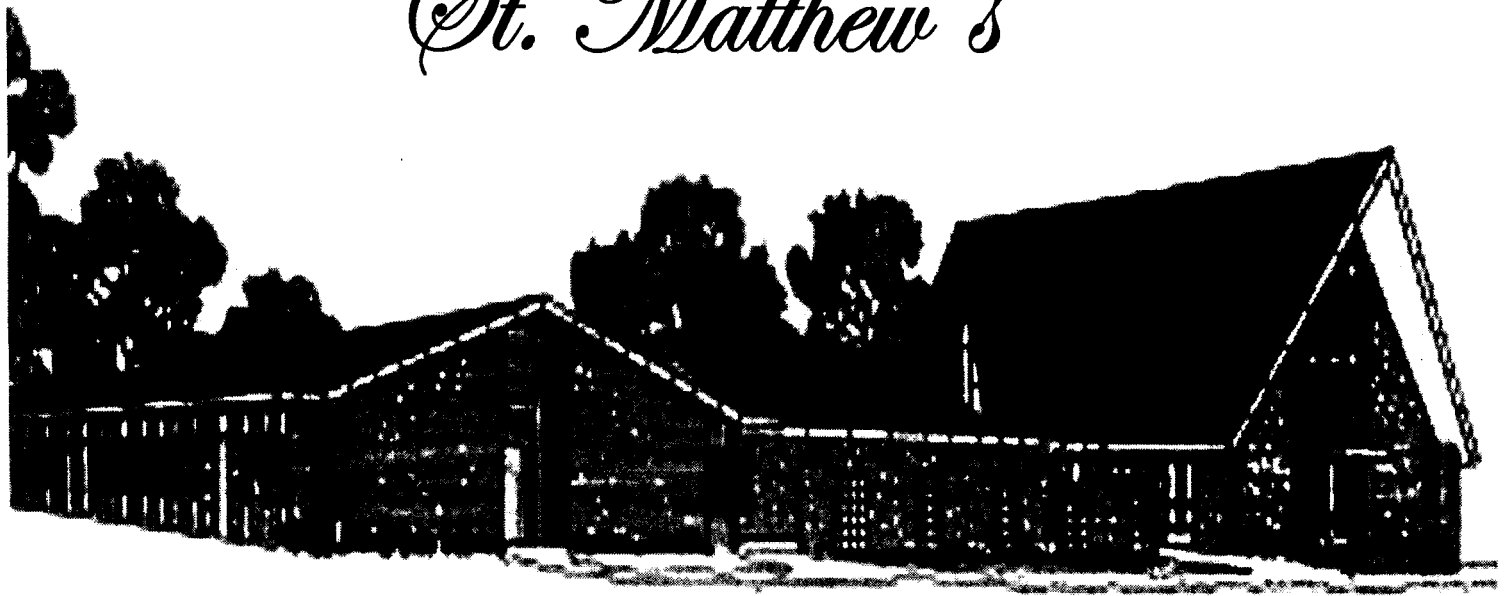


St. Matthew's



*A Place to Belong.... A Place to Become....
A Place to Belong... A Place to Become..*

Well, we have completed our first year together. I envision at least four to six more years here, serving you and leading St. Matthews in a time of growth. My vision is that we grow in Spirit as each one of us experiences the love of God in a personal way. I also envision us growing in numbers of faithful disciples of Jesus Christ as we go about the mission of His church - that we go and make disciples of all people. As we grow in Spirit and know a personal relationship with Jesus, we will become like a fountain overflowing with a burning desire to share Christ with others.

I awoke one morning, at the very end of May, with a strange feeling. It was a warm, peaceful experience. As I slowly became more alert to the new day, I became aware of a dream - actually more a vision that I experienced just before waking. I was standing across Hope Mills Road and looking at St. Matthews. It was a bright day with a beautiful blue sky. St. Matthews was a little bigger church and it shown bright and beaming as rays of light were shining down on the church and the grounds.

