

St. Matthew's 25 Challenge



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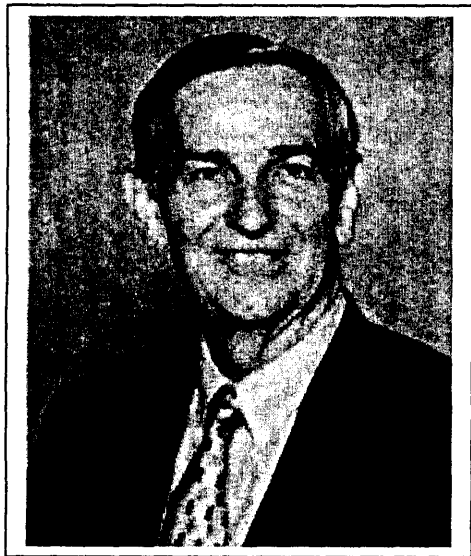
Jesus said, "When you did it to one of these my brethren, you did it unto me." Matt. 25:40

Volume III

SEPTEMBER 2003

Issue 9

HOMECOMING



The Reverend Tom Loftis

St. Matthew's United Methodist Church will be having our 46th Homecoming Celebration September 28, 2003. As most of you remember our church began with Services in what is now our Thrift Shop. The Church was organized November 18, 1956 with 69 on role and an average attendance of 35.

Our preacher last year, The Reverend Robert McKenzie was the first appointed pastor. This year's guest minister is The Reverend Tom Loftis. Tom served St. Matthew's from 1970-1974. So many people have fond memory of Tom and are always relating stories about his loving nature and dedication while serving here. Tom served as an associate pastor at Rockingham, First UMC and Jarvis Memorial UMC

in Greenville, NC before coming to St. Matthew's as his first experience as pastor in charge.

Tom left Fayetteville to serve Oxford UMC in 1774 and came back to the Fayetteville District to serve Dunn Devine Street UMC in 1977 where he served for seven years. I also came back to the District in 1977 and truly enjoyed my association with Tom. By all reports he has always be perceived as a gentle, caring and loving person. Then he moved on to St. James UMC in Tarboro for five years and served St. Paul's, Goldsboro before being appointed to the Cabinet.

I always thought it would be a joy to serve with Tom as a District Superintendent and heard nothing but praise for his leadership in that position. His last appointment was at St. Luke, Sanford, NC before retiring this year at Annual Conference. Tom and Cornelia retired in Roxboro, NC and were fortunate enough to find a great deal on an older house that was an appropriate setting for the antiques the had collected through the years. We not only celebrate our Homecoming but their faithful services to the people of the North Carolina Conference through the years.

Be sure to bring some food for yourself/family and a little extra and join us for our Homecoming Celebration. We will start the day with a continental breakfast at the Sunday School hour (9:45 a.m.) and then go to the sanctuary for a time to sing old favorites and praise music. Our worship service will follow at 11:00 O'clock. Following worship we will gather in the fellowship hall and other room for our Homecoming dinner and a wonderful time of fellowship.



The Thrift Shop contributed to the following:

- ◆ **Emergency Fund**
- ◆ **Card Ministry**
- ◆ **Church Power Bill**
- ◆ **Council on Older Adults to provide fans for needy**
- ◆ **Clothes for students starting back to school**

During the next few weeks, we will be switching from Summer to **Fall & Winter** clothes. There are wonderful bargains to be found at our **THRIFT SHOP** because of the donations made. Thanks to everyone who helps make the Thrift Shop a special mission of St. Matthew's.

Mary Schneider, Chairperson
Lee Anna Sproul, Co-Chairperson

YOUTH UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dinner, Dance & Lock-In was a great success. With the help of many volunteers, we shared, laughed, danced and worked well together.



2003 Duke Football Youth Day is Saturday, September 20, Duke vs. Northwestern; Wallace Wade Stadium at Duke. The service starts at noon. **Ernie Irvin** will be the guest speaker. We will leave the church parking lot at 9:00 a.m.. Please bring money to purchase a meal on the way to and from the event, as well as any spending money you would like at the stadium. The game starts at 2:00 p.m. The cost is \$8.00 a ticket and will come out of the youth fund. Any youth can bring 1 guest, but that guest is expected to pay their own way. Mrs. Elaine must know by August 31st if you are going and if you are bringing a guest. The money for the guest must be paid by August 31st.

Youth Pilgrimage is November 7-9. The theme is "**The Main Event**". Please submit \$15.00 for the Pilgrimage and place it in the church offering plate designated for Pilgrimage or give it to Mrs. Elaine by October 1st. Anyone who needs a St. Matthew's Youth T-Shirt, please see Mrs. Elaine. If you have received one previously, a small fee is required. If you have not received one previously, yours will be free. All youth will be required to wear the T-Shirt Saturday morning. After the first session on Saturday around noon, we will participate in a **2-Mile Run/Walk** with other youth groups for the "**No Hungry Neighbors**" initiative. Please try to raise at least \$20 dollars for this project before November 7th. Bring all money raised on Friday to be turned in. Everyone who collects at least \$20.00 will get a T-Shirt provided by the sponsors. After the Run/Walk, the group has voted to glean crops for the hungry. Before gleaning, we will sit somewhere and have lunch in an air-conditioned building. A change of clothes may be a good idea for Saturday as we may get hot.

