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

## **Office Hours**

Monday -Thursday 8:30 a.m. - Noon 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. 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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9:00 a.m.

# Articles for April Mustard Seed Due: March 15, 2015 by 8:00 a.m.

e-mail to mustardseed@stmatthewmesa.org or leave in the office mail box.

(If you have photos to support your article please include them.)

Please notify the church office if you de not want to receive the monthly newsletter or call the office at 480-838-7309 or email: office@stmatthewmesa.org.



#### The Head of the church is the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Rev. Robert T. Hoshibata	Bishop@umoi.org	Resident Bishop	Traditional Worship
Rev. Michael Eaton	michael@stmatthewmesa.org	Pastor 480-390-7209	in the Worship Center, Sunday School for children
Rev. James Ek	jim@stmatthewmesa.org	Associate Pastor 602-377-9434	10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship with Communion in the Activity Center,
Gordon Gauss	g_gauss@hotmail.com	Stephen Ministries 480-234-2330	
Marsha Lehman	marsha@stmatthewmesa.org	Sunday School Coordinator 480-993-3907	
Evelynne Showers	Evie@stmatthewmesa.org	Office Manager/Design Publication, Nursery Coordinator 480-838-7309	Please call the church office if you need assistance with transportation to Sunday worship. We will help to
Michael Isaksen	isettled@cox.net	Custodian 480-292-4165	coordinate ride-shares (480) 838-7309.
Ted Bachelder	ted@stmatthewmesa.org	Director of Music Ministries 480-963-0722	Please join us for fellowship time
Mark Culbertson	mark@stmatthewmesa.org	Director of Youth Ministries 480-862-3601	on the patio after worship.







Duane participates in the life of the church through missions, Bible study, choir, Habitat for Humanity and dinner groups. Suzie participates in UMW, helping with Sunday School program and attending an adult Sunday School class.

They have both been very involved in activities with St. Matthew over the years as trustee, Staff Parish Relations Committee, committee members, Finance committee, Confirmation classes, Liturgist Readers, Door Greeters and in the dinner groups.

Congratulations on 35 years of service. We are looking forward to many more years with you folks!

# Celebrating Our Family Meet Duane and Suzie Kiddoo

with the Sunday School program.

They are both from Illinois and have been in the valley for 35 years (almost natives)! They enjoy the open spaces and having made great friends here as well as being near family. They also love our climate. Both Duane and Suzie are retired, he from sales and she from teaching and also real estate sales. They came to St. Matthew and knew right away that this would be their home church. They raised their family in the church and have enjoyed having helpful pastors, great adult education classes, along with warm and welcoming fellow Christians.

For the next five years, they would love to see an increase in the outreach ministry, membership growth, focused leadership and more folks helping

# Prayer List -

Please include these members of our St. Matthew family in your prayers: Cadiente family,
Gordon and Laura Gauss,

Andy Lim, Ellen Sassano,

Dan Turner and

Audrey Whitehurst.

If you have a prayer request,

please fill out one of the prayer cards found in the pew and place it in the offering plate. You can also email requests to office@stmatthewmesa.org. Names will stay on the list for three weeks unless your prayer request is renewed. If you need confidential, personal care, this church can provide you with a Stephen Minister.



We have been enjoying some great weather in the last couple of weeks. We are not even into spring yet, but there are buds appearing on some trees. Hopefully, our wonderful outside temperatures do not portend some higher temperatures in the summer. However, now is the time to relish our coming springtime.

Growing up in Rome, New York, I was able to experience some really cold and snowy winters. The advent of springtime meant that the cold would soon fade and the warmth of summer was not far off. Even now I remember the snowmelt that created little rivers along sidewalks and roadways. It was interesting to me that I could actually smell the concrete as the snow receded. I knew that smell meant change was coming.

