

The ParishScope

October

2021



St. Matthew's
United Methodist Church



CHURCH
AUDIO VIDEO

St. Matthew's Worship Equipment Upgrade Is Being Installed Soon

As part of resuming worship in the Sanctuary, the church purchased audio video equipment to enhance both the in person and online worship services. Thank you to everyone who contributed more than \$29,000 in record breaking time to make this project possible!

The world's serious computer chip shortage caused major equipment deliver delays. But, these have now been overcome. Everything has now arrived. It is slated to be installed beginning in mid-October. Hopefully, it will be ready for use in worship starting Sunday, November 7th.

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 new, possibly younger, worshippers either online or in person. It will help in 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. In addition, due to FCC changes, some of our wireless mics are actually illegal to use. A 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.
- 3) It makes the online service more sustainable and easy to offer.** Among other things, we are adding a single camera that can be remote controlled along with a pair of fixed mount cameras. The online service offers definite mental health and quality of life benefits by allowing the church family to stay connected even when it is not practical to attend in person. In particular, it helps when members of the congregation need to move out of the area to be closer to children, into a senior citizen complex or group home, or find coming in person more difficult because of lack of easy mobility.



Worshipping At St. Matthew's

- 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 5 pm on Sunday. This service of about 35 minutes includes hymn singing, Sunday's sermon, prayers and some special music. This service remains 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/Stmatts1/videos>

8:00 A.M. Prayer And 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



St. Matthew's Annual Charge Conference Is Wednesday, November 17th At 7:30pm

All Church ("Charge") Conference is our church's "annual meeting." This year our charge conference will be at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, November 17th with our new district superintendent, Rev. Siosaia (Saia) Tu'itahi presiding.

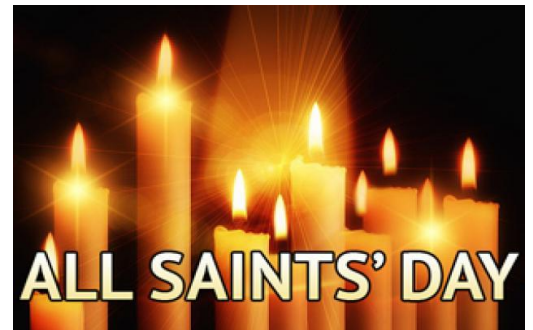
Just like last year, we will *not* meet in person at the church. Instead, we will meet from the comfort of our home (or work place) by Zoom. No word yet whether pets will be included this year.

During Charge Conference, the congregation elects church leaders, takes stock of its ministry over the last year, and lays a foundation for the year ahead. Since it is actually an All Church Conference, all church members may vote.

Church leaders are asked to get their charge conference reports to the church office by Monday, November 1st. Submitting reports on time is a key part of making it possible for our secretary to organize and put together our charge conference book.

Remember Those Who Have Gone Before On All Saints Sunday, November 7th

Sunday, November 7th is All Saints Sunday. During the 10 am service, we will remember our loved ones who have passed during the last year in several ways:



- *People connected to the church family who have died in the last year will be remembered during the service.* This includes people who have moved away but were part of the church family for many years as well as people who have become connected with St. Matthew's through online worship. To make sure everyone is included, please let Louise Green in the church office know by phone 626-333-6656 or e-mail smumchh@gmail.com. It is especially helpful if folks will contact the church office with the names of those who have moved away so have not been able to worship in person at St. Matthew's for many years.
- *The church family is encouraged to share the names of loved ones – regardless of their connection with St. Matthew's – who have passed in the last year.* The names of these loved ones will be shared during the service. Such loved ones might include family, friends, neighbors, people who have had an impact on your life If you would like to add the name of a loved one to be shared during the service, please contact Louise Green in the church office by phone 626-333-6656 or e-mail smumchh@gmail.com.
- *During the service, there will be a time of when people can remember in their hearts and/or homes the names of loved ones.* You do not need to contact anyone in advance to share these names. The service will include a time when people may choose to either silently lift up people's names in their hearts or say the names of loved ones out loud in their homes. Some may only remember people who have died in the last year. Others may included loved ones who have died many years ago.



Welcome Our “New” Video Producer – Elias Robles!!

As part of establishing a strong, sustainable online worship, the SPRC authorized the creation of a new position, Video Producer for Weekly Sunday Worship. The Video Producer leads the tech crew that live streams Sunday morning worship each week. In addition, this person uses specialized software to bring together worship slides, pre-recorded videos by others, and different camera inputs into what becomes the online worship service. (The process is the same as what happens when a athletic or musical event that people attend in person is also shown on TV.) Once the worship service is finished, the person does additional work to produce a shorter (about 35 minutes) service that has greater potential for outreach in the online environment.

