

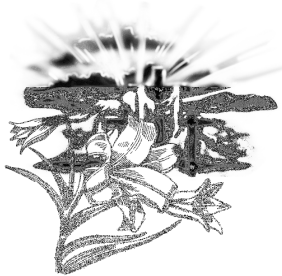


April 2009

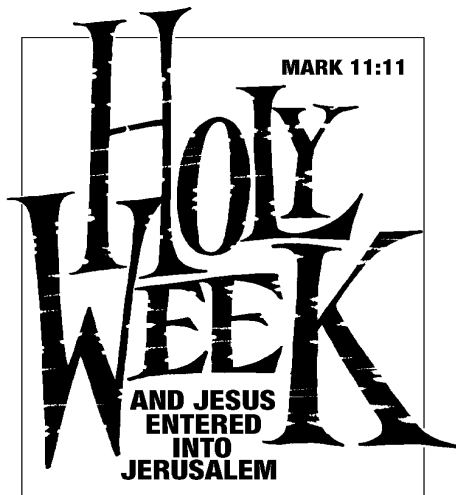
St. Matthew's Good News

Newbury
Park

WWW.NEWBURYPARKCHURCH.COM



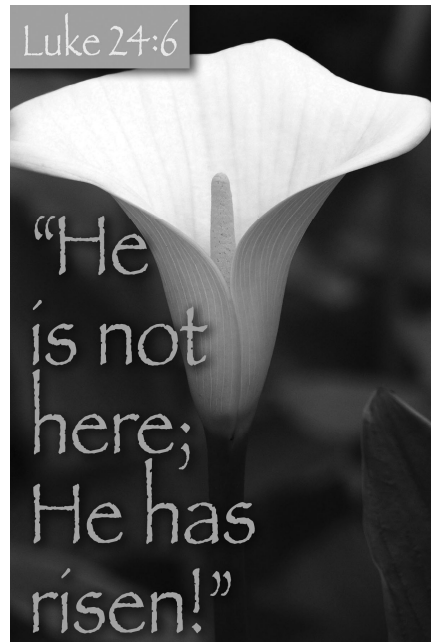
Easter at St. Matthew's



Sunday, April 5 Palm Sunday Worship
8:30 and 10:00a Worship
A celebration of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem with St. Matthew's Children processing with Palms.

Thursday, April 9 Maundy Thursday
Seder Service 6:30p
We remember the last supper by celebrating the Passover Seder as Jesus and his apostles did on the night before the crucifixion of Jesus.

Friday, April 10, Good Friday
Tenebrae Service at 7:00p
The word "tenebrae" comes from the Latin meaning "darkness." In this dramatic service, all of the lights and candles on the altar are gradually extinguished until the room is in complete darkness. At the moment of darkness, a loud noise occurs symbolizing the death of Jesus.



EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATION
Sunday, April 12

ALLELUIA! JESUS IS RISEN!!

Sunrise Service at 6:00a
In the Tranquility Garden
(weather permitting)

Easter Worship
8:30 & 10:00a

Worship Services are held
Sundays at 8:30 and 10 a.m.

8:30 a.m. service is "come as you are."
This service is more contemporary.

10 a.m. is our larger service featuring choirs and
more traditional music and singing from the
hymnal.



Good News

Church Family



Prayer Chain

To put a request on the prayer chain, contact the church office or Lynne Hartley (498-6365), Prayer Chain Coordinator.

New

- Anne Starr** - Prayers for Dr. Guidance making health decisions.
- Heather** - Pregnant and having ultra sound found complications with baby. (Adele and Vern Wojciechowski's daughter)
- Continue to pray for:**
- The Adler family** - With the passing of our dear friend Roy.
- Delores** - Upcoming heart surgery (Lisa Zimmerman's mother)
- Charmain** - Having lung complications (Lisa Zimmerman's sister)
- Joan Henry** - Congestion in lungs and having difficulty breathing. (Beth Ferguson)
- Joan** - Declining health. (Alice Huston)
- Erin Basset** - Back pain and injured disks. (Sharon Brown's granddaughter)
- Mia Stoutenborough** - Diagnosed with bone marrow disease and searching for a donor for bone marrow transplant. (Paul Stoutenborough's grand daughter)
- Kathy Sasso** - Diagnosed with heart arrhythmia. (Jackie Heinemann)
- Amelia Shear** - 88 years old, recovering from colon surgery and making progress. (Jan Shear's mother-in-law)
- Ann Chiorella** - Up-coming eye surgery due to diabetes. (Elsie Figueroa)
- Bea Forbes** - Healing of virus in her eye and restoration of her eye sight (Kathy Holzer)
- Troy Shear** - Recovering from corrective nose surgery and doing well. (Jan Shear's grandson)
- Robin Shear** - Dealing with health issues. (Jan Shear's daughter)
- Carol Riggins** - Continued health. (Jan Shear)
- Paula** - Continued healing from back and leg pain due to sciatic nerve. (Lynda Starman's Sister)

