

The ParishScope

June
2021



*St. Matthew's
United Methodist Church*



**Welcome Back To Worship In The Sanctuary
Beginning June 20th !!!**



St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

**IN-PERSON WORSHIP on
FATHERS' DAY
SUNDAY**

June 20, 2021 at 10:00am

15653 Newton Street
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745
(626) 333 - 6656

In-Person Sanctuary Worship Reopens At 10am On Father's Day (June 20)



The St. Matthew's Church Family is planning on reopening in person worship in the sanctuary at 10 am on Father's Day, June 20th. As part of the celebration, the Bell Choir will be performing, live but socially distanced. And our guest speaker will be Diane Cline.

With the reopening of in-person in the Sanctuary, there will be a wide variety of changes in Sunday mornings at St. Matthew's. Some of the details are still being worked out. There will be a letter to the congregation with additional information. But for the time being, it is clear that:

- worship in the sanctuary will move from 11 am to 10 am.
- the time of outdoor service will change from 9 am to an earlier time. This service may continue to meet outdoors at least part of the time.
- the online service will continue
- Sunday School will continue meeting at the same time with a zoom option.



"Re-Opening The Doors" Project For New Audio Visual Equipment

By now you may have heard that the decision has been made to resume in person worship in the sanctuary. As part of that decision, the Church Council reviewed a proposal to purchase and install new audio visual equipment that will enhance both the in person and online worship experiences. Part of the equipment to be purchased are two 80 inch monitors on which to display scripture and hymns among other things. This will be necessary because Bibles and Hymnals will be removed from the sanctuary before we resume in person worship in an effort to inhibit the spread of Covid 19.

I am very excited for this project and I know some you are too. About five minutes after the Church Council meeting ended, I received a phone call and a pledge of \$1,000 towards the Reopening the Doors project. A few minutes later another \$500 was pledged to the project and the next morning \$500 more was pledged.

The proposal to purchase and install the new audio visual equipment is \$20,587.37. Fortunately a church member has graciously offered to match gifts received by the church for this project up to \$12,500. If we as a congregation can raise \$12,500 for the "Reopening the Doors" project we will have \$25,000 to purchase and install the new equipment as well as pay for the incidental work that usually goes along with a project like this.

Our goal for the project was \$12,500. As of June 7, we have raised \$11,625. We just need \$925 to reach our goal. Will you consider helping put us over the top by giving to the Reopening the Doors project?

There are three easy ways to give. You can go to the St. Matthew's website, click on the "donations" tab across the top then enter the amount you would like to give and select Reopening the Doors from the drop down menu. If you prefer, you can mail your gift in to the church marked Reopening the Doors or you can drop your gift off in the locked drop box mounted on the office door. However you decide to give, please consider giving to this worthwhile project.

*Bob Hernandez
Finance Committee Chair*



Purchasing Audio Visual Equipment For St. Matthew's Online Worship Services

As part of resuming worship in the Sanctuary, the church is purchasing audio video equipment to enhance both the in person and the online worship services. Together, this equipment will help the church grow into the 21st century. It offers possibilities to better serve our existing congregation while also reaching out to younger worshipers either online or in person.

This new equipment falls into three areas:

- 1) It strengthens the sound system in the sanctuary.** For many years that the sound system has had problems including dead spots, feedback, echos and difficulties understanding speakers. At one time there was a pre-set system that was easy to operate. But, over the years the system was modified and parts were removed. It has reached the point where nothing really works right. And, due to FCC changes, some of our wireless mics are actually illegal to use. So significant part of the upgrades are for the sound system we use for worship in the Sanctuary.
- 2) It adds two 80 video screens and other video equipment for the Sanctuary.** This offers the opportunity of moving into a modern era with visuals of lyrics and bible verses as well as the ability to show videos. In the short term it will help with COVID-19 precautions. As part of the reopening we may need to remove Bibles and Hymnals from the pews and not pass out bulletins.
- 3) It makes the online service more sustainable and easier to offer.** Among other things, we are adding a single camera that can be remote controlled along with a pair of fixed mount cameras. Doing the online service well offers definite mental health and quality of life benefits by allowing the church family to stay connected even if it is not practical to attend in person. And, it also helps when aging members of the congregation need to move out of the area to be closer to children, into group homes of one sort or another, or find coming in person more difficult because of lack of easy mobility.

"Top-Of-The-Hill"



Good day friends,

Terry and I took 3 weeks to drive across the country (5,000 miles) and my favorite part was Custer's Last Stand, Battle of the Little Big Horn or the Indian's name----Battle of the Greasy Grass. It's very interesting and historians have hourly accounts made of the encounters.

Come Zoom with us on Monday, June 14th for "Top-of-the-Hill".

