

**St. Matthew
United Methodist Church**
2540 West Baseline Road
Mesa, AZ 85202-5403

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Friday
Office Closed

Tel: (480) 838-7309/838-7311
Fax: (480) 838-7354

www.stmatthewmesa.org

Our Mission

We are called... to be a visible witness of the grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God and the power of the Holy Spirit by providing a welcoming, caring, inclusive church home in the community for Christians of all ages as they live, grow and serve in their faith.

St. Matthew United Methodist Church

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"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed." —Matthew 13:31-32



November 2011

Give Thanks!

Articles for December Mustard Seed Due: November 15, 2011

e-mail to mustardseed@stmatthewmesa.org or leave in the editor's mail box.
(If you have photos to support your article please include them.)



The Head of the church is the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Ministers of this church are its members.
Those who assist them are:

Rev. Minerva Carcaño		Resident Bishop
Rev. Michael Eaton	Michael@stmatthewmesa.org	Senior Pastor
Pastor Diana Williams	Diana@stmatthewmesa.org	Associate Pastor of Deaf Ministries
Pastor Iain Glithero	lainglithero@yahoo.com	Retired Local Pastor
Jill Fishburn	Jill@stmatthewmesa.org	Director of Music and Stephen Ministry
Becky Kerr	Becky@stmatthewmesa.org	Director of Youth
Maureen Jobe	Maureenjobe@stmatthewmesa.org	Christian Education Coordinator
Mareen Treese	Mareen@stmatthewmesa.org	Preschool Director
Adrienne Ashford Thorp	Mustardseed@stmatthewmesa.org	Office Manager/Publications Designer
Don Taylor		Custodian
Webmaster	Webmaster@stmatthewmesa.org	Communications
Evie Showers	Evie@stmatthewmesa.org	Nursery Coordinator

9:00 AM
Traditional Worship
in the Sanctuary,
Sunday School for children and
adults

9:30 AM
Contemporary Worship
with Communion
in Fellowship Hall

10:30 AM
Blended Worship and
Children's Church
in the Sanctuary,
Sunday School for youth and
adults

*Please call the church office if you
need assistance with transportation
to Sunday worship. We will help to
coordinate ride-shares
(480) 838-7309.*

Please join us for fellowship time
on the patio after worship.

I was on my way home from Mingus Mountain Church Camp. It was a nice retreat helping clergy, who are provisional members our Conference, learn about becoming more effective in their ministries, and ultimately become ordained deacons or elders.

I was driving on Interstate 17 beginning to make that descent into Black Canyon City. In one brief moment I heard a terrible noise and realized something was wrong with my car. After two cars passed me I was able to maneuver my car onto the shoulder. The situation felt very precarious.

I stepped out of my car and saw that my rear tire on the driver's side had disintegrated. While observing this, cars and huge trucks were speeding past me. I was thinking I survived the blowout, but would I survive changing the tire? I carefully entered the car and gingerly drove it further onto the shoulder almost into the dirt. I wanted to be as far away as the highway as possible since I would be on that side changing the tire.

Remembering to practice what I preach, I invited God to shower me with peace so that I could make it through this current ordeal. More cars and trucks were whizzing by as I proceeded to remove the destroyed tire and put a tiny spare tire on my car.

Soon I was back on the road. Cars and trucks still passed me rather speedily since I could do no more than 55 miles per hour. I began to reflect on my recent roadside experience. I was filled with gratitude. I was grateful to God that I had presence of mind to get the car safely to the shoulder during the blowout. I was grateful that I successfully changed the tire without getting hurt. I was grateful for that peace "that surpasses all understanding" that enabled me to get on my way home again.

As we head into November we look forward to that feast day called "Thanksgiving." It is always a great opportunity to reflect on "gratitude." The grace of God surrounds us in various ways. Some ways we can perceive and other ways it is simply a mystery. Still, Thanksgiving reminds us to "give thanks" to God for many blessings such as the gift of life, the gift of family, the gift of friends, the gift of Jesus, and the gift of church. Of course we want to give thanks for food, for some football games, and for the hope that college basketball will soon be upon us.

It is my hope and prayer for you that you experience a grace-filled Thanksgiving. Celebrate well and be sure to thank God abundantly for all the blessings that you receive.

