial donation to PRC.](#)

Betty will be at church on the following Saturdays from 1-2:30pm to collect donations: June 12th and 26th and July 17th and 31st.

Please make sure items have not expired and are unopened. If you have any questions, please call Betty Greer at 847.207.9696.

TEAM UP ^{to} CLEAN UP

PRAIRIE PATH CLEAN-UP

The date for Clean-up #2 has been changed and will now take place on **Sunday, June 27th** at 2 pm. Please watch the Happenings for any updates.

If you want to participate, you will need to complete a waiver (once a year). Please call Dawn Schubert, 630.542.0160, if you have any questions. We are usually done in an hour.



Thanks to those who joined us for a Nature Walk at Herrick Lake. It was a beautiful night for a walk with church friends!

ALL-CHURCH PICNIC

The Membership Life Committee invites everyone to a socially distanced picnic following the **June 6th** outdoor worship service. Participants should bring their own lunches and chairs. Bottled water and packaged ice cream treats will be provided. There will also be games to play. If the weather is bad, the picnic will be canceled.

We ask that you please RSVP for the picnic to Tracey Blake, stutra@hotmail.com, or to Dani in the church office so that we can better plan the food and games.



PRIDE PARADE

Please join St. Matthew friends on **Sunday, June 27th, anytime from noon to 2 pm**, as we participate in Wheaton's inaugural "Drive-by Pride Parade." Let's make this a party! All you need to do is show up with your lawn chair and beverage at the end of St. Matthew's driveway wearing rainbow colors or the new t-shirt below.

Make a sign to show your support for the LGBTQ+ community as people drive-by. We need everyone available to attend to ensure that the Wheaton community knows that St. Matthew embraces everyone! Wheaton City Council has proclaimed June "Wheaton Pride Month." More information about the group's month-long festivities can be found at www.wheatonproud.org.



Check out the new St. Matthew t-shirts! You can order one by contacting Kenna Anderson at kenna1@comcast.net with your size. Cost is \$10 per shirt.

[Explore the new St. Matthew UCC logo and website](#)

We thank you all for your input a few months back on choosing the new logo for St. Matthew. We are thrilled to share with you the newest image that will represent our church family:



New Website is Live

In just as exciting news, our newly refreshed website is live at www.stmatthewucc.org. This was a tremendous effort and we appreciate all the time that went into ideating, writing and editing content, and reviewing from the many team and committee members across the congregation. We are very proud of how this turned out and look forward to keeping the site fresh and full of new content for our members and visitors.

Members-Only section

Note that we still have a Members-Only section on the site, accessible via a username and password. All members should have received an email with the username and password. If you are a member and did not receive it, please contact the office and they will provide it to you.

Follow us on social media

Also, if you aren't already, please follow/like St. Matthew UCC on social media:

<https://www.instagram.com/stmatthewuccwheaton/>

<https://www.facebook.com/StMatthewUCCWheaton>

Please reach out to [Mary Henderson](#) with any feedback or questions!

Children's Ministry June/July 2021

Congratulations to the fourth graders who were presented with a Bible during the May outdoor worship service:

Ava Sancken Braden Lindberg
Sean Walsh Andrew Woods
Cole Hutchison Bryce Holshouser
Kennedy Scalora Linnea Miller *

*Linnea was unable to attend and will receive her Bible at another time.



Summer Sunday School

We are thrilled to be gathering again for Sunday School. We have begun our summer Sunday School program, where we gather as a group for a lesson, craft, and game. We have also started our summer dismissal time of 10:30am. We remain socially distanced and wear masks, following District 200 guidelines. We are using Group Publishing's **All Together Now, Summer Sunday School** curriculum.

Our next outdoor worship service is June 6th. If weather permits, we will have outdoor Sunday School that morning.



Down on the Farm VBS, August 11th, 9am-1pm

Each year, St. Matthew UCC highlights the summer with music, activities and fun, while learning about God's love. Our vacation bible school (VBS) has become a community favorite that draws children from around the area each year. In 2021, our VBS will look a little different, but we hope to return to our regular program in 2022. Mark your calendar for a one-day, fun-filled VBS event on Wednesday, August 11th. Geared toward children pre-school through grade 5, it will be a great way to end the summer! Registration, details, inviting a friend, volunteer opportunities, and safety information will be coming soon.