When I arrived here last year, I was told that St. Matthews was concerned about the future of the church because the congregation was aging and we were not seeing new people coming into the body of Christ. After taking this year to pray, listen, visit, teach, preach, celebrate, observe, and asses I find myself being lead by the Holy Spirit to begin the work of leading St. Matthews into the future.

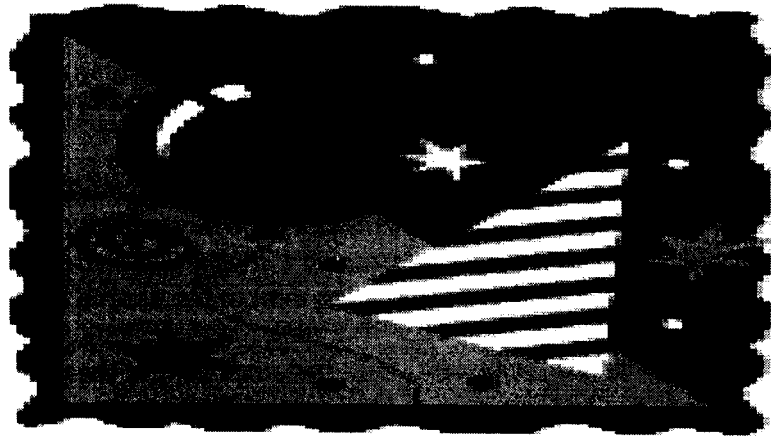
This will not be a process that we will complete in a short period of time. It will require each and every member to be actively involved in the process of examining where you are in your faith journey and where you are in your relationship with Christ. Each member of the congregation will need to grow in Spirit. Every person will need to be in ministry. Every person will have to be in prayer, that we will recognize God's vision for St. Matthews, and how it is that we are to fit into His plan.

So, I invite you to come with me on a spectacular journey of faith as we grow into the church that Christ would have us be.

Know God's love and the joy of sharing that love with others.

Marc





HAPPY JULY BIRTHDAY

- 4- Jacob Gallimore
Jeff Brown
- 5- Marie Parker
- 6- Gail Terwilliger
- 7- Peggy Williams
- 10- Gertrude Schultz
- 11- Wayne Everts
Christy Khondaker
- 18- Verena Wright
Lisa Davis
- 20- Jack Spakes
- 29- Juli Bray
Wendy Johnson
Cynthia Rogers
- 30- Vicki Powell

...Where a congregation realizes its potential as the body of Christ, it is extremely attractive to outsiders....

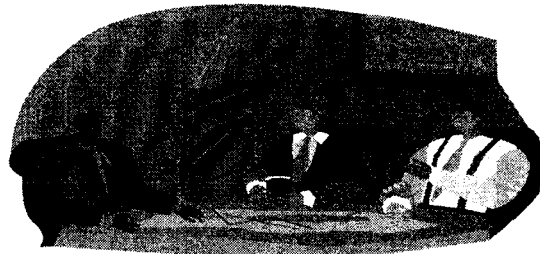
UMM REPRESENTATIVE AT NURTURE MEETING

We hope to see all the men of the church at our next meeting, which will be Sunday, 20 July 2008 at 0830 am. We are trying to fill the fellowship hall with men for our UMM meeting next month so, bring a friend, neighbor, co-worker or even a stranger to share in a great breakfast and fun fellowship. Just a reminder, we welcome the men of the church (member or not) to join us for United Methodist Men each month, even if it has been awhile since we have seen you, come, fellowship and break bread (or biscuit) with the other men of the church.

Ushers for July 2008 are: Dave Norris, Cliff Morgan, Lee Mayle, Bill Stackhouse, and Raymond Gray.

Please check out the UMM Board located in the front hallway for valuable information, upcoming events, and member information.

Andy welcomes new



Noteworthy: Church wide picnic at St Matthew's, Saturday, September 27th and Homecoming, Sunday, September 28th.