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85212231333?pwd=dFNRSIRqdjY5NlFXeitSSHJzenRjQT09>

Meeting ID: 852 1223 1333

Passcode: 757621

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 852 1223 1333#

Passcode: 757621#

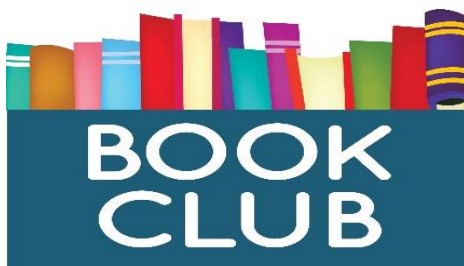
Joy and Terry Feulner



Important Ins And Outs Of Using The Sanctuary For In Person Worship

Although we will be able to return to in person worship in the sanctuary, there will be some differences. On the one hand, the congregation continues to be guided by Jesus' commandment to love your neighbor as yourself. So it tries to protect people in case someone has COVID-19, but doesn't know it. And, the Church Council has affirmed it is wiser to go more slowly, erring on the side of caution since there are not do overs if someone gets sick. On the other hand, California in general and LA County in particular is doing very well right now. So its quite possible that at least some of the guidelines for indoor, in person worship can wisely and safely change soon. Still, for the time being:

- people are asked to wear face coverings and maintain social distancing between family groupings.
- people will be sitting in every other row in the sanctuary, with every family grouping having direct access to an aisle. (I.e. so you won't need to go past another family grouping to get in or out of the pew)
- people will enter through the side door where the ramp comes up from the parking lot and exit through the narthex. There will be a check in station as people enter the sanctuary to record names in case people need to be contacted later, do a temperature check, . .
- face coverings and hand sanitizer will be available at the check in station.
- a section of the sanctuary will be designed as only for those who have been vaccinated in order to provide additional protection for those who are most vulnerable.
- the service itself will be a lot like the present outdoor service with no singing or saying things together as a group. In addition, high touch items such as hymnals and pew bibles will be removed from the pews.
- only one family grouping or individual will be able to go into a restroom at a time. People will be asked to disinfect the restroom after they use it. Since space is very tight downstairs, people are asked to wait in the narthex until it is their turn.
- the new chair lift will be available to assist people going up and down the stairs. It will be disinfected between uses.
- the area in the back of the sanctuary with a rocking chair and table will continue to be available to families with young children. It will be sanitized between uses and families are strongly encouraged to bring their own paper, crayons, etc.



Book Club To Start Up Again???

If you are interested in re-starting our Book Club, please contact Lori Novak at 626-964-3015.

HAPPY
Father's
DAY

Father's Day Is Sunday, June 20th

One of the traditions at St. Matthew's is to have someone from the congregation preach/share about fathers on Father's Day. But what is not generally realized is that the observance of Father's Day in the United States was started by Sonora Louise Smart to honor her father, William Jackson Smart. So in keeping with the tradition of daughters honoring their fathers, this year our special speaker is Diane Cline!! Come and listen to the special message Diane will be sharing.

Graduates Recognition Is Sunday, June 27th

St. Matthew's is honoring our 2021 Graduates during the 10 am in person worship service in the Sanctuary on Sunday, June 27th.

Many thanks to those who have already contacted the church with the names of graduates. But there is still time to contact the Church Office with:

- the name of the graduate
- the name of the school/trade school or college that the person is graduating from
- the degree and in what field
- the graduate's plans for next steps
- your relationship with the Graduate.

There are 4 ways you can get the complete information about the graduate to the church office. You can send an email to office@smumchh.org, mail the information to the church, phone 626-333-6656, or drop the graduate's information in the drop box on the front door of the church office.

Please try to get as much information as possible to the church about graduates by Sunday, June 20th. Any further questions, please contact the church office.



Blessing Preschool Moves Onto St. Matthew's Campus

Blessings Preschool was able to move into the Education Building in mid-May. This happened shortly after the preschool lease received final approval from the East District which allowed all of the necessary parties to finally sign the lease.

Blessings Preschool is now busy cleaning and getting things organized so that it can open to receive children. As part of this, it needs to be relicensed. Because of COVID-19, this process is going more slowly than usual. But, if all goes well, they hope to open for children in August or early September. Prayers to help this happen are appreciated.

Once the preschool is ready for children, Blessings Preschool plans to have an open house for the St. Matthew's church family. Watch future *ParishScopes* and Announcements for developments.

PRESCHOOL





Cal-Pac Annual Conference June 17-19

Each June members of the California-Pacific Annual Conference gather from 340 United Methodist Churches in Southern California, Hawaii, Guam and Saipan. But this year – like last year – it will happen differently. Instead of more than 1,000 people gathering in person at the University of Redlands, more than 1,000 people will gather through a zoom webinar. Members to this year's conference from St. Matthew's are Pastor Richard Bentley, Chris Gallagher and Sam Robles.

