



SAINT MATTHEW

June
2022
Newsletter

Beulah Camp Information



Beulah Camps have celebrated over 100 years of holiness preaching and worship. This year, we would like to add your family to the Beulah Camp family.

Beulah Youth Institute - Grades 8-13 - June 19-25

Each day will be filled with encouraging worship, individual and small group Bible study, and ways for you to engage with God and other campers! Contact Matt Vollmar at mvollmar@stmatthewumc.org for more information on camp, cost and how to register.

Beulah Bible Camp - Grades 5-7 - June 27-30

Sometimes our lives can make us feel trapped by worries, doubts, fears, and sin. Sometimes we wish we could *BREAK OUT* and be free from these struggles. Come learn how we can be free as we worship, play, and learn that only God has the power to break us out of the ordinary to lead us to the extraordinary. Contact Lindsay Vollmar at lvollmar@stmatthewumc.org for more information on camp, cost and how to register.

Beulah: The Beginning - Grades 2-4 - July 1-2

Join us for "Mic Drop 2022". We worship God in church but worship can happen anywhere, at any time, in good times and bad times, and even when others around us aren't worshipping God. Worship can happen when we sing, pray, read, dance and definitely when we show love to others! At Mic Drop 2022, our kids will experience and learn that every day we can praise God in some way. Contact Lindsay Vollmar at lvollmar@stmatthewumc.org for more information on camp, cost and how to register.

Visit <https://www.igrc.org/campsessions> for more information on all camp options.

Beulah Camp Information (Cont.)

Beulah Holiness Camp Meeting - July 22-29, 2022

This inter-generational camp, also a spiritual retreat since 1903, provides contemporary Gospel messages in a historical setting and is open to anyone and everyone. Registration information can be found in the brochure in the rack by the Welcome Center. Or you can visit <https://beulahholinesscamp.org/> for more information.

"Knights of the North Castle" VBS

"Knights of the North Castle" Vacation Bible School is June 13 – 17 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm for 3 year olds through finishing 6th graders. Child & Volunteer Registration is available at vbspro.events/p/stmatthewchurchvbs. Join us on this epic adventure as we journey into a frozen land in search of the King's Armor. It's free, so bring your friends as our brave knights learn how to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of God's power! For more info, check out the display table in the main foyer.



Training Dates for Vacation Bible School are Wednesday, May 25 (6:00 – 7:00 pm) OR Sunday, June 5 (4:00 – 5:00 pm). Both dates will be held in Room #5 (under Sanctuary) and you only need to attend 1 training date.

Vacation Bible School Work Week is June 6 – 9 from 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm and we need help! We'll be decorating the church, organizing teacher bags, putting snacks together and much more. Whether you prefer to be on a ladder or sitting in a chair, we have a place for you to help. Sign-up at the VBS display table if you can help.

Most of us, at one time or another, have been at a doctor's office for a physical. The doctor pulls out a triangular shaped hammer, gently taps the area just under the knee cap and without thinking, our lower leg jumps. It's called a patellar reflex. Since the nerve goes directly to the spinal cord from that tendon and doesn't need to register with the brain, the "reflex" travels back to the leg and provides an immediate, involuntary leg movement. This patellar reflex is so common, that we even have a phrase that describes how we can initially react to something. We call it, "a knee-jerk reaction."



All of us have knee-jerk reactions to situations every day. What are yours? When we are surprised by behavior we weren't expecting; when the server spills a cold drink on our lap; when someone is unkind in their words to us. In each of these situations, most experience a "knee-jerk" response. But it is not just negative things that happen to us. Sometimes we have a quick response to the good things that happen in our lives.

Recently, in staff meeting I shared a story from Stan Key about breaking the sound barrier. When pilots got close to the speed of sound, the jet would shake terribly. All the pilots had the same knee-jerk reaction: to back off the throttle and keep safe. In 1947, a man named Chuck Yeager was in the cockpit of the Bell X-1. As he approached the speed of sound, the plane began to shake. But that day, his response was to push the speed faster. Interestingly, when Yeager broke the sound barrier, what he found was extremely smooth flight. Could it be that if we invite God to transform our first responses, we could find something better?

