



# St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

1360 S. WENDY DRIVE, NEWBURY PARK, CA 91320 (805) 498-6910

*Return Service Requested*

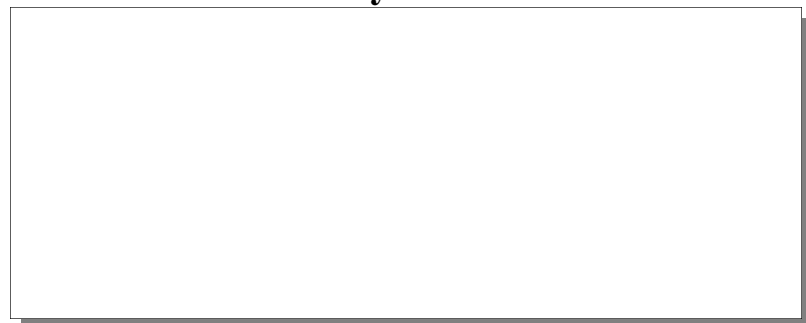
**Bob Ferguson, Senior Pastor**

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**

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Thousand Oaks, CA  
Permit No. 311

St. Matthew's  
**Good News**  
May 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	<b>BRING GROUP</b>	
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	<b>GROW GROUP</b>	
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
TBD, Chair	Stewardship Committee	<b>SERVE GROUP</b>	
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.**

\*\*\* PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 1360 S. WENDY DRIVE, NEWBURY PARK, CA 91320 (805) 498-6910 \*\*\*



May 2009

# St. Matthew's Good News

Newbury  
Park

WWW.NEWBURYPARKCHURCH.COM

## Church Goals for 2009

The Administrative Council has approved three goals, presented by the Vision Our Future Team, as our ministry emphasis for this year:

**1. Support and maintain our new Young Family Ministry that meets monthly to provide fellowship and activities.**

Many thanks go to Ryan and Tanya Blanck who have accepted leading this ministry. Their monthly gatherings have been a great time for young families to get to know each other and fellowship together, building a base for children in the church life to progress into a youth group in the future.

**2. Support, maintain and encourage growth of small group ministries in the following areas:**

**a. Short-term study groups**

All church studies – one in the spring and one in the fall

**b. Ongoing study groups**

Sunday school  
Weekly studies – Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday

**c. Ongoing small group ministries**

Men's and Women's monthly breakfasts  
Angel Dancers  
Prayer Shawl Ministry  
Gad Abouts  
Girl's Night Out

These are some of the current ministries in the church life.



**3. Evaluate BRING ministries to improve its effectiveness.**

We are grateful for the work Beth Ferguson has done to call on new visitors, invite them to church activities and encourage them to get involved in the ministries and fellowships going on in the church life.

Looking at where we are now and where we want to go in the future with BRING ministries will help us to be better stewards at bringing people to Christ. We invite you to look at these goals and find your passion and join in one of these ministry areas. We ask for your prayers as we move forward, that these goals help us to become better disciples of Jesus in our community.

### WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A METHODIST?!

**Jack Doman**

What do you know about this group of believers that call themselves Methodists? I have attended St. Matthew's now for over 30 years and until I facilitated this study last Nov., I had some good information, some questions and some just plain bad ideas about Methodism. While this study doesn't answer all the questions, it is a good starting point. Whether you are a long time member or starting your journey, join us on Sunday mornings at 9:00am for video, discussion, sharing and prayer as we seek to find out more about our faith. We will finish each session in time for the 10:00am worship. Childcare can be provided, but I need to know in advance. See me at church, phone my office, 805-480-1167 or e-mail [domanj@gmail.com](mailto:domanj@gmail.com) for further info. **The first of our five sessions will be on May 10 at 9:00am, upstairs in the education building.**

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

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www.NewburyParkChurch.com

Fax (805) 498-6910

stmatthewsumc@yahoo.com

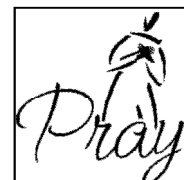


## Prayer Chain

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

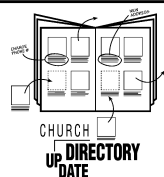
### Pray for those in cancer treatment:

Mother Shirley - Cheryl Qualls  
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)



## Prayers for the Life of St. Matthew's

Please keep in prayer for St. Matthew's in seeking a leader for our youth ministry.