During the course of annual conference:

- people will worship together, pray for God's strength and guidance, celebrate the work of God's spirit in our midst, . . .
- new clergy will be commissioned or ordained to serve local churches and around the world
- clergy – some of whom have served for more than 40 years – will retire and be recognized for their years of service
- the lives of clergy, their spouses and children who have passed in the last year will be celebrated and remembered. This year those being remembered includes Judy Ketchum.
- the 2022 conference budget will be finalized for work beyond local churches. This includes providing for a bishop and district superintendent, sending delegates to the next General Conference which has now been postponed to 2022, establishing new churches and revitalizing existing ones, work with youth and young adults, caring for retired clergy and their spouses,
- people will be elected to serve on more than 40 different groups that provide leadership for projects and work beyond the local church
- reports will be heard including on Resolution 19-06 about the plan being developed on what the annual conference will do if the 2022 General Conference does not disavow the Traditional Plan.
- the “reading” of appointments for 2021-2022. Pastor Richard returns to St. Matthew's. But, we will be receiving a new district superintendent on July 1. Rev. Melissa MacKinnon is moving to the North District. Our new district superintendent will be Rev. Siosaia (Saia) Tu'itahi. Before becoming a pastor, he completed a BA in Biochemistry and Cell Biology at UC San Diego and was a probation officer for many years.
- much, much more.

But annual conference is about more than its official gatherings. People eat together with old friends and often also make new friends, run into each other going here and there, talk before and after sessions, wander among many different booths outside the Chapel, It is a mystery how some of this will happen since people won't be gathering in Redlands. But people are creative so

The delegates from St. Matthew's will bring back a report to share with St. Matthew's about what happens during the 2021 annual conference.



St. Matthew's The Board Of Trustees Reports . . .

Report for May 2021

To St. Matthew's UMC Congregation,

Your Trustees have really been at work, trying to keep our campus up to date, clean, and ready for you to come back when the time is right.

*Thanks to Dick Cline, the olive trees have been trimmed.

*Dick Cline and Marilyn McMullin were part of the committee, (which included Linda Hall and Patty Graves) working many hours to get the **preschool play yard** ready for the children of the new preschool.

*The Boy Scouts, under the leadership of Huber Bongolan, have been keeping our campus clean, and tidy. More to come, but here are some ...

*Two Scouts from Troop 730 in Diamond Bar have recently completed their **Eagle Projects** on our campus.

*Michael Shen has upgraded the basketball court, with professional assistance, using rebar, extended the cement court 3 feet on all sides, provided new hoops, painted new lines, and installed aluminum benches on two sides. Check it out!

*Luke Huang dug up the old thatched grass, and had professional help to install a 4-station sprinkler system, put down new soil and spread new grass seed behind the Fellowship Hall and Dodrill Hall, using over 1000 feet of PVC pipe and numerous pieces to put together the sprinkler heads.

*Adam Young of Troop 755 has proposed landscaping with succulents, and hedge trimming on the strip of land on the East side of the parking lot, along with weed killer on grass growing between the sidewalks.

*A parking lot paving Eagle Scout project is underway, all planned by 4-5 scouts and their families, with Michael Burchardt assisting.

*It would be fine to send a note of thanks to the church office for each of these Boys, and Huber would see that they are passed on to those Eagle Scouts.

*By the way, the local Kiwanis club is now sponsoring our very own Scout troops!

*Dick Cline was on-site with the electrician, trying to find out why there were so many non-working outlets in the sanctuary. As it turns out, a breaker had been turned off. This electrician and Dick spent a number of hours going through and testing outlets, and Mark never charged our church!

*Marilyn is working to get a sprinkler system put into the parsonage yard, with a timer.

As you come to church again, perhaps, June 20, take note of the improvements.

LaVerne Shaffer, Trustees Secretary



Echo Tech Services Visits St. Mathew's Campus

On Monday morning, April 12, representatives from Echo Tech Services, a Landscaping contractor hired by the Metropolitan Water Company, arrived at our campus before 8, and they worked until after 3 in the afternoon. Huber arranged to have the gardener here because he has keys to all the locked boxes on campus.

They went methodically through all the sprinklers and repaired/replaced heads and parts that needed work to function at a high level. They installed new Smart Controls in place of the old ones. They installed the master control that works off wi-fi, to test the moisture in the air and send a message to the sprinklers as to how much water they should disperse each cycle.

The whole thing was quite amazing. The company was paid for by the Metropolitan Water District. They did everything possible to stretch our budget to cover the main issues in our system. And, I think this is the first church they had done. They were amazed how the church members loved their church and worked so hard for it. Huber really impressed them when he spent most of the entire day weeding the Tom Aney Prayer Garden BY HAND.