UMM meeting for June was cancelled.. Remember: Smile, God Loves You; talk with you soon.

Respectfully submitted by Bill Stackhouse,
UMM Secretary

Prayer is an equal measure of speaking and listening to God.

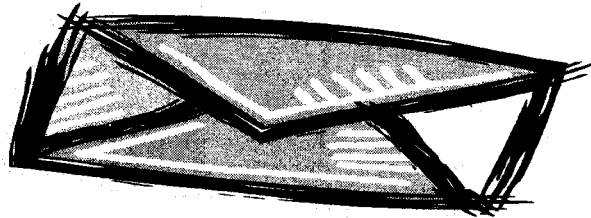
A big thank you goes out to the women of the church for leading the Fathers' Day worship service. It was great to see so many women out front leading. The music was great and the message was meaningful and spoke to us all. I pray that you continue in your leadership role and be a part of the worship leadership team more often. - Marc



I like the slogan I read recently.
The author said he thought the
purpose of the church should be:

1. **Reach the lost.**
2. **Teach the found.**
3. **Send out the taught.**

.....
American Christians have little interest in pursuing a demanding faith..
.....



Thank You, Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!
To the congregation of St Matthew's. I did not fully understand or more importantly recognize the feeling of love and care until my recent illness. During the past 5 months of surgeries, rehab and convalescence, I continue to be amazed at the number of calls, cards, gifts, flowers, and visits by all you wonderful people at St Matthews.

It is now my turn to try and repay each and everyone of you for your caring and sharing. With love I offer my services to do what I can in your time of need.

**Love,
Bob**

THRIFT SHOP

When is the last time you have been in the Thrift Shop? If you have never been I invite you to come over and see how we operate. We need you to know all about what the workers do and how we support the work of the church and the community . Your support is vital to the daily operation. Without your donations and that of our community we would have nothing to sell!

During these summer months we need extra workers as some of our regulars are on vacation . So come over, check us out and see your Thrift Shop in action.

Have you noticed the addition to our Pray Garden ? The Thrift Shop money paid for the mulch! Bible School activities and a donation to the Care Clinic and Better Health are other areas we helped to support, again your efforts at work.

Thanks to the efforts of the regular workers we are able to do many “Good Works”. We would love to have you share in this ministry with us.

Julie Griffin



—————**Many people feel that the church has no right to expect anything from them.**—————

Sanctification and Perfection – We hold that the wonder of God’s acceptance and pardon does not end God’s saving work, which continues to nurture our growth in grace. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are enabled to increase in the knowledge and love of God and in love for our neighbor.

New birth is the first step in this process of sanctification. Sanctifying grace draws us toward the gift of Christian perfection, which

Wesley described as a heart “habitually filled with the love of God and neighbor” and as “having the mind of Christ and walking as he walked.”

This gracious gift of God’s power and love, the hope and expectation of the faithful, is neither warranted by our efforts nor limited by our frailties.

Is your life balanced?

Rate how balanced your life is on a scale from 1 to 10, with 10 being a fully balanced life. What is something about your lifestyle that contributes to balance and something that detracts from it? This is just the beginning of the new book, Balance: Living with Life's Demands, that our newest Sunday School class has been discussing. Now, take this short quiz, rate your lifestyle using the questions below.

A=Agree, D=Disagree

- I wish I had more time for myself.
- I wish I had more time with my family and friends.
- It seems like my life is all work and no play.
- My work is so stressful that it's taking a toll on my health.
- Sometimes pursuing my desires gets in me into trouble.

This is just another topic for discussion in the chapter. In our small group, discussion based class, we talk about current events and daily life in relation to the Bible. We are beginning the second book now, we just completed *Mystery*, and there are a few more books in the series. The book is made up of short, easy to read chapters that include different people's views on the topics. The chapters in this book touch on being in a rush, it's not fair, I'm so busy, and Lord, where are you? Just to name a few.