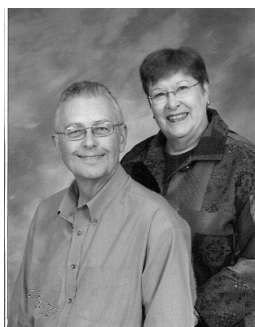
Grace and peace,

Pie Auction

Third Annual Pie Auction
November 20, 2011
6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall
Hosted by the Evangelism Committee
Bring your best homemade pie to be judged
OR
Bring a store bought pie to share

Lay Leaders' Notes

This is the month of the Thanksgiving holiday and a time when we reflect on the blessings we have received and the things for which we are thankful. Some may think that they have little to be thankful for as they have health, financial, marital or job related problems. In times of need, we should remember that God is still with us and we may be surprised at the source of blessings received. We are all used by God to offer help to our fellow beings. Just a word of encouragement or a prayer lifted up for others who are suffering may be just the encouragement they need. As a member of St Matthew it is good to know that you are loved and respected and that the prayer tree is there in time of need. We need to be cognizant of the needs of others in our church and encourage each other with our actions and prayers. We are the shepherds of this earth and our God given responsibility is to tend to the needs of others. By doing this, we will be blessed in ways we have not even thought of. Try this and you will find the true spirit of discipleship.



One thing we should all be thankful for is our youth and children's ministries. We are fortunate to have the leadership of Becky Kerr and Maureen Jobe. We can discern through the children and youth participation in church activities that the training and teaching is having wondrous effects. As you may know, Becky has announced her retirement at the end of December. Thank you for your years of service to the church. We will miss your leadership.

Remember to support our DNA program in all ways. Hope everyone is doing well and we will see you in the Mustard Seed.

Joyce and Roger Helm

Get to know the Eatons

Let's gather a group of people together and invite Pastor Michael and Alane into our homes for a chit chat session (Alane may not be available for all). Both are excited and want to meet with us. Here are the specific days available: Monday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday at 5:00 PM; Monday, Wednesday and Sunday either afternoon or mid-afternoon. Nellie Amedee is coordinating the schedule.

Church Conference

There will be a second Church Conference Tuesday, November 15 at 7:00 PM in D23-24 to take care of unfinished business at the first Church Conference. The Conference has been scheduled to approve a few Church Council and committee positions that were unfilled at the time of the October 22 meeting. There will also be a vote taken regarding membership withdrawal.

At the October 22 Conference, five strategic goals were adopted for 2012. Those goals are:

- Increase worship attendance by 10% (currently averaging 399; goal is 439)
- Increase professions of faith to 25 (currently 19)
- Increase number of small groups to 30 (currently 19)
- Increase members in mission to 100 (currently 51)
- Goal for dollars given to mission: \$175,000

Personals

We mourn the loss of Harry Bowen, former member and custodian at St. Matthew. He recently passed away in New Jersey at the age of 94.

A sincere and heartfelt "Thank You" to our church family at St. Matthew for all the prayers and cards we received during my mother's illness and passing. The love and support we've received has been uplifting and greatly appreciated.

In Christ, Bill Cordt and Family

Thank you for all the messages and phone calls while I was in the hospital. I am feeling better and improving daily.

— Ruth Sloan

Thank You St. Matthew friends for all the prayers, visits, cards, warm wishes, food, and even serenading during my recent absence. You have been a blessing for Sue and I during my recovery and continuing treatments and I am grateful for the strength provided to be able to return to the organ bench once again. Music really is good therapy not only for those who listen but also for those who perform it.

— Steve Edman

November Calendar, cont.

- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7
- Chancel Choir, 7:30 PM, B14
- Jubilation Choir, 7:30 PM, Sanct

Thursday, November 17, 2011

- Women's Bible Study, 6:00 AM, D23-24
- Men's Bible Study at Coco's, 6:30 AM,
- Pastor's Bible Study, 9:30 AM, D23-24
- Alzheimer's Association, 7:00 PM, B12
- Phoenix Int'l Folk Dancers, 7:00 PM, FH
- Staff Parish Relations Committee, 7:00 PM, B11

Friday, November 18, 2011

- MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) and MOPPETS, 9:00 AM, D23-24, N, C1-3

Saturday, November 19, 2011

- Walk to Emmaus Team Meetings, 8:00 AM, D23-24, K
- Church Bands, 11:00 AM, FH
- Cub Scout Pack 853, 3:00 PM, K, BBQ Area, Patio
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7

Sunday, November 20, 2011

- Preschool Fall Fundraiser, 8:00 AM, Patio
- God's Kids (Grades K-3), 9:00 AM, D22
- Jesus Rock Star (Grades 4-6), 9:00 AM, D25
- Preschool Class (Ages 3-5), 9:00 AM, C2-3
- Searchers/Disciples Class, 9:00 AM, B11
- Traditional Worship, 9:00 AM, Sanct
- Contemporary Worship, 9:30 AM, FH
- Blended Worship, 10:30 AM, Sanct
- Children's Church, 10:30 AM, C2-3
- Girl Scout Troop 841, 4:00 PM, B11-13
- Celebration Youth Choir, 5:00 PM, B14
- Evangelism Committee Pie Auction, 5:00 PM, FH, K
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7

Monday, November 21, 2011

- Deadline for Communicator Submissions
- Emmaus Sisters, 5:00 PM, B11
- Cool Hands, 5:45 PM, D22
- Boy Scout Troop 853, 6:00 PM, Bldg C

- Hands of Praise, 6:00 PM, D23-24
- Childcare for Disciple Bible Studies, 7:00 PM, N
- Disciple Bible Studies, 7:00 PM, B11-14

Tuesday, November 22, 2011

- Staff Meeting, 9:30 AM, Office
- Preschool Thanksgiving Feast, 10:30 AM, FH, K
- Cub Scout Pack 853, 6:00 PM, FH, C4
- Pills Anonymous, 7:00 PM, B11-14

Wednesday, November 23, 2011

- E.V. Echoes Toastmasters, 6:15 AM, FH
- Hands of Joy Choir, 6:00 PM, FH
- Cherub Choir, 6:15 PM, C4
- Sunshine Choir, 6:15 PM, B14
- Childcare for Adult Choirs, 7:00 PM, N
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7
- Chancel Choir, 7:30 PM, B14
- Jubilation Choir, 7:30 PM, Sanct

Thursday, November 24, 2011

- Thanksgiving Day
- Women's Bible Study, 6:00 AM, D23-24
- Men's Bible Study at Coco's, 6:30 AM,
- Pastor's Bible Study, 9:30 AM, D23-24
- Bells of Joy, 7:00 PM, Sanct

Saturday, November 26, 2011

- Walk to Emmaus, 8:00 AM, D23-24, K
- Church Bands, 11:00 AM, FH
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7

Sunday, November 27, 2011

- First Sunday of Advent
- God's Kids (Grades K-3), 9:00 AM, D22
- Jesus Rock Star (Grades 4-6), 9:00 AM, D25
- Preschool Class (Ages 3-5), 9:00 AM, C2-3
- Searchers/Disciples Class, 9:00 AM, B11
- Traditional Worship, 9:00 AM, Sanct
- Contemporary Worship, 9:30 AM, FH
- Blended Worship, 10:30 AM, Sanct
- Children's Church, 10:30 AM, C2-3
- Girl Scout Troop 841, 4:00 PM, B11-13
- Celebration Youth Choir, 5:00 PM, B14
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7

Monday, November 28, 2011

- Deadline for Communicator Submissions
- Emmaus Sisters, 5:00 PM, B11
- Cool Hands, 5:45 PM, D22
- Boy Scout Troop 853, 6:00 PM, Bldg C
- Hands of Praise, 6:00 PM, D23-24
- Childcare for Disciple Bible Studies, 7:00 PM, N
- Disciple Bible Studies, 7:00 PM, B11-14

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

- Staff Meeting, 9:30 AM, Office
- Girl Scout Troop 502, 5:00 PM, C1-3
- Cub Scout Pack 853, 6:00 PM, C4
- Pills Anonymous, 7:00 PM, B11-14