Please remember, "**To go on fun things, you must attend regular meetings.**" Our next regular meeting is September 7th at 4:00 p.m. The program will be presented by Ashley Stone and Krystle Horlebein on "**Unity**".

God bless, Mrs. Elaine



The St. Matthew's UMM met on Sunday, August 17th at 8:30 a.m. There were **18** men present. We all enjoyed another delicious breakfast prepared by Julie Griffin and crew.

Lynwood gave the devotion which was on **Matthew 19: 1-20, "Worth The Wait, The Rich Young Man"**. Do not follow the teachings of Jesus for instant rewards. The rewards are for those who are patient and are worth the wait.

Lynwood commented on a couple of items concerning the church appearance. The Lawn Care Service and Doors to be replaced at the front and rear entrances.

The Barbecue Tickets have been printed and are being distributed. Raymond Gray is chairing this event and is accepting volunteers for work during the day on Friday, October 10th. If you haven't been contacted yet and can help, please call Raymond at 425-3490. Troy Willoughby has tickets and will gladly give them to anyone who will help us sell them. His number is 424-6913.

Our expenditures for August was \$300.00 toward the Church Lawn Care Service.

Troy Willoughby, UMM Secretary

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP:

Four of us met at the Pizza Palace and had a great time discussing "**The Proposal**". The author is a talented writer and writes with such a grasp on life that it holds your attention from beginning to end. We all enjoyed the novel so much, that this month, we have again chosen a Christian fiction romance novel by **Lori Wick** called "**The Rescue**".

There are copies available at the Public Library and at the bookstores, but did not find one at Wal-Mart. Remember you can reserve and transfer books to your local branch library.

We will meet at **Pizza Palace** on **September 27th at 11:30 a.m.** If you enjoy reading, please join us for a light-hearted discussion on what you liked or didn't like about the book.

-FFF-



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 - Dorothy Taylor | 17 - Ruby Lucas |
| 6 - Joann Terrier
Matt Unruh | 18 - Lyle Spidle
Laura Gallimore |
| 7 - Shawn Schultz | 20 - Bob Lambert |
| 10 - Hilda Parker | 21 - Julia Agnew |
| 11 - Kay Warbis | 22 - Betty Zielinski |
| 14 - Phyllis Jordan
Dustin Powell | 24 - Pam Thompson
Sam Hubbard |
| 15 - Karen Ogden
Melvin Lynn | 26 - Lucky Cabeza |
| 16 - Dr. Michael Hale | 28 - Kristine Lewis |

ONE-BY-ONE:

This September, we at St. Matthew's will see our outreach mission triple in its efforts to help our church and our community. It is so very exciting! Praise the Lord for making it all possible! We will continue Monday night remediation and tutoring. We will add computer classes for senior citizens. Thursday nights will be for Teens Helping Teens. Each is a separate and unique program. Happiness is having church support for these programs. It has become so much more than any dream could envision. We all benefit, because our Christian service is helping so many people. Those who teach find a special fulfillment. Those who are taught improve their self-esteem and knowledge. Please see the bulletin board in the hall for other information.

God bless you all, Amy

SENIOR CITIZEN SPECIAL:

COMPUTER CLASSES ARE READY FOR YOU!!!!

We need to meet on Monday night, September 29th at 7:00 p.m. in the Library. Already, we have five students enrolled, and it's looking **GOOD!!** Your

teachers are ready and can't wait to get started. This program is set up to help you just where you are in your quest to learn more about using the computer. Registration sheets can be obtained from Doris or Amy.

TEENS HELPING TEENS:

Yet another outreach ministry is reaching the community. **GOD'S TEENS** piloted a program last school semester, and even though we kept the teens in our church as the forerunners, from week one, they were being asked at their respective schools, "Can we come, too?" Letters have been sent to Senior High Schools near us, and we expect a very good turnout. This could well blossom into the same magnitude as the regular **One-By-One** on Mondays. **Teens Helping Teens** will meet on Thursdays from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. The first semester schedule is on the bulletin board. If you wish to register as a teacher or student, please get a form from Mrs. Amy or Mrs. Elaine.



