

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Special Music

+ Luke 21:25-36

Message Prepare the Way: Week 1 - Stand

Invitation to Holy Communion

Prayer of Confession

Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin, as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths, for you are the God of our salvation. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the good news: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

May the Lord guide your way, strengthen you in all holiness, and make you abound in love for one another and for all.

Passing the Peace

The Great Thanksgiving, UMH 15

The Lord's Prayer, UMH 895

Receiving the Bread and Cup

All are welcome at Jesus' table! A gluten-free option is available. You are invited to bring your Tithes and Offerings and financial pledges forward as you come to Holy Communion. The separate baskets are for our local mission fund which is used to help families with utility bills and food.

Prayer After Communion

+ I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light, UMH 206

+ Blessing Postlude

Things to know about worship

First, we are glad you are here! We hope that your visit gives you a glimpse of God's love for you, and we want to make your time here as comfortable as we can. The screens will help you with words and directions and this bulletin will guide you through the service. Please quiet your phone or device but the use of Bible apps are encouraged. There are times when we will invite you to stand as you are able, and these are marked with a '+'. Large print bulletins and hymnals are available upon request. A handicap accessible restroom and wheelchair are available. Please let one of the ushers, greeters or pastor know if you need anything or have questions. Thank you for any financial contributions you may make during the offering time or online at stmatthiasumc.org. These are tax deductible and help us offer ministry to our community and world. Please be sure to use the tear-off sheet to check in, share prayer requests, register for activities and get more information. May God bless us all!

STAFF GIFTS

In keeping with St. Matthias Christmas tradition, the SPPRC would like to honor all outstanding staff members with a Christmas gift to show them our appreciation for all they do throughout the year to support our mission statement of Reaching, Teaching, Loving and Serving. Our lay staff members are Susan Courtney (Administrative Assistant), Carole Hall (Choir Director), Judy Puriton (Nursery), and Erin Wetzel (Youth Director). Pastor Bert has requested that the SPPRC share all gifts among the church's Lay staff, but he still appreciates Christmas greetings and seasonal encouragement. If you wish to honor our staff by blessing them with a Thank You gift, simply place your love offering in a separate envelope marked Staff Gift and put it in the offering plate by December 23. Your generosity is appreciated and your prayers for these awesome employees are appreciated even more!



2019 mission trip to Honduras -- 29 June to 6 July.



Make a difference for people impacted by the California fires today by giving to UMCOR. Thank you so much for what you have already given. Year to Date total collected is \$4,490.00. You can still give by making your check payable to St. Matthias with "UMCOR Disaster" written in the memo line. You can learn more about UMCOR at www.UMCOR.org

UMW Luncheon @ Fawn Lake
Tues., Dec. 11 @ 12:00 - Sign up on front bulletin board.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

& BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JESUS
Sunday, Dec. 16 @ 5:00 p.m.

Two practices:

Thurs., Dec. 6 @6:30

Mon., Dec. 10 @6:30 p.m.

If you play a musical instrument and would like to play a song or two at the beginning of our program, I would LOVE to have you! Sign up on the front bulletin board.



Christmas labels are for sale near the mission hallway. The cost is \$5.00 per set. Card sorting & delivery: Dec. 16



Thurs., Dec. 19 @ 9:00 a.m.
St. Matthias UMC Fellowship Hall
Volunteers are welcome!
POC: Tammi Ellis



A Service of Reflection for those dealing with loss and grief. Saturday, December 22th at 2pm in the Sanctuary of St. Matthias UMC.

Week at a Glance

Sunday, December 2

5:00 p.m. Praise Band Practice
5:45 p.m. Evening Worship

Monday, December 3

9:00 a.m. Food Pantry
10:00 a.m. Prayer

Tuesday, December 4

7:45 a.m. Exercise Class
1:00 p.m. God Celebrators
6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts
7:00 p.m. Wesleyan Bldg. Bros.

Wednesday, December 5

12:00 p.m. Bulletin Deadline
5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice
6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, December 6

6:30 a.m. Micah Breakfast
6:00 p.m. Upper Room
6:30 p.m. Children's Choir Practice
7:00 p.m. Al-Anon
7:00 p.m. Trustees

Friday, December 7

Pastor's Sabbath

Saturday, December 8

7:00 a.m. Pray Like a Man
8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study
9:30 a.m. Prayer

SMUMC by the Numbers

Attendance on November 25

Sunday School: 32

Morning Worship: 126

Weekly Need: \$6,363.50

11/18/18 Offering: \$4,595.00

YTD Need: \$299,085.00

YTD Received: \$247,768.00

Monthly Need Nov: \$24,454.00

MTD Received Nov: \$21,423.00

●Cost of hand crafted cards & bag on UMW craft table: \$1.00

●Weeks pledges will be collected: 4

●Number of pledge cards returned:24

●Turkey dinners given by church: 22 (8 brought in by Girl Scouts)

●lbs. donated by our Boy Scout Pack 213: 434

●Attendance at Finance Information Session = 25

●Shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child: 21

CONNECT

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please update contact information

Please circle one

Visitor Member

Regular Attender

Please pray for....

I would like this to be shared:

- in the bulletin
 with the prayer team
 only with the Pastor
 I would like the Pastor to call me

Prayers of the Community of Faith!

I would like to sign-up for the following events:

Heartwood Food Packing

Children's Christmas Program

Instrument: _____

UMW Luncheon

What are you looking forward to this Christmas?

I would like more information about:

Becoming a Member of SMUMC

Love & Laundry Ministry

Honduras Mission Trip

Micah Breakfast

Serving a meal at the Thurman Brisben
January 6, 2019 (3:30 p.m.)

