

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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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### Articles for September Mustard Seed Due: **August 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

Rev. Joan Miller joan@stmatthewmesa.org

Rev. James Ek jim@stmatthewmesa.org

Gordon Gauss g\_gauss@hotmail.com

Evelynne Showers Evie@stmatthewmesa.org

Michael Isaksen isettled@cox.net

Ted Bachelder ted@stmatthewmesa.org

Mark Culbertson mark@stmatthewmesa.org

Resident Bishop

Pastor  
480-838-7309

Associate Pastor  
602-377-9434

Stephen Ministries  
480-234-2330

Sunday School Coordinator

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

Custodian  
480-292-4165

Director of Music Ministries  
480-963-0722

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.

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



**August 2015**

### Thank You, St. Matthew Angels



Thank you, St. Matthew angels for opening your hearts and donating to the Back to School Drive.

Your donations were delivered on Monday, July 13. Because of your love and generosity, children at the Wesley Center/Golden Gate outreach and UMOM received contributions of paper, pencils, notebooks, crayons, folders and backpacks. Your donation of 104 backpacks for the children were greatly appreciated. All donations of back to school supplies were delivered in time to be distributed before the beginning of the new school year. In addition, donations of clothing and personal care items were given to the children. More than the school items were delivered to the children. Through you, St. Matthew angels, God showed His love and care. Your love and support of these children has been a blessing to them and their families. Thank you, St. Matthew angels.

### St. Matthew Annual Holiday Boutique

**We are currently...**

***LOOKING for CRAFTERS!!!***

Crafters are needed for Friday, October 16 and Saturday, October 17. We are wanting sale items for Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas and all Art forms for our Annual Holiday Boutique.

Vendor information and application forms are now available in the church office. If you need more information please contact:

Cheryl Phillips at 480-297-5123

Debra Landry at 480-540-2726

Evie in the church office at 480-838-7309.

\*Also needed are bake sale items such as: cookies without nuts, cookies with nuts, any flavor of bread...banana, pumpkin, zucchini...

any flavor of muffins... chocolate chip, blueberry... any flavor of pie...apple, cherry, pumpkin, rhubarb... small cakes, fudge and of course, Rice Krispies treats.

***Thank YOU!***

(NO cupcakes this year, please.)



**Dear Friends in Christ,**

What a joy it is to be among you! I deeply appreciate the warm way in which so many of you have welcomed me to St. Matthew. I have a basket full of cards on my desk with lovely greetings, a few goodies in my refrigerator, journals in which to record my thoughts and dreams, and several beautiful plants that bring life to my office – all gifts from you. Thank you for your thoughtfulness.

I suspect many of us have heard the expression, “You only get one chance to make a first impression.” The first impression St. Matthew has made on me is impressive indeed. The beautiful campus and worship spaces reflect how deeply you have loved and cared for this sacred place. The number of groups you host on campus each week and the missions you support reflect your desire to serve Christ by serving our community and making a difference in peoples’ lives. The enthusiasm and energy so many of you put into facilitating joyful and meaningful worship on Sunday demonstrates the depth of your faith. With such a strong foundation, I am excited by the possibilities of what God might do with and through us in the days to come.

Although I’ve only been here a few weeks, I’m pleased by how many of you I’ve had the opportunity to meet. It’s easier for me to get acquainted with you in small group settings. Since my arrival I’ve enjoyed attending the women’s retreat, the Morning Glories breakfast, the men’s Thursday Bible study, and several committee meetings, as well as multiple of informal gatherings. I know that as we move toward fall there will be a series of small group gatherings offered so that we’ll all have the opportunity to visit and get acquainted outside of Sunday morning. I’m looking forward to it!

In addition to participating in these gatherings, I have been meeting individually with the members of our staff, chairs of the various committees, leaders of working groups, representatives from groups that use the church facility, your former pastors, and key people in the surrounding community. Most likely it will take me another month or so to meet with all of the leaders within the church. I trust that meeting people in the

community will be an ongoing process. I’m enjoying learning how you “do what you do,” hearing your stories of St. Matthew, and, most of all, listening to what Christ is doing in your lives today. It is my honor and privilege to serve with you at St. Matthew.