If this is something you may be interested in, please join us on Sunday mornings at 9:45. Feel free to bring a friend! Hope to see you there!



Church is a verb rather than a noun.



We would like to invite our church family to join us:

On: August 10, 2008

At: 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm

**Where: St. Matthews Fellowship Hall
for a floating wedding shower for
Justin Cole & Stacey Melvin**

**Thank you
Pam Gallimore**

Praise Team Update

Our praise team has been praising and worshiping every Sunday morning possible for the last seven years. The last couple of months we have changed the way we are projecting our words. Instead of just using an overhead to project the words to our music we are now using praise and worship DVD's. Pastor Marc has been the lead in this change in trying to help bring us up to the 21st century. We are still making a few more changes, but hopefully soon we will have it all worked out. Your input would be greatly appreciated so if you see a praise team member tell them if you like our new setup or what we could do to help improve it.

Praise and worship is a wonderful way to get our hearts and minds ready to worship God. So on Sunday mornings come with open hearts and minds. If you have had a difficult week with problems, sickness, just not feeling completely up to yourself or you may have some challenges coming up the following week this is a wonderful time to turn it all over to God and feel him lift the heavy load off of your shoulders.

**We are always looking for people to join our praise team so if you are interested come and join us on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. for practices.
Ushers and Acolytes**

We would like to say Thank You Methodist Men for always stepping up on Sunday mornings to greet the people with smiles as they enter the sanctuary, and collecting the offering.

Youth we would also like to Thank You for the many years of acolyte services that you have provided. You do a GREAT job each Sunday morning and you are appreciated. We are also looking for someone to oversee the acolytes which really just consists of setting a schedule for them and showing the new ones what to do. If this is something you feel God is leading you to do please contact Pam or Barry.

PAM AND Barry Gallimore

.....
If you aren't learning, you're not a Christian
.....

Prayer is an equal measure of speaking and listening to God.



HOW TO PUT
ST. MATTHEWS UMC
IN YOUR WILL

After providing for your family and loved ones, you may want to put St. Matthews UMC in your will, thus helping to assure the long-term future of Christ's work. Bequests are free of estate tax, and can substantially reduce the amount of your assets claimed by the government. You can give needed support for St. Matthews UMC by simply including the following words in your will: "I give, devise, and bequeath to St. Matthews United Methodist Church, 202 Hope Mills Road, Fayetteville, NC 28304 (insert amount being given) to be used to support the operation, upkeep, and ministry of St. Matthews United Methodist Church." A bequest can be a specific dollar amount, a specific piece of property, a percentage of an estate, or all or part of the residue of an estate. You can also name St. Matthews UMC as a contingency beneficiary in the event someone named in your will is no longer living.

It is recommended that a lawyer help in drafting or amending a will.

TOP TEN TETHERS

Holding Back the Laity

10. We were encouraged to be loyal, not take risks.
9. We were encouraged to read responsively, not pursue spiritual disciplines.
8. We were encouraged to serve offices, not shepherd people.
7. We were encouraged to go to church, not shape a lifestyle.
6. We were encouraged to analyze, not synthesize.
5. We were encouraged to manage institutions, not multiply ministries.
4. We were encouraged to build strategic plans, not seize emerging opportunities.
3. We were encouraged to explain bad things, to overcome gratuitous evil.
2. We were encouraged to be faithful, not transformed by joy.
1. We were only encourage, but never seriously trained.