Pray for those in cancer treatment:

- Jill Smalling** - (Joyce Wheatly)
- Glenn Grago** - (Casey Goldberg)
- Lonnie Mercer** (Doris Wright)
- Tom DeCuir** - (Dana DeCuir)
- Kassie** - (Carla Von Zell)
- Carol Phillips** - (Christa Lamb)
- Zona Stratheran** - (Chris McEachern)
- Marv Whisman** - (Christy Whisman)
- Alex** - (Detweiler Family)
- Katie Floyd** - (Saute Family)
- Jane Cosarelli** (Patti Adams)



Please be sure to write down your prayer request in our prayer book located in the Narthex before worship. This enables our worship leaders to mention your loved one in prayer and to make sure their name is listed in our weekly prayer list published in the bulletin and the monthly Newsletter.



April Birthdays

- 4-02 Christa Lamb
- 4-02 Pat Mohn
- 4-04 Lynda Starman
- 4-05 Rev. Joe Lewolt
- 4-07 Maren Jacobson
- 4-07 David Chow
- 4-10 Delia Kellogg
- 4-12 Robert Pond
- 4-12 Helen Blum
- 4-13 Joelle Saute
- 4-14 Allan Boone
- 4-15 Allisa Zimmerman
- 4-18 Joyce Wheatly
- 4-19 Mike Summers
- 4-21 Marvin Jacobsen
- 4-23 Judy Saute
- 4-26 Janice McMahan
- 4-30 Tom DeCuir
- 4-30 Morgan Blanck

April Anniversaries

- 4-6 Bob and Pat Mohn
- 4-6 Bob and Patty Biery
- 4-16 David Chow & Sharon Helson
- 4-23 Rod & Sili Jacobson

In Memory of Evelyn Dodd

Our dear friend Evelyn Dodd passed away in March. Her services were held on Tuesday, March 3 at Hollywood Hills Forest Lawn, Old North Church.

You can remember Evelyn by donating to the Susan G. Komen, Breast Cancer Research. You may mail your donation to: 5005 Lynden B Johnson Freeway, Suite 250, Dallas Texas, 75244 in memory of Evelyn Dodd. 100% of your donation will go directly to research.

St. Matthew's Looses Two Very Dear Friends

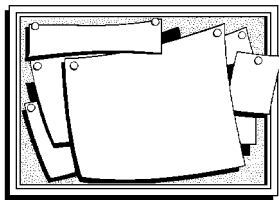


In Memory of Roy Adler

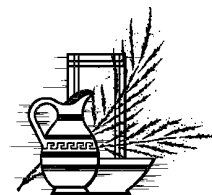
Our dear friend Roy Adler passed away on Saturday, March 7, 2009.

Roy was a member of St. Matthew's as well as a professor at Pepperdine University. Roy's memorial service was held Saturday, March 21 at the Pepperdine University Chapel in Malibu.

You can remember Roy by donating to Pepperdine University - Business Division-Marketing. Donations can be mailed to: Pepperdine University 24255 Pacific Coast Hwy, Malibu, CA 92063-4237.



Good News Bulletin Board



April 2009 - Page 3

www.NewburyParkChurch.com

Fax (805) 498-6984

stmatthewsumc@yahoo.com



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

TREAT THE CHILDREN AT OUR CHILDREN'S CENTER WITH A GROCERY GIFT CARD

Our children at the center are always in need of snack items. Due to our high enrollment of afterschool age children this year, our snacks deplete quickly. So, if you would like to help support this vital ministry of St. Matthew's, gift cards from Albertsons or Vons are always welcome. Gift cards may be dropped off at the Children's Center or may be placed in the Children's Center mail box in the church office.

Also, please find the list in the Narthex of items that can be purchased at Costco. Thank you for your help in giving to our Children at the Center.



