



St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

The ParishScope February 2020



February Highlights at St. Matthew's



Sunday, February 2nd begins St. Matthew's Stewardship Campaign.



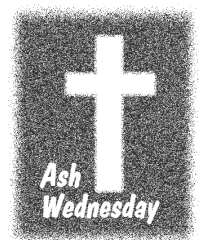
"Souper Bowl Sunday" is February 2nd. St. Matthew's celebrates Football's *Super Bowl Sunday* this Sunday in our own way. **Please bring a can or cans of your favorite soup to Worship.** Place cans in the large basket marked "Souper Bowl" that will be in the Narthex. Your "Souper Bowl" donations will be given to St. Vianney's Food Pantry to help feed the hungry.

Sunday, February 9th is Scout Sunday. The Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts will be planning and delivering the entire 10:00am Worship Service.



St. Matthew's Ice Cream Social, after Worship, Sunday February 16th. Join us in Dodril Hall/Youth Room. Let's celebrate what St. Matthew's means to each of us.

Ash Wednesday is February 26th. There will be an Ash Wednesday Service in our Sanctuary at 5:30 p.m.





St. Matthew's Stewardship Campaign Begins Sunday February 2nd

Dear St. Matthews Family,

Our 2020 Stewardship Campaign is kicking off on Sunday, February 2nd. The Stewardship campaign funds the everyday operations of St. Matthews including:

- Heating and lighting the sanctuary for worship services.
- Our Pastor who visits, preaches, teaches and provides pastoral care.
- Special events like the wonderful Christmas in January Concert which was just held in the Sanctuary.
- Pays the salaries of the awesome St. Matthews staff like our custodian, our office manager and our music director.
- Allows St. Matthews to engage in education and mission work worldwide.

Many times we are faced with a task that is difficult or that makes us uncomfortable. Several years ago I was supervising a major incident. It was an incident that generated a lot of media interest. I was the only supervisor working that night and thus the only one available to speak to the press on camera. A live shot no less. If you know me, you know I am uncomfortable being the focus of attention. I prefer to work behind the scenes. I remember thinking, "If not me, who?" I put it in my mind that I was going to do this. As difficult and uncomfortable as it would be for me, I had to do it. And I did. I survived the interview.

During this year's Stewardship Campaign, I would ask you to prayerfully consider your giving and if possible increasing your giving. "If not me, who?"

Thanks for reading this.

Bob Hernandez, Finance Committee Chair



February 23rd is Stewardship Sunday!



Scout Sunday is February 9th

Scouts from Troop 710 and Pack 710 will lead the 10 a.m. Worship Service on February 9. This year's date for Scout Sunday was chosen because it is near the February 8th birthday of Boy Scouts of America.

In honor of Boy Scouting's 110th birthday, the Cubs will do a group presentation on the history of Scouting. One or more cubs will also share special music. The sermon will be done by several Scouts. They will share on the theme "helpful," which is one of the 12 points of the Scout Law. Other Scouts from the troop will lead much of the rest of the service.

All Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and adults associated with scouting – whether or not they're part of Troop 710 or Pack 710 – are encouraged to wear their uniform or other sign of their involvement with scouting as part of the celebration of Scout Sunday.

St. Matthew's has sponsored both Boy Scout Troop 710 and Cub Scout Pack 710 for many years. It is one of the ways the church family is involved shaping the lives of young people in our community. Scouting helps young people develop strong values and effective leadership skills. Scout Sunday is our annual opportunity to get to know and fellowship with the young people in the troop and pack along with their families.

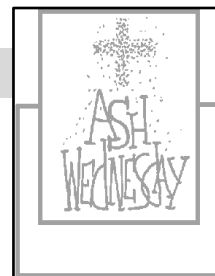


Ice Cream Social, February 16th, at St. Matthew's

St. Matthew's is having an ice cream social on Sunday, February 16 immediately after church. It will be in the youth room of Dodrill Hall. Joy and Terry Feulner are organizing it. So, it will be lots of fun. They will provide everything. All you need to bring is a healthy appetite. During the Ice Social, there will be a conversation about the state of St. Matthew's. This will be an opportunity for everyone in church family to hear about what's happening and to share some of their hopes and dreams.

So come. Learn more about what's in store for St. Matthew's while enjoying amazing fellowship with the St. Matthew's church family.

Ash Wednesday Service on February 26th at 5:30 p.m.



