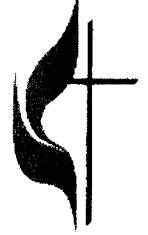


St. Matthew's 25 Challenge

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Jesus said, "When you did it to one of these my brethren, you did it unto me." Matt. 25:40

Volume II

NOVEMBER 2002

Issue 11

Thanksgiving or Thanks - Giving

For most Americans Thanksgiving is associated with a national holiday. We think about a day off from work and school holidays for the kids. What will we do with this extra time? For many it is a time to gather together with family and friends for a sumptuous dinner of turkey and dressing with all the fixin's. Retailers target the day after as the beginning of the Christmas shopping season and the biggest shopping day of the year. Occasionally we think about the first gathering of the pilgrims and the Indians sharing a feast together. And once in a while we might actually stop to give thanks for all with which we have been blessed.

Essentially, Thanksgiving is a community celebration. That is the reason it is a national holiday. It says something about the nation and communities where we live. Yet we usually celebrate most of this holiday within the privacy of our own homes with the people closest to us. That's not a bad thing, but it does seem to miss the point for most of us. We miss the community aspect of the event as a national celebration. We will celebrate thanksgiving as a community of faith when we come together Sunday evening, November 17th for our Harvest Dinner and our children and youth will sing for us. That's good.

But where do we celebrate as a larger community the real meaning of the holiday. In remembering the pilgrims and the Indians we are reminded of a community celebration which brought people together from different races, cultures and religions. They put aside their differences and celebrated their common thankfulness for the blessings they had already received. We have that same opportunity here with the **Fayetteville Community-Wide Thanksgiving Services** which calls people together from different races, cultures and religions to share in thanksgiving the privilege of living in this great country of ours. For this reason I do

not plan to segregate us from the rest of our community by having a Wednesday night Thanksgiving service at our church. I challenge the faithful and the thankful of our congregation to join me in celebrating Thanksgiving as a larger community on **Sunday November 24th at 4:00 pm at Seabrook Auditorium on the campus of Fayetteville State University.**

There are a lot of really good people who are a part of St. Matthew's UMC, but are we thankful people or self-centered people? Does our faith express itself in **Thanks - Giving?** Are we willing to give an hour or so of our time once a year to demonstrate that we are thankful to live in a nation which gives us a holiday to give thanks as we join together with other members of our community?

David tells us in Psalm 50:14 **"Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High."** As members of this church you made vows to support the church with your prayers, presence, gifts and service. How few show their thanks - giving to a gracious God for all he has done for us. How many among us demonstrated thankful giving to our God? Or do we just give God the leftovers and think we are really doing something significant? In Jesus day a person did not make a free will offering to God until they exceeded the tithe. Jesus gave everything for us. What are your acts of **Thanks - Giving** to your church and community? St. Paul tells us in Colossians 2: 6 **"As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving."**

*Shalom,
Mike*



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

I can't begin to **thank** everyone who helped, worked, donated, organized, priced, cooked, crocheted, sewed, quilted, counted money, or "all of the above" with the Bazaar. It's always lots of hard work, but we have determined that it is worth all our efforts. We made approximately **\$1,694.05**. To God be the glory! Don't forget the "**Shoebox Ministry**", we need everyone's help this year. Wouldn't it be great to have one box per family unit from our church going somewhere around the world to share God's love and let others know that we care as well? I would love to have to "beg" the UMW or the Thrift Shop Committee for more funds to send our boxes overseas. Pamphlets are available outside the side door of the sanctuary or see the UMW's Bulletin Board for further details. Bring your shoeboxes to the church on **Sunday, November 17th** and they will be picked up on **Monday, November 18th**. Don't forget to attach the age group and boy or girl label on top of box. **Thanks for your support!**

Mary Rozier, UMW President

RUTH-ETHEL SMITH CIRCLE

This month's meeting will be a busy one. We have to draw names for our **Secret Prayer Partner**, make a schedule for **Hostess & Programmer** for next year, and also make a schedule for **Kitchen Clean-Up** (January - June 2003). Be thinking of these things so we can get all this taken care of at our next meeting on November 13th. Also, we will be making plans to feed a family for **Thanksgiving**. Remember to bring your "**World Thanks Offering**" and "**Penny-A-Prayer**". November 17th is the deadline for "**Samaritan's Purse**" to be at the church for mailing. This is such a worthwhile project. Thanks to all who contribute to this worthy cause. Let's not forget to take extra time this month to thank God for our many blessings. **"Happy Thanksgiving"** to everyone.