### Directory Updates

Please add these families to your directory:

**Al Centanni,**  
4900 Via Coronado  
Newbury Park, CA 91320  
499-9969

**Scott and Bonnie Culler**  
Cassie, Brooke, Kyle  
1635 Blue Canyon St.  
375-0514  
Newbury Park, CA 91320  
E-mail:  
sculler40@verizon.net

**Tom and Gayle MacNish**  
10 Sandra Ct.  
Newbury Park, CA 91320  
499-6205  
E-mail:  
tmacnish@roadrunner.com

**Todd\*and Julie Travillo**  
\*Jackson  
70 Live Oak St.  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362  
(901) 461-3141  
E-mail: jtravill@gmail.com

**Address change**  
**Maurer, Mary\***  
1208 W. Brooke St.  
Mitchell, IN 47446



### May Birthdays

5-02 Bob Wiles  
5-07 Matt Blum (Constituent)  
5-12 John McDonald  
5-12 Estelle Cavanaugh  
5-14 Austin Zimmerman  
5-15 Clark Lamb  
5-16 Lark Detweiler  
5-16 Roxanne Szafraniec  
5-20 Taylor Bertrand  
5-21 Kathy Martin  
5-22 Bill Adams  
5-26 Peter Winter  
5-30 Jodi Spindel

### May Anniversaries

5-2 - Tom and Carol McClellan  
5-12 - Allan and Judy Saute  
5-22 - Mike and Kristin Bertrand

### In Memory of Jim Gray

Our good friend Jim Gray passed away on Easter Sunday, April 12. Jim had been a member of St. Matthew's during the 70's. He was an active committee member and chair person of our Trustees as well as other areas in the church. Jim's memorial service was held in Olympia, WA on Friday, April 17. For more information on Jim, you may visit the following website: [www.funeralalternatives.org](http://www.funeralalternatives.org). Sympathy messages may be sent to Connie Gray at: 4225 Green Cove St. NW, Olympia, WA Phone: (360)866-8250. You may also contact her by email at: [cgrayoaks@aol.com](mailto:cgrayoaks@aol.com).

### In Memory of Wally Cavanaugh

Estelle Cavanaugh, a member of St. Matthew's lost her husband Wally on March 26, 2009. A memorial service will be held in Nevada during the month of June. Please keep Estelle and her family in your



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## THE SHEPHERD'S PEN: A PASSION FOR GOD

A colleague of mine, the Rev. Mr. Terry Van Hook, told a group of us how he challenges the people of his church. He asks them two questions. The first question is, "What has God given you a passion for?" And the second question is, "What are you doing about it?"

I have been thinking about Terry's questions because the answers will affect how we **grow in relationship to God, to ourselves as a church body, and to others** outside our circle. In thinking about the significance of the first question I considered the meaning of passion.

**Passion has to do with strong feelings.** They may be the emotions we experience as distinguished from reason. Passion may involve rage or anger or love. Passion may be the object of affection or enthusiasm. The suffering or Passion of Christ is also among these definitions in Webster's Dictionary.

In the Bible I found several places where passion and suffering are used interchangeably. In Acts 1:3 it says, "To whom he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God." KJV In Luke 9:22 Jesus says, "The Son of man must suffer many things and be rejected of the elders and chief priest and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day." KJV **The word translated "passion" is the same word in the Greek as the one translated "to suffer". It is also from the same root word used for "Passover".**

The Passover Festival is the remembrance of Israel's slavery in Egypt and their deliverance from it by God. So the biblical understanding of passion has to do with our suffering for the thing God has called us to do. **It also has in view our deliverance and that of others from the things which enslave us.**

My colleague, Terry, has used his

questions to get people to think about what service God may be asking them to perform. The question is open ended. He doesn't tell people how to serve God. He does lift up different ways we may serve God. Although Terry doesn't press people into service, he does ask them what they are doing about the passion God has given them.

That brings us to the second question. **What are you doing about it?** That may seem open ended, but it really is not. If you feel a tug on your heart to **bring people in to relationship with Christ**, then that may be a sign to get some training in how to do it. If you feel a need to **grow as a disciple of Christ**, then you may want to find a group that is working on that together. If you feel drawn to **serve others in the name of Christ**, then you may want to participate in one of our Serve Team projects. You may even have a yearning to do something new which God has put on your heart. In that case, talk to Pastor Bob, or one of our Lay Leadership listed on the inside of the St. Matthew's Family Directory. **We will be glad to help** you on the road to the ministry/service which God has given you a passion for.

In Christ together,

### SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR MINISTRIES AT ST. MATTHEW'S

**ST. MATTHEW'S NURSERY**  
Nursery-childcare at St. Matthew's has been blessed with the loving reliable care, Ashlee Walker provides for our children. Ashlee celebrated her first anniversary with us last Sunday. Thank you Ashlee.

