

The ParishScope

JULY
2021



St. Matthew's
United Methodist Church



WELCOME
BACK TO CHURCH
We are so glad you are here

In-Person Worship in Our Sanctuary Is Back !!!

The St. Matthew's Church Family has re-opened In-Person Worship in our Sanctuary at 10:00 a.m. Opening Sunday happened on Sunday, June 20th (Father's Day). 44 of our Members were in attendance in person! And another 30 or so people came to the service online. However you came to worship, "Welcome!!"

With the reopening of In-Person worship in the Sanctuary, there have been a wide variety of changes in Sunday mornings at St. Matthew's. Some of the details are still being worked out. By now you should have received a letter from St. Matthew's with post-Covid 19 instructions on how to join us for In-Person Worship. Also see *Important Ins and Outs of Using the Sanctuary* elsewhere in this *ParishScope* for updates to the letter. Right now:

- **Early service at 8 am.** This service may meet outdoors at least part of the time.
- **Worship in person at 10 am** in the Sanctuary.
- **Live online service at 10 am.** This service features the *entire* service as it is happening in the Sanctuary. It will only remain on Facebook for a short time after the service ends in the Sanctuary.
- **Ongoing online service available by 4 pm on Sunday.** This 35 minute service includes hymn singing, Sunday's sermon, prayers and some special music. This service will remain on Facebook so people may worship not only on Sunday but throughout the week.

All of St. Matthew's online services happen at <https://www.facebook.com/pg/Stmatts1>



“Re-Opening The Door” Campaign

Thanks to people’s amazing generosity, the Reopening the Doors Campaign met and surpassed its goal!! So far, the church family has donated \$15,800!! So church will receive the full matching gift of \$12,500 for total contributions of just over \$28,000. Because of people’s enthusiastic response, several helpful things – such as equipment for the Sunday School class – have been added to the project. If you have not yet been able to give, you can still do so.

Through the Reopening the Doors Campaign, the church has already been able install a key piece of audio equipment. This has improved the sound quality both in the Sanctuary and online.

The rest of the AV equipment is on order. Unfortunately, there is a serious world-wide “chip” shortage which is causing delivery delays in anything which uses electronics including AV equipment. On top of this, there are further delays because so many churches are reopening and ordering AV equipment. It is hoped that most of the rest of the equipment will be installed by the end of July. But further delays could happen. Meanwhile, by God’s grace and the ingenuity of the tech crew each Sunday St. Matthew’s is able to have both in person and online worship.

The AV equipment that’s coming will:

- 1) further strengthen the sound system in the sanctuary
- 2) install two large (80+ inch) monitors in the sanctuary to provide additional options for worship. This may be especially helpful if there are ongoing COVID-19 precautions.
- 3) make the online service more sustainable, including adding a remote control camera so we no longer need a camera person on the tech crew.
- 4) (recently added) provide equipment for the Sunday School Class so it can meet with some people coming to class in person while others continue to come via zoom.

8:00 A.M. Prayer And Communion Worship Invite

The early Sunday morning 8:00 am Prayer service is a unique worship Service offering different ways for some of us to worship together. It gives you an opportunity to get outdoors and visit people you have not seen for awhile including family members.

We are a community which is open to anyone to join and come as they are. We have a discussion on the message of the day as well as discussions on the pulse of our community.

The fantastic early morning coolness in worship together on our sanctuary “front porch”, open air venue along with contemporary worship music, helps in preparing our minds and hearts for worship. We pray for each other and our church as we learn how to be a witness and go out about our journey during the week.

I invite everyone to join the early morning Prayer service and discover how this unique worship.