After an extensive search and numerous applications, Elias Robles was hired. He brings an impressive skill set to the job. This includes a number of special videos he has done for St. Matthew’s during the pandemic. Check out his work by connecting with each week’s ongoing, online service after 5 pm on Sunday at <https://www.facebook.com/Stmatts1/videos>

St. Matthew’s Honored The 20th Anniversary Of 9/11

St. Matthew's remembered the 20th Anniversary of 9/11 in two different ways:

- 1) On Saturday, September 11, the cross was placed on the front lawn. People – both in the community and from St. Matthew's – came during the day to tie a ribbon on the cross. Together we covered the cross with ribbons as a sign of hope in fearsome times. Newton Middle School worked closely with St. Matthew’s to spread the word in our community.
- 2) On Sunday, September 12 the 10 am worship service commemorated 9/11. It opened with the tolling of bells and ended with taps. In between, there were opportunities to:
 - light candles of hope
 - pray for those who lost loved ones and for rebuilding & healing which still continues
 - remember ordinary people’s reponses of heroism and compassion
 - reflect on “keeping on” to find hope and strength in the midst of horrific times.



You can still connect with this moving service at:

<https://www.facebook.com/Stmatts1/videos/1025608994862713>

and Elaine Ono’s haunting special music at

<https://www.facebook.com/Stmatts1/videos/868443870452159>

Prayers of Hope Cross 9 -11 (Pic courtesy of Morgan Matthews)



Questions Answered About St. Matthew's Finances

Recently questions about St. Matthew's finances have been asked. A couple of members of the congregation have made comments that they believe the church is not doing well financially. While we as a church could be doing better, we are doing well enough that we are not having a 13th month campaign this fall.

Some people give to the church every month (thank you!), but not all members do. Churches have yearly patterns of giving with some months being better than others. Typically giving drops off during the summer and fall at St. Matthew's, with our members being more generous during Thanksgiving and Christmas. So far, giving this year compares well with giving at St. Matthew's over the last 10-15 years. So, if St. Matthew's holds to its past pattern of giving, we will end the year well.

We recently concluded the reopening the doors campaign, to raise funds for the purchase of audio visual equipment to enhance both the in-person and online worship experiences. Thanks to our members' belief in this project, we exceeded our goal of \$25,000.00, and we did it faster than anticipated.

The UMCOR special offering recently raised over \$4,600.00 to help deal with disasters in the United States and around the world.

Very soon, Blessings Preschool will be opening and will start paying increased rent for the space they are using. With these additional funds coming in, St. Matthew's will be in a better position financially.

I want you to see how generous St. Matthew's members are and although giving did drop off this past summer we are in a good position to finish the year strong if our giving stays true to our past pattern of giving.

Yours in Christ, Bob Hernandez

P.S. Patty Graves, the church treasurer, shared her thoughtful, encouraging assessment during worship on October 3. Now you can now see it online as a separate 6½ minute message at

<https://www.facebook.com/Stmatts1/videos/275176331126446>



St. Matthew's Responds To UMCOR Helping Disaster Victims

The last few months many people's lives have been devastated and/or uprooted in series of disasters, both natural and otherwise. Through UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) the St. Matthew's Church family has already given over \$4,600 to help people heal, rebuild and start anew. This includes:

- *victims of wild fires in California and the West*
- *Afghan refugee resettlement*
- *rebuilding after Hurricane Ida which impacted communities from Louisiana to New York*

UMCOR specializes in helping people rebuild their lives and communities. It often spends years working on long-term recovery. 100% of every dollar given to UMCOR goes to help.

To support all three efforts, simply put UMCOR on your offering. To only give to one or two, put "wildfires", "Ida" (or hurricane) and/or "Afghans" (or refugees) on your contribution. If you would like to help with earthquake recovery in Haiti, you need to mark your contribution "Haiti" (or earthquake).

You can give by using the offering plates at the back of the church on Sunday, mailing or bringing your donation to the church, or making an online donation.



Musical Notes From Elaine Ono, Director Of Music

Daniel Diaz will be our featured Lois Twombly Award Recipient during Wroship on Sunday, October 10th.