Now, springtime for me involves focusing more attention on college basketball – you know the team. Football is over and baseball is another month or so away. So springtime provides a transition between cultural sports rituals. At church, however, we experience a different kind

At church, however, we experience a different kind of ritual – Lent. The word "Lent", actually means "springtime", comes from Old English "lencten" that changed in Middle English to "lente." It first came into use in the 13<sup>th</sup> century.

The 40 days of Lent started in the 4<sup>th</sup> century. This was a time when candidates for baptism fasted in preparation of their baptisms at Easter. The number 40 refers to the time that Moses spent on Mt. Sinai with God, the numbers of days Elijah walked to Mt. Horeb, and the time Jesus spent in the wilderness. Ash Wednesday is the kickoff for Lent with the conclusion on Holy Saturday.

In the early centuries of the church the observance of fasting was a strict endeavor. Only one meal a day was to be eaten. This meal was consumed in the evening. Also, no meat or fish or eggs were to be eaten. By the 9<sup>th</sup> century the fasting was relaxed. By the 15<sup>th</sup> century it became the custom to eat at noon.

Fasting helped to make the body "right." In addition the hunger pains reminded a person of their hunger for God. Fasting is still a practice to follow through

The season of Lent is observed as a time of penance, showing our sorrow for things we have done.

Almsgiving is practiced so that the poor are helped.

Generally, Lent is the time to devote more than the usual time to religious activities. All these activities

are meant to draw us closer to God. It is my hope and prayer that you discover a way, which best suits you to find a closer relationship with God.

Grace and peace,
Michael

# Lay Leader Notes

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

A few members of the St. Matthew family attended the Central East District Leadership Training. The Keynote speech was given by Dr. Lovett Weems, Jr. He spoke in terms of farming. Right up my alley, my father's side of the family started farming our land in 1636. Rev. Weems reminded me of the yearly family planning.

Mostly, we grew potatoes. But if the market was projected to be bad or the weather unreliable, they needed to consider what else to grow. In Rev. Weems term, they projected the desired outcome for the family at harvest time first, then they began shaping their first steps and plans. Plans that were consistently revisited, perhaps due to weather, pests, quality of seed or any of a number of unforeseen challenges. My family still farms today, full of faithfulness in God to guide them to fruitfulness at harvest.

Did we ever have a bad harvest? You bet, remember the harvest is always in God's hands, therefore unpredictable, but we never lost the faith or focus on the prize.

March is a great month for planning for St. Matthew's fruitfulness outcome, linked to our faithfulness in Christ.

What is our desired outcome? To give our best, so that, we continue to glorify God in Christ Jesus at St. Matthew.

1 Corinthians 3:6 -

I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.

Dear Heavenly Father - Show us the way we need to go, guide us as we focus on the future of St. Matthew, so that, we grow in your faithfulness and fruitfulness. We know we are here because it is our time in your plan to be fruitful. The family of St. Matthew is lovingly in your hands. Guide us, oh Lord in your way, so that, we achieve Your plan. In Christ we pray. A-men.

God Bless,

Barb Hedges - Co Lay Leader

# The Mustard Seed March Calendar

# **March Repeat Events:**

## **Saturday, March 7, 14, 21, 28**

11:00 am Praise Band Practice, AC 6:00 pm AZ Messianic Dance, B14 7:00 pm Putting God 1st AA, C6/7

## Other March Events:

## Sunday, March 1

9:00 am Bibles for 3rd Graders, WC
 10:15 am Cake for 3rd Graders and all families, Patio
 10:25 am Bible Exploration for all 3rd through 6th Graders and their families, D22

## Monday, March 2

3:00 pm Christ Centered Living, B11 5:30 pm Emmaus Sisters, B12 6:30 pm 853 Cub Scouts, D22, D25

3:00 pm AZ Messianic Dancers, AC

## Tuesday, March 3

9:00 am Morning Glories, C6-7, K 6:00 pm HOV Adult Grief Support, C2 6:00 pm Pampered Chef, AC, K 6:30 pm Mission Committee, D22