Morgan Matthews



Congratulations 2021 Graduates

PRESTON FARLEY, Eathan H. Chase Middle School, going onto Heritage High School in Rololand, CA. ***Grandson of Kathy Farley.***

TYLER MARSHALL, graduating middle school, going to Richland High School in Johnstown, PA. Tyler earned the Presidential Award Academic Achievement award for 8th grade History (only a single award is given district wide). Earning the award included prepared mini lessons on some history subjects, and presented them in class. He is the ***Great Nephew of LaVerne Shaffer.***

ELIZABETH SUSAN WILKINSON, Edison High School, Fresno, going onto Orange Coast College. ***Granddaughter of Ian and Carol Rogers.***

KOBE TOSHIO OVERDEVEST, West Ranch High School, going to College of the Canyons. ***Grandson of Rick and Pat Kunishima.***

MATTHEW DAVID LLITERAS, Wilson High School, going onto Fullerton College in the Fall. ***Grandson of David and Sheila Crain.***

OWEN MICHAEL KELLY, Dominion High School, Sterling Virginia. ***Niece's son of Ruth Barnes.***

MACEY DIEDRICH, Baylor University, degree in Medical Humanities. Continuing her education to become a Physicians Assistant, ***Granddaughter of Richard and Diane Cline.***

KINSEY KLINE, La Verne University, Bachelor of Arts in Education. Will continue her Masters of Education at Chapman University. ***Granddaughter of Sharon Kline.***

TIFFANY MILLER, American Military University, Bachelor of Arts in Business with a specialty in Entrepreneurship. She is an adult who returned to college to learn ways to further grow and expand her business. ***Niece of LaVerne Shaffer.***

SHANNON BELL, Chapman University, Masters of Arts in Special Education with a Preliminary Education Specialist Mild/Moderate Credential. She has been hired as a Master Teacher at Mardan School, a non-public special education school in Irvine. ***Granddaughter of Olga Baker.***

EVAN MILLER, California State Polytechnic University Pomona, Master of Science degree in Computer Science. Continue working at Cal Poly Pomona as and Information Technology Consultant. ***Grandson of Gail and Dorothy Persinger.***



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. But, 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 continue to change. For the time being:

- We are able to sing provided everyone wears a face covering!! Face coverings are needed since people send out droplets for long distances – well over the usual 6 feet of social distancing – as they sing. Droplets are the most common way COVID-19 is spread.
- People are asked to wear face coverings and maintain social distancing between family groupings.
- People will be sitting in be sitting in "every other pew" with X's in the pew marking where a family group or individual may sit. Every family grouping will have 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) Because we will be using every other pew, the hymnals, bibles and offering envelops are being left in the pew racks.
- People will enter through the front door of the church (*note change from the side door*). An usher can open the side door for those needing to use the ramp from the parking lot. There will be a check in station as people enter the sanctuary to record names in case people need to be contacted later. Temperature checks are no longer needed.
- Face coverings and hand sanitizer is available at the check in station.
- Part of the sanctuary is designed as only for those who have been vaccinated in order to provide additional protection for those who are most vulnerable. The vaccinated only section has blue X's marking where to sit. Seating for everyone has green X's.
- Only one family grouping or individual is 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 is 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.
- No food will be served after church.
- Offering plates will be available for people to leave their offering. However, the plates will *not* be passed during the service.



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

To Our Caring Congregation:

Though it is summer, your Trustees are still hard at work.

Marilyn McMullin updates us on the **Water Conservation** Project, begun last month. She reports that there will be some **toilets**, including the little ones at the Preschool, replaced. If you are good at installation, please contact Marilyn.

Huber Bongolan and the Blessed Chinese congregation have been helpful by removing some debris around the Preschool. Another Scout Eagle Project is to **revamp** the little **garden**, for use by the new Preschool students.

Michael Burchardt has been instrumental in procuring a company to help 4-5 Scouts do a **major slurry** of our parking lot in 4-5 sections, for their Eagle Project. These Scouts and their families will prepare the existing parking lot by removing weeds that have grown up through cracks, repairing those cracks, and clearing any other debris. Following the re-slurrying, they will be painting new handicapped parking area lines and new parking lines.

Those who attend Sunday Service in person have noticed the **new and clean**-looking appearance of the campus. This is due to Adam Young, who did his **Eagle Project** as a major landscaping, mulch, and replanting of succulents on the East side of our parking lot, guided by Huber Bongolan.

Community Service projects done by the Cub Scout and Boy Scout troops have kept our campus looking great. Please let Huber Bongolan know, or send him a card, so that he can report back to the scouts and their parents.

Our St. Matthew's Scout Troops are now sponsored by the local **Kiwanis Club**, which sponsors many youth organizations.