Daniel is a violinist and pianist with a lifelong history of music. Learning piano at an early age and beginning violin in elementary school, he quickly made strides. He was invited to the San Bernardino County Elementary Honor Orchestra in his first year of playing violin, and moved on to play in several youth chamber groups and workshops at the University of Redlands. He now studies violin performance at Pasadena City College where he sits first chair in their orchestra. He hopes to form his own string quartet in the future and play in orchestra pits for musical theatre and ballet.



Special Offer - Christmas Ornaments

Five boxes of *Hallmark* Christmas Ornaments have been donated to St. Matthew's UMC. The ornaments are brand new and in their original boxes. There are a few ornaments from each of the years 2012 to 2018.

If you would be interested in purchasing any (at a reduced price for each), please contact Olga Baker at 818-426-6783 or Dorothy Persinger at 626-336-5995. We will be glad to meet you at the church's office for you to view the ornaments and purchase any ornaments(s) you wish.

Olga Baker and Dorothy Persinger

Pic Of The Ladies At The September 2nd Lunch @ Casa Blanca



Boy Scout Troops In Action Taking Care Of St. Matthew's

St. Matthew's is truly blessed to have Huber Bongolan leading these fabulous Scouts. They have improved the appearance of St. Matthew's to the tune of \$36,500. Huber is a hard working asset for our church, as well as serving on our Board of Trustees.

Here is a list of what the Scouts have done in helping take care of St. Matthew's UMC. We thank these Eagle Scouts immensely.

Each of the Eagle Scout Projects had a professional working with them, especially if it was beyond their scope.

There will be more to come, so stay tuned!

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS 2020 - 2021

Troop 710 Hacienda Heights

Jasper Ye

Re-landscape Tom Aney Memorial Garden,
Cost \$2,500 Materials & Labor
Freshman, Purdue University, Indiana

Joshua Sabado

Emergency Shed with Supplies (located inside Fellowship Hall)
\$2,500 Materials & Labor
Senior, Whittier Christian High School

Mason Huang

Painted front and side of the Church Office
Re-landscape Rose garden & Painted garden bench
\$2,500 Materials & Labor
Senior, Rowland High School

Troop 730 Diamond Bar

Luke Huang

Installed a 4 station Water Sprinkler by basketball uUsing 1500ft. 3/4" PVC pipe & 24pcs. Sprinkler heads and new grass, behind Dodrill Hall around basketball court.
\$3,500 Materials & labor
Junior, Diamond Bar High School

Michael Shen

Redid Basketball Court, extended concrete 4' x 35' both sides, repaint striping, backboard & ring with new net, Install 2 new aluminum bench 16" w x 10' Long
\$4,500 Materials & Labor
Trimmed all the trees around the basketball court
Junior, Troy High School, Fullerton



Boy Scout Troops In Action Taking Care Of St. Matthew's, continued

Daniel Zoubtsov

Grinding of cement work to even the cement, around the sanctuary
Landscaping of all four corners – added new plants and topsoil
\$4,500 Materials & Labor
Senior, Diamond Bar High School

Purav Shah

Planted a variety of succulent
Added three more and trimmed Rose bushes around sanctuary
added mulch as new ground bark covering,
\$2,500 Materials & Labor
Senior, Diamond Bar School

Samuel Yee McNally

Upgrade Pre School Vegetable garden
Replaced board & new topsoil and cleaned & Trimmed bushes,
Including new grass in some areas, cement in others
\$2,500 Materials & Labor
Junior, Diamond Bar High School

Jason Kim

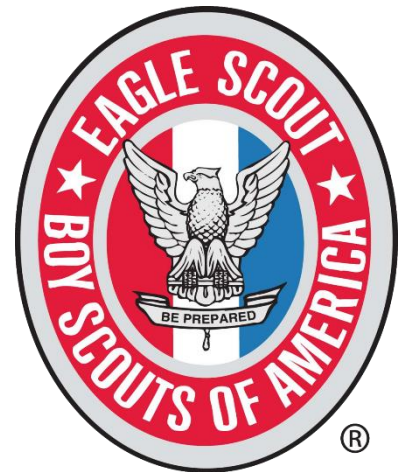
Repainted & repaired multiple Book Shelves
Repainted the backs of some doors at Pre-school,
\$1,500 Materials & Labor
Junior, Diamond Bar High School

Justin Song

Repainted & repaired multiple book shelves
Repainted backs of some doors at pre school,
\$1,500 Materials & Labor
Junior, Diamond Bar High School

Lewis Weng

Trimming the bushes along the West wall of the parking lot, from street to corner
Put mulch and Planted varieties of succulent plants as ground covering in front of
church, and trimmed bushes, clean around and paint the wall
Repainted all the railings around the church on steps, handicapped ramp,
Below the office to Dodrill Hall and Fellowship Hall
\$2,500 Materials & Labor
Senior, Diamond Bar High School



Troop 755 Rowland Heights

Due to the large extent of these projects, this was split into three areas, to even the work.