See you in church,  
Joan

**August 2015 Sermon Plan**

**August 2 - Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Text: 1 Thessalonians 4:9-14 (The Message)  
Title: “Reminders Never Hurt”  
Theme: Paul is giving pointers to the Thessalonians

**August 9 - Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

Text: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28 (NRSV)  
Title: “A Great Church”  
Theme: In closing out his letter, Paul encourages the Thessalonians

**August 16 - Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

Text: Galatians 5:13-15 (NRSV)  
Title: The General Rules: “Do No Harm”  
Theme: Do No Harm to yourself, others or God

**August 23 - Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost**

Text: Romans 12:9-21 (The Message)  
Title: The General Rules: “Do Good”  
Theme: Do good to: other’s bodies, other’s souls, how do we create systems for doing good?

**August 30 - Thirtieth Sunday after Pentecost**

Text: Matthew 22:34-40 (NRSV)  
Title: The General Rules: “Stay in Love with God”  
Theme: Staying in love with God: -commitment -communication -friendship

**August Calendar**

**August Repeat Events:**

**Saturday, August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29**  
11:00 am Praise Band Practice, AC  
6:00 pm AZ Messianic Dance, AC  
7:00 pm Putting God 1st AA, C6-7

**Sunday, August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30**  
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  
Searchers Adult SS, B11  
Youth “Ignite”, D23-24  
3:00 pm AZ Messianic Dance, AC  
7:00 pm Putting God 1st AA, C6-7  
7:30 pm Godly World Worship, B11/12

**Monday, August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31**  
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 Victory Praise, C1-3

**Tuesday, August 4, 11, 18, 25**  
7:00 pm Childcare, Nursery  
Pills Anonymous, all B bldg.

**Wednesday, August 5, 12, 19, 26**  
7:00 pm Putting God 1st AA, C6-7

**Thursday, August 6, 13, 20, 27**  
6:30 am Men’s Bible Study, IHOP  
Elliot & Alma School SE corner  
6:00 pm AZ Messianic Dance, AC  
Cool Hands Choir, D22

**Friday, August 7, 14, 21, 28**  
5:30 pm Praise Band Practice, AC  
7:00 pm Putting God 1st AA, C6-7

**Other August Events:**

**Saturday, August 1**  
7:00 am Trustees Meeting, C4

**Sunday, August 2**  
2:00 pm Victory Praise, AC

**Monday, August 3**  
5:30 pm Hospitality Committee, C4

**Tuesday, August 4**  
9:00 am Morning Glories, Breakfast  
Dobson’s Restaurant  
6:00 pm HOV Adult Grief Group, C3  
6:30 pm Mission Committee, D22  
7:00 pm Communication Comm. D25  
UMW Crafty Ladies, C6-7

**Thursday, August 6**  
3:00 pm AZ Messianic Prayer, AC  
7:00 pm Alzheimer’s Support, B12  
Worship Committee, B11

**Saturday, August 8**  
9:00 am Helping Hands, C6-7

**Tuesday, August 11**  
6:00 pm Finance Committee, C4  
6:30 pm Shining Jewels Team, AC

**Wednesday, August 12**  
7:00 pm Evangelism Comm., D22

**Thursday, August 13**  
9:30 am Korean Bible Study, B11

**Saturday, August 15**  
8:00 am September Mustard Seed  
Newsletter Submissions due  
in the office or email to:  
mustardseed@stmatthewmesa.org

**Other August Events:**

**Sunday, August 16**  
2:00 pm Victory Praise, AC  
2:30 pm 841 Girl Scouts, C6-7

**Tuesday, August 18**  
6:30 pm Church Council, C4

**Thursday, August 20**  
9:30 am Korean Bible Study, B11  
7:00 pm Alzheimer’s Support, B12  
SPRC Meeting, B11

**Tuesday, August 25**  
8:30 am Week without Violence  
Task Force, D22

**Thursday, August 27**  
9:30 am Korean Bible Study, B11

**Sunday, August 30**  
2:30 pm 841 Girl Scouts, C6-7

**SAVE the DATE**



**ST. MATTHEW UMC  
CHOIRS WILL RESUME IN  
SEPTEMBER...  
PLEASE WATCH FOR  
MORE DETAIL...STARTING  
AFTER LABOR DAY...  
MONDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 7, 2015.**

