



THE EVANGEL

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. MATTHEWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

DID YOU KNOW?

When I meet guests in our church and ask how they came to St. Matthews UMC, one of the top answers is that someone they knew invited them. National statistics back this up. 83% of people come to church because of a personal invitation from a friend or relative (churchtrainer.com).

Sometimes we can get so caught up in the busyness of everyday life that inviting someone to church isn't even on our radar. However, Summer is a great opportunity to invite someone to church because there are fun events for the whole family that may be easier to invite someone to than a Sunday morning worship service.

Below are a list of events this Summer, as well as some tips for how to invite people you know.

Food Truck Fridays

June 9, 5-7pm, 319 Browns Lane

July 14, 5-7pm (Church-wide Cookout for VBS Closing)
4611 Lowe Rd

August 11, 5-7pm, 319 Browns Lane

Continued on page 7



Register for VBS TODAY!

It's time to register for VBS 2023 at St. Matthews UMC! We can't wait for you to join us for a week full of Camping Out in God's Word. This year, during VBS, we'll be reminded that we are all part of God's great big, awesome world. As we celebrate it during our campout all week, we also are given the gifts of Courage, Trust, Love, and faith as Jesus lights our way! Come learn about how God has given us these gifts from the beginning, and how we can use them even when we're not camping in the wilderness.

Be sure to register, volunteer, and spread the word to all of your family and friends!

WHAT: VBS 2023: Camping Out in God's Word

WHEN: Monday-Thursday, July 10-13: Snack Supper from 5:30-6, VBS from 6-8

WHERE: VBS will be held at our Browns Lane campus (319 Browns Lane)

WHAT ELSE: On Friday, July 14, we will celebrate our VBS with a special **Cookout and Movie Night** at our River City Campus (4611 Lowe Road) from 5:30-8:30

HOW TO REGISTER (OR VOLUNTEER): www.myvbs.org/SMUMC23/

If you have any questions, please contact Shannon Seidt, Director of Children's Ministries at sseidt@saintmatthewsumc.org

We can't wait to see you there!

ST. MATTHEWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

RIVER CITY - TABERNACULO DE AVIVAMIENTO

SERVICE INFORMATION

BROWNS LANE CAMPUS
319 Browns Lane
Sunday Morning Worship

8:30am Traditional

IN-PERSON & LIVE-STREAMED

[https://www.facebook.com/
St.MatthewsUMCLouisville](https://www.facebook.com/St.MatthewsUMCLouisville)

Also available Sunday afternoon on
YouTube: St. Matthews UMC Louisville

11:00am Traditional (In-person only)

12:30pm Tabernaculo de Avivamiento
(Gordon Hall)

IN-PERSON & LIVE-STREAMED

[https://www.facebook.com/
tda.church.1](https://www.facebook.com/tda.church.1)

RIVER CITY CAMPUS
4611 Lowe Rd.

Sunday Morning Worship

10:45am IN-PERSON & LIVE-STREAMED

[https://www.facebook.com/
rivercityumc/](https://www.facebook.com/rivercityumc/)

Giving Online:

[https://www.stmatthews
methodist.com/giving](https://www.stmatthewsmethodist.com/giving)

or

[https://www.rivercity
methodist.com/give-online/](https://www.rivercitymethodist.com/give-online/)

IN OUR PRAYERS

SENIOR/ASSISTED LIVING AND REHAB

THE ALTENHEIM
Debbie Brown

BELMONT VILLAGE
Barbara Tracy

CHEROKEE PARK REHAB
Grace Hunt

ENCLAVE OF EAST LOUISVILLE
Liz Swindler

THE FORUM AT BROOKSIDE
Geneva Madden

HALLMARK HOUSE
Charlotte Mosley

THE LEGACY (ENGLISH STA.)
Harold Freeman

PARR'S AT SPRINGHURST
Forest Bower

STORYPOINT PROSPECT
Barbara Hamric

PRAYER REQUESTS

Charlie Boyette

Russell Browder

April Bunn

John Bunn

Ray Cashen

The Cox Family

Pam Cox

Ronnie Dolen

Jerry Fielden

Mark Foster

Davis Gray

Corky Hall

Kristie Jones

Mary Lea Kirven

Jamie Mercer

Erin Murphy

Betty Norris

Kathy Nugent

Elizabeth Putnam

Nilah Putnam

Tom Roppel

Eleanor Rupert

Tom Schoeberl

Denise Scott

John Sheesley

Bill Sherman

Scott Simpson

Cindy Stuart

Don Wagaman

Luke Watts

Bill Wild

Hans Young

Let us know how we may join in your prayer concerns by filling out a prayer request card, by phoning the church office, by email at prayers@saintmatthewsumc.org, or on the church website: www.stmatthewsmethodist.com.