Wednesday, November 30, 2011

- E.V. Echoes Toastmasters, 6:15 AM, FH
- Hands of Joy Choir, 6:00 PM, FH
- Cherub Choir, 6:15 PM, C4
- Sunshine Choir, 6:15 PM, B14
- Childcare for Adult Choirs, 7:00 PM, N
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7
- Chancel Choir, 7:30 PM, B14
- Jubilation Choir, 7:30 PM, Sanct

Preschool:

Monday-Thursday, 8:30 AM, C1-7;
Friday, 8:30 AM, C6-7

Key:

K = Kitchen, FH = Fellowship Hall, Sanct = Sanctuary, N = Nursery

For the most up-to-date calendar, visit www.stmatthewmesa.org

November Calendar

Tuesday, November 01, 2011

- All Saints Day
- Morning Glories, 9:00 AM, D23-D24
- Staff Meeting, 9:30 AM, Office
- Girl Scout Troop 502, 5:00 PM, C1-3
- Cub Scout Pack 853, 6:00 PM, D22-25, C4
- Pampered Chef, 6:00 PM, FH, K
- Pills Anonymous, 7:00 PM, B11-14

Wednesday, November 02, 2011

- E.V. Echoes Toastmasters, 6:15 AM, FH
- Evangelism Committee, 6:00 PM, B13
- Hands of Joy Choir, 6:00 PM, FH
- Cherub Choir, 6:15 PM, C4
- Sunshine Choir, 6:15 PM, B14
- Missions Committee, 6:30 PM, B12
- Childcare for Choirs, 7:00 PM, N
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7
- Chancel Choir, 7:30 PM, B14
- Jubilation Choir, 7:30 PM, Sanct

Thursday, November 03, 2011

- Women's Bible Study, 6:00 AM, D23-24
- Men's Bible Study at Coco's, 6:30 AM
- Pastor's Bible Study, 9:30 AM, D23-24
- Bells of Joy, 7:00 PM, Sanct
- Phoenix Int'l Folk Dancers, 7:00 PM, FH

Friday, November 04, 2011

- UMW Craft Sale and Bake Sale, 1:00 PM, FH, K, N, C6-7

Saturday, November 05, 2011

- UMW Craft Sale and Bake Sale, 8:30 AM, FH, K, N, C6-7
- Trustees' Work Day, 7:00 AM, All Church
- Walk to Emmaus, 8:00 AM, D23-24, K, B11-14
- Church Bands, 11:00 AM, FH
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7

Sunday, November 06, 2011

- God's Kids (Grades K-3), 9:00 AM, D22
- Jesus Rock Star (Grades 4-6), 9:00 AM, D25
- Preschool Class (Ages 3-5), 9:00 AM, C2-3
- Searchers/Disciples Class, 9:00 AM, B11
- Traditional Worship, 9:00 AM, Sanct
- Contemporary Worship, 9:30 AM, FH

- Blended Worship, 10:30 AM, Sanct
- Children's Church, 10:30 AM, C2-3
- Sunday School Team, 11:45 AM, C6-7
- Girl Scout Troop 841, 4:00 PM, B11-13
- Celebration Youth Choir, 5:00 PM, B14
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7

Monday, November 07, 2011

- Deadline for Communicator Submissions
- Emmaus Sisters, 5:00 PM, B11
- Cool Hands, 5:45 PM, D22
- Boy Scout Troop 853, 6:00 PM, All of Building C
- Hands of Praise, 6:00 PM, D23-24
- Childcare for Disciple Bible Studies, 7:00 PM, N
- Disciple Bible Studies, 7:00 PM, B11-14

Tuesday, November 08, 2011

- Staff Meeting, 9:30 AM, Office
- Cub Scout Pack 853, 6:00 PM, D22-25, C4
- UMW Unit Meeting, 6:15 PM, FH, K
- United Methodist Men, 6:30 PM, C6-7
- Boy Scout Troop 853 Parents, 7:00 PM, D22
- Pills Anonymous, 7:00 PM, B11-14

Wednesday, November 09, 2011

- E.V. Echoes Toastmasters, 6:15 AM, FH
- Hands of Joy Choir, 6:00 PM, FH
- Cherub Choir, 6:15 PM, C4
- Sunshine Choir, 6:15 PM, B14
- Childcare for Adult Choirs, 7:00 PM, N
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7
- Chancel Choir, 7:30 PM, B14
- Jubilation Choir, 7:30 PM, Sanct

