

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



June 2015

Articles for July Mustard Seed Due: **June 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 **do not** want to receive the monthly newsletter by calling 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

Rev. Michael Eaton michael@stmatthewmesa.org

Pastor
480-390-7209

Rev. James Ek jim@stmatthewmesa.org

Associate Pastor
602-377-9434

Gordon Gauss g_gauss@hotmail.com

Stephen Ministries
480-234-2330

Sunday School Coordinator

Evelynne Showers Evie@stmatthewmesa.org

Office Manager/Design Publication,
Nursery Coordinator 480-838-7309

Michael Isaksen isettled@cox.net

Custodian
480-292-4165

Ted Bachelder ted@stmatthewmesa.org

Director of Music Ministries
480-963-0722

Mark Culbertson mark@stmatthewmesa.org

Director of Youth Ministries
480-862-3601

9:00 a.m.

Traditional Worship
in the Worship Center,
Sunday School for children

10:30 a.m.

Contemporary Worship
with Communion
in the Activity Center,

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.

Welcome to Rev. Joan Miller

Please take the time during June to send a card to our incoming, new pastor, Rev. Joan Miller.

Your card will be a welcoming surprise for Joan to begin her first day, Wednesday, July 1, at our church.

Please use the address -

C/O St. Matthew United Methodist Church
ATTN: Rev. Joan Miller
2540 W. Baseline Road
Mesa, Arizona 85202-5403.



**An Afternoon Adventure
All Son's Luncheon**

**Saturday, June 6 in the Activity Center
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**



**Come Enjoy
Jungle Jill Animal Encounter
"Hands on Experience"**

Annual Conference News

Each year our Annual Conference does a mission project in which all churches participate. This year the Conference is asking us to collect cans of tuna and beans (canned or dry).

Whatever we collect will stay in our community, and we will be able to choose the recipient organizations. Please bring your food donations to the church and put them in the bin in the Activity Center narthex. Please double check to make sure the food being donated is not expired or near the expiration date. This food drive will run through June 15, 2015.

Thank you for your generosity as this will go to help many people in our community.

If you have any questions, please contact Susan Lewis at slewis31508@gmail.com

Pastor Jim's Thoughts - On Attitude

You know, it was never my intention to be the sole pastor at St Matthew UMC. Newly retired, I just wanted to fill in the gaps; visit where Michael was unavailable so that you knew how much you were loved; teach a little Bible; and, bring the message on a Sunday or two. But here I am. And I must say, it took a little attitude adjustment to do even a month and a half of full-time ministry quick on the heels of dreaming of beach walking, hand in hand, with my wife, Patty.

We never know where life is going to take us. To be sure, we cycle from youth to young adult to middle age to early seniors to 'just plain old.' But the road getting there is full of twists, turns, ups and downs. That's a given and often we don't get to choose the path beyond just setting out. The options come in how we approach those roadblocks, detours, potholes, etc. That's where attitude comes in.

There are a lot of words for attitude: *approach, perspective, belief, bias, mindset, prejudice, sensibility, sentiment, stance, view*, etc. They all convey a different truth about our attitudes. In chaplaincy, I combined the latest behavioral learning on attitude to help people as they faced some of their most critical moments in life. It was crucial that I be scientific in my observations because doctors and nurses and technicians, and thus, patients and families depended upon scientific breakthroughs in medicine in order to deal with deadly disease. Science and medicine is what we, as a people, have come to believe in; have faith in; depend upon in those moments when we face mortality.

Science has proven that attitude cures more diseases than any drug, therapy or surgery. But the attitude that cures comes long before we face our mortality. Norman Vincent Peale was the first person I knew of that dealt with attitude. A whole culture came out of the idea of positive thinking that began some serious study. Out of that we know that adopting a positive attitude will help treatment but real change comes when that positive attitude has been adopted long before the mortal battle begins. Why? you might ask? Consider this:

Philippians 4:8-9 says: "Finally, brothers (and sisters), whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely,

whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you." Proverbs 3:5 says: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding." Matthew 5:22 says: "But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire."

I think everything begins with an attitude of surrender to God: our spiritual life; our church health; our very existence; begins and ends with God and our willingness to do God's will - not for our glory but for God's.

As we prepare ourselves for a new senior pastor, it would be good for us to adopt an attitude that promotes health and well-being for St. Matthew UMC and those God intends for us to disciple into His church.

Peace and grace,
Pastor Jim

Prayer List

Please include these members of our St. Matthew family in your prayers:

- Anne Dutton
- Lindsay Dutton
- Kerr family
- Andy Lim
- Jan Morrow
- Ellen Sassano
- Schmitt family
- Dan Turner
- 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. Contact the church office at 480-838-7309 with any questions Monday - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - noon and 1:30 p.m.—4:30 p.m.