Catherine Morgan

NIGHT OWLS CIRCLE

I'd like to thank everyone who helped with the Bazaar. Everyone did a great job. Remember our November project is the "Shoeboxes". They need to be turned in to the church by November 17th. During our next meeting which will be November 14th, we will be electing new officers. So be in thought about who you'd like to elect. Thank you & God bless!

Shirley Dominic

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17

- ◆ Deadline for turning in "Shoe Boxes"

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30

- ◆ Cumberland/Hoke Sub-District Mtg. at
Sandy Grove UMC, 2:00 pm

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

- ◆ 7:00 pm—UMW General Meeting, 7:00 pm

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

"Banana Nut Bread"

1 tsp Baking Soda	2 Eggs
1 tsp Vanilla Extract	1/2 tsp Salt
2 cups All Purpose Flour	1 1/4 cups Sugar
1 stick Margarine	1/3 cup Milk
1/2 cup chopped Walnuts, toasted	
2 medium ripe Bananas, mashed	

Preheat oven to 325 F. Grease 9x5x3 inch loaf pan; set aside. In medium bowl, combine flour, baking soda & salt; set aside. In large bowl, with electric mixer, beat margarine and sugar until light & fluffy. Beat in eggs & vanilla until blended, scraping sides occasionally. Alternately add flour mixture with milk just until blended, beginning and ending with flour mixture. Stir in bananas & walnuts. Evenly spoon batter into prepared pan. Bake 1 hour 20 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool on wire rack 10 minutes; remove from pan & cool completely. Makes 1 loaf.



The Thrift Shop has been busy throughout the Summer. As a result of your giving and purchasing, we contributed to the following:

- ◆ \$7,000 towards the renovation of the Ladies Restroom
- ◆ Stamps for the Card Ministry
- ◆ \$150 to the Emergency Fund
- ◆ \$100 to the Church Power Bill

- ◆ Winter clothes to the Homeless Coalition and the Community Services Program

We thank each of you for your donations and especially want to say "thank you" to all those who faithfully work so that the Thrift Shop may stay in operation.

NEW BEGINNINGS

Our New Beginnings Group met at Lake Rim Park on October 20th for our Softball Game against the Youth. It was a great success. We had a total of 40 people in attendance. We are looking forward to the "Gaither Concert" on November 16th at the Crown Coliseum. In December, we are planning a "Progressive Dinner". More details to follow.

ONE-BY-ONE

HELP!!! WE HAVE A PROBLEM!!!! We have more teachers than students. It is an extra-ordinary problem which has not happened before. Just to lay it on the line, we have **MANY** children who want and need help, but their parents simply don't want to be bothered by bringing the children to us for one hour a week.

YOU CAN HELP! Do you have children living near you who need our help and have a caring parent to bring them? Will you help us in our outreach ministry by getting the word out? We are actively going to other near-by schools, but we need more time to introduce the benefits of **ONE-BY-ONE**.

We really want to help those in our church community. However, no one will be excluded. Remember, we serve anyone from ages five through older adults. Most of you are familiar enough with what we do to get accurate information to others. The letter posted on our bulletin board gives each date we meet through the end of the school year.

In advance, **THANK YOU!** St. Matthew's has risen to the top in giving us volunteers as teachers. Our church has not let us down. We really appreciate those teachers who are still waiting for a student. **PLEASE** help us help!

With Love in Christ,
Amy



HELP'N HANDS

The Help'n Hands Group met on Thursday, October 24th and went to "Kinlaws" for lunch. We enjoyed great food and fellowship. Attendance was low due to the rainy weather. Our next meeting will be **November 21st** a week before Thanksgiving. It will be a "Covered Dish" meal in the fellowship hall. You can practice your favorite Thanksgiving dish on us. I am working on a **Guest Speaker** who has spoken to the Methodist Men in the past. His message was enjoyed by all. Make it a priority to hear him. We will also have games and entertainment and are looking for a large turnout. See you there!