St. Matthew's will have an Ash Wednesday service at 5:30 pm on February 26 in the Sanctuary. It is a very simple service which lasts less than an hour. There will be lots of contemplative music, time for quiet reflection and an opportunity to have ashes put on our foreheads.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the season of spiritual preparation for Easter. Lent is 40 days long because Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness at the beginning of his ministry (see Matthew 4:1-11). Traditionally, Lent has been a solemn season seeking to deepen our relationship with God through prayer, self-examination, self-denial, and studying God's Word.

Those who look closely at the calendar will say, "But there are 46 days from Ash Wednesday to Easter!" That's because the Sundays during Lent are *not* part of Lent. The early Christian movement saw every Sunday as a "little" Easter Sunday. So from their perspective, the celebration of Easter was stronger than the solemnness and fasting of Lent. As a result, the Sundays during Lent are *not* counted as part of the Lenten Season. This way Sunday remains a day of celebration.

Welcome St. Matthew's Newest Members

Tim Gudz and Lynda Zheng were married in the gazebo of prayer garden on January 13, 2019 immediately after the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Many folks from St. Matthew's were in attendance. Since then Tim and Lynda have regularly been in worship and have formally joined the St. Matthew's Church family.



Tim joined St. Matthew's on Sunday, December 21. He was born in Delaware and moved to Hacienda Heights when he was 9. He has worked at California High School in Whittier for more than 20 years accompanying all of their choirs. This includes going with them when they go on tour. Tim enjoys being married to Lynda. He also enjoys fellowship, taking walks in the community, and watching a variety of sports with Lynda.

Lynda joined St. Matthew's on Sunday, March 10. She was born in China. While in China she taught for 10 years and then was an engineer for more than 20 years. She moved to California after she and Tim met. She enjoys learning about the Bible, fellowship, and watching sports with Tim.



Lenten Study Starts Thursday, March 5th

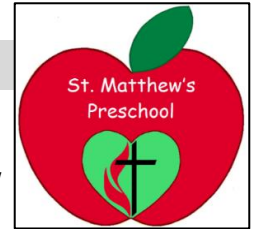
This year St. Matthew's is going to read *Praying for Jennifer* by John Cobb for its Lenten Study. The Lenten class will meet for 4 weeks from 10:30 am 12 Noon starting on Thursday, March 5. The study will end on March 26.

Praying for Jennifer is about a teenager named Jennifer who is in a very serious auto accident and not expected to live. A nurse tells Jennifer's teenage friends that the only thing they can do to help Jennifer is pray. So even though most of the teens are not religious, they pray. Jennifer makes an amazing recovery. But then at a certain point, no matter how hard her friends continuing praying, Jennifer seems to stop making progress. So, the teens begin asking people questions to explain why their prayers were answered at first and then seemed to stop working. Most of the book is about the various answers people give the teens.

You can order *Praying for Jennifer* online or from a book store. St. Matthew's will also try to have copies for people to purchase. Watch the bulletin and the next *Parishscope* for more information.



News and Notes from St. Matthew's Preschool



The start of 2020 has been a very positive time for us here at St. Matthew's Preschool. The increase in student enrollment has been gradual yet steady. We now have the majority of our students on a full time 5 day a week basis which greatly helps our overall revenue. We are looking forward to the prospects and challenges this year has to offer!

Continual progress is also being made to enhance the preschool facility as well. A new heating and air unit has been installed in the Green Room to replace the old unit thanks to Mike Gallagher. The enrollment and lunch banners are now prominently displayed on the front lawn thanks to Huber Bongolan. The trees were trimmed and leaves removed from the play yard. Thank you so much to both Mike and Huber from everyone here at the preschool! Investigation into the changes needed to ensure the safety of the main play yard structure has been completed and work is set to begin soon to complete this project.

It is with the utmost sincerity that I thank the St. Matthew's Preschool teachers and the staff and members of St. Matthew's United Methodist church for all your hard work, belief in the preschool and prayers. Without you the preschool would not be able to meet and exceed our goals!

Blessings for a Prosperous Year and Bright Future!

Sherry Morales, St. Matthew's Preschool Director

Recognizing Our St. Matthew's Preschool Teachers



This month we would like to shine a spotlight on one of St. Matt's newest teachers, Ms. Adriana. Ms. Adriana started working at the preschool just this past summer, but it seems as if she has been with us much longer. She spends the majority of her day as the lead teacher in the Pre-K classroom and spends her evenings' ensuring the safety and security of all out students as a closing teacher.

One of the most notable aspects of Ms. Adriana's personality is how encouraging and bubbly she always is. She is well known for her beautiful smile and positive attitude. Even on the dreariest of days her infectious laugh can be heard throughout the school.