## Thursday, March 5

3:00 pm AZ Messianic Prayers, AC 7:00 pm Alzheimer's Support B12 Worship Committee, B11

## Saturday, March 7

9:00 am Family History Society, B11
11:00 am James Cadiente Memorial,
WC, Light Refreshments
Following Service, AC, K
2:30 pm Shining Jewels Team, AC

## Sunday, March 8

**Daylight Saving Time Begins** 

# Monday, March 9

6:30 pm 853 Cub Scouts, D22, D25

### Tuesday, March 10

6:00 pm Finance Committee, C4

# Wednesday, March 11

7:00 pm Evangelism Comm. D22

## Thursday, March 12

6:00 pm AZ Messianic Dancers, AC 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry, B13

## Saturday, March 14

9:00 am Helping Hands, C6-7 9:30 am Decades Rehearsal, AC 6:00 pm AZ Messianic Dancers, AC

## Sunday, March 15

8:00 am March Mustard Seed Submission Deadline, Office 10:15 am Family Mission, C4 3:00 pm AZ Messianic Dancers, AC

## Monday, March 16

5:30 pm Emmaus Sisters, B12 6:30 pm 853 Cub Scouts, D22, D25

# Tuesday, March 17 \$t. Patrick's Day

9:00 am Morning Glories, C6-7, K

6:00 pm HOV Adult
Grief Group, C2
Evangelism Comm., D22

6:30 pm Church Council, C4

## Thursday, March 19

6:00 pm AZ Messianic Dancers, AC 7:00 pm Alzheimer's Support B12 SPRC Meeting, B11

## Friday, March 20

6:00 pm Family Movie Night, 101 Dalmatians, D23/24 Everyone is Invited!



## Other March Events:

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## Saturday, March 21

9:30 am Decades Rehearsal, AC
10:00 am Blessing
the
Bikes.

Patio

11:00 am Praise Band Practice, AC 1:00 pm AZ Messianic Dancers, B14 6:00 pm AZ Messianic Dancers, AC

## Sunday, March 22

8:45 am Decades Ticket Sales, Patio 2:00 pm AZ Messianic Dancers, AC 5:00 pm 853/2853 Scouts, D22

## Tuesday, March 24

6:30 pm Cuppa Natter Movie, AC, K

## Thursday, March 26

6:00 pm AZ Messianic Dancers, AC 7:00 pm Communication Comm. D25

## Saturday, March 28

8:00 am Stamping Up, AC, K 6:00 pm AZ Messianic Dancers, AC

## Sunday, March 29

8:45 am Decades Ticket Sales, Patio3:00 pm AZ Messianic Dancers, AC6:00 pm Family Walk to Jerusalem, D22

## Monday, March 30

5:30 pm Emmaus Sisters, B12

## Tuesday, March 31

6:00 pm Sunshine Choir 6:30 pm Genesis Bells, Sanctuary 6:45 pm Childcare, Nursery

7:00 pm Bells of Joy Choir, Sanctuary

AC: Activity Center;
B: Music & Adult Ed. Bldg:

C: Activity Center bldg;
D: Youth Ed. Bldg;

K: Kitchen;

N: Nursery;

**WC:** Worship Center (Sanctuary)
For the most up-to-date calendar,
visit www.stmatthewmesa.org.
To schedule an event,

contact the church office

# **United Methodist Women Cuppa Natter** meet Tuesday, March 24 at 6:45 p.m. in the **Activity Center for Movie Night**

with Pizza. Hostess - June Hanson. Please call June at 480-968-0520 for more details.

Morning Glories meet on the first and third Tuesdays each month at 9:00 a.m. in C6-7. Please arrive on time as we do begin at 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, March 3 -Program - Adobe Mt. School. Tuesday, March 17 - Speaker, Warren Root from Prescott UMC -Program Free Wheelchair Ministry. Please, contact Susan Mann Patterson at 480-684-0275 or Karen Anderson at 480-892-2082 for details.