Women's Retreat 2009 Friday, April 24 to Sunday, April 26

Our Annual Women's Retreat will be held at Aldersgate

Retreat in Pacific Palisades. For those who are interested, please contact Linda Norberg at 499-2486 or Casey Goldberg at 492-9623. The cost of the retreat is \$170.00 for 2 nights and includes 5 meals. All women are welcome. Scholarships are available.

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

Our Tuesday Bible Study group will not meet on Tuesday, April 14.

Our 13 week study on Christianity and World Religions will end on Tuesday, April 28.

YOUNG FAMILIES GROUP

We will be having a pizza night on Saturday, April 4th at 5:00pm. Meet us at Lamppost Pizza in Newbury Park. Each family will be or ordering separately, but we have reservations to sit together. We look forward to seeing you there! Questions? Contact Ryan and Tanya Blanck at 529-5703.

See photos of our last meeting in February making Valentines on page 5.

DIRECTORY CHANGES Oops, We left Out One of Our Members

Please add David Iovino to our new Church Directory:

**David Iovino
64 Cindy**

**Newbury Park, CA 91320
Phone: 375-2450**

Furniture Donation

Our Fireside Room is very crowded with unneeded furniture. We have 2 teak glass top tables that we would like to find a home for. If you are interested, please contact the Church Office for details. Deadline to pick-up tables is 4/19/09.



GAD-ABOUTS ACTIVITIES

The Gad-Abouts, so far, have nothing scheduled in April. Please be sure to check for up-coming events in our Sunday Bulletin.

MESSAGE FROM OUR SOCIAL ACTION TEAM

The Art of Backyard Composting



Backyard composting is a simple method of managing organic waste at home. The material produced by backyard composting is an excellent soil conditioner. It enhances the structure of the soil by binding soil particles together, which improves aeration and helps soil to retain water and nutrients for use by surrounding plants.

The art of backyard composting can be performed by a variety of methods in open piles, burying materials in pits or trenches and enclosing materials in drums or bins.

The city of Thousand Oaks has a "compost bin offer" which enables Thousand Oaks residents to purchase a home compost bin for \$20. The city also has a video available called Compost Happens! This hour long video is available for check out at the Thousand Oaks Library. It's like having a compost workshop at your home! For more information, log on to www.toaks.org or call 499-SAVE.

Remember, composting is easy. The soil organisms do most of the work for you by decomposing what you put in your compost pile and recycling it into usable soil amendment.

THINGS TO COMPOST

Green Materials

- Grass clippings
- Garden trimmings
- Shredded yard wastes
- Green leaves
- Fruit & vegetables

Brown Materials

- Wood chips & sawdust
- Pin & fir needles
- Straw & hay
- Dry grasses & leaves
- Egg shells
- Nut shells
- Coffee grounds & filters
- Shredded paper





Good News In Worship



Worship Staffing for April

April 5 - Palm Sunday

Preaching Pastor Bob Ferguson
 Worship Leader Jack Doman
 8:30am Liturgist Lorraine Randall
 10am Liturgist Georgia Forbes
 10am Ushers Verm Wojciechowski,
 Ralph Matthews
 Acolyte Alex & Matthew Chow
 Counters Barbara Crowdis, Randi
 Berry
 Nursery Tanya Inouye
 Flowers Bob & Pat Mohn
 Coffee Beth Ferguson
 Sound/Recording Fred Wardell
 Welcome/Greeter Donna, Jack Doman
 SS Teachers Lynne Hartley, Pam Pond

April 12 - Easter Sunday

Preaching Pastor Bob Ferguson
 Worship Leader Jack Doman
 8:30am Liturgist Scott Spindel
 10am Liturgist Chuck Qualls
 10am Ushers Jay Alexander, Bill Hartley
 Acolyte Kelly Chow, Emily Hallit
 Puppeteers No Puppets
 Counters Jason, Nancy Lethcoe,
 Mike Summers
 Nursery TBA
 Flowers The Holzers
 Coffee Please sign up
 Sound/Recording Ryan Blanck
 Welcome/Greeter Pat, Bob Mohn
 SS Teachers No Sunday School,
 Children in Worship

