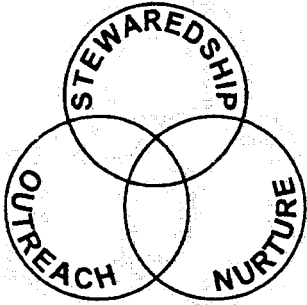


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Jesus said, "When you did it to one of these my brethren, you did it unto me." Matt. 25:40

Volume VII

SEPTEMBER 2007

Issue 9

"Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." (Hebrews 13. 15-16)

Those two verses are packed with wisdom and challenge. The great thing about the Bible is that it is the Word for all time and all situations. It was written at a specific time in history but speaks to all people of history, present and future.

"...Offer a sacrifice of praise to God." Come to church. Lift up your voice, with other believers, in praise and thanksgiving. Be strengthened in the reading and hearing of the Word, the fellowship of other Christians who may need your support or may provide you needed encouragement, and be strengthened in the mission to go out from the four walls and testify to the glory of God.

"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have..." How much work must you do in the church in order to fulfill your quota of doing good, ensuring salvation? Or, is there an age one reaches that

makes further service to God's people unnecessary, because we've paid our dues? No. But we are compelled to witness our present salvation as we serve others.

As I begin meeting with the committees of the church, I'm excited about the opportunities that we have to offer a sacrifice of praise and to do good and share what we have. The 'work area' committees – Nurture, Witness, and Outreach – each have or will identify a goal to serve in God's Kingdom; and they will be calling on you for help. Even the Worship committee will be identifying a goal that will require the involvement and effort of the whole congregation! This is going to be a fun and exhilarating place to be this year. If you know someone who does not go to church, invite them to come with you. We are going to have a marvelous time praising God and confessing His name and witnessing our salvation. Tell somebody that Jesus loves them. Watch a smile appear on their face. Invite them to join you at worship on Sunday.

Know God's love, and the joy that comes from sharing that love with others. See you in church.

Marc



Want St. Matthews to grow? Want to be able to serve more people on their walk with Christ? Then let's get behind our new sign effort. We need more people to become aware of our church and how we are serving, so that they will have an opportunity to join with us in our Kingdom work. Our new sign will help us get the word out.

The sign will cost only \$5,075. We already have \$2,150. Let's see if we can reach our goal by the end of September. Remember, this money comes, not from our 10% tithe, but from our second mile giving. We have all been blessed and will be blessed even more as we are able to serve others and invite others into ministry with us.

Know God's love and the joy of sharing his love with others.

WHAT IS PRAYER?

Prayer is not a lottery that we have a chance in a million of winning. Prayer is a response to a promise. And God pledges his nature that he will hear and answer our prayers. This is a glorious inspiration to pray.

PLEASE NOTE!

We have 37 people who will be taking Disciple 1 this year. That's great!!!

We have promised to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts and our service.			
ANNUAL BUDGET - \$171,027.91		AS OF AUGUST 28 2007	
Needed Weekly	\$3,289.00	Needed To Date	\$111,825.94
Average Weekly	\$3,296.78	Received To Date	\$112,090.37
Avg. Weekly Deficit	(\$7.78)	Deficit	(\$264.43)
<i>(Please note that the "deficit" lines have the numbers in parenthesis which indicates that it is a surplus on the deficit line.)</i>			



The UMM met Sunday, August 19th at 8:30 a.m. We enjoyed great fellowship and a delicious *Italian Breakfast* prepared by *Mr. & Mrs. Bob Galliera* and their *Friends*.

Pastor Marc gave our Invocation and thanked the men who went to St. Andrew's UMC on Friday evening for the *Fayetteville District UMM Meeting*. He also thanked the Communion Team Members for all they do in making the *"Home Communion Ministry"* such a great ministry and encouraged everyone to attend *Bible Study*. Jesus Loves You! Charles Lucas opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. Calvin gave the devotion which was on *"Valuable but Expendable"*, *Judges 7: 16-20*. Thanks Calvin for being our Devotional Leader. Your messages are a great inspiration, and we appreciate all you do.

Charles introduced our special guest, *Roy Hill*, who spoke of and passed out UMM Literature. The minutes were read and approved. Our Treasurer, Troy Willoughby gave the Financial Report and went over the income/ expenditures regarding the UMM Account. Bill made a motion to have the *UMM Barbecue Sale on Friday, October 12th*. It was seconded by Brad Everts and passed. Thanks to *Dave Norris* for volunteering to be the Chairman for this annual event. Anyone interested in helping, please contact Dave or Doris at the church office.

