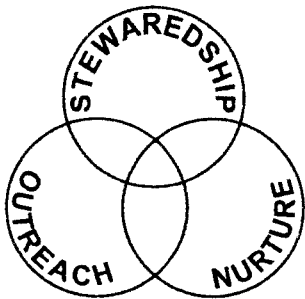


St. Matthew's UMC  
202 Hope Mills Rd.  
Fayetteville NC 28304



**St. Matthew's 25th Anniversary**



Office 910-425-0401 • Fax 910-425-9393  
Website [stmattnc.org](http://stmattnc.org) • E-mail [stmattumc@stmattnc.org](mailto:stmattumc@stmattnc.org)

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

**Volume VI**

**OCTOBER 2006**

**Issue 10**

## **50 YEARS – WHERE ARE WE GOING NOW?**

Our guest minister and former pastor of St. Matthew's UMC, The Reverend Tom Loftis, asked us the right question: Where are we going? Where are we going from here? Where are we going now? Where will St. Matthew's be fifty years from now? We are in the history making business. What kind of history we will make depends of our mission, vision and goals. What are they?

The mission of the church is easy. God in Christ set forth our mission for us. **Our Mission** was established by the risen Lord when he told us, "Go make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have Commanded you;"; "be my witnesses" and "preach the gospel to the whole creation." Mat. 28:19-20, Mk. 16: 15, Acts 1:8

We need a compelling vision for how we carry out that mission through St. Matthew's United Methodist Church within our community. We need to create a clear vision of what we want to be and look like five years from now. **Vision is nothing more than a clear picture of what we want to be as a church painted in our hearts and minds.** It must be a vivid image that gets us excited about the mission God has entrusted to us. What exactly do we dream about becoming in five short years? Are those dreams so real that they kindle a fire within us to accomplish something that will make them real. Our present vision statement looks good and sounds good, but no one seems to be very excited about it. In order to move forward we must have some compelling force that propels into a bright future.

Almost three years ago our Visioning Workshop led us to commit to establishing a Child Care ministry that might attract new and younger families. Your Child Care Ministry Design Team worked hard to improve our facilities, and reach out to the community with a new program. We planned, advertised our program in the newspaper and put up banners to attract families. Our decision to make it a self supporting program may have doomed us to getting started at all. We did our best with the directives you gave us. It simply did not attract the number of families we needed to start a program.

We have benefited so much from improving our facilities inside and out. Our children have a better and safer place to use with our existing programs. We have moved forward.

You may have noticed the real estate sign on the lot on the southern corner of our property. It has come up for sale with an asking price that is presently \$110,000. It would be nice to own the entire block one day. How does this fit in to our vision for where we are going? We need a new vision that will excite the people of St. Matthew's as we begin our next half-century. As we move toward Charge Conference on November 6, 2006 we need to answer Tom's question. **As we work, plan and prepare for the new year, what will be the vision that rekindles the flame within us? What are some of your ideas, hopes and dreams?**

*Shalom,  
Mike*

# FAYETTEVILLE DISTRICT KATRINA MISSISSIPPI MISSION WORK TEAM

NOVEMBER 13-18, 2006

Ocean Springs Recovery Center  
St. Paul's UMC, Ocean Springs

For Pastor's and Lay People in the Fayetteville District

## Skills and Experience Needed:

- Willing Volunteers
- Roofing
- Framing
- Drywall
- Plumbing
- Electrical



CALL: Church Office at 425-0401  
for more information or if you have any questions

rebuilding churches



and communities

## Katrina Church Recovery Appeal

The people of The United Methodist Church™



**If you're unfamiliar with the Society of St. Andrew's ministry, here's what we do:**

- America is blessed with an abundance of food, but because of market factors, billions of pounds of produce cannot be sold. **The Society of St. Andrew salvages this produce to provide essential nutrition for those who cannot afford sufficient food.**
- Gleaned food is distributed free to food banks and other feeding agencies that serve people in need. **The result is that waste is reduced and hungry people are fed through the Society of St. Andrew's ministry for just pennies a serving.**
- Learn more online at [www.endhunger.org](http://www.endhunger.org).

Join with the Society of St. Andrew to end hunger in our nation. Your help provides a very basic need - food for those who haven't enough.

Enclosed is a bulletin insert to introduce 25<sup>2</sup> CHALLENGE to the congregation. If you'd like more information about our ministry, complete and mail the form below, check our website: [www.endhunger.org](http://www.endhunger.org) or email me at [church@endhunger.org](mailto:church@endhunger.org). We look forward to hearing from you.