April 19

Preaching Pastor Bob Ferguson
 Worship Leader Jack Doman
 8:30am Liturgist Lynne Hartley
 10am Liturgist Cheryl Qualls
 10am Ushers John McDonald, Kent
 Detweiler
 Acolyte Jonathan Kuo
 Counters Joanne Stone, Tim LeRoy
 Nursery Tanya Blanck
 Flowers Jan Gauwain
 Coffee Please sign up
 Sound/Recording Ralph Matthews
 Welcome/Greeter Carla Von Zell, Betty
 Johnson
 SS Teachers Lynne Hartley, Janice
 Kakazu, Pam Pond

April 26

Preaching Pastor Bob Ferguson
 Worship Leader Jack Doman
 8:30am Liturgist Beth Ferguson
 10am Liturgist Jackie Heinemann
 10am Ushers Randy Holzer, Mike
 Bertrand
 Acolyte Kelly Chow, Juliet Forbes
 Puppeteers Nancy Liedblad, Cheryl
 Qualls
 Counters Marvin, Judy Jacobsen,
 Lorraine Randall
 Nursery Georgia Forbes
 Flowers Joanne Stone
 Coffee Please sign up
 Sound/Recording Bill Hartley
 Welcome/Greeter Judy Saute, Tanya Blanck
 SS Teachers Pam Pond, Beth
 Ferguson, Dana DeCuir

May 3

Preaching Pastor Bob Ferguson
 Worship Leader Dan Overton
 8:30am Liturgist Bob Wiles
 10am Liturgist Dan Overton
 10am Ushers Mike Summers, Nancy
 Liedblad
 Acolyte Matthew Chow
 Counters Jan Gauwain, Ceil Adler
 Nursery Carolyn Sylvester
 Flowers Casey Goldberg
 Coffee Beth Ferguson
 Sound/Recording Randy Holzer
 Welcome/Greeter Marion Vausbinder, Doris
 Williams
 SS Teachers Kristin Bertrand, Janice
 Kakazu



Holy Week and Easter Bible Readings

April 5 - Passion/Palm Sunday

Mark 11:1-11
 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
 Isaiah 50:4-9a
 Psalm 31:9-16
 Philippians 2:5-11
 Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39

April 6 - Monday of Holy Week

Isaiah 41:1-9
 Psalm 36:5-11
 Hebrews 9:11-15
 John 12:1-11

April 7 - Tuesday of Holy Week

Isaiah 49:1-7
 Psalm 71:1-14
 1 Corinthians 1:18-31
 John 12:20-36

April 8 - Wednesday of Holy Week

Isaiah 50:4-9a
 Psalm 70
 Hebrews 12:1-3
 John 13:21-32

April 9 - Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14
 Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
 1 Corinthians 11:23-26
 John 13:1-17, 31b-35

April 10 - Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12
 Psalm 22
 Hebrews 10:16-25
 John 18:1-19

April 12 - Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43
 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
 John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

April 19 - 2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35
 Psalm 133
 1 John 1:1-2:2
 John 20:19-31

April 26 - 3rd Sunday of Easter

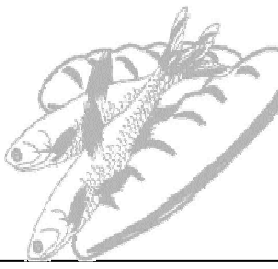
Acts 3:12-19
 Psalm 4
 1 John 3:1-7
 Luke 24:36b-48



Our New Young Families Group enjoyed fellowship as they decorated Valentine's for Valentine's Day

This is one of our events that has taken place with our new Young Families Group. If you are a new family to St. Matthew's with young children, please join our new Young Families Group. You may contact Ryan and Tanya Blanck our Young Families Group Leader.





Good News

Servant Ministry



Food Donation Matching Bonus!

Nonperishable food donated between now and the end of April will help our local food banks earn a portion of the \$1,000,000 being donated by the Alan Shawn Feinstein Foundation for hunger programs. The more food items we collect the more money we earn. Food donations may be placed in the container near the entrance of the sanctuary any Sunday. This is a great way to double our giving. Let's take advantage of this opportunity!

St. Matthews Feeds 46 People in February

On February 15, St. Matthews completed the winter shelter and dinner program by providing a warm, nutritious meal for 46 of our brothers and sisters. Thank you to everyone who helped make our dinners so successful as we prepared food for larger numbers of people during these trying economic times.

We will be moving back to St. Julie Billiard Catholic Church for the summer homeless dinner program. As before, we will provide dinners on Saturday nights at St. Julies. Our first dinner will be April 11. Hope to see you there!