Discussion was made about a *Nomination Committee* being formed by the UMM. This committee will ensure that we are following the *UMM Doctrine* and are working closely with the UMM President.

The UMM will host the annual *Church Family Picnic* at the church on *Saturday, September 22nd*. This will be a great time of fun and fellowship. Hope to see everyone there for this event.

September Communion Team will be *Dave Norris, Bob Lambert, Santos & Hilda Pena, Raymond Gray*, and alternates will be *J.A. Sessoms & Bill Stackhouse*. We have received positive feedback regarding our Communion Ministry. It gives the UMM great joy to provide this ministry. If you know of anyone who would like to take part in this ministry, please contact Calvin Rome or Doris at the office. *September Cooks* will be *Calvin Rome & Friends*. *September Ushers* will be *Troy Willoughby, Charles Lucas, Fred Rozier, & Bill Leggett*. Please check the UMM Bulletin Board for valuable information.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: The things, good Lord, that we pray for, give us the grace to Labor for".

Bill Stackhouse, UMM Secretary

NURTURE



Homecoming is approaching and the Homecoming Committee is working diligently to prepare for our festivities! Our **Charter Members** are **Grover Green, Perry Smith, Adella Pray, and Hank Zielinski**. Please take a moment to thank these members for all they have given to St. Matthew's.

Sept. 15 - Starting at 9:00 a.m., we will be meeting to hold our annual **Church Wide Clean-Up**. Please plan to assist. Bring your old rags and cleaning supplies.

Sept. 22 - Church Family Picnic at the church sponsored by the **United Methodist Men** starts at 2:00 p.m.

Sept. 23 - Homecoming Celebration begins with our **Praise Team** leading a time of praise and worship music from 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. Our spiritual leader for our **Homecoming Service** will be our own, **Rev. Marc Werner**.

Please plan to stay for our **Church Family Picture** and remain for the **Covered Dish Dinner**. Please bring enough food for your family and extra for our guests.

Sept. 30 - Old Fashion Worship Service at 11:00 a.m., **Covered Dish Dinner** at 6:00 p.m. followed by a **Talent Show** hosted by Amanda Call. Please come join in the fun! We need plenty of people to sign-up and show off your talents. A sign-up sheet is in the hallway. **See you there!**
In Christ, Elaine Everts

FOR HELP TO PRAY

Lord, I do not know what to pray for as I ought. Let your Spirit remedy my inadequacies; empower me to offer my spiritual sacrifice, acceptable to you by Jesus Christ. Amen.



(J. Wesley)

SEPTEMBER CHURCH FLOWERS

2 - In memory of W.G. Rozier & Carl & Helen Underwood & in honor of Jean Rozier by Reed Rozier for Grandparents Day

9 - In honor of Skeeter Parker's 60th birthday by Robert & Kids

16 - In honor of Ruby Lucas' birthday by her husband, Charles

23 - In honor of Santos Pena's birthday by his wife, Hilda

30 - In honor of Evelyn Pavel by Glenn & Bonnie Griffith

(The "2007 Flower Chart" is available for you to sign and place flowers in Honor or Memory of a loved one. Cost is only \$25.00.)

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 - Dorothy Taylor | 17 - Ruby Lucas |
| Rebecca Causey | 18 - Laura Gallimore |
| 4 - Lloyd Miller | 20 - Bob Lambert |
| 6 - Joann Terrier | 21 - Julia Agnew |
| Matt Unruh | 24 - Santos Pena |
| 7 - Shawn Schultz | Pam Gallimore |
| 10 - Hilda Parker | Sam Hubbard |
| 11 - Kay Warbis | 26 - Anthony Cabeza |
| 14 - Phyllis Jordan | 28 - Kristine Lewis |
| Sarah Hager | 30 - Amanda Jones |
| Dustin Powell | Jerry Brown |
| 15 - Karen Ogden | |

A NEW SERVICE!!



Beginning September 4th, we will have a service designed around intercessory prayer. We will start at 6:30 p.m. and will meet for about 30 minutes. The service will consist of some hymn singing, a short devotion, Holy Communion, and a time to lift up prayer concerns and joys.

Some churches are known for their stained glass windows, some for their beautiful organ, others for their outstanding choir. What a unique church we would have if we were known as "*That church that prays.*"

Come join us on September 4th, I know you'll be blessed!

A TREE

I saw a tree with branches raised up toward God in grateful praise. How God loves this noble tree! Makes it grow so sturdily, covers it with leaves of green, satin-smooth with glossy sheen, flowers upon its branches, too, sweet as honey, wet with dew. In its quiet shade each day little children love to play. Now, if God so loves a tree, how He must love you and me!