WHAT'S GOING ON AT ST. MATTHEWS UMC

Thursday, June 1

St. Matthews Chamber of Commerce, 204 -- 8:00A
 Circle of Friends Quilt Guild, 204 -----10:00A
 Diabetes Support Group, 218 -----7:00P

Friday, June 2

Morning Men's Group, Heine Bros Hike Pt -----7:30A

Sunday, June 4

Traditional Worship, Sanctuary ----- 8:30A
 Sunday School (All Ages) -----10:00A
 River City Worship (4611 Lowe Rd) -----10:45A
 Traditional Worship, Sanctuary -----11:00A
 Tabernaculo de Avivamiento, Gordon Hall -----12:30P
 AA Group, River City -----2:30P

Monday, June 5

Quilted Memories, 204 -----11:30A
 UofL Speech Pathologists, Gordon Hall -----12:00P
 AA Group, River City -----6:30P
 Alanon, River City -----6:30P

Wednesday, June 7

Morning Prayers, 218 ----- 8:30A
 St. Matthews Ringers, Music Suite -----4:30P
 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Music Suite -----6:30P

Thursday, June 8

Circle of Friends Quilt Guild, 204 -----10:00A
 Diabetes Support Group, Browns Lane 218 ----- 6:15P

Friday, June 9

Morning Men's Group, Heine Bros Hike Pt -----7:30A

Saturday, June 10

First UMC, Fort Scott, KS: Overnight ----- 8:00P

Sunday, June 11

First UMC, Fort Scott, KS (Saturday overnight)
 Traditional Worship, Sanctuary ----- 8:30A
 Sunday School (All Ages) -----10:00A
 River City Worship (4611 Lowe Rd) -----10:45A
 Traditional Worship, Sanctuary -----11:00A
 Tabernaculo de Avivamiento, Gordon Hall -----12:30P
 AA Group, River City -----2:30P

Monday, June 12

Quilted Memories, 204 -----11:30A
 AA Group, River City -----6:30P
 Alanon, River City -----6:30P

Wednesday, June 14

Morning Prayers, 218 ----- 8:30A
 St. Matthews Ringers, Music Suite -----4:30P
 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Music Suite -----6:30P

Thursday, June 15

St. Matthews Chamber of Commerce, 204 -- 8:00A
 Circle of Friends Quilt Guild, 204 -----10:00A
 Diabetes Support Group, 218 -----7:00P

Friday, June 16

Morning Men's Group, Heine Bros Hike Pt -----7:30A

Sunday, June 18

Traditional Worship, Sanctuary -----8:30A
 Sunday School (All Ages) -----10:00A
 River City Worship (4611 Lowe Rd) -----10:45A
 Traditional Worship, Sanctuary -----11:00A
 Tabernaculo de Avivamiento, Gordon Hall -----12:30P
 AA Group, River City -----2:30P

Monday, June 19

Quilted Memories, 204 -----11:30A
 AA Group, River City -----6:30P
 Alanon, River City -----6:30P
 Board of Trustees, 204 -----6:30P

Wednesday, June 21

Morning Prayers, 218 -----8:30A
 St. Matthews Ringers, Music Suite -----4:30P
 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Music Suite -----6:30P

Thursday, June 22

Circle of Friends Quilt Guild, 204 -----10:00A
 Diabetes Support Group, Browns Lane 218 -----6:15P

Friday, June 23

Morning Men's Group, Heine Bros Hike Pt -----7:30A

Saturday, June 24

First UMC, Fort Scott, KS: Overnight -----8:00P

Sunday, June 25

Traditional Worship, Sanctuary -----8:30A
 Sunday School (All Ages) -----10:00A
 River City Worship (4611 Lowe Rd) -----10:45A
 Traditional Worship, Sanctuary -----11:00A
 Tabernaculo de Avivamiento, Gordon Hall -----12:30P
 AA Group, River City -----2:30P