Thursday, November 10, 2011

- Women's Bible Study, 6:00 AM, D23-24
- Men's Bible Study at Coco's, 6:30 AM
- Pastor's Bible Study, 9:30 AM, D23-24
- Bells of Joy, 7:00 PM, Sanct
- Finance Committee, 7:00 PM, D23-24
- Phoenix Int'l Folk Dancers, 7:00 PM, FH
- Stephen Ministry 7:00 PM, B11

Friday, November 11, 2011

- Veterans Day

Saturday, November 12, 2011

- Walk to Emmaus, 8:00 AM, D23-24, B11
- Church Bands, 11:00 AM, FH
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7

Sunday, November 13, 2011

- God's Kids (Grades K-3), 9:00 AM, D22
- Jesus Rock Star (Grades 4-6), 9:00 AM, D25
- Preschool Class (Ages 3-5), 9:00 AM, C2-3
- Searchers/Disciples Class, 9:00 AM, B11
- Traditional Worship, 9:00 AM, Sanct
- Contemporary Worship, 9:30 AM, FH
- Blended Worship, 10:30 AM, Sanct
- Children's Church, 10:30 AM, C2-3
- Girl Scout Troop 841, 4:00 PM, B11-13
- Celebration Youth Choir, 5:00 PM, B14
- Putting God First AA, 7:00 PM, C6-7

Monday, November 14, 2011

- Deadline for Communicator Submissions
- Emmaus Sisters, 5:00 PM, B11
- Cool Hands, 5:45 PM, D22
- Boy Scout Troop 853, 6:00 PM, Bldg C
- Hands of Praise, 6:00 PM, D23-24
- Childcare for Disciple Bible Studies, 7:00 PM, N
- Disciple Bible Studies, 7:00 PM, B11-14

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

- Deadline for Mustard Seed Submissions
- Morning Glories, 9:00 AM, D23-D24
- Staff Meeting, 9:30 AM, Office
- Girl Scout Troop 502, 5:00 PM, C1-3
- Cub Scout Pack 853, 6:00 PM, D22, D25, C4
- Bells of Joy, 7:00 PM, Sanct
- Church Conference/Church Council, 7:00 PM, D23-24
- Pills Anonymous, 7:00 PM, B11-14

Wednesday, November 16, 2011

- E.V. Echoes Toastmasters, 6:15 AM, FH
- Hands of Joy Choir, 6:00 PM, FH
- Cherub Choir, 6:15 PM, C4
- Sunshine Choir, 6:15 PM, B14
- Childcare for Adult Choirs, 7:00 PM, N

DNA Transformation Underway

St. Matthew is among 40 United Methodist churches in the Desert Southwest Conference participating in the DNA Church Transformation Process, a three-year program aimed at growing existing churches. The program was founded by Dr. Don Nation, a United Methodist pastor, and has a proven track record. There are three primary goals: an increase in professions of faith (more than 40% of churches had not one profession of faith), an increase in worship attendance and an increase in the number of people involved in intentional spiritual formation.

The St. Matthew UMC Church Council voted to adopt the program at its August meeting and the congregation raised \$1500 to fund the program for the first year; an amount matched by the Conference. A DNA Transformation Team was created at the request of our District Superintendent to help facilitate the program. The following staff and members are on the team: Pastor Michael Eaton, Pastor Diana Williams, Jill Fishburn, Kevin Staab, Gordy Gauss, Carl Chasse, Phyllis Lalley, Susan Lewis, Trinity Donovan, Michele Beaudry, Bill LaNoue, Billie Snell and Linda Stenholm. However, the training and coaching sessions as well as the meetings of the St. Matthew DNA Team are open to anyone. We will list the meetings in the Weekly Communicator.

The first training session was held September 17 at Scottsdale United Methodist Church and was led by Dr. Nation. The theme of the session was hospitality and he listed the top 10 goals for improving hospitality: 1) have superior signage, 2) know what your campus says about you, 3) have a team of parking hosts, 4) do less and do it better, 5) information station, 6) provide refreshments, 7) get to know people, 8) watch assumptions, 9) gather information and treat guests with care (we have "guests" not "visitors"), and 10) do not forget guests after the worship service.

