



St. Matthew United Methodist

A place to grow in Christ

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

October 2024

From the Pastor's Desk



God's Harvest

Growing up in the Oklahoma Panhandle, I came to understand the importance of harvest. It's a time of hard work, but the end results were always worth it. This season is a time of harvest in our church—not just in the fields, but in our hearts as well. We've been putting in the hard work, and the results will come. Whether we're planting seeds, tending to the growth, or gathering the harvest, God is always working in and through us. And just like a pumpkin vine, the fruits of our labor often stretch further than we can imagine.

Obviously, my weird pumpkin analogy is there for a reason: our Pumpkin Patch is up and running! Last Sunday, over 100 volunteers came together to unload a whopping 3,000 pumpkins, and now the patch is ready for business. The funds we raise from the Pumpkin Patch and the Pumpkin Festival go directly toward supporting the needs of our community. Come by, bring your friends and family, and help us make a difference!

Speaking of making a difference, our St. Matthew Twenty-Fifty committee is hoping to do that not only now but for a long time to come. They've been actively meeting for the last two months and are currently working to chart a path for the next 30 years of the life of our church. It's inspiring to dream big and think about how we can continue to serve God and our community in the decades to come. Stay tuned for more updates as this group of faithful people continues to work to help shape our future together.

That future looks incredibly bright. This past Sunday, we were blessed to welcome eight new members into our St. Matthew family:

- Orion and Heidi Whitney
- Larry and Cherry Kelly
- Jeff Evans
- Tom, Linda, and Stephen Hendricks

If you see any of these folks make sure to extend a warm welcome and continue to be a church that embraces newcomers with love, care, and a sense of belonging. If you see someone new, be sure to introduce yourself!

As we step into this new season together I would encourage us all to keep our focus on God's abundant grace. Whether you're helping with the Pumpkin Patch, welcoming new members, or helping to dream about the future of St. Matthew, remember this:

"Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."- Galatians 6:9

God's harvest is coming—let's be ready!

God's peace and much love,
Jonathon

Worship Online 11am: www.facebook.com/StMatthewMWC or www.stmatthew.org/sermons
Give Online: www.stmatthew.org/giving



Words About Worship
From the Director of
Music Ministries



Changing leaves, cooler temperatures, and the return of pumpkin spice mean fall is here!

Judging by the temperature outside today, (high 80's), no one would believe that Fall has arrived. As I am writing this, those round orange orbs that we love so much are being removed from the truck and arranged tastefully all over our church lawn. We will have thousands of them, just waiting for someone to come and take them home. Arrival of the pumpkins also means we will have many guests to entertain and inform. In his sermon this morning, Jonathon reminded us that as Christians we are to show God's light and love to the world. We have heard a lot about how our actions show what kind of Christian we are. We must live for Jesus so our light continues to shine. The Pumpkin Patch is a great way for us to be Jesus to our community.

Jonathan's sermons from the Lectionary continue in October. Scriptures are Job 1:1; 2:1-10, Mark 10:17-31, Mark 10:35-45, and Mark 1:46-52.

Looking Ahead:

Sunday, **October 6** is World Communion Sunday. There has been controversy about the date this year with some websites declaring September 29 as the day. The official United Methodist Program calendar says October 6, so October 6 it is! Christians around the world will come to the Lord's table as one to celebrate Holy Communion.

Because the last Thursday in October is Halloween, the next **Worship Project** will be Thursday, **October 24**. Come join this informal, contemporary service and bring your friends! You will be glad you did.

All Saints Sunday is November 3. As a part of this yearly commemoration, we light candles in memory of friends and loved ones who have died since November 1, 2023. Please call the church office (405-732-6831) or email katelynn@stmatthew.org and give Katelynn the name and date of death so the names can be listed in the bulletin.

Having all the pumpkins on the lawn means that we will have more guests than usual in our worship services. Please be observant and when you see someone you don't recognize, introduce yourself. It doesn't matter if they are a first time guest or have been here 20+ years. Be friendly!

I'll see you as we minister to others in the Pumpkin Patch and in our worship services.

Email gtatum@stmatthew.org
for questions about music ministry.

Shalom,

Gayle Tatum



LIBRARY NEWS



October 2024

from Terri

NEW COZY MYSTERY SERIES

Annie's Fiction released a new cozy mystery series, *Museum of Mysteries*. The library was fortunate enough to acquire the complete 12 book set.

These fun cozy mysteries focus on the Reed Museum of Art and Archaeology. In book one, *Mummy's the Word*, the museum is preparing for an Egyptian exhibit. But before the boxes are all unpacked a startling discovery is made – a mummy is missing and the dead body of the museum's benefactor is residing in its place!

If you've enjoyed our other Cozy Mystery Series: *Secrets of the Castleton Manor Library*, *The Antique Shop Mysteries*, and *Mysteries of Lancaster County*, then you'll definitely want to check this series out. So, stop by and get started today!