Moving off the Map, by Thomas G. Bandy



Ruth/Ethel Smith Circle

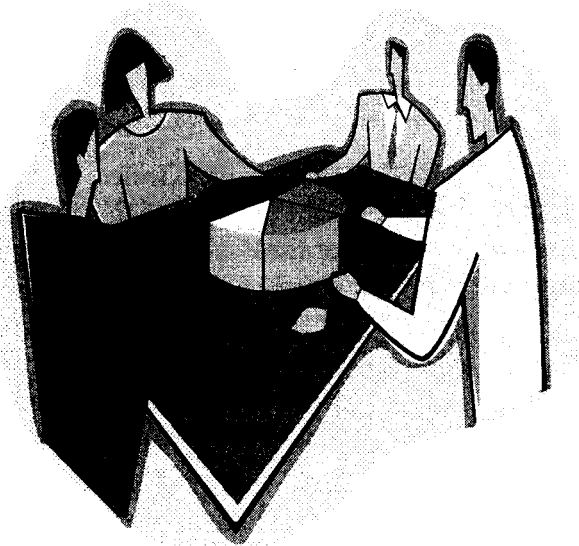
The past year has been very nice and I want to thank each and everyone who helped in our missions. I enjoyed our time with the dinner for Bible School, things turned out so well for us. Do have a nice summer and see you in September.

Lola Smith
Chairperson
Ruth/Ethel Smith Circle

Hello to all! Another month has flown by and the Outreach committee has been hard at work again. This last month we were busy reaching out to the community about Vacation Bible School. I want to thank everyone who helped get the word out about VBS: Calvin Rome for putting VBS in the newspaper, Karen Ogden for putting VBS on the community channel on TV, Bill Stackhouse for always doing a great job with our events on the sign in front of the church, and the youth group for handing out invitations to the homes in the church neighborhood. Thanks to all who invited friends or family, and thanks to all who spread the word around the community. I think St. Matthew's did a great job spreading the word about Vacation Bible School, and I think we reached out to a few people who needed the word of God or who needed that nudge to come back to church. If we touched at least one person's heart, wasn't it worth it?!

I hope you have enjoyed reading our featured, monthly "Did you know" person in the newsletter. The Outreach committee wants all of St. Matthew's to know just how much outreach is going on in our church and what kind of activities these faithful servants of the Lord are doing. I want to thank Julie Griffin for volunteering to initiate the "Did you know" article, and great job with your article on Pam and Barry Gallimore. I hope reading of other peoples' stewardships leads you to participating in an outreach activity of the church. It can be as simple or complex as you wish! But all in all, nothing is never to much when it comes to spreading God's love, right!? Have a great month!!

In God's Love,
Amanda Call





Did You Know

Did you know that our ***Heather Shackelford*** graduates this year? She was born on December 16, 1989 and She was baptized at St. Matthews on December 31, 1989

Dr. Michael Hale confirmed Heather as a member of St Matthews on April 8, 2001.

Heather gradates from Cape Fear High School on June 11th with honors. Her cap and gown will be adorned with 5 Honor Cords.

1. Natural Science Academy Graduate
2. Mentor
3. Honor Student
4. Vocational Honor Student
5. Academy of Scholars

She will also wear a Beta Club Tassel. Double bar for Academic Letter
Heather will be receiving recognition for the Presidential Education Award for Academic Excellence, Highest Average in English IV Honors and Allied Health II Intern Award.
Heather has been in the academically gifted Program from the 3rd grade to 12th.

Heather plans to attend Methodist University and Major in Athletic Training for Sports Medicine. She will minor in Exercise Science. At present Heather works with 3 year olds at the daycare at Salem UMC.

It has been our honor and privilege to watch Heather grow from diapers to lipstick and high heels. We witnessed her baptism and confirmation here at St. Matthews and promised to pray and nurture her. She has been active in this church in many, many roles. She has attended activities for the youth, serving on the conference level as youth advisor. With the youth she has worked in Bible School, helped numerous Easter Hunts. She sings with the Praise Team and Choir. I could go on and on with memories of her Christian service here at St. Matthews.

I think one of the most memorable moments in the life of the church for me was watching her cook and serve breakfast with Troy Willoughby.

We, at St Matthews love Heather and wish her love, joy, peace, and happiness as she graduates from this stage in her life and embraces the future.