Charles Lucas, Asst. Coordinator

GOD'S TEENS

Thank you to the **UMW** for giving our combined groups of UMYF and GT a room for the Bazaar. Because of your help, we were able to kick off a new mission. We raised over **\$200.00** to contribute to the **Scholarship Fund**. The folks from church helped. **Thanks!** God's Teens have a Mission Statement to study the Bible. As a result, other items have been added to our mission. We have contributed to the **Emergency Fund** for families with children monthly for well over a year now. It brings us great pleasure to do what we can to serve the Lord. Then came the **Scholarship Fund**. We realized that during the next four years alone, 16 of us are college-bound! Out of somewhere in the unknown came the idea for us to begin a challenge to others at St. Matthew's. When and if you have any extra money, would you search your hearts and consider a donation to the Scholarship Fund?

God Loves You And So Do We, God's Teens

A SPECIAL THANKS!

This week I decided it was time to take down all the "Get Well Cards" Jack and I received when we were "under the weather". They had been taped on our den doors so we could see them; and as I took them down and re-read the verses and the hand-written notes, they meant more than I can tell you. **Thanks** to each and every one of you!
God bless, Dorothy Spakes

CONCERNS:

Our thoughts and prayers are extended to **Barry Gallimore** and his family during the recent loss of his wife, Denise, and also to **J.A. Sessoms** and his family during the recent loss of his brother, Fairley Sessoms. May God wrap his loving arms around you and bring you peace and comfort!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 - Amanda Colon | 14 - Derrek Snyder |
| 3 - Elaine Everts | 15 - Hank Zielinski |
| 5 - Justin Cole | 17 - Kristen Royal |
| 6 - Lynwood Griffin | 19 - Jessica Powell |
| - Tracy Scruggs | 23 - Irma Evans |
| 8 - Lynn Graham | 25 - Mary Sue Grady |
| 11 - Bob Pray | 26 - Ashley Alexander |
| 12 - Gudrun Arnold | 28 - Christopher Rome |
| - Darrell Collins | 30 - Amanda Yencsko |
| - Glyndetta Hubbard | |

UNITED METHODIST MEN

The UMM met on October 20th for their regular monthly meeting at their new time **8:30 a.m.** The time was changed in hopes to accommodate more people.

Dr. Hale had our devotion (*Ephesians 1 & 23*) "Imitators of God". Why Christian men need to be leaders of the church. Our topic of discussion was when did men relinquish the leadership to women? As men are the "Head of the Home", their responsibility is leading the spiritual life at home as well as the church. These changes began very early in the 20th century. Questions we ask ourselves is the commitment gone from the men and who are we being role models for?

Our business was the results of our Barbeque Sale. Raymond Gray reported that it was a success. Lyle Spidle gave a financial report, but was unable to give an accurate total until all the money was turned in. Raymond thanked all who helped, and gave special recognition to their **#1 salesman, J.A. Sessoms**. He sold and delivered approximately **25%** of the tickets. Thanks again, J.A. We couldn't do it without you.

Other business discussed were **Needy Families** and the **Harvest Day Dinner**. We gave **\$200.00** to **Mental Health Auxiliary** to help in their missions, and will supply **Turkeys** and **Hams** for the **Harvest Day Dinner**.

Head Usher for November is **Raymond Gray**. Next month **Dan Eberhardt** will have a program on **Ushering**. The UMM work at the Thrift Shop every 3rd and 4th Saturday of every month. **Lynwood Griffin** and **Lynn Graham** prepared a delicious breakfast for all in attendance. **Thank you** Lynwood and Lynn. Our next meeting will be November 17th at 8:30 a.m. Hope to see all the men there!