June birthdays

Sean Walsh June 13th
Annabel Sturm June 14th
Ethan Woods June 17th
Mikey Henderson June 19th

July birthdays

Tyler Bute July 2nd
Noah Leimberer July 6th
Luke Jerome July 6th
Braden Lindberg July 21st
Linnea Miller July 24th
Kai Krasinski July 31st

- Susan Wold, Director of Children's Ministry

Congratulations to our St. Matthew graduates!



2021 High School Graduate

Andrew Daniel de Leon, son of Dani and Mike, graduated from Wheaton Warrenville South High School and will be attending Illinois Wesleyan University.

2021 College Graduate

Brian Anderson, son of Kenna and Bruce, graduated from the University of Utah with a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology.

2021 Graduate School Graduate

Thomas Schubert, son of Dawn and Eric, is graduating from Stanford Law School on June 12th.



As our students wrap up their last weeks of school and we move into summer, we are so excited to have our group back meeting in-person. This month, we will be meeting on June 13th and June 27th. There will be no crazies on June 6th (Confirmation class) or June 20th (Father's Day).

For July, we won't be having crazies on July 4th or July 11th (Confirmation class). We will re-group on July 18th and July 25th to do some outdoor activities. Reminder, all confirmation classes run from 11am-1pm, right after service.

God Bless,

Mel Jerome, Director of Youth Ministry

Announcements

The word "YOGA" is written in a colorful, multi-colored font with a slight shadow effect.

June Yoga

Outdoor Yoga every Thursday in June at 10am!

Feel free to come for a "Gentle and Easy" series under the trees near our church. You can even bring a chair and practice yoga sitting down.

Please contact Marla at 630.441.5963 or mmothershed63@gmail.com if you'd like to attend. All are welcome!

Donations accepted and will be given to Missions.

Yoga will take a summer break in July and August. Classes will resume in September.

Prayer Requests



Please send prayer requests via the following links and we can share them (or keep them private, if you prefer). You can also email them to the office.

You can make a public prayer request here:

<https://www.stmatthewucc.org/joys-and-concerns>

Private prayer requests can be made here:

<https://www.stmatthewucc.org/prayer-chain>



The Men's Group continues to meet on Tuesday mornings at 8am on Zoom.

All men are welcome!

Contact Byron Miller at byronmiller@ameritech.net for a Zoom invitation.

2021 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.

2021 VOICE deadlines: Typically the second to last Sunday of the month, with exception of November and December.

**July 18th, August 22nd, September 19th, October 24th,
November 14th, December 12th.**

The Voice is not published in July.



Online Sunday Worship



For those who are unable to attend Sunday worship in person, please join us on Sunday morning at 9:30 online for Pastor Allen's weekly message and worship service.

There are three ways to access Sunday worship:

Through YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/StMatthewUCC>

Once you are on YouTube, you have the option to turn on closed captioning and resize the font. Once the video is playing, click on the setting wheel in the lower-right of your screen, choose Subtitles/CC, then choose English.

Through the St. Matthew Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stmatthewucc/>
Select YouTube on the left side.

Through our homepage: <https://www.stmatthewucc.org/>



Online Giving

If you would like to give to St. Matthew UCC, you can donate in the following ways:

- **Mail a check to the church (1420 S. Gables Blvd., Wheaton, IL 60189)**
- **Online with PayPal**
 1. Simply click here to be directed to PayPal (or copy and paste): <https://www.stmatthewucc.org/donate> and click the yellow DONATE button.
 2. You will then be directed to PayPal where you can use your own personal PayPal account or a credit card to make your donation.
 3. Click on either [+Write a note \(Optional\)](#) on the first page or [+Add special instructions to recipient](#) on the "Review your donation" page. Please indicate Sunday Offering so the money gets credited to the correct account.
 4. Please include your phone number so that we may contact you if we have any questions, and your address if you would like to receive a giving statement.
- *NOTE: You will be credited for the full amount of your gift on your giving statement; however, PayPal charges a \$.30 + 2.2% fee on each transaction. St. Matthew will receive the net amount. **The minimum amount for this online contribution method is \$25.***
- **Monthly electronic donations from your checking account**

If you would like to set up monthly electronic donations, please download this form: **[Electronic Donation Authorization](#)**, fill it out, and mail it to the church. You can also scan this form, along with a voided check, and email it to financial.secretary@stmatthewucc.org.