They used all the budget allocated to us, and I think they pushed some other things into our program that they said they thought the water company would give us.

ALL THIS WITH NO BILL AT THE END OF THE DAY!!

We will keep you posted. That day was a big "WIN" for St. Matthew's. Thanks to all!

Marilyn McMullin, Trustee



Women's Breakfast Group Gets Together!



The St. Matt's Women's Breakfast meets each week on Wednesday at 8:30 am on Zoom. We continue to learn about family happenings, share many joys and sorrows, and just are there for each other. It's nice being able to still remain close (as before the virus) with women who have moved away or are on vacation. We'd love to have anyone join us.....our hearts are big and welcoming.

Joy Feulner

New Addition – Women's In-Person Lunch Date!

Women's Breakfast has a new addition! A new "in person" luncheon date! The first Thurs. of each month the Women's Breakfast will meet at 11:00 am at Casa Blanca. The first one was June 3rd. This will be in addition to our weekly Zoom meeting at 8:30am every Wed., including the one before the luncheon. We will try this for a few months and hope most of you will be able to come to one or both.

Pic of June 3rd Lunch!



Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast continues on Zoom. Come join each Thursday at 8:00 AM for friendly coffee fellowship. Zoom in by clicking on this

URL:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6385740531?pwd=dkNtN1RTTFE0Nl0zcFRRc0ZFVEVwUT09#success>

For additional information, contact David Crain at davidwcrain@aol.com.

David Crain

June Birthdays And Wedding Anniversaries



Birthdays





2	David White
3	Kevin Matsumura
6	Clarice Bongolan
8	Pat Griffin
8	Diane Cline
9	Margaret Gow
10	Peggy Duck
11	Kenneth Kim
14	Steve Highland
14	Shiryl Boerlin
16	David Sanders
16	Nancy Reid
17	Andrew Cazares
20	Olga Baker
21	Naomi Mueller
24	Jim Tanouye (Resident @ The Palms)
24	Tony Hernandez
25	Joyce Schlitt
26	Bonnie Hauck
28	Mike Burchardt
29	Louise Green
29	Mickey Jessup
30	Sheila Crain

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

June 9	Kevin & Leslie O'Leary
June 24	Huber and Carlita Bongolan
June 27	Johnny Doyle and Yuet Yun



St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7pm-Trustees Meeting	2 8:30am - Women's Breakfast 3:00pm -The Palms	3 8:00am - Men's Breakfast 11:00am – Women's Breakfast @ Casa Blanca	4	5
6 COMMUNION 8:45am – Adult Sunday School on Zoom 9am – Outside Worship 11am – Worship Online 12:15pm – Bells practice	7 10:00 - Shalom 	8 7:30pm-SPRC	9 8:30am - Women's Breakfast 3:00pm -The Palms	10 8:00am - Men's Breakfast	11	12
13 8:45am – Adult Sunday School on Zoom 9am – Outside Worship 11am – Worship Online 12:15pm – Bells	14 10:00am - Shalom Noon – "Top of the Hill"	15	16 8:30am - Women's Breakfast 3:00pm -The Palms	17 8:00am - Men's Breakfast	18	19
20 FATHER'S DAY- Diane Cline speaking 8:45am – Adult Sunday School on Zoom 10:00am – WORSHIP IN SANCTUARY	21 10:00am - Shalom 	22	23 8:30am - Women's Breakfast 3:00pm -The Palms	24 8:00am - Men's Breakfast	25	26
27 GRADUATION SUNDAY 8:45am – Adult Sunday School on Zoom 10:00am WORSHIP IN SANCTUARY	28 10:00am – Shalom 	29	30 8:30am - Women's Breakfast 3:00pm -The Palms			



Thru June 13th –

9:00 a.m. Worship Service Outside

11:00 a.m. Worship Service Online

(<https://www.facebook.com/pg/Stmatts1>)

***** 10:00 a.m. Sunday June 20th – Worship resumes in the Sanctuary**

We continue to keep in touch:

Every Wednesday morning at 8:30 a.m. - *Women's Breakfast Group.*

Every Thursday morning at 8:00 a.m. – *Men's Breakfast Bunch.*

First Thursday of every month at 11:00a.m. – *Women's Breakfast @ Casa Blanca.*

Trustees – First Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. each month.

SPRC (Staff Parish Relations) – 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Church Council, Finance Committee – To be determined.

Small Groups also keep in touch by phone during the week.

Be sure to call or email the Church Office with any questions about meetings, classes, or "get togethers" at 626-333-6656 or office@smumchh.org.

Life Together Again



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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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

