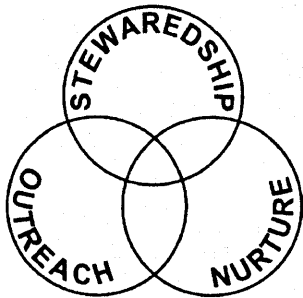


St. Matthew's UMC  
202 Hope Mills Rd.  
Fayetteville NC 28304



# 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 IV

JUNE 2004

Issue 6

## BEYOND OUR WALLS

I hope you have been encouraged by our slight rise in attendance on Sunday mornings since Easter. Some of our members are showing up more regularly and there are many new faces among us. We need to see this trend increase. If we truly embrace our vision statement it can.

Our vision here at St. Matthew's must become real. It must be more than words written down or words spoken. It must engage our souls: body, mind and spirit. It must inspire us. It must guide us and it must energize us. **Our Vision** is for God's grace in Christ to transform our lives and Church through exciting, creative ministries that embody St. Matthew's 25 challenge by faithfully serving the poor, hungry, naked, imprisoned, sick and strangers in our own community, as if ministering to Christ himself. Jesus said, "As you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it unto me." Matthew 25:40 Peterson's *The Message* says it this way, "Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me."

We cannot just pat ourselves on the back and say we are friendly and hospitable during the passing of The Peace when people show up at worship on Sunday mornings. We must greet people before and after worship and let them know we are glad to see them. When we have a fellowship dinner we need to sit with newer people rather than always sitting with the same group of family and friends. When someone new comes into a Sunday School Class, Bible Study, Circle Meeting or men's group we need to make them feel at ease and include them in our conversations. Our mission is to make disciples by reaching out and broadening our circle of friends in Christ.

To reach those who are overlooked or ignored we must leave the comfort of our homes and our church and go beyond our walls. There are members in our own church who feel overlooked and ignored. Do we care? I hope our Care Cells are beginning to make a difference among our members. To reach those who need clothing, are poor, hungry, imprisoned, sick and strangers in our own community, we must become involved in our community. A few of our people are volunteering in the community, but are we inviting people to church to experience the loving acceptance of Jesus Christ. Rick Warren who wrote *The Purpose*

*Continued on page 2*

## **PENTECOST SUNDAY OUTDOOR WORSHIP**

Sunday May 30th

following worship

## **PIG-PICKIN' PICNIC BARBECUE PORK & CHICKEN**

We invite you to bring picnic dishes and deserts as we celebrate this special day. Dress casually and bring a lawn chair if you like. The UMM will be setting up tents for shade, chairs for those who need them and tables for our meal early Sunday morning. This will be a special Old Fashion Sunday when we sing our favorite hymns and here the Gospel preached.

On the first Christian Pentecost, the early Christians moved beyond the walls of the house in

*Continued on page 2 (Pentecost Picnic)*

*(Beyond Our Walls) Continued from page 1*

*Driven Life and The Purpose Driven Church* has twice as many visitors in the congregation on Sunday mornings than members. Members of his church are reaching out to family, friends and people in the community to invite them to church. Someone recently shared that they had invited a family to church here for over a year before they came.

Ministries designed to meet the real needs of people in our community will attract people to our church and Jesus Christ. Our Pre-School and After-School Ministry Design Team is working to reach out to **strangers** in the community and make them friends to serving their child care needs. We will need individual and group support to make this a successful ministry.

We are doing some serious talking about expanding our Food Distribution Ministry to reach those who are **hungry** in our community. We have already increased the frequency people can come in for food assistance. As soon as we get a few more volunteers we will be asking the Council to approve expanding this much needed ministry. I have been fortunate enough to work with Grace UMC in their Food Distribution Ministry in cooperation with Second Harvest Food Bank. They distribute not only canned goods, but have frozen food items as well. We are thankful that our FFF Group is also working in the area of cooking and distributing food to shut-ins.

We also appreciate the work of our Thrift Shop in terms of helping those who need **clothing**. Our Emergency Fund has also had a number of occasions to assist families in need with food and clothing as well as medicine, heating, electricity and rent assistance due to your generous contributions.