These options are also listed on the St. Matthew website: www.stmatthewucc.org

Questions can be directed to Edie DeBoard at financial.secretary@stmatthewucc.org.

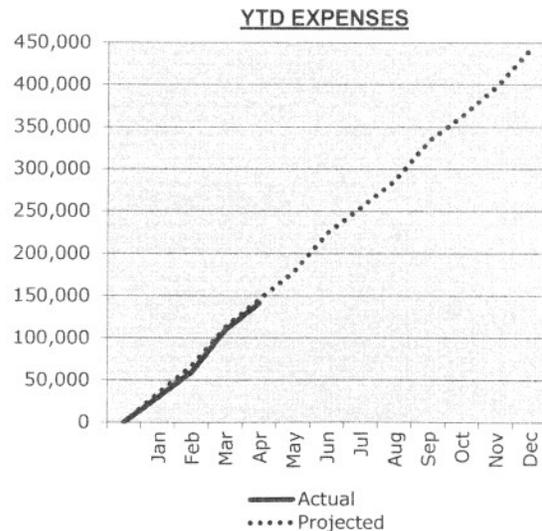
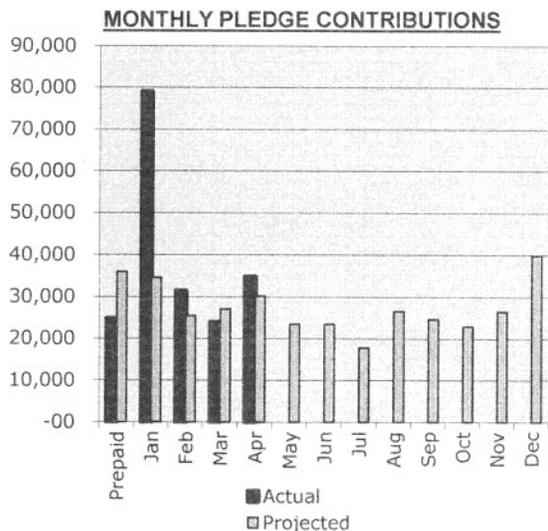
**ST. MATTHEW UCC GENERAL OPERATING FUND
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES**

For the Period Ending April 30, 2021

	ACTUAL CURRENT MONTH	ACTUAL YEAR-TO- DATE	ANNUAL BUDGET
RECEIPTS:			
Pledge Contributions (incl.Prepaid)	34,740	193,625	358,320
Loose Offerings	134	1,512	400
Rental Income	600	1,500	3,200
Fund Raising	-00	134	400
Interest Income	2	27	120
Investment Income	769	5,117	-00
More Property	-00	-00	39,000
Miscellaneous Income	-00	5,698	5,000
TOTAL RECEIPTS	36,245	207,613	406,440
EXPENDITURES:			
Salaries & Staff Expenses	21,228	89,958	283,863
Building & Admin	8,271	36,489	86,545
Loans & Notes	-00	6,688	26,750
Mission / OCWM	1,500	5,700	27,250
Committees:			
Christian Education	279	926	8,000
Membership Life	-00	-00	3,000
Memorial/Endowment	-00	-00	-00
Misc. & Contingency	-00	-00	1,000
Music	-00	925	5,568
Stewardship	-00	-00	-00
Worship	205	526	1,200
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	31,483	141,212	443,176
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	\$4,761	\$66,402	\$(36,736)

2021 Activity - Actual vs. Projected

Pledge YTD incl. Prepaid:	Actual	\$193,625	Projected	\$153,108
	(Actual Prepaid)	(\$24,673)	(Projected Prepaid)	(\$35,935)



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

Web Site: 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

Rev. Milton Allen Mothershed, Senior Pastor

allen.mothershed@stmatthewucc.org

Susan Wold, Director of Children's Ministry

susan.wold@stmatthewucc.org

Mel Jerome, Director of Youth Ministry

mel.jerome@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

Dani de Leon, Administrative Assistant

office@stmatthewucc.org

Dawnelle Muff, Business Manager

business.manager@stmatthewucc.org