2024 BIBLE IN A YEAR GROUP!

Valarie Autry	Eric Autry
Jackie Elk	Rebecca Hartmann
Dayna Heath	Lacey Holland
Larry Kisner	Susie Larsen
Joyce Perkins	Ashley Poole
Carolejean Reynolds	Kaye Rhoades
Kalyn Roark	Emily Robinson
Kay Ross	Carolyn Specht
Cynthia Weldon	Terri Weldon

They're reading the greatest story ever told!

MERCI! GRACIAS! THANKS!

Thank you, Valarie Autry for donating *The In-Between* by Hadley Vlahos, RN. The book is a look at death, dying and the lessons the author has learned as a hospice nurse. Thank you, Patty Avery for donating Amish fiction books including a series by Wanda Brunstetter. Thank you, Terri Weldon for donating four Love Inspired Romance novels, two of which

happen to be Amish. Thanks, again, for helping to S-T-R-E-T-C-H our library budget.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

If you're looking for a spooky, but faith filled, book to read for Halloween the St. Matthew Library has you covered. *Bittersweet Demise* by Mary M. O'Donnell finds the residents of Moss Hollow celebrating Moss Halloween, the town's annual Halloween celebration. A murder definitely puts a damper on the festivities. If you prefer something a little spookier check out any book by Jamie Jo Wright or Jessica Patch. Just leave the lights on!

We also have books for the kiddos. No worries, these are fun – not spooky – reads. Check out *Trick or Treat, Marley!*, *Little Blue Truck's Halloween* and *Howl for Halloween!*

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!”

-Philippians 4:4

FALL if my favorite...know what else is my favorite?
Having 14 kids at WOW each Wednesday! We are having
a great time learning more about people in the Old
Testament!

We will begin our Christmas Program songs soon, and
will be performing at the 6pm Christmas Eve service.
Tentative rehearsal times will be Wednesday nights
6:30-6:45pm and then again Sundays at 10:30-10:50am.

Trunk or Treat!
Sunday, October 27
6-8pm

Please sign up on the
Children’s Ministry
Board! We need trunks
and volunteers!

AT ST. MATTHEW, OUR MISSION IS TO SHOWER GOD’S LOVE UPON OUR CHILDREN

**SO THAT THEY WILL KNOW:
GOD LOVES THEM . . . UNCONDITIONALLY.
CHURCH IS A WONDERFUL, SAFE PLACE TO BE.
STORIES OF JESUS.**

WILL YOU ANSWER THE LORD’S CALL AND BE A PART OF THIS MINISTRY?
CHRIST HAS NO HANDS BUT YOURS.

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

OCTOBER

Oct. 9-Work the Patch!
Oct. 12-Pumpkin Festival
Oct. 27-Trunk or Treat

**WANT TO HELP OUR
KIDS?**

**WE’RE LOOKING FOR
MORE CHILDREN’S
CHURCH TEACHERS!
VOLUNTEER FOR 1
SUNDAY EVERY OTHER
MONTH!**

Contact Information:
Katelynn Henderson
405.740.4379
children@stmatthew.org

**WEEKLY
ACTIVITIES**

SUNDAYS

Sunday School @ 9:40am
Children’s Church during 11am Service
*No Children’s Church 1st
Sunday of the Month

WEDNESDAYS

WOW @ 6:30pm

Alpha Omega News

Sunday School 9:40AM | Sunday Youth 5-7PM | Wednesday Youth 6:30-7:30PM

The purpose of Alpha Omega Student Ministries is to stand on the foundation, with a heart to worship, a mind to reach out, and hands to serve and love.

Want to Volunteer?

We have many opportunities to hang out with our youth and help shape the future leaders of our church! If you are interested in volunteering in the following areas, please let Kalyn know!

- Mystery Trips, Lock-ins, and other special events
- Wednesday Night Activities
- Sunday Night Activities
- Mission Trips and Volunteer/Service Activities

Halloween Lock-In

Our annual Halloween Lock-In will be October 19th-20th, starting at 6PM and going until church is over on the 20th!

We will have plenty of games, food, and fun so make sure and bring a friend! The more the merrier! We will be having a costume contest as well, so make sure and bring/wear a costume!

Other items to bring include, but are not limited to:

- Clothes to sleep in
- Clothes to wear to Church Sunday
- Toiletries
- Medications
- Pillow
- Blankets
- Phone chargers

Everything Pumpkins and Upcoming Events

It's PUMPKIN TIME! We have lots of things going this year, so make sure and check out our list of events below!

Check out all the events below that the youth will be assisting with throughout the month of October!

- October 2nd: Work the Patch, 6pm-8pm
- October 6th: Festival Set-up, right after Church
- October 6th: Youth, 5-7pm
- October 9th: Ding-Dong Prayer Dash
- October 12th: Pumpkin Festival
- Plan to arrive at 8am and stay until 4pm to assist with set-up and clean-up
- Youth will be working the games/crafts areas
- October 13th: NO YOUTH
- October 16th: Work the Patch, 6pm-8pm
- October 19th-20th: Halloween Lock-In
- October 20th: NO YOUTH
- October 23rd: Work the Patch, 6pm-8pm
- October 27th: Trunk-or-Treat
- October 30th: Work the Patch, 6pm-8pm



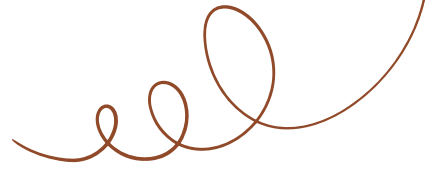
Trunk-Or-Treat

The youth vehicles theme this year is **SPACE!**

Trunk-or-Treat is October 27th from 6pm-8pm. Youth need to arrive by 5pm to set-up the vehicle and assist with any other set-up needed. They will be acting as candy runners throughout the event!