Prayer Shawl Knit for Kids Ministries

The crocheters and knitters have been busy, busy. We have a beautiful stockpile of prayer shawls available for those who need a spiritual hug. Please contact Kathy Holzer at 498-7107 if you know of a man, woman, or child in need – they do not need to be a member of our congregation. When a name is submitted, a number of members get together to pray and attach the fringe to the shawl. It is then presented to the

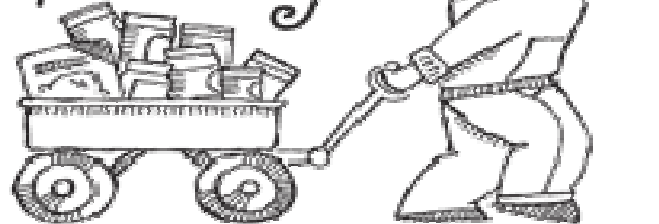
recipient with a card of prayer.

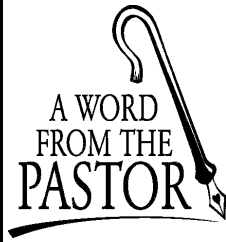
We continue to participate in the “Knit for Kids” project – helping to provide sweaters for children around the world. If you would like to check out the program and get a copy of the pattern please Google “Knit for Kids”. You may also get a copy of the pattern from Kathy Holzer. It is a very easy pattern, and a great beginner project. Don't know how to knit or crochet? – Kathy would love to help you learn.

Upcoming Opportunities to Serve

- Easter Food Baskets –
 - Pick up March 29
 - Return April 5
- Homeless Dinner – April 11
- Hunger Awareness Sunday – May 17
- ACTION Day of Caring – June 6
- Homeless Dinner – June 13
- Blood Drive – June 28
- CWS Kits – TBD

Food Drive for Hunger





The Shepherd's Pen

At the time of this writing, we are half way through the Christianity and World Religions study. Feedback seems to be good. All are responding with positive interest.

The questions being raised are "right on" as my generation used to say. What is really exciting is the realization that we as Christians have much to offer to the dialogue. Our personal walk with God through Jesus Christ and the inner working of the Holy Spirit gives us something to say about our relationship with God as our Father. We have also found that we have a savior who was tempted in every way in which we are yet without sinning so He can help us and pray for us as one who knows us.

We also found that we can have an assurance of eternal life with God once this life has ended. And that assurance does not depend upon our ability to do more good deeds than bad deeds in this life. It depends upon our acceptance of the gift of God made available to us through faith in Jesus Christ, who died once for all the just and for the unjust.

We are finding we have a lot in common with people of other religions who are seeking peace, justice, right things, right actions, and right thoughts in order to achieve a good life. With those who believe in a god, we have found prayer, spirituality, and a desire to seek God to be common goals. Hopefully, we will come out of it with an appreciation of the basics of the other religions we have studied. And hopefully we will not see ourselves as being arrogant; but being one

beggar who is able to tell another beggar where to find bread, the Bread of Life.

By the time you get this newsletter, we will have completed the time of self examination called lent. We will be close to Holy Week in preparation for Resurrection Sunday. There will be several events that week.

The first event is Palm Sunday. That was the beginning of the last week of Jesus' ministry before his crucifixion. Sometimes it is known as the day of the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. We will remember by having the children come in distributing palm branches at the start of worship. This was one of the ways Jesus was greeted that day over 2000 years ago. Our Angel Dancers will be presenting a special liturgical dance unto the Lord.

The next event of that week will be a dinner commemorating the last Passover Jesus celebrated with his disciples before his death on the cross. The form of the dinner will follow the Hebrew Seder (order) which will include the Haggadah (telling) which memorializes the Exodus of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt. The key difference will be the additions which Jesus made the night he was arrested. Good Friday will follow with a Tenebrae service at which we will read scriptures of the New Testament and remove the symbols of light and hope which seemed extinguished by Jesus' death. The altar, the pulpit and the lectern are draped in black for with Jesus dead these lost their meaning. The sanctuary is left in darkness as the light of the world had been put to death 2000 plus years ago. We will leave the sanctuary in silence after the bell tolls.