June Repeat Events:

Monday, June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

- 8:00 am Communicator and e-Communicator deadline
- 6:00 pm 853 Boy Scouts, AC, C6-7
- 6:30 pm 853 Cub Scouts, D22, D25
- 7:30 pm Praise Tambourine D23-24

Tuesday, June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

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

Wednesday, June 3, 10, 17, 24

- 6:00 pm Hands of Joy Choir, Chapel
- 7:00 pm Putting God 1st AA, C6-7

Thursday, June 4, 11, 18, 25

- 6:30 am Men's Bible Study, IHOP
- 6:00 pm AZ Messianic Dance, AC/B14 Cool Hands Choir, D22

Friday, June 12, 19, 26

- 5:30 pm Praise Band Practice, AC
- 7:00 pm Putting God 1st AA, C6-7

Saturday, June 6, 13, 20, 27

- 6:00 pm AZ Messianic Dance, AC
- 7:00 pm Putting God 1st AA, C6-7

Sunday, June 7, 14, 21, 28

- 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,**
Children's Church, D22
Youth "Ignite", D23-24
- 2:30 pm 841 Girl Scouts, C6-7
- 3:00 pm AZ Messianic Dance, AC
- 7:00 pm Putting God 1st AA, C6-7
- 7:30 pm Godly World Worship, B11/12

June Calendar

Other June Events:

Monday, June 1

- 5:30 pm Hospitality Committee, C4
- 6:00 pm Craft Boutique Meet, C6-7

Tuesday, June 2

- 9:00 am Morning Glories, Dobson's Restaurant in Mesa, AZ.
- 6:00 pm Adult Grief HOV, C3
- 6:30 pm Mission Committee, D22
- 7:00 pm Communication Comm, D25

Thursday, June 4

- 3:00 pm Messianic Dancers, AC
- 7:00 pm Alzheimer's Support, B12

Friday, June 5

- 8:00 am All Son's Lunch setup, AC, K
- 7:00 pm Putting God First AA, B11

Saturday, June 6

- 7:00 am Trustees Meeting, C4
- 9:00 am Family History Society, B11
- 11:30 am All Son's Lunch, AC, K

Sunday, June 7

- 10:30 am Searchers Adult SS, B11

Wednesday, June 10

- 7:00 pm Evangelism Committee, B12

Thursday, June 11

- 7:00 pm Stephen Ministry, B13

Saturday, June 13

- 7:15 am Emmaus, K, C4
- 9:00 am Helping Hands, C6-7
- 11:00 am Praise Band Practice, AC

Monday, June 15

- 8:00 am July Mustard Seed News Submission Deadline, Office

Other June Events:

Tuesday, June 16

- 8:00 am Week without Violence Meet, D22
- 6:00 pm Adult Grief HOV, C3
- 6:30 pm Church Council, C4

Thursday, June 18

- 7:00 pm Alzheimer's Support, B12
SPRC Meet, B11

Saturday, June 20

- 11:00 am Praise Band Practice, AC

Saturday, June 27

- 11:00 am Praise Band Practice, AC

Help Needed!

Please, contact Evie in the church office at 480-838-7309 or email her at: evie@stmatthewmesa.org if you will be traveling over the summer months or going to a summer home with a different address other than your regular address on file with the church office.

We need to know if you would like to receive the Mustard Seed newsletter at another location with the correct address or to **NOT** mail the newsletter at all until you return from your vacation. This will help save **DOUBLE** postage, plus returned postage due! Thank you very much.



AC: Activity Center; **B:** Music & Adult Ed. Bldg; **C:** Activity Center bldg; **D:** Youth Ed. Bldg; **K:** Kitchen; **N:** Nursery; **WC:** Worship Center (Sanctuary)
P: Patio; **pk:** parking lot
For the most up-to-date calendar, visit www.stmatthewmesa.org.



Santa Fe Chicken Packets

Chicken breasts topped with black beans, corn and zesty tomatoes, cooked in foil packets on the grill for an easy summertime meal.

Prep time - 10 minutes
Total time - 30 minutes
Serves - 4

Ingredients
1 can (15 oz. each) Rosarita Premium Whole Black Beans, drained and rinsed
2 cups frozen whole kernel corn
1 can (10 oz. each) Ro*Tel Original Deced Tomatoes and Green Chilies, drained
1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
PAM Original No-Stick Cooking Spray
4 boneless, skinless, chicken breasts (5 oz. each)
1/2 cup shredded reduced fat Mexican cheese blend

Nutrition Information
386 calories
9 grams total fat
47 grams protein

Directions

1. Preheat outdoor grill to medium - high heat according to manufacturer's directions. Stir together beans, corn, drained tomatoes and cumin in a medium bowl.
2. Place four 18 x 12 inch pieces of heavy foil on counter. Spray each with cooking spray. Place 1 breast in center on each piece of foil. Spoon a fourth of bean mixture over chicken for each packet. Bring up short sides of each foil packet and double fold top. Double fold both ends to seal each packet, leaving space for steam to gather.
3. Place packets on grate of covered grill. Grill 15 to 20 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink in centers (165 Degrees F.). Carefully open Packets; Sprinkle a fourth of the cheese on top of each breast. Close foil and let stand two minutes or until cheese melts.