Crafty Ladies will not meet in March. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, April 7 at 7:00 p.m. C6-7. **UMW Unit Meeting** will not meet in March. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, April 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the Activity Center. Program will be on Elder Abuse.

# **Bible Studies** Disciples Adult Sunday School

meet March 1 - 22 at 10:30 a.m. in room B13. After March 22 we will take a short break. All are welcome to attend.

# Searchers Adult Sunday School

meet at 10:30 a.m. in room B11. All are welcome to attend. **Ladies** meet Thursdays at 6:00 a.m. in C4. All ladies welcome the Bikes with safety classes. to attend.

Men meet at 6:30 a.m. Thursday at Coco's restaurant, Baseline Rd. and Dobson Rd. in Mesa. The men's Bible study will begin in study of Rick Warren's "The Purpose Driven Church" on March 5. All men of St. Matthew are invited to join us for fellowship and breakfast at 6:30 a.m. on Thursday mornings.

## Pastor's Bible Study meet

March Calendar

Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. in room C4. New discussion on the Dead Sea Scrolls beginning March 12. All are welcome to join this group. Bring your friends and neighbors for fellowship and study.



# **Upcoming Calendar** for The Place Children's Ministry March 1 -

**Sunday Morning, Celebration!** Giving of Bibles to third graders. Bible Exploration with lunch for all kids in all classes.

### March 15 -

FX Mission to be announced. March 20 -

Movie Night, 101 Dalmatians Disney Festival of films.

## March 21 -

10:00 a.m. until noon Blessing of

## March 29 -

Palm Sunday Evening, Walking to Jerusalem (families and neighborhood).

## Save this Week...for VBS

Mark your calendar for June 8 - 12 for evening VBS. More details to come soon.

## **March Repeat Events:**

The Mustard Seed

## **Sunday, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29** 8:30 am Childcare for services, N

8:40 am Prayer Meeting, Chapel 9:00 am Jesus' Jumpstarts, Age 4-5, C3 God's Kids, Gr. K-2, D22 Jesus Rock Star, Gr. 3-5, D25

Traditional Worship, WC 9:15 am Youth "Hang Time" D23/24

10:30 am

## Contemporary Worship, AC

Disciples Adult SS, B14 til 3/22

Searchers Adult SS. B11 Youth "Ignite, D23/24 1:00 pm Acts Mission Church, B12/B14 2:30 pm 841 Girl Scouts, C6-7 7:00 pm Putting God 1st AA, C6/7 7:30 pm Godly World Worship, B11/12

## Monday, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

8:00 am	Communicator deadline
	e-Communicator deadline
6:00 pm	853 Boy Scouts, AC, C6-7
	Hands of Praise, D23-24
7:00 pm	Bible Studies, B11, B13, B14
7:30 pm	Praise Tambourine D23/24

## Tuesday, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

7:00 pm Childcare, Nursery Pills Anonymous, all B bldg.

## Wednesday, March 4, 11, 18, 25

5:30 pm	Lenten Study, AC, K, C4
6:00 pm	Hands of Joy Choir, Chapel
6:15 pm	Cherub Choir, C1
7:00 pm	Putting God 1st AA, C6/7
7:30 pm	The Sanctuary Choir, B14

## Thursday, March 5, 12, 19, 26 6:00 am Women's Bible Study, C4

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Men's Bible Study, Coco's
Korean Women Bible Study, B11
Pastor's Bible Study, C4
AZ Messianic Dance, AC
Childcare, Nursery
Cool Hands Choir, D22
Sunshine Choir, C1
Genesis Bells, Sanctuary
Bells of Joy Choir, Sanctuary

## Friday, March 6, 13, 20, 27

5:30 pm	Praise Band Practice, AC
7:00 pm	Putting God First AA. C6-7

## March 2015 Sermon Plan

## March 1 - Second Sunday in Lent



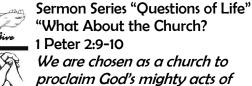
Sermon Series "Questions of Life" "Why and How Should I Tell Others?" Matthew 28:16-20 Jesus gives a command to go into the world and make more disciples.