We will be finished by 8:30pm

St. Matthew Young Adults



Monday Night Small Group

Join us at 5:30pm on the first and third Mondays for dinner and fellowship with other young adults!



Pumpkin Festival

Come hang out at the Pumpkin Festival on October 12th from 9am-3pm. We can always use volunteers!

Don't have time to volunteer? Come spend money! We will have tons of goodies for sale!



Work the Patch with us!

Come join us on October 21st from 6pm-8pm while we work the pumpkin patch! We will have dinner and fellowship!

Join our GroupMe to keep up-to-date with all our upcoming events

Director of Student Ministries: Kalyn Roark

October at St. Matthew

Upcoming Events

Oct. 6	Noon	Festival Set-up
Oct. 7	6:30pm	SPRC
Oct. 8	6pm	Trustees
Oct. 9		NO Midweek Meal
Oct. 12	9am-3pm	Pumpkin Patch Festival
Oct 14	6:30pm	Nominations
Oct. 20	Noon	Church Conference
Oct. 24	7pm	Worship Project
Oct. 27	6-8pm	Trunk-or-Treat



Week at a glance

For a more complete list of events and activities visit stmatthew.org/calendar

Sunday

8:30am	Worship
9:40am	Sunday School
11am	Worship (w/ LiveStream)
5pm	AO Youth Group

Monday

9am	Mobile Meals Prep
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Tuesday

7am	Mobile Meals
10am	Quilters Sew&Go
1pm	Moving For Balance
6:15pm	Toastmasters Meeting
7pm	Okie Dokie Banjo Band

Wednesday

5:30pm	MidWeek Meal
6:15pm	Spirit Singers
6:30pm	MidWeek Programs
7:15pm	Choir

Thursday

10am	Mobile Meals
1pm	Moving for Balance
6pm	OK Scottish Pipes & Drums

Friday

7am	Mobile Meals Prep
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Saturday

9:30am	Girl Scouts
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Oct. 1	Bob Dimski
Oct. 3	Susan Good
Oct. 4	Pam Dimski
Oct. 6	Brian Ellis
	Donna Rader
Oct. 7	Linda Miller
Oct. 8	Stacey Ruston
Oct. 11	Steve Martin
Oct. 12	Chris Baker
	Michelle Phelps
Oct. 13	Marilyn Solomon
Oct. 14	Gayla Wilson
Oct. 15	Debra Hynek
Oct. 16	Gretchen Fitzpatrick
Oct. 18	Ebenezer Quartey
Oct. 19	Austin Voss
Oct. 20	Rebecca Hartmann
Oct. 25	Deanna Nessel
Oct. 28	Hannah Calhoun
Oct. 29	Chelsea Luxen
	Ella McDonald

St. Matthew UMC



October 27th, 6-8pm,

Trunk-or-Treat is one of the largest community outreaches we have! October 29th 6-8pm! We need help with Registration, Popcorn, Drinks and TRUNKS! Please sign up on the children's bulletin board, or let Katelynn know if you're available. We also need LOTS of candy!



Oct. 2	Paul & Linda Smith
Oct. 8	King & Doris Bruce
Oct. 23	Frank & Scotty Barnett
Oct. 27	Keith & Michelle Phelps



St. Matthew United Methodist

A place to grow in Christ

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

300 N Air Depot Blvd
Midwest City OK 73110
www.stmatthew.org
405-732-6831

*The Mission of The United Methodist Church
is to make disciples of Jesus Christ
for the transformation of the world.*

WE NEED CANDY!

AS WE PREPARE FOR FESTIVAL AND
TRUNK OR TREAT, WE NEED ALL
THE CANDY! PLEASE BRING
INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED CANDY
TO EITHER KATELYNN OR KALYN.



St. Matthew Staff

Rev. Jonathon Clinesmith	Pastor
e-mail: jonathon@stmatthew.org	
Stephanie Ballow	Business Manager & Nursery Director
e-mail : businessoffice@stmatthew.org	
Kalyn Roark	Director of Student Ministries
e-mail: youth@stmatthew.org	
Katelynn Henderson	Director of Children's Ministries & Program Director
e-mail: katelynn@stmatthew.org	
Gayle Tatum	Director of Music Ministries
e-mail: gtatum@stmatthew.org	
Susie Larsen	Spirit Singers Director
e-mail: spiritsingers@stmatthew.org	
Emily Robinson	Organist/Pianist
Drew Andrews	Custodian
Louise Barnett	Financial Secretary