Grace and peace,

*Susan C. Allen*

Susan C. Allen,  
Director, Church Relations

**P.S. The Society of St. Andrew has a part-time Hunger Relief Advocate working in your state to coordinate gleaning and food salvage. Through our Hunger Relief Advocate program, operating in 18 states, SoSA has salvaged and distributed this year 1.5 million pounds of produce to over 1,400 agencies aiding the poor. To find out how to be involved in your state, contact our office, 1-800-333-4597 or email: [sosahra@endhunger.org](mailto:sosahra@endhunger.org).**

**SOCIETY OF ST. ANDREW**  
*Gleaning America's Fields ~  
Feeding America's Hungry*

Jan.-July 2006  
15,982,329 pounds saved

19,072 volunteers

47 million servings provided  
to hungry Americans at  
a cost of pennies a serving.  
92 cents of every \$1.00 goes  
toward program expenses.

**NATIONAL OFFICE:**  
3383 Sweet Hollow Rd.  
Big Island, VA 24526  
1-800-333-4597  
1-434-299-5956  
[www.endhunger.org](http://www.endhunger.org)  
[sosausa@endhunger.org](mailto:sosausa@endhunger.org)

**REGIONAL OFFICES:**  
Alabama ~ 205-838-1927  
Florida ~ 800-806-0756  
North Carolina ~ 919-683-3011  
Mississippi ~ 662-263-8648  
Texas ~ 972-253-4559

**GLEANNING OFFICES:**  
Call 800-333-4597 for  
information in these areas:  
Arkansas, Georgia,  
Illinois, Northern Indiana,  
Iowa, Eastern Kansas,  
Maine, West Michigan,  
Missouri, New Mexico,  
New York, Ohio,  
Oklahoma,  
South Carolina,  
Tennessee,  
West Virginia

Please send the following free materials about the Society of St. Andrew's ministry:

- Society of St. Andrew Brochure
- Partner Church Program Broch
- Potato Project Brochure
- Gleaning Network Brochure



Mail materials to:

Church: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

We're unable to participate in the 25<sup>2</sup> Challenge, but our church would like to make a donation to feed the hungry. Our church's gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

Mail to: Society of St. Andrew • 3383 Sweet Hollow RD • Big Island, VA 24526

## HOPE FOR THE FUTURE HOMECOMING HIGHLIGHTS

Planning & Actions

Commemorative Plate - Fundraiser

Pictorial Directories

Bookmarks - Thanks Perry & Eva Smith

Church-Wide Photo - Thanks Boyd Snyder

Historical Data Display

3 Donation Dinners - Fundraiser

Special Concerts - New South River Boys - Sept. 17

- Jay Stone Singers - Sept. 23

- TR & The Boys - Sept. 24

Original Altar Table, Cross, Paraments &  
Collection Plates were used on the Altar  
during the month of September

Sunday Service was held at the Thrift Shop &  
Sanctuary with Rev. Bob McKenzie - Sept. 17

Candlelight Memorial Service for 116  
Deceased Members - Sept. 20

UMM Church-Wide Picnic at Lake Rim Park - Sept. 23

Sunday Breakfast & Homecoming Service  
with Rev. Tom Loftis - Sept. 24

50 Year Banner made by Amanda Estridge

Historical Power Point Presentations prepared by Calvin  
Rome & presented by Perry Smith - Sept. 17 & 24

Special Music by our Music Department

**WOW!!** We can go on and on, but the congregation has yet to know what the Homecoming Committee went through to bring this successful event together. There are not enough accolades to express our thanks and appreciation to all who had any part in the preparation and carrying out of this huge task. So we sum it up with these simple words. **THANK YOU FOR THE FANTASTIC WORK AND MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU!!!**

THE CONGREGATION OF ST. MATTHEW'S UMC



There were **20** men present for the UMM meeting on Sunday, September 17th. We enjoyed a wonderful breakfast prepared by Ike Huffman and Bill Stackhouse. Calvin Rome's devotion, "**Witnessing**," was based on **John 9: 1-34**.

The annual "**Church Family Picnic**" was a huge success. Hamburgers and Hot Dogs were prepared by Doug Stone, Bob Lambert, and Brad Everts. There were over **70** people present.

The **UMM Barbecue Sale** will be held on Friday, October 13th. **Raymond Gray** has taken on the responsibility as Chairman this year. The cost for a plate of Barbecue will be only **\$6.00**. Please see any member of the UMM for tickets.

The UMM continue to serve **Communion** to our home-bound members. If you know of someone desiring to be served Communion, please notify Calvin Rome of call Doris at 425-0401. This ministry continues to be a blessing to all involved. Communion Teams for October are Troy Willoughby and Raymond Gray, Santos and Hilda Pena, and Calvin Rome and J.A. Sessoms.

Ushers for the month of October are (Head Usher) Bob Lambert, James DeBruhl, Kenneth Merritt, Frank Bagley, and Perry Smith. The UMM meeting is held on the third Sunday of every month at 8:30 a.m. We invite all men, whether you are a member or not, to come and join us.