Marilyn has been doing research on **upgrading** the yard at the parsonage.

LaVerne Shaffer, Trustees Secretary



**News About
Adult Sunday School**

Adult Sunday School Class is still meeting on Zoom each Sunday morning starting at 8:30 am. This class is under the leadership of Rodney Kurimoto. The class watches a video each week and afterwards, there is a class discussion.

We will eventually begin a hybrid class with both In-Person class in Fellowship Hall and simultaneously broadcast the class on-line, but we are not there yet. We still have some issues to resolve. We'll be making an announcement when we are ready to bring the In-Person classes.

You do not need to register in order to come to the class. But, if you send Rodney an e-mail, then he can send you helpful material for each week's class. His e-mail is rkkurimoto@gmail.com

If you are coming by phone
(i.e. you do not need a computer to come),

Dial: 1-669-900-6833
Meeting ID: 832 3700 6446#
If asked for a second ID: #
Password: 778913#

If you are coming by computer, tablet,

Go to <https://zoom.us/join>
Meeting ID: 832 3700 6446

Password: 778913

**Summit Seekers Picks Up Where
They Left Off 16 Months Ago**



Sixteen months ago when a new ministry opportunity was going to be launched to assist Young Adults who are suffering from the hurts and struggles, a healing power was developed in our lives through a program of principles to experience a life change and freedom from those hurts and habits. We left off on March of 2020 walking through the Bible in the book of Genesis with Joseph's amazing journey.

Next week we will be picking up in Exodus on another amazing journey as Young Adults discover a new life and grow spiritually and become free of addictive and compulsive and dysfunctional behaviors. They will develop a freedom of peace, serenity, joy and a relationship with God and others.

Our past sixteen months has brought on changes in family life and in our vital strength of our next generation. While we all cope during an uncertain season in our lives many of us turn to ways to cope. Relationships of Young Adults has greatly stressed their lives in to stride to perform at their best and cope with family members and friends in communities.

In the next few weeks take a time and pray for Young Adults in our community who will be coming together to celebrate recovery in their lives, new relationships, and discovering new experiences seeing God's presence around them.

*J. M. Matthews
Summit Seekers*

Blessings Preschool News

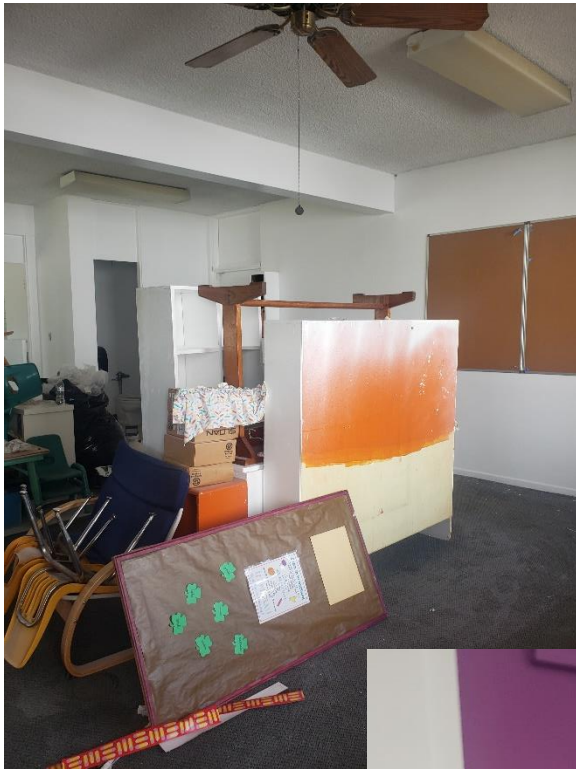
PRESCHOOL



The Preschool was finished with painting on Wednesday, June 30th. After the 4th of July Holiday we will be focusing on new carpet and lighting. The new toilets will follow. That ends phase 1. See pictures below.

Keep updated for phase 2.

