



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 III

APRIL 2003

Issue 4

A Place to Belong...A Place to Become... is the motto of St. Matthew's. It expresses the goal of local church membership and discipleship in the Church, the Body of Christ. I am delighted as your pastor to see our church becoming more and more gracious and generous. In a little over two years, I have seen the members of this church accept more responsibility for our mission in the world as a local church. Not only have we met our own needs, we have increasingly reached out to others in the community and around the world through mission outreach.

In January, we paid our fair share to Conference, National and World Ministries while also increasing our giving to local ministries through our Emergency Fund, as well as Thrift Shop, UMM, UMW, and UMYF Outreach Ministries. I commend you for becoming more generous people with your financial stewardship which has us up-to-date in our budget. **WHAT AN ACCOMPLISHMENT!** I shared when I first came to you that I believe a vital church gives 50% of its money to benefit others. We are well on the way to that goal. Let's keep up the good work, God's work in Christ.

A Place to Belong...

A Place to Become... is also the name our discipleship program for new and prospective members and their families. Persons who are interested in exploring the meaning of church membership of this church are invited to attend this event scheduled for **Saturday, April 5th from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm.** Volunteers from the

church will provide a light lunch as a part of our fellowship and study.

Why are we doing this? My concern is that the United Methodist Church has emphasized membership gain rather than discipleship for almost a century. Receiving members into the church was more important than teaching people the meaning of discipleship. ***A Place to Belong...A Place to Become...*** is a commitment I am making to God and this church to follow Jesus' command to "make disciples." People who join the church often have many questions about God, Scripture, the Church Worship, Rituals, Methodism, Local Church Structure and Policy and expectations of them when they join. One family I visited who joined the church before I arrived, shared that even though they joined the church they were uncomfortable because they had so many unanswered questions. They also believed they needed some direction as to how they might become more involved in the life of the church. Other adults share that they never received any instruction or training before they joined the church. Come to this event and ask your questions.

Individuals and families are encouraged to share in this event. Parents can decide if their children are old enough to share in the experience or a nursery can be provided for those who are too young. Call the church office to reserve your place in ***A Place to Belong...A Place to Become...***

*Shalom,
Mike*



The Thrift Shop made the following contributions:

- ◆ gave items to a Nursing Home
- ◆ gave clothing to the Autistic Program at J.W. Coon School
- ◆ contributed to the Emergency Fund
- ◆ contributed to the Power Bill
- ◆ contributed to the Card Ministry

We have been real busy getting out our Spring items. Thank you very much to all those that so faithfully work and donate items.

Mary Schneider, Chairperson

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee met on February 28th to adopt our **2003 Budget** and to consider ways to help meet our budget. We voted to have a **Brunswick Stew Sale** with a **Bake Sale**, a **Barbecue Plate Sale** with a **Bake Sale**, and a **Yard Sale** with a **Bake Sale** is planned for May. The Brunswick Stew Sale was completed successfully in February. **Thanks** to everyone who helped make this a success. We would like to especially **thank** those not on the Finance Committee that helped. There was a lot of fellowship and good times throughout the day. A special **thanks** to **Ruby Lucas** for chairing this project. A **Barbecue Dinner** will be held Friday, April 4th from 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. **Dan Eberhardt** is chairing this project. A **Bake Sale** will also be held at the same time. We look forward to a great day of work and fellowship. Please plan to come out and support this activity to make it a success. On May 17th a **Church-Wide Yard Sale** will be held from 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Please check your closets, storage rooms or attics and bring items you no longer need or want. We will accept donations at the church Monday, May 12th through Friday, May 16th. We'll let you know about the time & place in the bulletin. There will also be a **Bake Sale** at this time. Lee Anna will be getting in contact with us about this, but please plan to help out on May 17th to join us in work and fellowship. We appreciate all the help and participation.

Adella Pray,
Finance Chairperson



The United Methodist Men met Sunday, March 16th at 8:30 a.m. for its regular monthly meeting. There were **16** men present. A delicious breakfast was served by **Troy Willoughby** and **Dan Eberhardt** consisting of Bacon, Eggs, Hash Browns, Biscuits, and all the trimmings.