Monday, June 26

Quilted Memories, 204 -----11:30A
 AA Group, River City -----6:30P
 Alanon, River City -----6:30P

Wednesday, June 28

Morning Prayers, 218 -----8:30A
 St. Matthews Ringers, Music Suite -----4:30P
 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Music Suite -----6:30P



Birthdays

- | | | | |
|---------|---|---------|---|
| June 1 | Connie Nichter | June 17 | Steve Jenkins
Estelle Sullivan
Gary Stuart
Martha Shafferman
Trevor Graham
Vicki Clark
Jacob McNutt |
| June 2 | Ellery Dolen
Megan Dukes
Amy Dickinson | June 18 | Pat Brinson
Hannah Martin |
| June 3 | Mary Dove
DeAnna Payne | June 19 | Kay Krueger
Zach Wedding |
| June 5 | Molly Krueger
Jacob Vandiver | June 20 | Robert Trimarke
Owen Lane |
| June 6 | Hope Richards
Teresa McCammon | June 21 | Gail Shaw
Peter Mook |
| June 7 | Jack Stewart | June 22 | Linda Eastes |
| June 8 | Steve Riggs
Daniel Royse
Deniesha Golden | June 24 | Chris Seidt |
| June 9 | Mary Britton | June 25 | Ruthie Bartels
Caroline Bartels
Denise Davis
Eric Anderson |
| June 12 | Kim Raho
Brittany Kleiner | June 26 | Lynn Steele |
| June 12 | Brittany Kleiner
Kim Raho | June 27 | Debbie Wilkerson |
| June 13 | Rob Fenton | June 29 | Jeanie White
Eliza Love |
| June 14 | Keith Taylor | June 30 | Mary Alice Smith
Carrie Olds |
| June 15 | Sarah Davasher-Wisdom | | |
| June 16 | Doug Royer
Charlie Stevens
Brad Setzer
Dorka Cardoso-Mayoral | | |



ALL DROP-OFFS between July 17-21 ONLY

We cannot accept donations prior to that date.

In Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Barbara Harding, who died on Sunday, May 7, in Louisville.



DID YOU KNOW? (Continued from page 1)

Vacation Bible School

July 10-14

Dinner from 5:30-6:00pm, VBS from 6:00-8:00 pm.

Register for VBS at <https://www.myvbs.org/SMUMC23/>

Tips for Inviting

- **Be Positive:** Think of at least one thing you are excited about in the life and ministries of our church. Whether it's music on Sunday mornings, opportunities for children and youth, loving community, or work we do through St. Matthews Area Ministries, Habitat for Humanity, or our school partnerships... have one thing you're ready to share! Your excitement will be contagious!

It's amazing how invitational we can be about other things and then stay silent about our church.

- **Be Relational:** An invitation to church is always much more natural and sincere when it is someone you have already built a relationship with. Don't let an invitation to church be the first conversation you have with a coworker or neighbor. However, don't make simple questions like, "Do you go to a church in the area?" be more awkward than asking, "Have you been to this restaurant?" It's amazing how invitational we can be about other things and then stay silent about our church.

Be Intentional: Take time to prayerfully consider the specific invitation God is inviting you to make. Could this person need transportation to

Continued on page 8

THANK
— YOU

A VERY BIG thank you to everyone who donated food for the Chenoweth Elementary Food Pantry in May, and especially to Emily Sustek for spearheading and coordinating this wonderful outreach in our community!




DID YOU KNOW? (from page 7)

- church? Would inviting the person to brunch/lunch afterward be a blessing? Is there a specific ministry of our church this person could benefit from instead of just making a general invite? Ask God to guide you as you consider who to invite and how to invite them.

Your personal invitation is likely the most effective tool for bringing people into our church. Studies have shown it is at least 6 times more effective than being invited by the pastor! (umcdiscipleship.org) Who will you invite this Summer? In Christ, Adam

Ministry MINUTE

 Each month, we will be doing a “Ministry Minute” during worship and in the Evangel as a way to highlight different ministries in our church that you may be unaware of. For each ministry, we will also provide a point of contact so that you can find more information and ways to get involved.