Andrew Chan Tam (1)

Tree Pruning, bush trimming /re-landscaping, painted East wall of the parking lot gray
\$1,500 Materials & Labor
Freshman, UC Riverside

Boy Scout Troops In Action Taking Care Of St. Matthew's, continued

Justin Tsai (2)

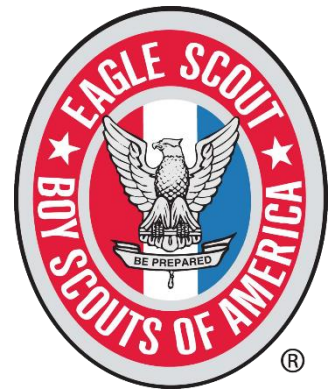
Tree pruning, bush trimming/re-landscaping, painted wall East wall of the parking lot gray
\$1,500 Materials & Labor
Senior, Diamond Bar High School

Jon Hyunhee Cho (3)

Tree pruning, bush trimming/re-landscaping, painted East wall of the parking lot gray
\$1,500 Materials & Labor
Freshman, US Air Force Academy

Adam Young

Planted succulents, trimmed and cleaned bushes along the East wall of our parking lot.
\$1,500 Materials & Labor
Senior, Rowland Heights High School



LaVerne Shaffer, Secretary for Board of Trustees

Our Neighbor Across The Street – Newton Middle School

Many of us see our neighbor across the street from the viewpoint of our church, such as Newton Jr. High's traffic. We allow this to form our definition of the school. However, today, my husband and I were able to see Newton Jr. High in a different way.

We had the back of our car loaded with donations, suitable for Junior High students. While we were at the church, we asked if someone knew who would use these items. Louise recommended Newton Jr. High. So, we drove across the street and asked for the school's Principal, Mr. Ma. We were directed to another door and to go around the corner to where we could ask to see him. When I explained why we were there, the staff person got on a house phone and called him. We turned around and he was coming quickly down the hall to meet us. We introduced ourselves. When we said we were from St. Matthew's Church, he told us how their school loved us and the many things we do for their students. He mentioned especially about a single mother with five kids, and low income, who had benefited from a gift from St. Matthew's to feed her family.



Mr. Ma went on to say their school was supporting our 9/11 observance. St. Matthew's had emailed an invitation to participate in placing ribbons on the cross on our front lawn. The school promoted our invitation on their social media, and were encouraging the students to spend some time placing a ribbon on the cross. There is a soccer game at the school on Saturday and the students were asked to plan their time so they could observe this day that is so important in the history of our country.

I encourage you to meet Mr. Ma and see why he is a great role model for our young, impressionable, teens.

Marilyn McMullin

A Big Thanks!!!

Much, much thanks to Morgan Matthews for making us a new wonderful cross for St. Matthew's to commemorate 9/11. We sure do appreciate your last minute hard work for the church.



*Blessings,
St. Matthew's Worship Committee*



Thank You Notes From Shirley Aney

To My Dear, Dear St. Matthew's Family

I could never have gone through this ordeal without you! Your many, many prayers, messages, cards, calls, visits, e-mails and most of all your friendships have meant so much and been so meaningful to me. I have experienced so much, have learned so much and shared so much. God has been and is with me, but you are my Angels on this earth! I want to THANK YOU from the bottom of my heart for being with me.

Lovingly, Shirley Aney

A BIG THANK YOU to Huber Bongolan and Boy Scouts for Refreshing the Aney Meditation Garden with painting of the gazebo, a new rocking chair, new walkways, flowers, arches and shrubs and sign honoring the legacy of Tom Aney.

Lovingly, Shirley Aney

Some Thoughts to Ponder



peace.

It does not mean to be in a place where there is no noise, trouble or hard work. It means to be in the midst of those things and still be calm in your heart.

you have to find that place that brings out the human in you. the soul in you. the love in you.

- r.m. drake



Pictures Of Classroom Remodeling At Blessings Preschool

Tina Rike, the Director of Blessings Preschool which is in the process of opening on the St. Matthew's campus, sent some pics of the remodeled classrooms.