**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](http://www.stmatthewmesa.org).

### Prayer List

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

- Anne Dutton
- Lindsay Dutton
- Andy Lim
- C. P. Morriss
- Jal Morriss
- Jan Morrow
- Cheryl Phillips
- Les and Betty Robinson
- Schmitt family
- 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](mailto: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 through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. until noon and 1:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

### Interested in Ringing Handbells?



A new season of handbell ringing begins Thursday, September 10. Beginning bell ringers 4th graders and above, meet at 6:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. followed by experienced ringers, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Both groups rehearse in the Sanctuary. Please contact Sarah Hartong, handbell choir director, to discuss where you would best fit in our handbell ministry! Send email to: [sarah@stmatthewmesa.org](mailto:sarah@stmatthewmesa.org), or phone: 330-819-6476.



### Zucchini Bread

- Prep Time 15 min
- Total Time 3 hr 25 min
- Servings 24

#### Ingredients:

- 3 cups shredded zucchini (2 to 3 medium)
- 1 and 2/3 cups sugar
- 2/3 cup vegetable oil
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 4 eggs
- 3 cups Gold Medal™ all-purpose or whole wheat flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 cup coarsely chopped nuts
- 1/2 cup raisins, if desired

#### Directions:

- 1. Move oven rack to low position so that tops of pans will be in center of oven. Heat oven to 350° F. Grease bottoms only of 2 (8x4-inch) loaf pans or 1 (9x5-inch) loaf pan with shortening or cooking spray.
- 2. In large bowl, stir zucchini, sugar, oil, vanilla and eggs until well mixed. Stir in remaining ingredients except nuts and raisins. Stir in nuts and raisins. Divide batter evenly between 8-inch pans or pour into 9-inch pan.

- 3. Bake 8-inch loaves 50 to 60 minutes, 9-inch loaf 1 hour 10 minutes to 1 hour 20 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pans on cooling rack for about 10 minutes.
- 4. Loosen sides of loaves from pans; remove from pans and place top side up on cooling rack. Cool completely, about 2 hours, before slicing. Wrap tightly and store at room temperature up to 4 days, or refrigerate up to 10 days.

#### EXPERT TIPS

**Cranberry Bread:**  
Omit zucchini, cinnamon, cloves and raisins. Stir in 1/2 cup milk and 2 teaspoons grated orange peel with the oil. Stir 3 cups fresh or frozen (thawed and drained) cranberries into batter. Bake 1 hour to 1 hour 10 minutes.

**Pumpkin Bread:**  
Substitute 1 can (15 oz) pumpkin (not pumpkin pie mix) for the zucchini.

To make muffins:  
Grease bottoms only of 24 regular-size muffin cups. Fill cups about 3/4 full. Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until tops spring back when touched lightly.

\*Remember it is always good to share with others. These breads are also great for bake sale items.

#### ENJOY!!!!

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### Lay Leader Notes

#### Brothers and sisters of our St. Matthew family,

Our Vacation is over and we are getting caught up and getting our things together and into the groove for August, back to school, and fall physical and mental house cleaning.

Our vacation was wonderful and a great deal of fun. Hope all of you had as much fun as we did. Those of you who are having a staycation or are taking yours in August enjoy.

This morning we were at our doctor's office and I noted a sign which said, "We may not have all things together, but together we have all things." St. Matthew family, that sign is us! We may not have all things together, but IN CHRIST we have all things.

God Bless,

Barb Hedges  
Co-lay leader



#### Six Simple Things a First-time Church Guest Likes

I have written rather extensively on first-time church guests at this blog. Even more importantly, I have received hundreds of responses from church leaders, Church members, and church guests about this issue. I took the opportunity to look specifically at the comments from first-time guests. After completing this exercise, I was surprised to find that the preferences of these guests can be categorized into six simple groups.