Then, Hallelujah! Sunday morning at the Sunrise Service we will

begin our worship with a traditional Christian greeting. "Jesus is Lord!" "Jesus is Lord!" And, "He is risen!" "He is risen indeed!" That will be followed by some singing of hymns and a short message from the scriptures. Then our regular Resurrection Sunday Services will follow at 8:30 am and 10:00 am. What a wonderful season of the Christian Church. It is a season of celebration of Jesus' victory over sin and death by his resurrection.

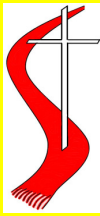
Together in Christ



Pastor Bob Ferguson

A Letter of Thanks from the Stewardship Committee

We are blessed. Thanks to God for the wonderful church family and friends of St. Matthew's who donated the time and talents for our annual talent show this year. Our dear friend Roy Adler had told me at rehearsal on Thursday night, (as he quietly watched us try to get our act together) and again just before the show...."it's all about having fun....just have fun." We love you Mike and Roy and all of the other faithful lovers of fun as you kept us in stitches with your great Sunny and Cher act. This talent show which has brought laughter, tears, and friends and family together for the past years has been yet another way of showing how God uses us and our talents. We will continue to pray for Ceil and her sons, Doug and Davidson and for the many people that were touched by the spirit of Roy Adler.



St. Matthew's United Methodist Church
 1360 S. WENDY DRIVE, NEWBURY PARK, CA 91320 (805) 498-6910
Return Service Requested

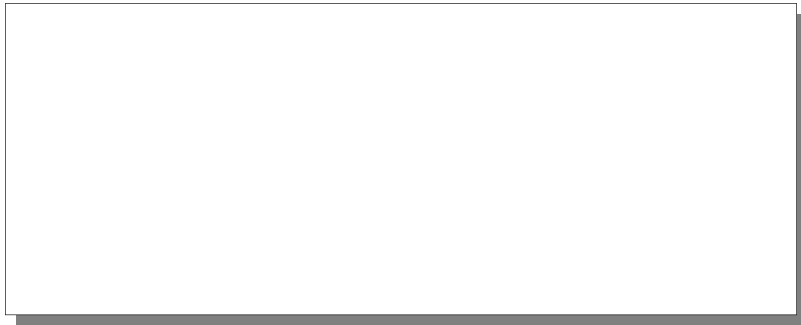
Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Thousand Oaks, CA
 Permit No. 311

Bob Ferguson, Senior Pastor

Sunday Worship: 8:30 am Informal Service
 9:30 am Nursery Available
 10:00 am Traditional Service with Choir and Child Care
 10:00 am Sunday School - Children and Youth

Church Office Hours: 9 a.m.- 3:15p.m. Monday-Thursday

St. Matthew's
Good News
 April 2009



St. Matthew's in Ministry

Bob Ferguson	Pastor	Joanne Stone	Treasurer
All the People of St. Matthew's	Ministers	Delia Kellogg	Financial Secretary
Rev. Dr. Mary Ann Swenson	Resident Bishop	Barbara Crowdis	Membership Secretary
Rev. Ms. Catie Coots	District Superintendent	Ben Kuo, Chair	Children's Center Board
Carol McClellan	Administrative Assistant	BRING GROUP	
Kory Reid	Music Director	Beth Ferguson, Team Leader	Radical Hospitality
Arian Galavis	Accompanist	Carla Von Zell	Wedding Hostess
Narima Latif	Children's Center Director	Beth Ferguson, Team Leader	Outreach/Communication
Ashlee Walker	Nursery Attendant	GROW GROUP	
Linda Norberg, Chair	Administrative Council	Rev. Joe and Dorothy Lewolt	Membership Care Team
Barbara Crowdis & Jack Doman	Lay Member to Annual Conf.	Pam Pond, Team Leader	Education & Youth Team
Barbara Crowdis	Lay Leader	TBS, Team Leader	Discipleship Ministry Team
TBD, Chair	Staff Parish Relations Comm.	Bob Wiles, Team Leader	Worship Team
Cheryl Qualls, Chair	Stewardship Committee	SERVE GROUP	
Bill Hartley, Chair	Board of Trustees	Rod Womer & Barbara Karplus	Servant Ministry Team
Bob Biery, Chair	Finance Committee	Tina Martin, Team Leader	Social Action Team

St. Matthew's Mission is to BRING spiritual wanderers and seekers into relationship with Jesus Christ, to GROW in discipleship through small group community and to SERVE out of our calling and giftedness.