It continually amazes me how our teachers enter their classrooms each day as if the stresses of the outside world don't exist. No matter what struggles they may be enduring, they manage to be the same endearing and respected teachers our students interact with on a day to day basis. I am in awe of their kindness, patience and devotion!

On a much sadder note, Ms. Brenda, one of our beloved toddler teachers, has decided to spread her wings and pursue other avenues of employment. Her last day with St. Matt's was the 24th of January. We will miss her and wish her all the best in her future endeavors!

*Sincerely,
Sherry Morales
Director*



Musical Notes from Elaine Ono, Director of Music

The February Twombly Award Recipient is Guillermo RJ Torres. He will be playing the tuba during our 10:00 a.m. Worship on Sunday, February 23rd. Guillermo RJ Torres is a Los Angeles based multi-instrumentalist, composer, and educator. His musical journey began in high school with the tuba, which has grown from a hobby into a profession. Guillermo has played at venues such as the Hollywood Bowl, the Grammy Museum, the Nokia Theater and others, performing with musicians such as Leila Hathaway. Currently studying at Pasadena City College, Guillermo is the acting manager for the PCC Community Orchestra, as well as principal tubist for the school. More info can be found on his website: www.musicianmemo.com.



Pics from the "Christmas in January Concert"



Here are pictures from our annual "Christmas in January Concert" that was held on January 26th. Pics are of the Chancel Choir and Carillon Bells.

A Thank You Note



Dear Church Family,

I would like to thank the St. Matthews Church Family for the very beautiful Prayer Shawl given to me. I do love it and know that it was knitted with love also.

I would like to thank everyone for their loving cards and prayers during these past few weeks. God Bless you all.

Margaret Gow



Join Us for "Top-of-the-Hill"

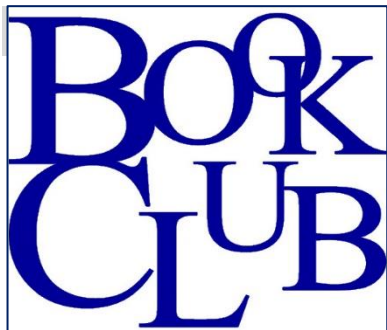
Top-of-the-Hill meets on Monday, February 10th at Noon in the Fellowship Hall. Meal cost is \$4.00 payable at the door. RSVP on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex or Church Office.

Jerry & Eileen Casterline



Women's Retreat May 1-3

St. Matthew's Women's Retreat is happening May 1st to May 3rd. Get the word out and invite your Moms, Siblings and Girl Friends! Watch bulletins, newsletters, and emails for more information.



St. Matthew's Book Club Book Club

You are invited to join St. Matthew's Book Club. We meet in the Church office on the third Wednesday of the month starting about 11:00 a.m. Each month we have a different book which we read and then discuss. Contact Lori Novak for a list of book titles. Even if you don't get a chance to read the books, we welcome people to come and visit with us. You will never know what we chose to talk about. There are always goodies to nibble on and lots of good conversation. Email Lori Novak (lorinovak1@verizon.net) or me (KKT4GMA@aol.com) for further questions or if you wish to stop on by.

Jeanine Sullivan



Handmade Greeting Cards Now Available

The Card Ministry met recently, so now there are new handmade cards available for you to send to someone who could use some happy mail. Cards of many styles with different sentiments are available in the Narthex (for free!). Send someone a “hug”.

Janet Shoop

you're in our
PRAYERS

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Congratulations to **Rich and Denise Kozak**. They are now Grandparents for the second time.

Terry and Joy Feulner are now Great-Grandparents.

Andrea (daughter-in-law of Elaine Drake Hurst) as she regains strength after a kidney transplant.

Wes Ojala who is waiting for test results.

Greg Casterline, Jr. (grandson of Jerry and Eileen Casterline) is recovering from a tonsillectomy.

Bill Farley (son of Kathy Farley) who is home after having surgery for an aortic aneurysm.

Richard Hill (father of Steve Hill) as he recovers from a hip replacement.

Ruth Dryden is now recuperating after a fall. You can send her cards or notes to Villa Anne,
3011 Nova Scotia Drive, Riverside, CA 92506

Lynette Ratkovic (Committee Chair of Cub Scout Pack 710) has recently been diagnosed with shingles.

Jean Lipscomb (sister of Maxine Singiser) who is dealing with serious health problems.