# March 8 - Third Sunday in Lent

Sermon Series "Questions of Life" Rev. Jim Ek will bring the message this Sunday "How Do I Resist Evil?" Ephesians 6:11-12 Is the Boogie Man Real?

## March 15 - Fourth Sunday in Lent





# March 22 - Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sermon Series "Ouestions of Life" "How Can I Make the Most of the Rest of My Life?" Psalm 1

By attending to God and to God's word we have the opportunity to make the most out of life.

salvation to the world.

# March 29 - Palm/Passion Sunday



Sermon Series "Questions of Life" "Why Did Jesus Die?" Mark 11:1-11, Philippians 2:5-11 Jesus goes to Jerusalem to continue his mission of sharing the Good News of God's love.

## **April 2015 Sermon Plan through Easter**

# April 2 - 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday

"Last Will and Testament" John 13:1-17, 31b-35 lesus spends his last night with his disciples and wants them to love each other so the world can witness that love.



# April 3 - 7:00 p.m. **Good Friday**

Service of Tenebrae (Service of Darkness) John 18-19 The passion of Jesus, according to the Gospel of John, is read for us to remember the sacrifice Jesus made for us.



# April 5 - Easter Sunday

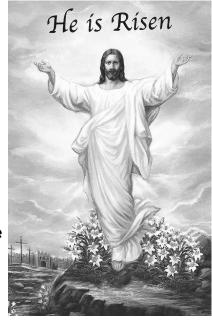
"How Do You Handle the **News of an Empty Tomb?"** Mark 16: 1-8 The women at the tomb are terrified about not finding lesus there.



**Easter Service** 6:30 a.m. SonRise Service with flowering of the cross on the patio.

9:00 a.m. service in the Worship Center.

10:30 a.m. service in the Activity Center.



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## **Imagine No Malaria**

Dear Friends.

Each year, we work to achieve a world free of malaria deaths and debilitating sickness. Because of your generous gift of \$5,607.00 in 2014, we moved closer toward accomplishing this dream. Thank you. You are a critical partner in the global effort to take action against this treatable, preventable disease of poverty. United Methodists together have reached a milestone of providing \$65 million in life-saving gifts and pledges. This includes seven million new dollars raised and pledged by United Methodists since January 1, 2014!

Please visit our website www.imaginenomalaria.org often for current information on the activities made possible by your gift. To receive periodic news updates, please send your email address to dbogle@umcom.org.

We have come this far because you have responded to the call to eliminate malaria as a disease of poverty. We have joined hands with worldwide partners. We have made tremendous progress. But the fight is not over. Please continue to give generously and to pray for success. Together we will carry the light to the end of the road home. Should you have any questions regarding your gift, please contact Deeann Bogle at dbogle@umcom.org or call 866-521-1179.

Peace and Blessings,
Bishop Thomas Bickerton, Chair
Global Health Initiative of the United Methodist
Church.

Your contribution is tax deductible to the extent allowed. No goods or services were provided in exchange for this donation.

E. I. N. No. 31-0839059.

# Another Wonderful Letter from Imagine No Malaria to Encourage You to Keep Giving to this Program

Dear St. Matthew UMC of Mesa,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$4,156.65 to Imagine No Malaria, a life-saving ministry that aims to eliminate death and suffering caused by malaria in Africa by 2015.

Your generous gift will continue to fund Imagine No Malaria's four-pronged approach to eradicating malaria by 2015: prevention, education, communication and treatment. Imagine No Malaria

accomplishments to date include training more than 11,000 volunteer health care workers, dispensing medicine and medical care through more than 300 United Methodist hospitals and clinics, distributing more than 2 million bed nets through the United Methodist Committee on Relief, and creating and training 13 health boards serving 16 African countries to monitor, evaluate and facilitate Imagine No Malaria program effectiveness.