Brad Everts, UMM Secretary

## NURTURE

Our Homecoming was a great celebration. Thanks to all who made this jubilee celebration possible.

On Sunday, October 29th at 6:00 p.m. we will be celebrating our fifth Sunday with our annual **Harvest Dinner, Can Food Drive & Talent Show**. Amanda Call will be hosting our Talent Show. She will be placing a sign-up sheet in the hallway for you to register your entry.

On October 31st from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. we will be having our annual "**Trunk or Treat**". Please decorate the trunks of your vehicle and bring lots of candy. This is a chance for our church to reach out into the community, and give children a safe place to have fun. A sign-up sheet for this will also be placed in the hallway. I have high hopes and would like to see at least 30 vehicles. Please invite your friends and neighbors to join us in this outreach to our community. I will be praying that we surpass this goal. Thanks for all your support to our many ministries.

In Christ, Elaine Everts

## TRUSTEES MINISTRY TEAM

A special thanks to **Santos Pena** for being "**Trustee of the Month**" in September. Our "**Trustee of the Month**" for October will be **Doug Stone**. We appreciate everything the men of our church do to make our church a safe and attractive place to worship our Lord. God bless you all!

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



3 - Jacob Davis	15 - Frank Bagley
4 - Shirley Dominie	17 - Betty Probst
5 - Bill Leggett	18 - Amy-Jo Everts
12 - Mary Rozier	19 - Emma Spidle
Ruth Caldwell	26 - Lee Anna Sproul
14 - Robin Lewis	27 - Rebecca Parker



The Thrift Shop continues to amaze me with all the missions that it reaches as well as all the people it serves. A special *thanks* to all those that have worked over the past years to help make all our giving and projects possible. Last week there were lots of **Fall & Halloween** items for sale. Check them out before going other places to shop. Again, thanks for making all of this possible. The Thrift Shop contributed to the following:

- \* **Church Power Bill**
- \* **Emergency Fund**
- \* **Cure Americas**
- \* **Hinton Rural Life Center**
- \* **Medical Benevolence Foundation**

## YOUTH NEWS

Recently, our Youth elected New Officers. They are as follows: **President - Heather Shackelford, Vice-President - Lisa Rogers, and Secretary - Reena Stone.**

Our youth recently assisted the Homecoming Committee with Breakfast on September 24th. They are now preparing for **Pilgrimage**, which will be **November 10th - 12th**. Our theme this year is "**Candle in the Darkness**" with Guest Speaker **Lisa Yebuah**. This is an annual event that is held at the **Crown Coliseum**.

Our Youth would like to thank **Troy Willoughby** for taking our cans to the Recycle Distribution Center so that we can continue our **Mission Projects**. We would like to thank all those who support our Mission Projects by dropping off your cans behind the church in the recycle barrels.

Our Youth will be meeting on **October 8th & 22nd**. Please mark your calendars.

God bless,  
Mrs. Elaine

We have promised to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts and our service.

<b>BUDGET - \$167,846.48</b>	<b>AS OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2006</b>
<b>Needed Weekly \$3,227.82</b>	<b>Needed To Date \$125,884.86</b>
<b>Average Weekly \$3,104.64</b>	<b>Received To Date \$121,081.13</b>
<b>Av. Weekly Deficit (\$123.18)</b>	<b>Deficit (\$4,803.73)</b>

## SPECIAL OFFERINGS WERE GIVEN TO THE FOLLOWING:

### ARP FUND

- ◆ Doug & Dawn Stone
- ◆ Jimmy Autry

### CARD MINISTRY

- ◆ Julia Agnew

### EMERGENCY FUND

- ◆ The Thrift Shop
- ◆ Sunday Morning Bible Study Class
- ◆ Wayne & Elaine Everts
- ◆ In memory of Randy Caldwell & Peggy Pray by St. Matthew's UMC
- ◆ Mary Morrow
- ◆ In memory of Peggy Pray by Marty & Linda Webb

### HOMECOMING FUND

- ◆ Wayne & Elaine Everts
- ◆ Perry Smith
- ◆ Donation Luncheon
- ◆ Julia Agnew

### MEMORIAL FUND

- ◆ In memory of Randy Caldwell by the UMM
- ◆ In memory of Randy Caldwell by Helen King Spence
- ◆ In memory of Michael Johnston by Lou Johnston

### RAINBOW COVENANT

- ◆ W.A. Stewart Bible Study Class

### YOUTH

- ◆ Wayne & Elaine Everts

## OCTOBER CHURCH FLOWERS

- 1 - In honor of Bill & Sherrie Leggett's 19th Wedding Anniversary
- 8 - In memory of Eddy & Jimmie Adams birthday by Verena Wright
- 5 - In honor of Amy-Jo Everts 21st birthday by her family
- 22 - In honor of Aaron Smit by Ruth Caldwell
- 29 - In honor of Richard & Lou Wagner's Marriage

(Correction: On September 3rd flowers were placed in honor of Ralph & Verena Wrights 34th Wedding Anniversary.)



# UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

## SEVEN CROSSES

Did you know that the stained glass window above the entrance to the church contains **Seven Crosses**? The **Largest Top Cross** represents our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who gave his life so that all may live in the pursuit of Christianity. The **Small Crosses** on each side represent the two tyrants who were put to death along with Jesus. The **Three Crosses** at the bottom represent Faith, Hope and Charity which is the principals on which St. Matthew's was founded. The **Seventh and Largest Cross** represents the creation by God the Father and the seven days as outlined in Genesis. The windows at construction were clear panes which let the sun, moon and light all God's creations shine in. The crosses are encircled to reflect the creation of the total universe by God. The window was later covered with stained glass in memory of James Parker by Edna Parker. When the Sanctuary was built, Rev. Sam McMillan and the architect told this story about the design. For several years Boy Scouts and Youth Groups were taught about the meaning of the window. Can you remember this at all, or do you know someone who does? If so, please let us know so that this little bit of information can be preserved.

Adella Pray, UMW President

### DATES TO REMEMBER:

**Oct. 2 - UMW General Meeting, 6:30 p.m. with a light supper served. We have several business items to discuss. Please be present!**

**13 - UMM Barbecue Sale. remember to support this project**

**14 - UMW Annual Meeting at Methodist College Auditorium**

**22- Fayetteville District UMW Mtg., 2:30 p.m. at Erwin UMC (If you have Health, School, or Layette Kits, Eyeglasses, Campbell Soup Labels or any other collection item, please bring them to either of these meetings. Tables will be set up to receive your items.)**

**Nov. 5 - Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes are due. Please drop them in the box in the hallway so that they can be picked up by Mr. Ayars.**

### RUTH-ETHEL SMITH CIRCLE:

Our ladies met Wednesday, September 13th. Lola welcomed everyone and had prayer. Mary Schneider read the minutes from the last meeting and Sherrie Leggett gave the Treasurer's Report. Our project for October is to replenish our Sunshine Fund. Our program was given by Marie Parker and was enjoyed by all. Our Mission Project for November will be to give funds for Food Baskets for the Mental Health. We all enjoyed a delicious covered dish lunch. Our next meeting will be October 11th and we will be going to Fuller's Barbecue for lunch.

Lola Smith

### RECIPE OF THE MONTH

#### "Stir-Fried Chicken and Vegetables"

1 lb. boneless, skinless chicken  
breast cut into bite-sized pieces  
1 cup pea pods  
1 Tbsp soy sauce  
1 cup chow mein noodles  
Vegetable oil spray



1/2 cup sliced celery  
1 carrot, diced  
1/2 cup finely diced onion  
2 Tbsp water  
Cooked rice

Spray a deep skillet or wok with vegetable oil spray. Add first seven ingredients. Stir fry over low heat until vegetables are crispy and chicken is no longer pink. Serve over cooked rice, and top with chow mein noodles.

**OCTOBER****ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH****2006**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Lay Leadership Team Mtg. - 9am  UMYF - 12:00pm	UMW - 6:30pm <b>9</b>	Prayer Group - 6:30pm <b>10</b>	Card Ministry - 5:00pm Bible Study - 6:30pm Choir Practice - 7:30pm <b>11</b> Ruth-Ethel Smith Circle - 11:00am Card Ministry - 5:00pm Bible Study - 6:30pm Choir Practice - 7:30pm <b>12</b>	Night Owls Circle - 7:00pm <b>13</b>	UMM Barbecue Sale 11am - 7pm <b>14</b>	
<b>15</b> UMM Breakfast Mtg. - 8:30am	<b>16</b>	Prayer Group - 6:30pm <b>17</b>	Home Extensions-10am <b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> UMYF - 12:00pm  District UMW Mtg. at Erwin UMC - 2:30pm	<b>23</b>	Prayer Group - 6:30pm <b>24</b>	Card Ministry - 5:00pm Bible Study - 6:30pm Choir Practice - 7:30pm <b>25</b>	Help-N-Hands Senior Group - 11:00am <b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> FFF & Book Club - 8:30am  Wedding - 4:00pm (Lou Johnston & Richard Wagner)
<b>29</b> HARVEST DINNER 6:00PM & FOOD DRIVE	<b>30</b>	Prayer Group - 6:30pm <b>31</b>  TRUNK OR TREAT 6:00 - 8:00PM	Card Ministry - 5:00pm Bible Study - 6:30pm Choir Practice - 7:30pm			