Dennis Cuocco (friend of Dolores Gonzalez-Hayes) who recently had a kidney transplant.

Marylyn Owens (mother of Marilee Hartling) who turned 97 on Christmas Day and has entered hospice.

Cathy Sardo is back in the hospital and recovering from brain surgery.

David Cain (nephew of Betty Williams) who has bladder cancer.

Margie Martinez (niece of Betty Williams). Prayers for her as she prepares for the next steps in her treatment.

Steve Hill as he undergoes extensive dental work.

Dolores Gonzalez-Hayes as she continues to recover from a serious car accident.

Prayers of thanksgiving that **Charlie Dietrich** is doing much better after receiving cardo-rehab therapy.

Elaine Drake Hurst to continue getting better.

Monica Shim as she lives with health concerns.

Jeanine Sullivan is adjusting well to changes in medications.

Kristen Wilkinson, (friend of Carol Rogers), a mother with 4 young children, who is having surgery for cancer.

Shelly Sanders (daughter of Tom and Shirley Aney). Prayers of thanksgiving that she is doing so much better.

Carlita Bongolan as she makes decisions about the next steps after arthroscopic knee surgery.

Tom Aney. Prayers for Tom and Shirley during this time.

Evan (son of Eleanor Brown). Prayers for his ongoing recovery.

Chris Kozak (son of Rich and Denise Kozak). Prayers for his ongoing recovery.

Virginia Kozak (mother of Rich Kozak) who is 99 and has entered hospice.

Rick Lilly (son of Donna Lilly) who has pancreatic cancer.

Bill Cook (college friend of Richard Bentley). Prayers of thanksgiving that he is finally home. Prayers for the next steps he hopes to make.

Prayers for the **Craig**, nephew of Patrice (Lori Novak's friend) as he recovers from complications of a serious infection.

Don King who is struggling with health concerns.

Mimi (friend of Betty Williams) who was recently diagnosed with cancer.

The Family of Ken (brother-in-law of Johnny Doyle) who passed away in the mid-west on January 25th.

And . . . keep the following in your prayers as well:

Bonnie Hauck, Joan Zoller, David Burton, Judy Ketchum, Peter Matsumura, Bob Preston, Harvey Spicher, Elizabeth Gutierrez, Mary Acosta, Rebecca Oliver, Dorothy Tarvin, Lucille Householder, Diane Crawford (daughter of Shirley Butler), **Marie Peterson, Carolyn Mueller, Jay Youngblood** (grandson of Olga Baker), **Naomi Mueller, Audrey Butler, The Holte Family, Gary and Donna Lyons, Kevin Matsumura, Don and Linda Pastrana, Irma Rosas, Shiryl Boerlin, Adam Bouma** (grandson of Ruth Barnes), **Andrew Aguirre** (grandson of the Dietrichs), **James Michael** (grandson of Lori Novak).





For Worship, We Always Need . . .

Coffee Fellowship Hosts and/or Hostesses

You only need to provide Coffeetime snacks and take coffee supplies back to the kitchen. Our trusty Morgan Matthews makes the coffee and drinks each Sunday. If you would like to host, contact Carol Rogers.



Chancel Flowers or Food Baskets for Sunday Morning Worship

Contact the Church Office for details.

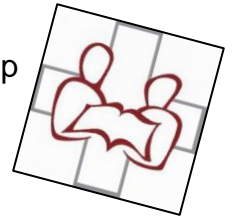


Ushers for Worship

Contact Judy Vroman to serve as an Usher for any Sunday morning.

Liturgists to Assist in Worship

If you would like to be assist in our Worship Services reading the Worship liturgy, please contact Olga Baker.



February Birthdays

Feb. 1	Jeanine Sullivan
Feb. 2	Diane Hernandez
Feb. 3	Hazel Bonner Charlie Dietrich
Feb. 4	Ruth Harper (Resident @ The Palms)
Feb. 16	Cathy Sardo
Feb. 17	Norm Peterson
Feb. 24	Marie Peterson



February Wedding Anniversaries

Feb. 10th Bill & Marilyn McMullin



St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

Monday

Tuesday

Wed.