Some of our first responses to things are good. Others, not so much. When things go wrong in your life – what is your "Christian" knee-jerk reaction? When something great happens to you, what is your "first response?" This month, we will be looking at several areas where we have "knee-jerk" reactions, our first responses and see how the Bible says we can respond. I hope you can join us. What would our lives look like if our "knee-jerk" reaction to people looked exactly like Jesus? Colossians 4:6 says, "Let your conversations be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone." (NIV)

The Psalmist would agree: "Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips." (Psalm 141:3 (NIV))

Blessings,

Bob

The leaders of Celebrate Recovery here at St. Matthew UMC are so overwhelmed with gratitude for the outpouring of support from the congregation here month after month and year after year. The spaghetti dinner and silent auction last month was a tremendous success! We very much enjoyed getting to know everyone a little better and we will be able to take leaders to the CR Summit in Dallas in July for training. Words cannot express how much love we feel from your faithful support, thank you, thank you, thank you!

Friday Nights: Dinner at 6 pm. Large group at 7 pm. Open share groups at 8 pm.

June 3rd - Come and join us to hear about the prison ministry of Celebrate Recovery, "CR Inside". Bill Martin, the Southern Illinois CR Inside Rep. will be with us to share his story and tell us what CR Inside is all about and how we can get involved.

June 10th - I will be talking about "Action". Now is the time to move forward in our walk with the Lord, and the CR principles are a great way to push us in that direction!

June 17th - JR Greer from Sullivan and Herrick CRs will be with us to share his testimony. You will want to hear JR's story of life with no direction, filled with lots of hurt, to a life with purpose and filled with lots of joy!

June 24th - Allison Knapp will be sharing with us the importance of having a "Sponsor" to walk with us through the ups and downs of life.

News & Events

Matty & The Music Makers Concert

Everyone is invited to this free concert on Saturday, June 4 at 3:00 pm in the Chapel. This is a great opportunity to hear some fantastic live music, at a very reasonable price (free!), emceed by everyone's favorite puppet ... Little Matty!



The Summer Sack Lunch Program Begins June 6

Many children depend on school lunches for their steady, daily meals. So what do those students do when school is out during the summer? The Kids for Christ Summer Sack Lunch program provides and prepares over 300 lunches each week for families in our community. St. Matthew volunteers meet each Monday and use your donations to prepare and pack healthy lunches for kids in our neighborhood.

To accomplish this goal, we need your help! There is a drop-off container available in the foyer for non perishable food donations. Items needed include: healthy juice boxes, fruit, applesauce, pudding cups, individually wrapped fruit snacks, chips, pretzels, etc. and plastic spoons.

In the kitchen there is a refrigerator labeled "Summer Sack Lunch" for perishable donation items such as sliced cheese, lunch sized single packs of carrots, cheese sticks, etc. We are also asking for donations of white sandwich bread (on Sunday's only so it can be fresh for Monday). You can also make a monetary donation. Just make sure you designate it a "Summer Sack Lunch" donation.

Thank you for your continued support with this program that helps so many in our community!

***"Knights of North Castle" Vacation Bible School** is June 13 – 17 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm for 3 year olds through finishing 6th graders. Child & Volunteer Registration is now available at vbspro.events/p/stmatthewchurchvbs. Join us on this epic adventure as we journey into a frozen land in search of the King's Armor. It's free, so bring your friends as our brave knights learn how to be strong in the Lord and in the strength of God's power! For more info, check out the display table in the main foyer.

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***Beulah Kids' Camp registration is open!** Beulah Bible Camp (finishing 4th – 6th gr.) is June 27 – 30 and Beulah the Beginning Camp (finishing 1st – 3rd gr.) is July 1 & 2. See Lindsay for more info about online registration!

***We love new friends** in Children's Ministry and have plenty of opportunities for you to serve. Let God use you in a mighty way by investing in the spiritual formation of our amazing kids! Not sure where your "sweet spot" would be? Meet with Lindsay and we'll find you a perfect place!

***Email Updates & Activities.** If you have a child or grandchild in the Children's Ministry and do not receive our emails, please send your email address to lvollmar@stmatthewumc.org. We will continue to provide your kids and families with opportunities to know, grow & go in the name of Jesus!

Youth Ministry: *Matt Vollmar - 618-795-6250 - mvollmar@stmatthewumc.org*

Sunday Night Youth - Sundays at 5:00 pm in the Youth Room.

Youth Band - Wednesday Nights at 5:30 pm in the Youth Room.

Youth Bible Study - Wednesday Nights at 6:30 pm in the Youth Room.

June 5th - Color Wars Start! All summer long our kids will compete in teams of 4 through games, contests, repping your color & nightly themes for prizes! Come to youth at 5 pm to sign up and start winning!

June 7 - Tuesday lunches start - 11:30 every Tuesday. We'll meet at restaurants and come back to the church to hang for a bit.

June 19th - 25th - Beulah Camp, register online, your cost is now \$175 and we cover the other \$100. See Matt for more details and the registration link!