Cook's Tip
Packets may be baked on shallow pan in 425 degree F. oven 20 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink in centers. Or, to save aluminum foil, place chicken in 13 x 9 inch baking dish sprayed with cooking spray. Spoon bean mixture over chicken; cover dish with aluminum foil. Bake in 375 degree F. oven 30 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink in centers.

Enjoy this delicious summer grilled dish with a cold refreshing drink, salad, fruit and dessert!

<http://www.hunts.com/recipes>



IGNITE Student Ministries

Dear St. Matthew Congregation,

We are very thankful and grateful to the Mission Committee for the \$5,000.00 check that they presented us for Youth 15!

We are also thankful to the church for allowing us to do a carwash fundraiser during church and to everyone who took part! We raised more money than expected!

We had a blast partnering with Children's Ministry for the Mother's Day Family Service! We look forward to partnering in the future on more things.

Speaking of partnering with Children's Ministry, we are looking at our summer schedule and possibly combining things on Sunday mornings in some way due to the number of families that go away throughout the summer. We are polling our families to see when families will be around so we can come up with a plan for the summer.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark and Melanie Culbertson

P.S. More news to come next month about our wonderful mission trip!

All Son's Luncheon Tickets

Do you need a lunch ticket? Contact Evie in the church office ticket are \$10/adults & \$5/ child.

Sermon Plan for June 2015

June 7 - Second Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. James Ek
"He Has an Unclean Spirit"
Mark 3:20-25
Watch out for wishes. They tend to come true in some of the strangest ways.

June 14 - Third Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. James Ek
"Who Makes It Grow?"
Ezekiel 17:22-23
Ask a farmer, helping things grow takes a lot of long hours, hard work, large investments, oh, and manure. You have to wade through a lot of manure. . .

June 21 - Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Lay Servant, Greg Beihl
Title "On Family Religion"
Joshua 24:14-24

June 28 - Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. James Ek
"Whom do you trust? Whom will you follow?"
2 Samuel 1:1, 17-21
We have but one leader; Christ Jesus himself! If you do not listen to his voice, how can you say you are a part of his family?

Bible Studies

Searchers; Adult Sunday School

Meet on June 7 at 10:30 a.m. in room B11. Everyone is welcome to join this class.

Men

Meet at 6:30 a.m. Thursday at IHOP, Elliot Rd. and Alma School Rd. in Chandler. We are studying the book, "The Purpose Driven Church" by Rick Warren. All men of St. Matthew are invited to join us for fellowship.



Steve Kerr's father, M. L. Kerr passed away on Tuesday, May 12, 2015 in Florida. Please keep his family in your prayers.

Lay Leader Notes

Dear St. Matthew Brothers and Sisters,

On July 1, we will be receiving our new pastor, Rev. Joan Miller. Betsy and I felt very privileged to have been able to get to know her, as your lay leaders. June is time to remove all that hinders us and open a new chapter at our beloved St. Matthew. A passage from the book, "Children of the Day" by Beth Moore comes to mind to share with you at this time...

"If you're like me, what you're personally refused to lay or cast down along the way has been the biggest hindrance of all in how you've run the race. I've held on to guilt long after repentance and God's forgiveness. I've clutched the past when He's commanded me to run free into the future. I've held on to bitterness when He's given me grace to offset former damages. I've held on to relationships long after He's told me to let go. I've held on to offences when He wanted my hands pruned open to reconcile. I've continued practices that weren't evil in themselves but became increasingly erosive and heart-numbing.

A hindrance is not always something sinful. Even something wholesome can become less and less consistent with the path God is opening to you. It's season has passed and it's time to lay it down. These can often be the hardest hindrance to let go of because they're more subjective and easier to rationalize. They are not wrong, they're just wrong right now."

So beloved brothers and sisters let us welcome our new pastor with open arms and as few hindrances as each of us can muster.



In the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Barb Hedges,
Co-Lay Leader

Job Openings:

- 1. Sanctuary Choir Director**
This job description is posted on the church website at www.stmatthewmesa.org.
- 2. Sunday School Teacher and/or Co-ordination**
At this time there is no job description for this position.