**SEDER DINNER**  
Approximately 65 people participated in the Passover Seder Meal for Christians on Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. Thank you Casey Goldberg for organizing and bring a wonderful worship experience along with deli-

icious food for all who attended. Thank you for all who set up, brought, and served the meal. Also, a special thank you to Denny's Restaurant in Newbury Park who provided the chicken soup, mashed potatoes and gravy at their cost. Dan Overton, Jan Gauwain and Pastor Bob Ferguson did an excellent program presentation with Kory Reid as accompanist who provided music.

### EASTER MORNING WORSHIP

The Church was beautifully adorned with Easter Lilies and banners for our Easter Service. Thank you to Marcia and Ed Miyasaka for always keeping the flowers, banners, and vestments up to date in the Sanctuary. If anybody wants to have flowers on the altar for Sunday service, there is a flower sign-up sheet on the message board set up outside the church on Sunday mornings. The cost of the flowers is \$17.00.

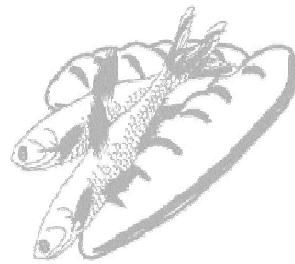
### CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

We have a special thank you to Betty Johnson and our Circle of Friends and all who have ministered to our church family members in their time of bereavement. Food has been brought to families during their bereavement time and coordinating a food to be offered at gatherings following memorial services. During the last 12 months, St. Matthew's has been saddened with the loss of several of our beloved members.

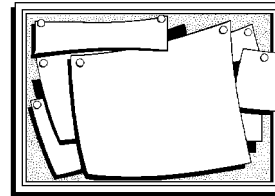
### ANGEL DANCER MINISTRY

Also Angel Dancers Ministry will also return for practice on Sunday mornings during this time period. Classes will meet in the High School Room in the Classroom area. The Dancers blessed us in church on Palm Sunday with their dance performance. Thank you Juliane and Kent Detweiler, for providing this great ministry opportunity.

Dance rehearsals will resume on Sunday, May 10 in the Wesley Room. Younger dancers at 9:00am and older dancers at 9:30a.



# Good News Servant Ministry



# Good News Bulletin Board



## 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.*

### MESSAGE FROM OUR SOCIAL ACTION GROUP



#### *Support Family Farms*

Family-scale farming can thrive in the US when farmers join together to connect with committed customers. Two members of Green America's business network are helping US farmers do just that.

Organic Valley has knit together a cooperative network of over 1,300 family farms across the US and Canada, enabling farmers to sell their organic food to major markets. The company keeps their markets regional, reducing food miles. The model has succeeded in sustaining these small scale farms: Organic Valley's revenue from sales of its dairy products topped \$432 million in 2007.

Equal Exchange, a worker-owned cooperative that began bringing overseas Fair Trade products to market more than two decades ago, launched its "Domestic Fair Trade" program last year. The company actively searches out US family farmers or farmer cooperatives and purchases their products, rather than items from large agri-corps. It sells these items at retail through its catalog and Web site, and wholesale through grocery stores and food coops across the US. It offers pecans from cooperative of African-American farmers in Georgia, cranberries from an organic bog in Wisconsin, and organic almonds from cooperative farms in central California. Customers can "track their snacks" on the Equal Exchange Web site to learn about the family or cooperative that each product supports.

"We should all be thinking about how farmers and farm workers are treated here in the US," says Joe Riemann of Equal Exchange. "This is part of the larger question of striving for a more equitable and cooperative economy."

### UNITED METHODIST DODGER NIGHT FRIDAY, JULY 17 AT 7:10PM AT DODGER STADIUM

Reservations for tickets are now available. Please see Barbara Crowdis if you are interested. The Los Angeles Dodgers will play the Houston Astros on Friday, July 17 at 7:10 pm at Dodger Stadium.

### YOUNG FAMILIES GROUP

Our Young Families Group will meet for a potluck lunch at the Church Parsonage on Saturday, May 16. For those young families that interested, please bring a potluck dish to share. Beverages and table settings will be provided. Please contact Ryan and Tanya Blanck (529-5703) for more information.



St. Matthew's  
Spring  
Barbeque

### SPRING BBQ SUNDAY, MAY 3, 11:30A

Please join us on Sunday May, 3 at 11:30a after worship for our annual Spring BBQ; serving Vern Wojciechowski, our grill masters, famous BBQ Tri Tip, chicken with green salad and garlic bread. Tickets will be on sale Sunday, April 19 and 26; deadline to purchase tickets is April 26. The cost for a ticket is \$6.00 for adults, \$4.00 for children up to 12 years of age and \$16.00 per family. Please see Barbara Crowdis for tickets.