As We Gather Together Again!



The Adult Sunday School Class meets every Sunday morning at 8:30am via Zoom.

If you are coming by phone

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

If you are coming by computer

Go to <https://zoom.us/join>
Meeting ID: 832 3700 6446
Password: 778913

The Shalom Group meets In-person in the Church Office beginning at 10:00 a.m. each Monday morning. Call Sharon Kline for more information.



Women's Breakfast will continue to get together by Zoom at 8:30am each Wednesday. You can attend by clicking on the following link. Call Chris Gallagher if questions at 562-691-6676.

<https://zoom.us/j/6385740531?pwd=dkNtN1RTTFE0NlozcFRRc0ZFVEVwUT09>



The Men's Breakfast Group is still meeting Via Zoom. Log in on Thursday's at 8:00 AM:

<https://zoom.us/j/6385740531?pwd=dkNtN1RTTFE0NlozcFRRc0ZFVEVwUT09>

The first Thursday of each month our Ladies get together In-Person for lunch at *Casa Blanca*. We meet for lunch starting at 11:30am.



The Book Club meets the third Wednesday of each month. We meet in the Church Library/Office beginning at 1:00pm.

The Top of the Hill Group is taking a hiatus for several months. Please watch for announcements or emails as to when we will be meeting again either by Zoom or in-person.





October Birthdays And Wedding Anniversaries

Oct. 3	Robert Reid
Oct. 5	Doris Sachs
Oct. 6	Sandy King
Oct. 9	Rosalie Bongolan
Oct. 10	Shirley Butler
Oct. 11	Pastor Richard Bentley
Oct. 13	Pastor Joshua Kohr (Pastor BCUMC)
Oct. 19	Chris Gallagher
Oct. 19	Gene Logan
Oct. 20	Mary Feiner (at the Palms)
Oct. 21	Huber Bongolan
Oct. 21	Kim Vetter
Oct. 24	Wes Brown
Oct. 28	John Elliott
Oct. 28	Rodney Kurimoto
Oct. 30	Larry Vroman
Oct. 30	Sau Ying Chung
Oct. 30	Steve Shim

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

October 1st	Ian and Carol Rogers
October 6th	Jerry and Marilyn Lutjens
October 6th	David and Lisa White
October 7th	Roger and Julie Williams
October 25th	Sau Ying Chang & Jimmy Ang



St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Communion 8am-Early Worship 8:30am – Adult Sunday School Zoom 10am – Worship in Sanctuary & Online 1:30pm – Bells rehearsal	4 10:00 - Shalom	5 7pm-Trustees Meeting	6 8:30am - Women's Breakfast 3:00pm -The Palms	7 8:00am - Men's Breakfast 2:00pm – Choir Get Together on Zoom	8	9
10 Twombly Award Guest Musician 8am-Early Worship 8:30am – Adult Sunday School Zoom 10am – Worship in Sanctuary & Online 1:30pm – Bells rehearsal	11 10:00 - Shalom 	12 7:30pm-SPRC	13 8:30am - Women's Breakfast 3:00pm -The Palms	14 8:00am - Men's Breakfast	15	16 Audio Visual Equipment Installation in Sanctuary
17 8am-Early Worship 8:30am – Adult Sunday School Zoom 10am – Worship in Sanctuary & Online 1:30pm – Bells rehearsal	18 10:00am - Shalom	19	20 8:30am - Women's Breakfast 3:00pm -The Palms	21 8:00am - Men's Breakfast 1pm – Book Club (Church Office)	22	23 Audio Visual Equipment Installation in Sanctuary
24 Bells Perform during Worship 8am-Early Worship 8:30am – Adult Sunday School Zoom 10am – Worship in Sanctuary & Online	25 10:00am - Shalom	26	27 8:30am - Women's Breakfast 3:00pm -The Palms	28 8:00am - Men's Breakfast	29	30
31 Halloween 8am-Early Worship 8:30am – Adult Sunday School. Zoom 10am – Worship in Sanctuary & Online						10:00 a.m. In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary & Online Worship Live. (https://www.facebook.com/pg/Stmatts1)

We continue to keep in touch:

- Every Wednesday morning at 8:30 a.m. - Women's Breakfast Group via Zoom.
- Every Thursday morning at 8:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast Bunch via Zoom.
- First Thursday of every month at 11:30a.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 and Finance Committee – To be determined.

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
Greg Gomez, Custodian

Louise Green, Office Administrator
Elias Robles, Video Producer

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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