If you are interested or know someone that may be interested, in either of these positions please contact Debra Landry at debra.landry2356@gmail.com or call 480-540-2726.

United Methodist Women Morning Glories



During the summer months, meet on the first Tuesday, on June 2, July 7, and August 4 at 9:00 a.m. for breakfast and fellowship at: Dobson's Restaurant - 2155 S Dobson Rd. in Mesa, AZ. Please arrive on time as we do begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. Please R.S.V.P. to: Susan Mann Patterson at 480-684-0275 or contact Karen Anderson at 480-892-2082. ALL women are welcome to attend, bring a neighbor, friend or family member with you!

The All Daughter's Luncheon Thank you!
May 9, 2015 - 'AMERICA - THE MELTING POT'

A great big thank you to all who donated their time, talent, and resources to the All Daughter's Luncheon. May God continue to shower you with blessings; His mighty presence was truly in the 'Activity Center'. Thank you, thank your Lord!
Nellie Amedee, Chair & Rosemary Glithero, Co-chair

Thank You Servers

I want to thank the following men who served the meal and helped with cleaning up the Activity Center after the All Daughter's Luncheon on Saturday, May 9. A big thank you to: Dennis Anderson, Bill Bender, Bimal Dey, Jim Ek, Bruce Ficklin, Iain Glithero, Duane Kiddoo, Robert Newman, Luke Snell, Bob Vosseller and Jerry Wegener.
Your assistance "Made" the day for all the women who attended the luncheon.
Greg Beihl

Donations to Helen's Hope Chest



Helen's Hope Chest has now opened their new facility at 126 E. University in Mesa; this puts them right in the downtown core. We now have the use of a bin in the Activity Center narthex for those wishing to bring their contributions to church. I pick up materials from the bin every two weeks and take them to Helen's. Remember the clothing you contribute should be new or like new - something a foster child would be proud to wear to school. The age range is baby to age 18.

Helen's also needs new toiletries (toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, lotions, etc.) as well as books, games, and toys. Please consider getting some children's clothing at the back to school sales as we will be running a back to school drive in August. Thanks so much to all of you who have contributed in the past. For more information, email Lin Leivian at Leivian@cox.net.

Habitat for Humanity



A large thank you to all of your. This year we again supported Habitat for Humanity in an outstanding manner. Everyone who went to the build site had a good time and did not get hurt. Many of you showed

interest by asking about the ongoing progress of the home. The family was very pleased by the reception they received at the Decades program. Once again thank you to an awesome congregation. Maybe next year we will build in the East Valley. Thanks, Duane Kiddoo

Christ Centered Living

Our team would like your suggestions, feedback and help on the weekly thought provoking questions. Do they help you focus on Christ in your daily life, do you like the calendars, should we continue?



As we all pray for our church, please consider contributing a focus question for June and July. There is a basket on the church chat table for any suggestions, comments or please speak to one of the team members.

Thanking you in advance,
Greg Beihl, Donna Bengel, Bimal Dey, Anne Dutton, Pastor Jim Ek, Susan Lewis and Ginny Smythe.

All Church Women's Day Retreat

Day Retreat open to all women. Come join the fun on Saturday, June 27 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Spirit of the Desert Retreat Center 7415 E. Elbow Bend, Carefree, AZ 85377. Theme: *Bubbles of Overflowing Love*. Tickets will be on sale on the patio, Sunday morning June 14 and June 21 for \$20 per person. Carpooling will be available. Please contact Karen Palmieri, Marion Ritchotte, Billie Snell, or Saundria Cadiente with any questions.



Flag Day on Sunday, June 14

Celebrating Flag Day on June 14 has been a long and honorable tradition for most United States citizens. President Woodrow Wilson issued a presidential proclamation in 1916 offering national recognition for "Old Glory." Recognition of the American flag is a week long event culminating with Flag Day on June 14. Display the American flag at your home or business in celebration of Flag Day this year.

Fathers Are Wonderful People

Fathers are wonderful people too little understood. And we do not sing their praises as often as we should... For, somehow, Father seems to be the man who pays the bills. While Mother binds up little hurts and nurses all our ills... And Father struggles daily to live up to "his image" As protector and provider and "hero of the scrimmage"... And perhaps that is the reason we sometimes get the notion That Fathers are not subject to the thing we call emotion. But if you look inside Dad's heart, Where no one else can see, You'll find he's sentimental and as "soft" as he can be... But he's too busy every day in the grueling race of life. He leaves the sentimental stuff to his partner and his wife... But fathers are just wonderful in a million different ways. And they merit loving compliments and accolades of praise. For the only reason Dad aspires to fortune and success Is to make the family proud of him and to bring them happiness... And like Our Heavenly Father, he's a guardian and a guide, Someone that we can count on to be always on our side.

- Helen Steiner Rice -