- 1. Be genuinely friendly.**  
"I can tell when someone has a genuine smile and a genuine concern for me." "I don't like the stand-and-greet time because it seems like many of the members are forced to be friendly." "I love churches where people are smiling."
  - 2. Don't put me on the spot.**  
"Don't ask me to raise my hand." "Don't stand up and greet each other while I'm asked to sit down." "Please don't ask me to introduce myself before the entire church."
  - 3. Provide clear directions.**  
"Make certain your websites have the church address and the times of worship services on the home page." "Have clear signage in the parking lot when I enter." "Please have clear signage once I enter the building."
  - 4. Please be empathetic.**  
"I am a single mom with four young children. Please understand it's a struggle to get to church." "I am an introvert who is scared to death when I visit a church. Please don't invade my personal space too much." "I can't afford the clothes many people can. Please don't look down on me."
  - 5. Show joy in your lives.**  
"I came to church expecting people to have obvious joy in their lives." "Your ushers look like grumpy old men and women." "There was something intangible about the third church I visited. I never went to another church after that."
  - 6. "Don't be rude."**  
"Don't tell me, I'm in your seat. If you do, I will be happy to get up and never return." "Don't make me walk over you to get to a seat." "Why did they tell me I didn't look like I belonged here?"
- I wonder what it would be like if all of our first-time guests found our churches joyous, courteous, informative, and friendly. Think about how God might bless them and us. It's really not that difficult. These first-time guests are only asking for basic courtesies and considerations.
- I always look forward to your comments and interaction. Let me hear from you.  
Thom S. Rainer  
<http://thomrainer.com/2015/06/six-simple-things-a-first-time-church-guest-likes/>



**United Methodist Women Morning Glories**

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 4 at 9:00 a.m. for breakfast and fellowship at:

Dobson's Restaurant - 2155 S Dobson Rd. in Mesa, AZ. Please R.S.V.P. to:

Susan Mann Patterson at 480-684-0275 or Karen Anderson at 480-892-2082.

ALL women are welcome to attend, bring a neighbor, friend or family member with you! September through May our group will meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday monthly at 9:00 a.m. in C6-7. September 1 - speaker will be Rev. Joan Miller. September 15 - Program "Water in the West" by speaker, Mary Ohren Patterson. (Susan's daughter).

**UMOM Friday Night Dinners**

There are still a few openings to serve our friends at UMOM during August. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to make a difference and encourage others. The sign up sheet is on the Chat Table on the patio or call Ginny Smythe at 480-892-8083.

**Wesley Donations**

Sewing Donations Needed - Wesley has weekly sewing classes, coordinated and taught by volunteers (thanks to the Sun Lakes UMC volunteers among others), will not meet during the summer, but will begin again in the fall. Donations of fabric, notions, etc., are most welcome. The contact at WCC for those items is Betty Mathis. For more information, please call her at her direct office line: 602-252-5624.

**It's Here: Back to School Drive for Helen's Just a Reminder...**

Bring new and gently used clothing for children ages 1 - 18, new underwear, new socks, toiletries, books, games and other toys to church July 26 through August 24 to take part in the Helen's Hope Chest back-to-school drive. We have a chest set up in the narthex as well as a bin in the entrance to the activity center (the bin will be kept up year round and emptied bi-weekly.) Thanks so much for the contributions that we've received thus far. For more information, email Lin Leivian at lin.leivian@cox.net.



**Please Share Your Information with Us**

Having surgery? In the hospital? Please let the church office at 480-838-7309 or Pastor Miller at 602-400-5626 know if you are hospitalized and desire a pastoral call. The federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, enacted in 1996, prohibits hospitals from releasing patient information. As a result, the church office no longer has any way of knowing if you are in the hospital unless you contact the office directly.



**"YOUR" Current Information Wanted**

You are so very important to our church!!! We need and want "your" correct information...



***Have you moved?***  
***Did you get a new phone number recently?***

Please be sure to contact the church office with any new mailing address information and/or telephone information. Please, call Evie in the church office at 480-838-7309 during business hours... or...Email the information to: evie@stmatthewmesa.org. Thanks for staying in touch!

**Worship Committee**

Meeting on Thursday, August 6 at 7:00 p.m. in B11.

**Helping Hands**

Meeting on Saturday, August 8 at 9:00 a.m. in C6-7.