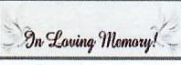







Thursday

Friday

Saturday

February



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 2 "Souper Bowl" Sunday & Stewardship Campaign begins 8:00am-Prayer & Communion 8:45am - Adult Sunday School 10:00am-Worship - 11:15am-Coffeetime <i>Groundhog Day</i>	3 9:30am-Shalom (Ofc) 7:00pm-Boy Scouts (FH)	4 7pm - Trustees Meeting	5 8:00am-Women's Breakfast 10:30am-Preschool Chapel Time 11:15-11:45am-Preschool Dance (FH) 3:00pm- <i>The Palms</i> 4-6:30 Scouts (DH)	6 8:00am-Men's Breakfast 1:00pm-Staff Mtg. 6pm-Bells 7pm - Choir Practice 7pm-Cubs (SS) 7pm-Scouts Order of Arrow (FH)	7 9:30am-9:00pm-Blessed Chinese UMC (FH) 1pm-Martha Circle (Off site) 7:00- 9:30pm-Boy Scout Eagle (DH)	 11:00 a.m. Ron Gow Memorial Service & Reception (Sanc & FH)
9 Boy Scout Sunday  8:00am-Prayer & Communion 8:45am - Adult Sunday School 10:00am-Worship 11:15am-Coffee Fellowship	10 9:30am-Shalom (Ofc) Noon- Top of the Hill (FH) 7:00pm-Boy Scouts (FH)	11 11:30am-Aging Gracefully Class (DH) 7pm - SPRC (Office)	12 8:00am-Women's Breakfast 10:30am-Preschool Chapel Time 11:15-11:45am-Preschool Dance 3:00pm- <i>The Palms</i> 4-6:30 Scouts (DH)	13 8:00am-Men's Breakfast	14 Valentine's Day 9:30am-9:00pm-Blessed Chinese (FH) 7:00-9:30pm-Boy Scout Eagle (DH) 	15 10am-3pm Blessed Chinese UMC Event (FH)
16 8:00am-Prayer & Communion 8:45am - Adult Sunday School 10:00am-Worship 11:15 St. Matthew's Ice Cream Social (DH/YR) 	17  Office & Preschool closed for Presidents Day	18 10am-Card Ministry (Office)	19 8:00am-Women's Breakfast 10:30am-Preschool Chapel Time 11am - Book Club (Office) 11:15-11:45am-Preschool Dance 3:00pm- <i>The Palms</i> 4-6:30 Scouts (DH) 6:30-Knit Wits (DH)	20 8:00am-Men's Breakfast 1pm-Eve Circle (Off site) 6pm-Bells 7pm - Choir Practice	21 9:30am-9:00pm-Blessed Chinese UMC (FH) 7:00-9:30pm-Boy Scout Eagle (DH)	22 5:00pm - Cubs Banquet (FH) 
23 Stewardship Sunday & Twombly Recipient  8:00am-Prayer & Communion 8:45am - Adult Sunday School 10:00am-Worship 11:15am-Coffee Fellowship	24 9:30am-Shalom 7:00pm-Boy Scout (FH)	25 11:30am-Aging Gracefully Class (DH)	26 Ash Wednesday 8:00am-Women's Breakfast 10:30am-Preschool Chapel Time 11:15-11:45am-Preschool Dance 3:00pm- <i>The Palms</i> 4-6:30 Scouts (DH) 5:30pm - Ash Wednesday Service 	27 8:00am-Men's Breakfast 3pm-SGV Coalition for the Homeless (DH) 6pm-Bells 7pm - Choir Practice	28 9:30am-9:00pm-Blessed Chinese UMC (FH) 7:00-9:30pm-Boy Scout Eagle (DH)	29 10am-4pm Guild of St. George (FH)

Bold type indicates special activity, changes and/or additions to calendar.

- * Every Sunday from 9:00am to approximately 2:30pm – Blessed Chinese UMC occupies the Fellowship, Dodrill Hall and Youth Room.
- * Every Sunday at 11:30am- Hacienda Korean Methodist Church holds Worship in the Sanctuary and Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall.
- * St. Matthew's Preschool is open Monday thru Friday from 6:30am to 6:00pm.
- * Every Wednesday Evening from 6:30-9pm Blessed Chinese UMC holds a Disciple Ministry in the Fellowship Hall.
- * Every Wednesday evening at 7:30pm, Hacienda Korean Church is in Dodrill Hall.



ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

15653 E. Newton Street, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

Phone: 626-333-6656

Email: Office@smumchh.org

Rev. Richard Bentley, Pastor Louise Green, Office Administrator Elaine Ono, Director of Music
Greg Gomez, Custodian Morgan Matthews, Sound Technician
Sherry Morales, Director of Preschool, 626-330-8340, www.smumpc.org

FIRST CLASS MAIL

St. Matthews United Methodist Church
15653 E. Newton Street
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