A very informative devotion was given by **Calvin Rome**. The Scripture Reading was from **2 John 6: 10-11**. It was about "**Good and Counterfeit**". Put Love, Obedience, and Truth into your lifestyle. Make priorities in your life so others can follow your example. Counterfeit Love, Obedience, and Truth will catch up with you.

Our business consisted of the men rebuilding the **Storage Shed** behind the Fellowship Hall to make more room for storage space. Our helpers were **Wayne and Brad Everts, Dan Eberhardt, Troy Willoughby**, as well as some of the **youth**. **Thanks** to **Doug Stone** and **Bobby Lambert** for donating studs for the shelves.

We also discussed the need of **Ticket Sales** and help with the Finance Ministry Teams **Barbecue Sale** on **April 4th**. If you would like to help, please see Dan Eberhardt.

Plans are in the works to have "**Sausage Biscuits**" after our "**Easter Sunrise Service**". It will be available to everyone who attends the service at no charge. This will serve as our April meeting.

Respectively,
Troy Willoughby

**ALL MEN ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US
AS WE ENJOY GREAT FOOD, AND
GOOD CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP!!!**

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 - Shannon Gibson | 21 - Margaret Lewis |
| 8 - Barry Gallimore | 25 - Lola Smith |
| 9 - Joe Bledsoe | 27 - Connie Miller |
| James DeBruhl | 28 - Jean Lambert |
| 17 - Joshua Hager | 29 - Edna Parker |
| 20 - Clarice Edge | 30 - John Williams, Jr. |

GRIEF SUPPORT MINISTRY

When a church member loses a loved one due to death, the support of a community of faith is so comforting to the family. It is our tradition at St. Matthew's to provide food for the home or a meal at the church for the family and those attending the funeral from out of town.

Dorothy Taylor and **Eva Smith** has graciously volunteered to coordinate this support ministry. They will start the process of calling people for food and jobs to be done in the event of a death in the church family.

When there is a death in our church family, we first need to find out what their desires are; whether to have food brought to their home, or a meal served at the church. The congregation will be called for food donations and told the time to deliver it to the church.

If the family is to eat at the church, we need to know the time and how many to expect and also...

- ◆ *Two people to set up tables, put out dishes, and make tea & coffee.*
- ◆ *Two people to be at the church when the food is brought in.*
- ◆ *Three or four people to clean up*

All of these workers should be rotated from time to time. Thank you in advance for participating in this important ministry.

**WHAT DID JESUS SAY IN JOHN 5:39?
COME! LET'S LEARN!**

SUNDAY



MORNING

BIBLE STUDY CLASS

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

EMERGENCY FUND

- ◆ from the Sunday Morning Bible Study Class
- ◆ from the Ruth-Ethel Smith Circle
- ◆ from the Thrift Shop
- ◆ from Paul & Jewel Sharpe
- ◆ in honor of Sherrie Leggett's birthday (3-26) from her Secret Prayer Partner

POWER BILL from the Thrift Shop

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

- ◆ from Wayne & Elaine Everts
- ◆ from UMYF & God's Teens

ORGAN FUND

- ◆ in memory of George A. McLeod from St. Matthew's Chancel Choir
- ◆ in memory of George A. McLeod, Denise Gallimore & Dot Green from Dr. Michael Hale
- ◆ in memory of Susan Denise Gallimore from Barry Gallimore

MUSIC FUND

- ◆ in memory of Susan Denise Gallimore from Barry Gallimore

ARP FUND

- ◆ in memory of Dot Green & Patty Pouche's sister from the Sunday Morning

WHAT: EASTER EGG HUNT

WHEN:
SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH

TIME:
2:00 P.M.

Donations of Candy or Stuffed Eggs can be placed in the Church office or given to Sandy Jones. If you would Like to help, call Sandy Jones at 867-5442.





UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

(Doing Justice... "He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8)

With the theme of the UMW for the year being **"Doing Justice"**, I would encourage each of you to use the scripture from **Micah** as a guide for your daily lives. As **Spring** arrives, we have a few dates to bring to your attention:

- ◆ Saturday, April 5
9:30 am-1:30 pm - **Sandy Grove UMW Mission Study on Mexico** (see bulletin board)
- ◆ Monday, April 7
7:00 pm - **UMW General Meeting** (light refreshments will be served)
- ◆ Saturday, May 3
6:00 pm - **Mother-Daughter Banquet** (if you do not have a Mother or Daughter, adopt one)
- ◆ Sunday, June 15
11:00 am - UMW in charge of the **"Father's Day Worship Service"** (Please help out if you are asked to assist in any way.)

Adella Pray, UMW President

RUTH-ETHEL SMITH CIRCLE

The Ruth-Ethel Smith Circle met on Wednesday, March 12th. We opened with the UMW Pledge and prayer. We had **24** members present including our **UMW President, Adella Pray**. Minutes were read by Betty Jennings and were approved. Anne Alred gave us our financial report. Adella asked for a vote from the circle to donate \$200.00 from the UMW fund to help pay for a **"Fire-Proof Safe"** for the church. It was motioned and seconded that we do so. She also said that we should read books that are in the library, and to try to attend two meetings, one at Coats UMC, and the other at Sandy Grove UMC in Lumber Bridge on April 5th. If you are interested check on the UMW Bulletin Board in the hallway. It was motioned and seconded that we start meeting at **11:00 a.m.** rather than 10:30 a.m starting in April. All were in agreement. Our **April Project** is to supplement our Sunshine Fund. This fund is used to help in certain areas of the church and we need to replenish it. Marie Parker gave our program and afterwards we enjoyed a delicious Covered Dish Lunch.

God bless, Joyce Christian

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Saturday, April 5
 - ◆ 9:30 am-1:30 pm - Mexico Mission Study at Sandy Grove UMC
- Monday, April 7
 - ◆ 7:00 pm - UMW General Meeting
- Saturday, May 3
 - ◆ 6:00 pm - Mother-Daughter Banquet
- Monday, June 2
 - ◆ 7:00 pm - UMW General Meeting
- Sunday, June 15
 - ◆ 11:00 am - "Father's Day Service" by UMW
- Monday, September 8
 - ◆ 7:00 pm - UMW General Meeting
- Friday & Saturday, October 10-11
 - ◆ UMW Bazaar

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

"Orange Slice Cake"

3 cups All Purpose Flour	1 tsp Lemon Juice
1 tsp Vanilla Flavoring	2 cups Sugar
2 sticks margarine (melted)	1 cup Nuts
1/2 lb. Orange Slice Candy (cut in small pieces)	5 Eggs

Mix flour, sugar, orange slices & nuts. (You will have to do this by hand as it is too thick for mixer.) Pour into greased pan & bake at 350 degrees for 1 to 1 1/2 hours. Bake in a tube or bundt cake pan or 2 loaf pans 8" x 4 1/2" x 3" or 5 1/2" x 3 1/2" x 2 1/2".