With Heather's love and respect for her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ she will reach the stars if she chooses. She will make life-altering choices that will determine the road she travels. A road that will have lumps, bumps and detours. She will never have to travel them alone her Lord and Savior will be her guide and constant companion.

God Bless you Heather... We love you



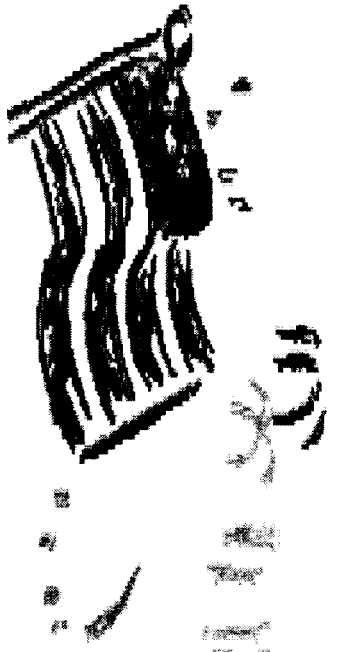
Well it's hard to believe that the year is now half way over, I guess it is true that "time fly's when your having fun." We began our month on the 1st trying something a little different, a spaghetti donation lunch and a youth labor raffle. As always we can count on the congregation to support us on our activities. If you where there you learned something new about Ms. Amanda, she is also a Auctioneer. What doesn't she do? We hope everyone had gotten plenty of food to eat and we are working on getting all of our debts to society fulfilled. Please be patient with us until we get to your house and clean up for you.

The following weekend we had a quick change to our meeting plans. Instead of sitting at church we went out after church into the neighborhood and handed out pamphlets on the upcoming vacation bible school at church. Hopefully we reached out to a few people in the community to join us at VBS. After that it was so hot we headed to Mr. Doug's house for a refreshing dip in their pool and a hotdog lunch. After a few hours of fun in the sun Ms. Amanda started our meeting to schedule upcoming issues we need to take care of and Mr. Doug gave us a devotion on "The importance of Tithing."

We again got together and spent the 16 - 20th supporting Vacation Bible School. We took charge of the games every night. We are still trying to figure out who had more fun playing. Was it the children or our Youth Leaders? Anyway we believe that it was a great success and we are looking forward to what's next. We then finished the week with a cookout of Hamburg-ers and Hotdogs. There was plenty food to go around with ice cream to top the meal off. We want to "Thank" Mr. Kevin for helping get the grill going.

We are definitely wore down from all the work but are ready to begin a new month. We again want to thank everyone for their support. We Love you all.

St. Matthew's Youth



JULY

2008

ST. MATTHEW'S UMC

A place to Belong...

202 Hope Mills Road
Fayetteville, NC 28304

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Prayer Ministry 6 PM Bible Study 7:15 PM Day Camp	2 Card Ministry 5PM Day Camp	3 Day Camp	4 "Happy Fourth"	5
6 UMYF 4 PM Witness 5 PM	7 UMW 6:15 PM	8 Prayer Ministry 6 PM Bible Study 7:15 PM	9 Ruth/Ethel Smith Circle 11 AM Card Ministry 5 PM Choir Practice 7:30	10 Night Owls 7:00 PM	11	12
13	14	15 Prayer Ministry 6PM Bible Study 7:15	16 Card Ministry 5PM	17	18	19
20 UMM 8:30 AM	21 Nurture 5:30 PM	22 Prayer Ministry 6 PM Bible Study 7:15 PM	23 Card Ministry 5 PM Choir Practice 7:30	24 Help-N-Hands 11 AM	25	26 FFF Book Club 8:30
27 Choir Practice 12:15	28 Council 6 PM	29 Prayer Ministry 6 PM Bible Study 7:15 PM	30 Card Ministry 5PM	31		

Phone: 910-425-0401
 Fax: 910-425-9393
 E-mail: stmatturnc@embargmail.com
 Web address: <http://stmatturnc.org>