Lucy Gray Kendall

TRUSTEE OF THE MONTH

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

CHARGE CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 3, 7:00 P.M.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



MISSION MOMENT: This month is from Deaconess/Church and Community Worker **Lisa Nichols** from Tennessee. "The **St. Elmo Reading Center** provides extra reading activities for children who might be excluded from the public library programs because of parents working hours or transportation. They read some books as a group, make something, or partici-

pate in an activity, then read to a volunteer from a book of their choice. **Marcus** has benefited from his time at the Reading Center, and now prefers to read by himself rather than listen to the leader. Local high school and church volunteers work at the Reading Center, and our challenge is to pair Marcus with a volunteer who can provide the needed literacy skills and encouragement for our young reader."

As we prepare to go back into full activities this month, I would encourage each women in St. Matthew's UMC to become a part of the UMW by participating in at least one activity each month. If you are not aware of what we do, please call Adella Pray at 864-1207 or 309-1788 or ask someone else. If you are active in the UMW, please look around and invite someone to join in on the activities.

The **Mother-Child Retreat** is at **Camp Don Lee September 14 - 16**. If interested, please let us know. Applications are on the bulletin board.

Also remember that the **Christmas Shoeboxes** will be here soon, so you may want to begin collecting your supplies for this ministry.

Your mission giving has been great this year, and I will recap this list for you in the next newsletter.

Adella Pray, UMW President

RUTH-ETHEL SMITH CIRCLE:

Our Circle of Friends will start back on Wednesday, September 12th at 11:00 a.m. Don't forget to bring **Towels** which was our mission project. They will be used to replenish the kitchen. It is also time to select two people who will receive **Mission Pins**. Hope to see you soon!

Lola Smith, Chairperson

RECIPE OF THE MONTH "MINI TACOS"

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 package Egg Roll Wrappers | 1 jar Salsa |
| 1 lb. Ground Chuck, cooked
crumbled, & drained | 1 package finely shredded
Cheddar Cheese |
| 1 package Taco Seasoning
Mix | 1 8 oz. container Sour Cream |



Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Remove wrappers from refrigerator a half hour before cutting them. With scissors, cut egg roll wrappers across twice, both ways (this will make 9 stacks), and trim off the corners. Place wrappers in miniature muffin pan, and bake for 5 minutes or until brown. (Note: They brown quickly.) Mix ground chuck with taco seasoning and salsa. Serve meat mixture in chafing dish with the taco shells, cheese, and sour cream in bowls on the side. (Let kids build their own.) Makes 80 or more taco shells.

DATES TO REMEMBER

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

11:00 am - Ruth-Ethel Smith Circle

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

7:00 pm - Night Owls Circle

SEPTEMBER 14 - 16 - Mother/Child

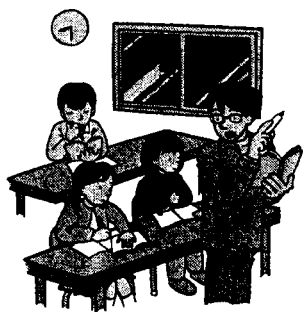
Retreat at Camp Don Lee

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12

11am - 7pm - UMW Bake Sale along

With the UMM Barbecue Sale

HAND-IN-HAND PROGRAM:



School has already begun. For those parents with children returning to class, it is a wonderful time of year. For those whose children are long since gone, it can be a wonderful time of year for you as well.

I want to introduce you to the **Hand-in-Hand Program!** Remember this is a three pronged approach to ministering to school children and school staff. The first phase is so easy that every single person in our congregations can and should be a participant. It requires only that you remember, in your prayers, on a frequent and regular basis **J. W. Coon Elementary School.** Pray for the children that attend, for safety, for

physical health, for mental capacity and desire to learn. Pray also for the teachers and staff, that they may have patience, that they be blessed for working with these children of God, that they may have the enthusiasm and energy and love to keep them motivated to provide the best opportunities possible for God's children.

The second phase of the program is to be a **Prayer Partner.** This is an exciting commitment that will find you being blessed as much as the one you are paired with. The idea here is to be a "**Secret Pal**" who is committed to praying for a specific teacher or staff person at J. W. Coon. Believe me; they can feel your prayers for them as they go through their days and weeks at school. Through our **Hand-in-Hand Coordinator,** there is an opportunity for the teacher/staff person to send you a note to identify a particular prayer request. What a wonderful ministry – praying for someone who doesn't know who you are. At the end of the school year, we will gather together for lunch so that the teachers and staff can look you in the eye and say, "Thanks"! I needed your prayers this year and I knew when you were praying for me."