If we are to fulfill our vision, we must do even more. The ministry of visitation is our greatest challenge. Why? It takes personal involvement. It takes our time. It definitely takes beyond our walls. **Visiting the sick, strangers and those in prison** were top priorities for Jesus. They must become a top priority for us as well. We need you to pray about becoming a regular volunteer minister in one of these areas. Rev. Neil Smith, who has preached here in the past, has extended an invitation for some of our men to start a ministry with prisoners at McCain Prison Hospital where he serves as chaplain.

Let us get excited about reaching out to our community, serving Christ and attracting new members to our fellowship. There is no reason we cannot be a great church for Jesus Christ in this community. God expects nothing less of us. This is our challenge; **share the vision beyond our walls.**

*Shalom,*

*Mike*

*(Pentecost Picnic) Continued from page 1*

which they were worshipping. Filled with the Holy Spirit Peter preached to those outside the house and 3,000 were baptized into the faith. We are moving beyond our walls for this Pentecost Sunday Service and Picnic to kick off our intention to reach out beyond our walls more effectively into our community with the good news of Jesus Christ.

## **COVERED DISH DINNER**

*Sunday June 6*

*following worship &*

## **CHURCH MINISTRY COUNCIL**

We will begin our Council meeting while you are eating to coordinate calendar events and deal with a few other matters. We also want you to hear more from our Pre-School and After-School Ministry Design Team approved by the Council May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## **CHURCH YARD SALE SATURDAY JUNE 12<sup>TH</sup> 7:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.**

Start bringing items for our yard sale and placing them in the Kindergarten class room. We need volunteers. Proceeds will go to support mission outreach projects in our budget.

## **PROMOTION SUNDAY & TEACHERS RECOGNITION Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup>**

We hope you will be thinking about what Sunday School has meant to you throughout your life, and will share with the congregation how Sunday School has inspired you. Who your favorite Teacher is or was, how you benefited from their teaching, and how it has affected your life today? Hopefully this will inspire others to participate in Sunday School. Also, we still **need Teachers** for "2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grades & 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> grades beginning in June. If you are interested, please contact the church office (425-0401) or Jean Lambert (875-5510).



The Thrift Shop gave contributions to the following:

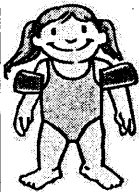
- ◆ **St. Matthew's Youth Ministry to help Josh Hager go on a Conference Trip**

- ◆ **Bed & Bread Club of the Salvation Army**
- ◆ **St. Matthew's Emergency Fund**
- ◆ **Leukemia Lymphoma Society**

Thanks again for supporting the St. Matthew's Thrift Shop.

Mary Schneider - Chairperson  
Lee Anna Sproul - Vice-Chairperson

### ST. MATTHEW'S UMC DAY CAMP JULY 5 - 9



We will go on **Day Trips** each day. I will be making all the arrangements at the beginning of June. Right now I am planning on taking children ages **6 - 12th grade**. If you would like to be a Chaperone, please call me no later than June 10th at 848-0342, so that I can have everything planned before I leave for a short vacation. The cost will be only **\$60.00** for the whole week. More information will be provided later in a flyer.

Elaine Everts



The UMM met on Sunday, May 16th at 8:30 a.m. with **19** men present. Breakfast was prepared by **Randy Caldwell, Jeff Anderson** and **Wayne Hager** and was enjoyed by all.

Calvin Rome gave a Devotion on "Hope", **Romans 15: 13**. Hope has many meanings. He also shared with us the "Book of Devotion" used by the **Armed Forces** since World War II. Over a million copies have been sent to all branches of the Armed Forces.

A card was read from the **Card Ministry** expressing their thanks for the **Mother's Day Service**. Some of us thought we were the only ones thanked, but all the men received cards.

We are in the process of starting our "Father's Day Booklet". We hope to have a new design this year.

Our May 30th "Pentecost Service" was discussed. Jobs were assigned to set up tents, chairs and cookers. Please pray for nice weather that day.

**Microwave Ovens** for the kitchen were discussed, and it was decided to purchase one or two exactly the same. The ones we have now are good, but nobody understands how to use them and they are both different. Once the Trustees give their approval, they will be replaced.