Dr. Nation toured the St. Matthew campus September 21 for about 45 minutes in the role of a first-time guest and made a number of observations, mainly about campus signage and the narthex/sanctuary. He was brutally honest in his observations, especially when it came to the importance of signage.

The DNA Team looked at the notes taken during Dr. Nation's visit to develop short-term ways to improve hospitality. The Team made four recommendations to the Church Council at its October 18 meeting: 1) investigate adopting a new mission statement for St. Matthew, 2) improve signage, 3) usher training, and 4) follow-up with guests from Sunday worship. The guest follow-up will stem from the new cards that will be

placed in the worship bulletins beginning the first Sunday in November. There will be in-person and telephone contact with our guests within the first week they worship with us.

The DNA Church Transformation Process promises to be both exciting and challenging! It has already generated a lot of questions, enthusiasm and a few concerns among church members.

I plan to provide regular updates on the DNA program in the Mustard Seed. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or any of the DNA Team members.

Blessings,
Kevin Staab
St. Matthew UMC Church Council Chair

Adult Classes

Searchers/Disciples Class

The combined Searchers and Disciples Sunday School classes meet on Sundays in room B11 from 9:00-10:00 AM. The class is studying: "When Christians Get It Wrong," a book and DVD by Adam Hamilton.

Men's Bible Study

The Men's Bible Study meets on Thursday mornings at 6:30 AM at Coco's on Baseline and Dobson Roads. We are studying "The Purpose Driven Life," by Rick Warren.

Pastor's Bible Study

Join us every Thursday morning at 9:30 AM in D23-24 for a Bible study led by Pastor Michael.

Women's Bible Study

We meet Thursday mornings from 6:00-7:15 AM in D23-24. We are studying Daniel by Beth Moore. The study alternates with weeks of video and discussion. If you do not have to go to work immediately, we invite you to join us for breakfast at Coco's (Baseline and Dobson) after the study.

Email Devotionals

Start your week off right! You can now receive weekly email devotionals from St. Matthew. To sign up, email adrienne@stmatthewmesa.org.

The Mission Minute

Mission Focus

Jill I. Conway is a missionary through the Mission Intern Program with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church serving with the Primavera Foundation in Tucson, Arizona.

Before her current assignment, Jill served 18 months with GROOTS (Grassroots Organizations Operating Together in Sisterhood) in Kenya. GROOTS is a network of grassroots women representing self-help groups and organizations across Kenya. Founded in 1995, today the network has more than 2,000 women members from different women's organizations throughout Kenya.

In her current position Jill works with the homeless and working poor in Tucson "promoting economic and social justice while working to build a future in which all people are assured basic human rights, a livable income and safe, affordable housing." She is working as an advocacy coordinator around many issues of social justice. One is assisting individuals recently released from prison to successfully re-enter the workforce and the community and to reduce the likelihood of their return to prison.

The Mission Intern Program is a three-year leadership development and mission service opportunity for young adults between the ages of 20 and 30 to be actively involved in mission service and social justice in both an international and a domestic context. The program encourages young adults to live with and learn from communities that struggle with injustice. Mission Interns have worked as community developers, educators, advocates, and grass-roots organizers, and their unique experiences provide vision for new opportunities and ministries within the church. The program offers an opportunity for Mission Interns to serve half of their time abroad, and their remaining time in a placement site in their home country.

Mission Interns are not asked to raise monetary support during their time as missionaries, as their expenses are covered by existing funding sources through the General Board of Global Ministries. However, the Mission Intern Program has an Advance code number (#13105Z) that allows supporters to directly contribute to this valuable program, so that young adults may have this opportunity in the future. By reducing the pressure on young adults to raise their own support, they have more time and energy to focus on the mission they are assigned to. For further information about Young Adult Mission Programs, email the Missionary in Residence for Young Adult Programs at MIRYAP1@gbgm-umc.org or write to Missionary in Residence for Young Adult Programs, General Board of Global Ministries, 475 Riverside Drive, Room 320, New York, NY.

UMOM

Thanks to all who participated in the UMOM Walk last month. The money donated has not been totaled yet, but there were a total of 616 people who participated. And there was a huge turn-out from the St. Matthew congregation. Thank you all.