The Prayer Blanket Ministry of St. Matthews United

Methodist Church provides hand-made prayer blankets that have been prayed over during our worship services. They are available for anyone to pick up so that they can be given to touch the lives of people who are enduring illness, grief, loss, or loneliness in their lives. For over 15 years, this ministry has offered a tangible reminder of God’s presence, our prayers, and the love of our community for hundreds of people.

Members of the Prayer Blanket Ministry work hard to choose fabrics that are suitable for all people of all ages.

To get a prayer blanket for someone, simply visit the closet across the hall from Room 204 at the Browns Lane campus. There is an entire shelf of prayer blankets currently available. Use the log to record the name of the person receiving

Continued on page 10

Ministry MINUTE (from page 9)

the blanket and get one of the form letters that explains the purpose of this ministry. There is also a tag attached to each blanket that communicates our prayers, as well as the name of our church.

For more information or to help with the prayer blanket ministry, please contact Eileen James at epjames27@gmail.com.



Prayer blankets and log book

UPDATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Does our church database have YOUR family membership record correct? Here is your chance to update your record for our annual guidebook and directory (if you haven't already done so). St. Matthews UMC will be publishing a new directory in late summer, so it's time to update our database with any changes, additions or deletions that may have occurred in your family since our last directory.

Have you changed your phone number? Have you moved? Are you preparing to move soon? Are all your children still at home and are they included in your membership record?

If you have not already informed the church about changes to your record, please let us know now so that the information in the Guidebook & Directory is correct. Contact the church at 502-897-6449. Thank you for your help!

ST. MATTHEWS UMC
PRAYER
MINISTRY

St. Matthews United Methodist Church has long had an active, ongoing prayer ministry, supported not only by church staff, but (by request) more than 200 volunteers on our prayer chain. Anyone may make a prayer request by phoning the church office, by email at prayers@saintmatthewsumc.org, or on the church website: www.stmatthewsmethodist.com. Please specify if the request is for staff only or if you would like it released on the prayer chain, and note that prayer requests normally remain on the prayer list for a period of three (3) weeks.

If you would like to become a member of our prayer chain, drop us an email at either of the addresses above.

In our prayers today:

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| Charlie Boyette | Jerry Fielden | Betty Norris | John Sheesley |
| Russell Browder | Mark Foster | Kathy Nugent | Bill Sherman |
| April Bunn | Davis Gray | Elizabeth Putnam | Scott Simpson |
| John Bunn | Corky Hall | Nilah Putnam | Cindy Stuart |
| Ray Cashen | Kristie Jones | Tom Roppel | Don Wagaman |
| The Cox Family | Mary Lea Kirven | Eleanor Rupert | Bill Wild |
| Pam Cox | Jamie Mercer | Tom Schoeberl | Hans Young |
| Ronnie Dolen | Erin Murphy | Denise Scott | |

The Evangel for June 1, 2023
 St. Matthews United Methodist Church
 319 Browns Lane at Norbourne Boulevard
 Louisville, Kentucky 40207
 ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit
 Organization
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Louisville, KY
 Permit No. 127

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Adam Sparks.....Senior Pastor
 Rev. Renee Jennings.....Associate Pastor
 Rev. Maikel Rojas.....Associate Pastor
 Rev. Renee Jennings.....Associate Pastor
 Rev. Adam Sparks.....Senior Pastor

Harrison Zoercher.....Director of Discipleship & Missions; Organist
 Shannon Seidt.....Director of Children's Ministries
 Noel Weaver.....Director of Music Ministries
 Raiko Ruz.....Music Associate, TDA
 Aaron Weaver.....Music Associate, Youth
 Mark Benz.....Music Associate, Children's Choirs
 Amber Jenkins.....St. Matthews Campus Youth Minister
 Sandy Hotell.....Administrator/Financial Secretary
 Allyson McCormick.....Nursery Coordinator
 Frank Krause.....Sexton

Traditional Worship - 8:30 & 11 AM;
 Sunday School - 10:00 AM
 River City Campus - 10:45 AM
 Hispanic Worship - 12:30PM

ST. MATTHEWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 319 Browns Lane at Norbourne Boulevard • Louisville, KY 40207
 502-897-6449
 www.stmatthewsmethodist.com