Micah Ministries Cold Weather Shelter

The Food Pantry

The Youth Group

Small Groups

Heartwood Food Packing

Children's Christmas Program

Mourning / Families of: ●Beth Bowen ●Jack Cates ●James Lloyd

Continuing Needs: Greg Anderson ●Velma Bailey (M. Holt) ●Paul Balgavy (R. Balgavy) ●Loretta Bass (Patsy Vida) ●Debbie Carpenter (B. Anderson) ●Margaret Courtney (R. Courtney) ●Pattie Cushing (R. Keene) ●Ruby Duddleson (R. Keene) ●Lindsey Fortune (D. Farrar) ●Jennifer Giannuzzi (B. Giannuzzi) ●Dennis & Connie Hagan ●Mrs. "Clyde" Hambrick ●Mary Ann & David Hill (J. Studley) ●Rev. Wayne Hogue ●Shelley Holmes (B. Holmes) ●Michelle Hutchinson (D. Jenkins) ●Billie Jo Hynson (B. Gmitter) ●Pete Jerman ●Jim Kocher (J. Belako) ●Kyra (P. Vida) ●Ed Marks (J. Clark) ●George Nosek (D. Garrett) ●Lisa Holsinger Powell (P. Vida) ●Dian Rubiera (B. Giannuzzi) ●Emerson Rudacille (J. Studley) ●Bob & Claire Runger (B. Anderson) ●Joe & Lita Schepers ●Dorothy & Pastor Bob Van Natta (W. Hogue) ●Amy Watkins (C. Hall & L. Cooper) ●Bob Watts (J. Cover) ●Renewal of UMC ●Ken & Charlotte Stockwell ●Patricia Turley (J. Keene) ●Austin Wolfe (R. Varela) ●Betty Zelloe (D. Jenkins)

Prayer Requests from the week of November 11: ●Shooting victims in Thousand Oaks, CA ●Amelia Sharer ●Family of Beth Bowen ●Sam Frantum ●Mohammed Khalifa ●Kseniya ●Jeff Andrew ●Michelle Hutchinson & Phyllis Prado ●Coakley family ●our church and our country ●Jason Toombs ●Joe Schepers ●Margaret Ann Holt ●Jack Cates & Mike Gibson

Prayer Requests from the week of November 18: ●California fire victims ●Greg Anderson ●Prayers for those looking for a job ●Prayers for those who have not yet accepted Christ ●Khalifa Mohamed ●People grieving during the holidays ●Family of Jack Cates ●Julie Dymon ●Amy Roberts ●Joe Reichard ●Rona Vernimb ●Dodie Smith ●Barry Jones ●Sam Frantum

Prayer Requests from the week of November 25: ●Matthew Tompkins ●Ed Conrad ●Natalie & Rosanna ●Victims of the CA wildfires ●Healing for all who need it; physically, mentally & spiritually ●Betty Bradshaw ●The Hale family ●Janice & Marshall Anderson ●Frank & Mary Cloud

Question for Reflection

Even in the midst of trouble and turmoil, God allows us glimpses of the kingdom to come. What signs of promise do you see that bolster your hope in a new heaven and a new earth?

Household Prayer: Morning

Thank you for this new day to sing your praise and watch for signs of your kingdom. By your Spirit, let me abound in love for you and your children, that in living and loving I may point to your coming reign. In the name of Jesus I pray. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Thank you for the signs of your coming reign, and for the power of your saving love. Bless all those whom I met today, and strengthen their hope in your power and grace. Now as I close my eyes, I relinquish all anxieties and fears, trusting in your providence and mercy. Amen.

St. Matthias United Methodist Church
Called to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ
for the Transformation of the World

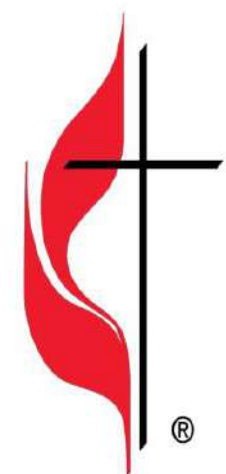
Worship:

Sundays: 8:45 & 11:00
Nursery for infants to 5 yrs
Kids Own Worship (pre -5th grade): 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship:
1st & 3rd Sundays @ 5:45 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Bert Cloud
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pastorbert@stmatthiasumc.org

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Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

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ST. MATTHIAS
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH



December 2, 2018

First Sunday of Advent

Greeting and Opening Prayer

+Introit O Come, O Come Emmanuel, UMH 211

+ **Lighting the Advent Wreath**

Hope Candle

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus, stanza 1, UMH 196

**All [sung]: "Come, though long expected Jesus, born to set they people free;
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart."**

Reader 1: God of hope and promise, protection and strength, you made covenant with us to send your presence to earth.

Reader 2: God of hope and endurance, you foretold of the coming kingdom of God.

All: We, God's people, affirm your covenant with us. We stand ready, hearts full of hope, for God will fulfill the promises made to God's people. As the psalmist declares, so do we: "All the Lord's paths are loving and faithful for those who keep his covenant and laws." (Psalm 25:10, NRSV)

Reader: On this first Sunday of Advent, we light this candle of hope to remind us to stand alert and seek the kingdom of God in our midst.

Light the first candle.

+ Choral Response, Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus, stanza 1, UMH 196

+ Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates, UMH 213

Prayer for Illumination

God our salvation, there is wisdom, peace, and joy for those who keep your Word. By the power of your Holy Spirit, lead us in your truth and teach us to do your will; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.