We are also planning a "Fall Picnic" on Saturday, October 2nd at **Lake Rim Park**. We are looking for a large attendance. More information will be available as the date nears.

Monday, June 7th, the UMM will serve the meal for Vacation Bible School. It may be cook-out style food, but who knows. Come to VBS and get a surprise!

Troy Willoughby, Secretary UMM

### ATTENTION!

The following dates are available on our **Flower Chart** if you would like to have flowers put in the church in **Honor** or **Memory** of a special friend or loved one in your life. The cost is only **\$25.00** per flower arrangement. All you have to do is make your check out to St. Matthew's and put for

- June 27**
- August 8**
- September 26**
- October 31**
- November 14**





## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

3 - Grace Bland  
12 - Rhonda Miller  
14 - Anne Alred  
15 - Troy Willoughby  
16 - Doug Stone

17 - Bob Galliera  
19 - Jewel Sharpe  
21 - Peter Rome  
Pam Lynn  
Glen Warbis

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS will be held **June 6 – 10** starting with

Supper each night from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. and

Classes for all ages from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Dr.

Hale will be teaching our Adult Class. The

theme is **“Finding Our Heroes”**. Anyone

who would like to help, please call Julie Griffin

at 425-4269.



## SPECIAL OFFERINGS WERE GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING FROM:

### EMERGENCY FUND

- ◆ Sunday Morning Bible Study Class
- ◆ Ruth-Ethel Smith Circle
- ◆ Paul & Jewel Sharpe
- ◆ The Thrift Shop
- ◆ Carol Cox
- ◆ Wayne & Elaine Everts
- ◆ Betty Priest
- ◆ In honor of Jewel Sharpe's birthday (6-19) from her Secret Pal
- ◆ Brad Everts
- ◆ James & Joyce DeBruhl

### CHURCH POWER BILL

- ◆ The Thrift Shop

### ARP FUND

- ◆ Perry Smith

### SCHOLARSHIP FUND

- ◆ Wayne & Elaine Everts

### SUMMER BREAKAWAY

- ◆ William & Gertrude Schultz
- ◆ Amy-Jo Everts
- ◆ Ruth-Ethel Smith Circle
- ◆ Night Owls Circle
- ◆ Brad Everts

### SUMMER DAY CAMP

- ◆ Wayne & Elaine Everts



### CARD MINISTRY

*During the Summer we will not be meeting on the following days:*

*June 16                      July 28*

*June 30                      August 11*

*July 14                      August 25*

*We will start back meeting regularly on September 1.*

*On June 9th, we will meet at the Church prior to VBS.*

*Card Ministry Team*





## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

As we enter the “**Lazy-Hazy Days Of Summer**”, I would encourage you to enjoy some of the good books that we have to use in our Reading Program. The books are located inside the Kindergarten Sunday School Class. **A STONE IN MY HAND - by Cathryn Clinton** - is written with empathy and honesty. It takes readers into the world of children who live in oppressed circumstances, but have hope. **OUT TO PASTURE, OVER WHAT HILL? OLDER BUT WILDER - by Effie Leland Wilder** - Anyone who thinks retirement is all “**Rocking Chairs and Medicare**” is in for surprises when they

meet the folks at **Fair Acres Retirement Home**. You will not be able to resist these charming folks who have lots of living to do. These are just 2 of many books available for your reading pleasure. Continue to think and pray about the **Bazaar** which is the next big thing on our calendar in **October**. Thank you for your support on the **Mother’s Day Booklet**...also, many, many **THANKS** to everyone who made the **Mother-Daughter Banquet** a success. A very special thanks to the youth for providing an excellent program of entertainment.  
Adella Pray, UMW President