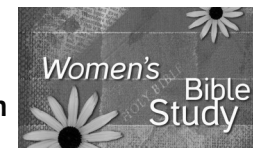
**Mission Committee**

Our Ignite Ministry Mission is an opportunity to serve in our own community. For the next year we will be asking you to help the Missions committee and Church Council to provide sack lunches for the East Valley Men's Shelter. This will take place on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. You may help by packing the lunches, donating money to support this project, purchasing food items, delivering the lunches on Sunday afternoon, writing notes of encouragement to include in the sack lunch and praying for this ministry. Please make your check to St. Matthew UMC and note East Valley Men's Lunches on the check.

For more information contact Bob and Denise Allen at 480-276-6025 or 480-734-1352.

**Women's Bible Study**

Class begins on Thursday, September 17 and will go through November 17, meeting every Thursday, at 6:00 a.m. in room C4. Class subject: God Loves You by David Jeremiah. Cost is \$7.00, all books have been sold. Please contact Jo Sprankle at 480-227-6333 if you have not gotten your book yet. This study focuses on 10 different dimensions of love as manifested by the God who is love, because God is infinite and inexhaustible, so is true love. But the 10 dimensions of love revealed in this study are core aspects of the kind of love that sacrifices itself for the benefit of others, loyal, unconditional, eternal love.



All women are welcome. Many age groups are represented. We conclude by 7:15 a.m. and some go on to work. Others join for breakfast at a local restaurant. (to be determined) Contact Anne Dutton annedutton@mac.com 602-320-1232 or Jo Sprankle jesprankle@hotmail.com 480-227-6333. December 3 and 10 will focus on special studies by our members. January 2016 we will begin a 26 week study on David by Beth Moore. Information will follow later.

**UMOM - Join the Walk for the Homeless**



Saturday, September 26 at the Phoenix Zoo, thousands of people will gather to help raise money and awareness for homeless in the community. The walk is a fun and inspirational way to raise critical funds for UMOM. Each day, families find hope and safety at UMOM. They receive shelter, clothing, food and the chance to end their homelessness. Your support helps make all that possible! Help us reach our goal of \$75,000. We will have a youth team. Why not form a team of your own? More information will follow and there will be sign ups on the patio as well as electronically. Please contact our Missions committee if you have questions.

**Wesley Center**

Sewing Donations Needed. Wesley has weekly sewing classes, coordinated and taught by volunteers (thanks to the Sun Lakes UMC volunteers & others), will not meet during the summer, but will begin again in the fall. Donations of fabric, notions, etc., are most welcome. The contact at WCC for sewing items is Betty Mathis. For more information, please call her at her direct office line: 602-252-5624. Thank YOU!

**Monday Night Study**

Fervent Prayer: Equipping the Faithful Starts Monday night, September 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel. Cost is \$20 per person. Seating will be limited. Be sure to sign up early. Facilitators: Anne Dutton and Pastor Jim. If you want a class ABOUT prayer, this is not it. We are not going to just talk about prayer or think about prayer or discuss apt forms of prayer. NO. For this class, get ready...



In this class, you will pray. "Because life is just too impossible otherwise - yours, mine, everybody's. We simply don't have the luxury of playing nice with prayer. Not if we want things to change. Not if we want to be free - from whatever's keeping us held down and held back. Not if we want our hearts whole and thriving and deep and grounded...different. Not if we want to reach our destinies and experience God's promises. Not if we want our {families} living out what God has called them to do and be and become. Not if we want a fence of God's protection around us. Not if we want to bear the unmistakable mark of His favor upon us." Priscilla Shirer, *FerVent*, intro.

Content: Each session - begins with worship, addresses strategies for discovery and prayer, presents one or more questions to stimulate reflection, is Bible based, provides significant time for you to pray. You will - learn to write your own prayers, practice presence, reflect on your past, present, future, reflect on God's calling for your life, claim the power of prayer for yourself, your family and your church. The closing each evening will be equal to the effort of the class; sometimes surprising; sometimes familiar; always Christ centered. To sign up for this class please contact: Anne Dutton: annedutton@mac.com 602-320-1232 Pastor Jim: jim@stmatthewmesa.org 602-377-9434.

**Justa Center**

We cannot do without your help. Your donations me so very much to many at our center. Justa Center needs, razors, deodorant, toilet paper, dish soap, new men's socks, new women's socks, anit-itch cream, antacid and walking canes.

**Thank YOU for your support!**