Also, thanks to our October Friday Night Dinner UMOM servers: Tom and Bonnie Price, Jubilation Choir and Karen Palmieri, Marlene Seitz, and Kathy and Dennis Bartlow.

Those serving in November are: Ginny Smythe (11/4); John Dey and Leroy Livingston (11/11); Eric Brown - Journey United Methodist Church (11/18); Marlene Seitz (11/25).

Thank You

The Mission Committee prays that you all enjoyed the visit by Luis Aramayo and Eunice Arias on October 16. Their message was realistic and motivating. We would like to especially thank Pastor Michael and Alane for being gracious hosts and opening their home for the weekend; for Gladys Metzger for picking them up at the airport and for being a great tour guide as we went to the Arizona State Fair on the Saturday they were here; and to all of you who brought yummy dishes to share at the potluck. A great presentation followed and everyone seemed to enjoy their creative discussion and Q&A time.

Get Involved!

Many groups at St. Matthew participate in missions. You can contact them directly to get involved with their projects. To join the Mission Committee, contact Brenda Hook.

United Methodist Women

Unit Meeting: Join us on November 8 at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall for a program on "Healthy Nutrition," hosted by Suvasini McCormick and Dr. Polly Turner.

Cuppa Natter: We will meet November 29 at 7:00 PM in the home of Bonnie Kuhlemeyer for a program on St. Nicholas Day.

Morning Glories: We will meet on November 15 at 9:30 AM in Building D to hear a program by Suzie Kiddoo.

Adopt-A-Family Christmas Angels Needed

Once again St. Mathew's Sunday School will be sponsoring the Adopt-A-Family Christmas program. We would like to help families from the Wesley Center and UMOM as well as those in the local community have a blessed Christmas. You, "Christmas Angels," can bring God's love to these families and help make it a bright holiday for them. You will notice our angel trees up beginning on Sunday, November 20. We invite you to select an angel off the tree and bring your donation to church by Sunday, December 11. You are also invited to donate food and other hygiene items. We plan to deliver gifts to Wesley and UMOM the week of December 12. Please see Maureen Jobe for further information. Thank you, St. Matthew Christmas Angels! You shine Jesus' light wherever you go!

The Gift of Hope Worship Service

There are times during the holiday season when we may not feel a part of the celebration. We need to know that we are not alone.

We invite you join us on Sunday, December 4 at 3:00 PM in the Sanctuary for a special worship service filled with scripture and music to acknowledge God's presence is with those who are grieving, those who have lost a job, relationship, financial security, or any other life changing event. We acknowledge that God's light comes to shine light and hope into our world.

The brief service will be followed by a time of light refreshments and fellowship. Please accept this invitation to be with us, to experience the wonder and hope of the holiday season.

No need to RSVP. Our doors will be open to all who come, so please feel free to invite others to come with you, as your support.

Service conducted by: The Stephen Ministry

A Taste of Christmas

Please join the St. Matthew Chancel Choir on December 3 at 6:00 PM for "A Taste of Christmas." The Chancel Choir invites you to enjoy an evening of classic pieces like the Ukrainian "Carol of the Bells" and a few more contemporary, such as, "African Noel." Light refreshments will be served after the concert, featuring specialties from around the world. Bring your friends and family for a relaxing evening to begin the holiday season. Please contact Hannah Roberti with questions or if you are interested in preparing a food item.

United Methodist Youth Fellowship

Desert Southwest Annual Conference
Young Peoples' Convention (YPC) for grades 9 - 12
"God's Blueprint...Your Design"
November 11-13
Chapel Rock Retreat Center, Prescott
Cost: \$135

This event will offer an exciting keynote speaker, workshops, and an opportunity to meet new friends. There will also be a dance, awesome music, great food and a chance to try out the ropes challenge course at Chapel Rock. Register with Youth Director Becky Kerr or online at www.desertsouthwestconference.org/youth

Coming Soon to a Worship Near You!

Growing Your Generosity Series

November 6 - "II. Valuing Yourself"
November 13 - "III. Developing Financial Resources"
November 20 - "IV. Sharing Your Blessings"

Dreaming of Christmas Series

November 27 - "I. A New World is Coming"