### RUTH-ETHEL SMITH CIRCLE:

We met in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, May 12th with **14** present. Several items of business was discussed and voted upon. For our May project, we decided to give a donation of money to help our Youth with their **Summer Breakaway Trip**. We then planned our menu for **Vacation Bible School**. We will be serving Tuesday, June 8th at 5:30 p.m. We hope you like **Mexican Food**. Our menu consists of **Enchilada Pie (Casserole), Salad, with a side dish of Pinto Beans, Dessert and Drink**. We hope you enjoy it. Oh, for the children who may not like the main course, there will be **Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwiches**. Our next meeting will be held on June 9th at 11:00 a.m. We will car-pool to **Ryan’s Steak House** for a delicious Lunch. Make plans to attend for a good time together before we begin our summer hiatus. We will resume our regular meetings on September 8th. Let’s not forget to work on our **Bazaar Crafts** over the Summer. Ladies of the Church, you are always welcome to join us in June for lunch and a great time of fellowship.  
God’s Blessings to all, Catherine

### NIGHT OWL CIRCLE:

At our meeting on April 1st, plans were made to set up for the **Mother-Daughter Banquet**. Mary Rozier, Ruth Caldwell, Shirley Dominie, Elaine Everts, Gail Terwilliger and Linda Webb agreed to assist. A **Thank You Note** was read from **Meghann Dominie**. We had assisted her on a **Mission Trip to Honduras**. Members voted to send a contribution to the **Leukemia & Lymphoma Society** in memory of Ginny Pitchford. Lee Anna Sproul was Hostess and Shirley Dominie presented a program from “**Through The Night With God**”. Thanks to both of these ladies for feeding both our physical and spiritual bodies. We met again on May 13th. **Gail Terwilliger** gave a thought provoking program on how the observance of Memorial Day began. Ask Gail about this, I’m sure she would enjoy sharing this with you. We collected **\$120.00** to donate to the youth of St. Matthew’s. We stayed busy discussing several projects for June. It was decided we would bring food items for the **Food Pantry** and bring donations to assist **Jeff Anderson** with his **Mission Trip to Russia**. Our June meeting has been changed to **June 3rd** due to VBS. **Lorene Biggs** will be our **Hostess** and **Joyce Christian** will present the **Program**. May each of you feel God’s love and peace as you face the challenges and adventures each new day presents.

Yours in Christ, Linda Webb

#### DATES TO REMEMBER:

JUNE 9-12

Annual Conference  
Methodist College

JUNE 26

Mission Study  
Mexico Part 11 at Hay St. UMC  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

JULY 28 - 31

School of Christian Mission  
Methodist College

#### RECIPE OF THE MONTH

“Fresh Spinach Salad”

1 cup Spinach Leaves	1 small Tomato, sliced
1/4 cup Bell Pepper, sliced	1/4 cup Cucumber, sliced
1 tsp. Olive Oil	1/8 tsp. Vinegar
1/8 tsp. coarse ground Black Pepper	



Toss vegetables together. Sprinkle with oil, vinegar, and ground black pepper. Serve chilled with a slice of low-fat cheese and low-sodium crackers for a tasty lunch.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> GOD'S TEENS SPRUCE	<b>2</b> MISSION PINES  Card Ministry - 5:00pm	<b>3</b> RETREAT NC	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
		Prayer Group-6:30pm		Night Owls - 7:00pm		
<b>6</b> PROMOTION SUNDAY  VACATION	<b>7</b> BIBLE	<b>8</b> SCHOOL	<b>9</b> Ruth-Ethel Smith Circle carpool to Ryan's - 11:00am  (SUPPER) (5:30 - 6:30 P.M.) Card Ministry - 5:00pm	<b>10</b> (CLASSES) (6:30 - 8:00 P.M.)	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Yard Sale-7:30am 12:00pm FFF - 10:00am
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Home Extensions-9:30am  NO Card Ministry	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
		Prayer Group - 6:30pm				
<b>20</b> FATHER'S DAY UMM Breakfast Mfg. - 8:30am Father's Day Service - UMW	<b>21</b> YOUTH	<b>22</b> SUMMER	<b>23</b> BREAKAWAY	<b>24</b> LOUISBURG Help'N Hands-11am	<b>25</b> COLLEGE	<b>26</b> Book Club meets at Pizza Palace - 11:30am
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>			
		Prayer Group - 6:30pm	Card Ministry - 5:00pm  NO Card Ministry			
		Prayer Group - 6:30pm				