The third phase of **Hand-in-Hand** requires more commitment yet. You can sign up to be a volunteer to go to the school an hour (or more) a week, to work with a child on a one-on-one basis, or to help the teacher in some other way, or even to help the office staff. There are lots of things that need to be done in a school to make things run smoothly. Mentoring an elementary age child is a blessing. Letting a child know that they mean enough to you that you come every week to work with them is a powerful affirmation of that child's worth.

Do you hear God calling you? Caring with children is a means of grace, a vehicle through which God makes God's self known to us and to them. In their care we experience grace, the movement of God in our lives that allows us to give to and receive from others. We commit ourselves to love, despite the fact that no one in the world considers us or them (children, teachers, staff) obliged to love one another.

Someone, from the last school I was involved in with the **Hand-in-Hand Program** mentioned to me that, "Each year we have been committed to the **Hand-in-Hand Ministry** at this school, the end of year scores have gone up." Some may say that this is just a coincident. But I say that it is a God incident.

MT 25:37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?'³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you?³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

MT 25:40 "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

Know God's love and know the special joy that comes from sharing that love with others.



PRAISE SEVEN DAYS A WEEK
The seven whole days, not one in seven,
Unwearied will I praise,
In vain my heart as in Your heaven
Your throne triumphant raise. Amen.
(J. Wesley)



FINDING GOD



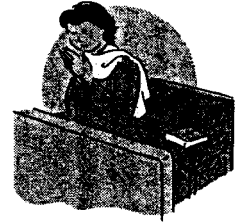
I find God in the sunshine that falls across my room;
I find Him in the raindrops that make the flowers bloom.
I find Him in the flute notes of the mockingbird's sweet song;
I find Him in the music of the brook that runs along.
I find Him in the snowflakes that cover flowers asleep;
I find Him in the countless stars in the azure deep.
I find Him in the fragrance that fills the summer air;
I find Him in the silence as I kneel in prayer.
God is the great Creator. He made the world so fair,
And sun and stars and people ---
I find God everywhere.

Lucy Gray Kendall

If your trouble is long-standing, try kneeling.
Sorrow looks back. Worry looks around. Faith looks up.
This church is prayer-conditioned.

A SMALL BOYS PRAYER

"Dear Lord, I hope you take good care of yourself,
cause if anything happens to you, we would all be in
a terrible mess."



LOVE TO SING AND NOT OLD ENOUGH TO DRIVE A CAR YET? JOIN THE HALLELUJAH CHOIR!



We will start a **Children's Choir** on Sunday, September 9th at 9:15 singing
and praising God with our voices. At 10:00 we'll move right on into Sunday
School. This is for all kids 5 years old through 5th grade. Bring your school
friends and neighbors. They do not have to be a member of St. Matthews.

We will be through with practice in plenty of time for them to get back to their church in time
for Sunday Worship, or they are welcome to join us.

If you have any questions or would like to help, give me a call at 867-4716.

Blessings! Donna

SEPTEMBER

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED	4 Prayer Group – 6:00pm Disciple Study-7:00pm	5 Card Ministry – 5:00pm Bible Study-6:30pm Choir Practice – 7:30pm	6 Lay Leadership Team Mtg. – 6:00pm	7	1
9 Children's Choir – 9:30am	10 Disciple Study – 10am	11 Prayer Group – 6:00pm Discipleship Study-7pm	12 Ruth-Ethel Smith Circle - 11:00am Card Ministry – 5:00pm Bible Study-6:30pm Choir Practice – 7:30pm	13 Night Owls Circle – 7:00pm	14	15 CHURCH – WIDE CLEAN UP DAY 9:00 AM
16 Children's Choir – 9:30am	17 Disciple Study – 10am Finance Ministry Team – 6:00pm	18 Prayer Group – 6:00pm Disciple Study-7pm	19 Card Ministry Bible Study-6:30pm Choir Practice	20 Church Ministry Council – 7:00pm	21	22 CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC 2:00 PM
23 UMM Breakfast Mtg. – 8:30am HOMECOMING Praise Team-9:45am Worship – 11:00am Photo & Covered Dish Lunch-12pm	24 Disciple Study – 10am	25 Prayer Group – 6:00pm Disciple Study-7pm	26 Card Ministry Bible Study- 6:30pm Choir Practice	27 Help-N-Hands Senior Group – 11am	28	29 FFF & Book Club - 8:30am
30 Children's Choir – 9:30am Old Fashion Worship – 11:00am Covered Dish Dinner & Talent Show – 6:00pm						