SPECIAL OFFERINGS

EMERGENCY FUND

- ◆ from Sunday Morning Bible Study Class
- ◆ from the Ruth-Ethel Smith Circle
- ◆ from The Thrift Shop
- ◆ from Paul & Jewel Sharpe

POWER BILL from the Thrift Shop

ARP/TRUSTEE FUND

- ◆ in honor of Dr. Mike Hale from the Sunday Morning Bible Study Class

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

- ◆ from Wayne, Elaine, & Brad Everts
- ◆ from the Thrift Shop

LAWN CARE SERVICE

- ◆ from the Thrift Shop
- ◆ from the United Methodist Men
- ◆ from Julie, Dejah, & Jeremy Anderson

YOUTH PILGRIMAGE

- ◆ from Wayne & Elaine Everts
- ◆ from Julie, Dejah, & Jeremy Anderson

DOOR FUND

- ◆ in honor of Betty Zielinski from the Sunday Morning Bible Study Class
- ◆ from William & Jennifer Coleman
- ◆ from Wayne & Debbie Hager
- ◆ from Betty Jennings
- ◆ from Davidson & Tiffany Morse
- ◆ from Mary Schneider
- ◆ from Wanda J. Ward
- ◆ in honor of Betty Zielinski's birthday from her Secret Prayer Partner
- ◆ from Lynwood & Julie Griffin
- ◆ from Billy & Sherrie Leggett
- ◆ from Lola Smith
- ◆ from Marty & Linda Webb

CARD MINISTRY

We are delighted to report that our Card Ministry is growing and several members now are entire families. We continue to need your input with celebrations and concerns and the addresses of those who may need a card. We invite you to join us on Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m. for fellowship (dinner optional) at the Pizza Palace. Your support is greatly appreciated. Donations are welcome and may be given in honor of memory of a loved one.





UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Pray for the Mission of St. Matthew's and the United Methodist Women.

Remember the many upcoming events and Rejoice that you are able to participate in these events.

Always support each other as we have unspoken needs and our friends in Christ are there when we need them without being asked.

You are a vital part of the St. Matthew's United Methodist Women and your participation and support of the programs and each other are vital for the success of the Mission.

Vacation times are winding down, and it is time for us to get back into the "full swing" of the business of the women at St. Matthew's. We will need to discuss commitments to our **Bazaar** at the September 8th General Meeting. People are needed to head up the (1) **Baked Goods**, (2) **Crafts**, and (3) **White Elephant Sale**. The FFF has asked to do a "Soup Sale" on Saturday, but we need to discuss what we will do in the mornings. Projects for the year will also need to be discussed. Please check frequently the UMW bulletin board for notes and announcements.

Adella Pray, President UMW

RUTH-ETHEL SMITH CIRCLE:

Fall is upon us and it's time for Circles to get together once again. Hope everyone had a glorious summer. The Ruth-Ethel Smith Circle will meet Wednesday, September 10th at 11:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Since I am going on vacation that day, Jewel Sharpe will be in charge of the meeting. Please come out and support our Circle with your presence. Everyone is welcome!

God bless you,
Joyce Christian

RECIPE OF THE MONTH "CHICKEN BREASTS"

- 6 Boneless, Skinless Chicken Breasts
- 1 can Cream of Mushroom Soup
- 1 package Seasoned Stuffing Mix
- 1 large Onion, finely chopped



- 1/2 cup Parsley Flakes
- 3/4 cup Butter, melted
- 2/3 cup Milk

In a bowl, stir milk into soup; add onion. In another bowl, add parsley to stuffing mix. Dip Chicken breasts into soup mixture; then roll in stuffing mix. Place chicken breast close together in a greased baking dish. Sprinkle remaining stuffing mix over chicken. Drizzle with melted butter. Cover with aluminum foil first half of baking. Bake in preheated oven at 350 degrees for 1 hour and 15 minutes. Yield: 6 servings.

LOOKING AHEAD:



SEPTEMBER

8 - UMW General Mtg., 7:00 pm

OCTOBER

1 - 2004 Local Officers List due to District Secretary

10 & 11 - UMW Bazaar

11 - Conference UMW Annual Mtg. at Methodist College

26 - Fayetteville District Annual Mtg. at Divine St. UMC, Dunn NC, 2:30 pm

NOVEMBER

7 - Church Women United World Community Day

DECEMBER

7 - Cumberland/Hoke Sub-District Mtg. Victory UMC, 2:30 pm

SEPTEMBER**ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH****2003**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 LABOR DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	2 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	3 Card Ministry – 5:00pm WNA & B.Study-6:30pm Choir Practice – 7:30pm	4	5	6
7 UMYF – 4:00pm	8 UMW General Mtg. – 7:00 pm	9 Prayer Group – 7:00pm	10 Ruth-Ethel Smith Circle - 11:00am	11 Night Owls Circle – 7:00pm	12	13 Youth meet at Church to attend Duke Football Game - 9:00am FFF – 10:00am
14 UMYF – 4:00pm	15 One-By-One – 7:00pm	16 Prayer Group – 7:00pm	17 Home Extensions-9:30am	18 Teens Helping Teens – 7:00pm	19	20
21 UMM Breakfast Mtg. – 8:30am	22 One-By-One – 7:00pm	23 Prayer Group – 7:00pm	24 Card Ministry – 5:00pm WNA & B.Study-6:30pm Choir Practice – 7:30pm	25 Help'N Hands – 11am	26	27 Book Discussion Group meet at Pizza Palace – 11:30am
28 Homecoming with Rev. Tom Loftis – 11:00am Covered Dish Meal - 12:00pm	29 One-By-One – 7:00pm	30 Prayer Group – 7:00pm				
	One-By-One – 7:00pm	Finance Ministry Team & Prayer Group – 7:00pm				