*Thank you,
Peace and Blessings,
Tina Rike*





“Top-Of-The-Hill”

Come Zoom with us on Monday, July 12th for “Top-of-the-Hill” starting at Noon.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85212231333?pwd=dFNRSIRqdjY5NIFXeitSSHJzenRjQT09>

Meeting ID: 852 1223 1333

Passcode: 757621

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

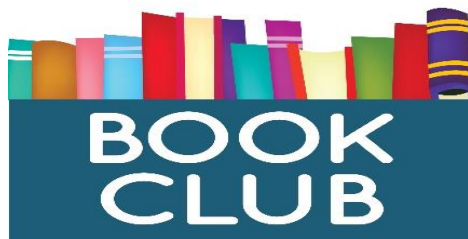
Meeting ID: 852 1223 1333#

Passcode: 757621#

Joy and Terry Feulner

Shalom Meeting In-Person

The Shalom Group is now meeting In-person again in the Church Office. You are welcome to join us each Monday morning beginning at 10:00am. For more information, please give Sharon Kline a call.



Book Club To Start Up Again???

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

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 Thursday of each month the Women's Breakfast will meet at 11:00 am at Casa Blanca. This will be in addition to our weekly Zoom meeting at 8:30am every Wednesday including the one before the luncheon.

Men's Breakfast



The Men's Breakfast Group plans to return to IHOP. We did make a trial run to return to IHOP for its Thursday Breakfast on June 24th but had to sit at separate tables. IHOP plans for full reopening – no social distancing and mask requirements only for staff – Thursday, July 15th, when the Men's Breakfast will resume meeting at 8:00 AM in the familiar City of Industry location, 18261 Gale Ave.

David Crain



Men's Breakfast June 24th



July Birthdays And Wedding Anniversaries

Birthdays

July 1	Ester Elliott Lori Novak
July 2	Joy McBee
July 8	Sean Cohelan
July 9	Bill McMullin
July 11	Kathy Farley
July 12	Don King
July 13	Chris Zepeda Laura Cohelan Patrice Meighan
July 14	Luke Barnes
July 16	Patricia McIntosh
July 17	Ron Sachs
July 18	Dorothy Persinger
July 19	Julie Williams
July 20	Rich Kozak
July 21	Chris Kozak Joy Feulner
July 23	Ariana Robles
July 30	Silvia Schillo
July 31	Marcie Dietrich

Wedding Anniversaries

July 2	Richard Bentley & Ruth Hutchison
July 10	Gene & Jean Logan
July 10	Shelley (Aney) & Dave Sanders
July 12	Howard & Sandy King
July 15	Bianca (Hernandez) & Rusty Ault
July 23	Eric and Leah Wood
July 24	Sam & Rosa Robles
July 26	Ron & Doris Sachs
July 31	Phil and Marilee Hartling



St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 8:00am - Men's Breakfast 11:00am - Women's Breakfast @ Casa Blanca	2	3
4 COMMUNION & 4th of JULY SUNDAY 8am-Early Worship 8:30am - Adult Sunday School on Zoom 10am - Worship in Sanctuary 10am - Worship Online	5 Office closed for Holiday	6 7pm-Trustees Meeting	7 8:30am - Women's Breakfast 3:00pm -The Palms	8 8:00am - Men's Breakfast	9	10
11 8am-Early Worship 8:30am - Adult Sunday School on Zoom 10am - Worship in Sanctuary 10am - Worship Online	12 10:00 - Shalom Noon - "Top of the Hill"	13 7:30pm-SPRC	14 8:30am - Women's Breakfast 3:00pm -The Palms	15 8:00am - Men's Breakfast	16	17
18 8am-Early Worship 8:30am - Adult Sunday School on Zoom 10am - Worship in Sanctuary 10am - Worship Online	19 10:00am - Shalom	20	21 8:30am - Women's Breakfast 3:00pm -The Palms	22 8:00am - Men's Breakfast	23	25
25 8am-Early Worship 8:30am - Adult Sunday School on Zoom 10am - Worship in Sanctuary 10am - Worship Online	26 10:00am - Shalom	27	28 8:30am - Women's Breakfast 3:00pm -The Palms	29 8:00am - Men's Breakfast	30	31



**10:00 a.m. In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary.
Online Worship Live at 10:am
(<https://www.facebook.com/pg/Stmatts1>)**

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 7:30 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.



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
Elaine Ono, Director of Music

Louise Green, Office Administrator
Greg Gomez, Custodian

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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