FIELD TRIP

### THE GAD-ABOUTS ARE ON THE MOVING AGAIN!

### UPCOMING SERVE OPPORTUNITIES

- Hunger Awareness, May 17, 2009. Please bring pantry items to help support our Food Banks.
- Homeless Dinner on Saturday, June 13, St. Julie Billiart Catholic Church in Newbury Park.
- Blood Drive Sunday, June 28, 2009.
- CWS Kits - Date to be determined (more details to follow)

#### **Don't Forget Manna!**

We continue to collect food donations for Manna, the Conejo Valley Food Bank. Manna accepts both food and personal items. Please place your donations in the blue container located in the Narthex.

## Food Drive for Hunger





# Good News In Worship

## Worship Staffing for May

**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 Gauvain, 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



**May 10, Mother's Day**  
 Preaching Pastor Bob Ferguson  
 Worship Leader Dan Overton  
 8:30am Liturgist Alice Huston  
 10am Liturgist Ralph Matthews  
 10am Ushers Jim Ford and Nathan Inouye  
 Acolyte Tabitha Dyer, Juliet Forbes  
 Puppeteers No Puppets  
 Counters Barbara Crowdis, Randi Berry  
 Nursery TBD  
 Flowers Doris Williams  
 Coffee Kathy Nubling/  
 Ruth Bushart  
 Sound/Recording John McDonald  
 Welcome/Greeter Lynda Starman,  
 Ruth Bushart  
 SS Teachers Kristin Bertrand,  
 Charlene Wardell,  
 Dana DeCuir

**May 17**  
 Preaching Pastor Bob Ferguson  
 Worship Leader Dan Overton  
 8:30am Liturgist Lorraine Randall  
 10am Liturgist Randi Berry  
 10am Ushers Harry Lamb,

Ralph Matthews  
 Alexander Chow  
 Dan Overton,  
 Casey Goldberg,  
 Dennis Heinemann  
 Joyce Wheatly  
 Jan Shear  
 Please sign-up  
 Fred Wardell  
 Judy, Marv Jacobsen  
 Kristin Bertrand,  
 Janice Kakazu,  
 Pam Pond

**May 24**  
 Preaching Pastor Bob Ferguson  
 Worship Leader Dan Overton  
 8:30am Liturgist Scott Spindel  
 10am Liturgist Tina Martin  
 10am Ushers Randy Holzer and  
 Vern Wojciechowski

Acolyte Emily Hallit  
 Puppeteers Nancy Liedblad and  
 Cheryl Qualls  
 Counters Jason/Nancy Lethcoe,  
 Mike Summers  
 Nursery Tanya Inouye  
 Flowers Randi Berry  
 Coffee Please sign-up  
 Sound/Recording Ryan Blanck  
 Welcome/Greeter Donna/Jack Doman  
 SS Teachers Kristin Bertrand,  
 Pam Pond,  
 Charlene Wardell

**May 31**  
 Preaching Pastor Bob Ferguson  
 Worship Leader Dan Overton  
 8:30am Liturgist Bob Wiles  
 10am Liturgist Jen Kuo  
 10am Ushers Kent Detweiler,  
 Bill Hartley  
 Acolyte Jonathan Kuo  
 Counters Joanne Stone, Tim LeRoy  
 Nursery Tanya Blanck  
 Flowers Please sign-up  
 Coffee Please sign-up  
 Sound/Recording Ralph Matthews  
 Welcome/Greeter Bob/Pat Mohr  
 SS Teachers Pam Pond, Cathy Will,  
 Dana DeCuir



## Bible Readings for the Month

### May 3 - 4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12  
 Psalm 23  
 1 John 3:16-24  
 John 10:11-18

### May 10 - 5th Sunday of Easter

**Mothers Day**  
 Acts 8:26-40  
 Psalm 22:25-31  
 1 John 4:7-21  
 John 15:1-8

### May 17 - 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:44-48  
 Psalm 98  
 1 John 5:1-6  
 John 15:9-17

### May 21 - Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11  
 Psalm 47  
 Ephesians 1:15-23  
 Luke 24:44-53

### May 24 - 7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:15-17,  
 Psalm 1  
 1 John 5:9-13  
 John 17:6-19

### May 31 - Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21  
 Psalm  
 Romans 8:22-27



# Good News

## PALM SUNDAY CELEBRATION



Procession of Palms by our Sunday School Children



Angel Dancers Performed for Palm Sunday  
 Choreography by Juliane Detweiler

**Dedication of Ann Lamb Memorial**  
 A Memorial Bench is now in place in front of our Water Fall in memory of Ann Lamb. Pictured below are members of the Lamb family.



The Lamb family: Harry Lamb, Charlie and Christa Lamb, Clark and Carrie.



Ann Lamb Memorial Bench