Submitted by: Edna Parker

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR 2003

- APR. 4 – Barbecue & Bake Sale, 11:00 am-7:00 pm (sponsored by Finance Ministry Team)
5 – A Place To Belong...A Place To Become New Members Class, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Easter Egg Hunt, 2:00 pm (Rain Date April 12th)
12 – Frayed & Frazzled Flock, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
13 – Palm Sunday
20 – Easter Sunrise Service
26 – Frayed & Frazzled Flock, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
27 – Conference Youth Rally at NC Wesleyan College
- MAY 3 – UMYF Bake Sale, 1:00-3:00 pm & Mother/Daughter Banquet, 6:00 pm
4 – Donation Continental Breakfast, 9:00-9:45 am (sponsored by UMYF)
10 – Frayed & Frazzled Flock, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
11 – Mother's Day Worship Service by UMM, 11:00 am
17 – Yard & Bake Sale, 8:00 am-1:00 pm
Church Family Picnic, (Games-3:00 pm & Food-5:00 pm)
24 – Frayed & Frazzled Flock, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
- JUNE 1 – Graduate Sunday
8 – Promotion Sunday
14 – Frayed & Frazzled Flock, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
15 – Father's Day Worship by UMW, 11:00 am
16 – 21 – UMYF Summer Break-Away at Louisburg College
22 – 26 – Vacation Bible School (Supper 5:30-6:30 pm & Classes 6:30-8:00 pm)
28 – Frayed & Frazzled Flock, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
29 – Old Fashion Sunday Morning Worship Service, 11:00 am & 5th Sunday Covered Dish
Supper, 6:00 pm followed by a Program
- JULY 12 – Frayed & Frazzled Flock, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
21 – 25 – Camp Rockfish Day Camp
28 – Frayed & Frazzled Flock, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
- AUG. 9 – Frayed & Frazzled Flock, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
23 – Frayed & Frazzled Flock, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
31 – Old Fashion Sunday Morning Worship Service, 11:00 am & 5th Sunday Covered Dish
Supper, 6:00 pm followed by a Program
- SEPT. 13 – FFF, 10:00 am-12:00 pm & Church Family Picnic, (Games-3 pm & Food-5 pm)
27 – Frayed & Frazzled Flock, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
28 – Homecoming
- OCT. 4 – Frayed & Frazzled Flock, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
10 & 11 – UMM Barbecue Sale & UMW Bazaar
25 – Frayed & Frazzled Flock, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
31 – Fall Festival, 6:00-8:00 pm
- NOV. 8 – Frayed & Frazzled Flock, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
16 – Harvest Dinner & Can Food Drive (sponsored by UMM)
22 – Frayed & Frazzled Flock, 10:00 am-12:00 pm
23 – Community Thanksgiving Service & Angel Tree & Old Fashion Sunday Morning
Worship Service, 11:00 am
27 – Community Thanksgiving Luncheon, 11:00 am-2:00 pm (sponsored by Nurture Ministry Team)
- DEC. 7 – Cantata at St. Matthew's
13 – Breakfast With Santa (sponsored by FFF)
14 – Cantata at Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church
24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7:00 pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Prayer Group – 7:00pm	2 Card Ministry – 5:00pm WNA & B.Study-6:30pm Choir Practice – 7:30pm	3 THT – 7:00pm	4 Barbecue & Bake Sale 11:00am – 7:00pm	5 New Members Class – 10am-2pm Easter Egg Hunt – 2:00pm Move clocks ahead 1 hour before bed
6 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS UMYF – 5:00pm Praise Team – 6pm	7 UMW General Mtg. & One-By-One – 7:00pm	8 Prayer Group – 7:00pm	9 Ruth-E. Smith Circle – 11:00am Card Ministry – 5:00pm WNA & B.Study-6:30pm Choir Practice – 7:30pm	10 Night Owls Circle & THT – 7:00pm	11	12 FFF – 10am-12pm
13 PALM SUNDAY UMYF – 5:00pm Praise Team – 6pm	14 One-By-One – 7:00pm	15 Prayer Group – 7:00pm	16 Home Extensions-9:30am Card Ministry-5:00pm WNA & B.Study-6:30pm Choir Practice-7:30pm	17 THT – 7:00pm	18	19
20 EASTER SUNDAY Sunrise Service	21 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	22 Prayer Group – 7:00pm	23 Card Ministry – 5:00pm WNA & B.Study-6:30pm Choir Practice – 7:30pm	24 Help'N Hands-11am	25	26 FFF – 10am-12pm
27 HERITAGE SUNDAY Conference Youth Rally at Wesleyan College Praise Team – 6pm	28 NO One-By-One	29 Prayer Group – 7:00pm	30 Card Ministry – 5:00pm WNA & B.Study-6:30pm Choir Practice – 7:30pm	NO THT		
	NO One-By-One	Prayer Group – 7:00pm	Card Ministry – 5:00pm WNA & B.Study-6:30pm Choir Practice – 7:30pm			