Your gift will contribute to sustaining these efforts to save lives and improve the health and livelihood of entire villages and communities for generations to come.

I celebrate your support and ask you to share the work of Imagine No Malaria to encourage others to help us reach our life-saving goal of \$75 million to eliminate death and suffering from malaria in Africa. Please pray for the success of this ministry and for those suffering from malaria.

Gratefully yours,
Bishop Thomas Bickerton
Imagine No Malaria Chairperson

## **Cranberry Squares by Gatha Warner**

Ingredients needed:

1 cup flour.

1 cup brown sugar, packed

sauce in lieu of jellied. Enjoy!

1 tsp. salt,

1 cup butter,

16 oz can Cranberry Sauce, jellied 2 1/3 cups quick cook oatmeal, uncooked

Mix flour, sugar and oatmeal, cut in butter to a crumbly mixture. Place half crumb mixture into a 13x9x2 baking dish.

Pat down by hand. Spread a thin layer of cranberry sauce (beaten to make spreading easier.)
Sprinkle remaining crumbs over top, patting smooth.
Bake in moderate oven 350 degrees,
approx. 30-45 minutes or until brown.
I don't add salt when making these and use unsalted butter. At times I have used the berry cranberry

# Recipes...

If you have a favorite recipe you would like to share with the congregation, please submit it to: mustardseed@stmatthewmesa.org
Recipes will be published as space allows.
Thank you.

## Lenten Study

Seven week Lenten Study for all ages. Class will use the book, 24 Hours That Changed the World written by Adam Hamilton. Look for the sign up sheet on the patio on Sunday mornings. Books were ordered and have arrived in the office. Final cost is \$13.00. Meet on Wednesday nights beginning on February 25 at 5:30 p.m. in the Activity Center with soup or other light meal. Please bring a salad or side dish to share with the group. Room location to be determined. Study will begin at 6:00 p.m. The class will finish in plenty of time for those folks who need to get to choir practice by 7:30 p.m. The final class will meet on Wednesday, April 8. Everyone welcome!



# GOT TALENT? THROUGH the DECADES FUNDRAISER

The Missions Decades Show on Saturday, April 11 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. is looking for talent & help.

## Donate your talent -

All you need is a voice and a song, we provide the music. Duets and groups welcome. Auditions and practice Saturday, March 7 in B14 and again Saturday, March 14 & 21 in the Activity Center from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Final rehearsal possibly on Saturday, March 28 in the Activity Center. Reservation for the practice and your song must be submitted to Tony Joseph or Janet Livingston no later than Sunday, March 8. Please contact by email janetlivingston@ymail.com or call Janet at 623-297-0520.

## Donate your time -

We need volunteers for decorating, set up, cooking and clean up.

## Donate your gifts -

Time and items for the silent auction.

Last year's HOP was a huge success and great fun! Don't miss out this year! Contact Ben Furlong at benf333@gmail.com, Lin Leivian at Leivian@cox.net or Ginny Smythe at ginny83039@cox.net.

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT ST. MATTHEW UMC YOUTH MINISTRY.



# COME EXPERIENCE THE MOST FABULOUS MUSIC EVENT OF THE DECADE!

SATURDAY, APRIL 11 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

"THROUGH the DECADES"

An all ages Dinner Party and Show Benefiting the St. Matthew Youth Ministry.

\$t. Matthew Missions Committee Presents...

A live entertainment production

by Tony Joseph & Sandy & Jeff Weiner

## Entertainment for all ages!

- \* FREE PHOTO BOOTH
- \* SILENT AUCTION
- \* ROCKIN' RAFFLE PRIZES

Tickets may be purchased at the Church Office and your Missions Committee will be on the patio Sunday, March 22 and March 29, before and after services. Questions? Contact Janet Livingston at janetlivingston@ymail.com

# Wish Sympathy

James Cadiente passed away on Tuesday, February 17, 2015. Memorial service will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. in the Worship Center. Light refreshments will be served following the service in the Activity Center.