Respectively,
Troy Willoughby, UMM President

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

EMERGENCY FUND

- ◆ from God's Teens for Families with Children
- ◆ from the Sunday Morning Bible Study Class
- ◆ from the Ruth-Ethel Smith Circle
- ◆ from Paul & Jewel Sharpe
- ◆ from Ruth Caldwell in memory of Denise Gallimore
- ◆ in honor of Mary Sue Grady's birthday (11-25) from her Secret Prayer Partner
- ◆ in honor of Gudrun Arnold from her Secret Prayer Partner
- ◆ The Thrift Shop
- ◆ in memory of Denise Gallimore from the Sunday Morning Bible Study Class

POWER BILL from the Thrift Shop

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

- ◆ from Wayne & Elaine Everts
- ◆ from Gail Terwilliger in honor of the birth of Ella Moor Pezzullo (10-8) great-neice of Gail Terwilliger & Ruth Caldwell's birthday & in memory of Carl Lindenmeyer
- ◆ from UMYF & God's Teens

MEMORIAL FUND

- ◆ from Bob & Betty Probst in memory of Denise Gallimore

CARD MINISTRY

*Some weeks we're many
Some weeks we're few
But we could always be better
If we only had you!*

*That's how we feel about our
Card Ministry. Even if you can
only come occasionally, we can
use your help on Wednesdays at
5:00 - 6:30 p.m. at the Pizza Pal-
ace signing cards and praying
for those in need. Please come
out and help!*

Card Ministry



ST. MATTHEW'S SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 3 - Rev. David Malloy, District Superintendent, will be our Guest Preacher followed by a Donation Lunch 12:15 p.m. & Charge Conference at 1:30 p.m.
- 8-10 - Pilgrimage for UMYF (Crown Coliseum)
- 9 - Gudrun Arnold's 80th Birthday Party in fellowship hall, 2:00 p.m.
- 10 - Honor Veterans
 - James & Joyce DeBruhl's 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration in fellowship hall, 4:00 p.m.
- 17 - Harvest Dinner/Children's Program, 6:00 p.m.
- 24 - United Methodist Student Day
 - Angel Tree
 - Community Thanksgiving Service at Seabrook Auditorium FSU, 4:00 p.m.

DECEMBER

- 1 - Hanging of the Greens & Chrismon Service, 7:00 p.m.
- 15 - Christmas Cantata
- 24 - Christmas Eve Communion Service, 6:00 p.m.

ATTENTION YOUTH!

*NC Conference Council
On Youth Ministries
Presents
PILGRIMAGE
November 8 - 10, 2002
At The
Crown Coliseum
For UMYF Groups*

*Where faith and discipleship
can be fun!*

**YOU ARE INVITED
TO ATTEND
THE 80TH BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION
FOR GUDRUN ARNOLD
SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 9TH, 2002
2:00 - 6:00 P.M.
IN THE
FELLOWSHIP HALL**



**THE CHILDREN OF
JAMES & JOYCE DEBRUHL
INVITE THE MEMBERS OF
ST. MATTHEW'S UMC
TO THEIR
50TH
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
PARTY SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 10TH, 2002
THE COUPLE WILL
RENEW THEIR VOWS
AT 4:00 P.M.
REFRESHMENTS WILL FOLLOW
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**PLEASE DO NOT BRING
ANY GIFTS**



NOVEMBER

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2002

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 Rev. David Malloy - 11:00am Donation Lunch - 12:00pm Charge Conference - 1:30pm	4 NO One-By-One	5 Election Day Companions in Christ Bible Study - 10:00am	6 Card Ministry - 5:00pm WNA & B.Study-6:30pm Choir Practice - 7:30pm	7 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	8 ← Youth _____	9 _____ Pilgrimage _____ Gudrun Arnold 80 th Birthday Celebration 2:00 - 6:00pm
10 Honor Veterans → Mr/Mrs James DeBruhl's 50 th Anniversary Party - 3:00 p.m. in F.H.	11 Veterans Day CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	12 Companions in Christ Bible Study - 10:00am	13 Ruth-Ethel Smith Circle - 10:30am Card Ministry - 5:00pm WNA & B.Study-6:30pm Choir Practice - 7:30pm	14 Night Owls Circle - 7:00pm	15	16
17 UMM Breakfast Mtg. - 8:30am UMYF - 3:00pm Harvest Dinner & Children's Program - 6:00pm	18 NO One-By-One	19 Companions in Christ Bible Study - 10:00am	20 Home Extensions-9:30am Card Ministry - 5:00pm WNA & B.Study-6:30pm Choir Practice - 7:30pm	21 Help'n Hands - 11am	22	23
24 Angel Tree Community Thanksgiving Service - 4:00pm	25 One-By-One - 7:00pm	26 Companions in Christ Bible Study - 10:00am	27 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	28 Thanksgiving Day	29	30