College Ministry: *Andy Black - 217-725-5079 - ablack@stmatthewumc.org*

College Ministry - Meets every Wednesday Night at 6:00 pm in the College Ministry Center (door 7).

The College Ministry has had a busy month featuring a Spring Retreat to southern Illinois/northern Kentucky and an outing to a Cardinals game. (Pictures on Page 5.) With an exciting summer ahead of us (including a mission trip to New Orleans in July), we're thrilled to be serving others, growing in Christ, and developing young Christian leaders!

Please continue to pray for our awesome students.



LifeGroups: *Gina Swickard - doxa715@gmail.com*

LifeGroup 50/60 is a "drop-in" discipleship group that is available to 50 and 60 year olds. This group meet the fourth Thursday of the month: **Thursday, June 23 at 6:30 pm**. We gather together around a meal at 6:30 pm in the Vine Cafe for fun and fellowship. Then we gather around God's Word from 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm in the Side Chapel Room (Side Vine Cafe). It is open to all who would like to be a part of it.

LifeGroup 30/40, led by Brian Caringer, meets weekly **at 6:00 pm in the Bride's Room**

Senior Ministry: *Jeanie Lively - 618-979-7434 - jlively@stmatthewumc.org*

The New Life Club Turns 50 In June, 2022

Our June New Life Club will be held on the 9th of June. This will be a special celebration of 50 years for our group. If you are a club member you should have received your invitation. If you are not a club member but would like to attend this very special meeting, please let Diane Patton know. We will be having a catered meal by Royel Catering and we are asking a donation of \$20.00 per person. There will be desserts galore. The "Church Ladies" from several years ago will be providing part of our program. Rev Bob Souders will be making remarks and in general this will be a great time together "remembering." Many pictures from the past 5 decades will be available for viewing. We'll be having a photo booth to take pics of your friends with. We hope to see you there. Reservations are required for this one.

New Life Club Bible Study with Larry Patton - Our Thursday Bible Study this month is June 2 and June 23 at 9:30am. Come have coffee and donuts for a time, then join us for a great Bible Study.

"Redeemed Again", The Thrift Shop of St. Matthew - We can use jewelry, pots and pans, kids' toys, towels and unopened perfume items and makeup. Your donations go so very far.

New Life Club Choir meets at 4:00 pm in the Park Room on Wednesdays.

St. Matthew Senior Travels

Lion King, Fox Theatre/Dinner - June 14, 2022 - Waiting List

HGTV Southern Road Trip - October 2-9, 2022

Cardinals Vs. Dodgers - National Car Rental Club Suite - All Inclusive - July 14, 2022 - \$165.00

Fireside Dinner Theatre - Wisconsin - "White Christmas" - Nov. 3-4, 2022

Branson Christmas - Nov. 15-19, 2022

25th Anniversary Tour - Straight No Chaser - Fox Theatre - Dinner At Walnut Grill - December 8, 2022

Come on and get involved somewhere in our senior ministry. You'll be glad you did and you will bless many in the meantime.



On Monday, April 25 Jeanie Lively held a volunteer appreciation luncheon for the St. Matthew Thrift Shop volunteers. Toby Sheppard and Marcia Williams made a fantastic meal, they celebrated Joyce Fry's 95 birthday and they had a great time of fellowship together. Thanks to all the volunteers who make ministry at St. Matthew possible!

The Joy Of Easter was a great success with over 1,000 in attendance each night! Pictured to the right are the youth who participated in the cast. Pictured below are a couple of the animals that were the stars of the show! Oh yeah, and there's a sheep and a goat too! (Just kidding Scott and Lindsay!!)



The St. Matthew family residents at the Villas Of Hollybrook live stream the Sunday Morning service each week in their theatre room and worship together! In addition, we deliver communion elements to them so they can take communion with us each month! (Pictured right.)



If you build it, the New Life Club will come!
Pictured below are the New Life Club travelers who went to the Tulip Festival in Pella, Iowa and the *Field of Dreams* movie site tour in Dyersville, Iowa on May 5 & 6.



Pastor Andy Black and some college ministry volunteers had a soaking wet morning distributing food to hungry families at Ellis Elementary School in Belleville. (Pictured right.)



Women Of Worth Meeting

Women of all ages are invited to join this Bible study group that meets one Saturday a month at The Abbey in Belleville. This month's meeting is Saturday, June 18 at 8:30 am. Bring a friend!

Women's Craft Night

Join us on Thursday, June 9, from 6:30-8:30 pm in the Vine Cafe for a women's craft night! Light refreshments and drinks will be provided by the Women of Worth Bible Study. Please invite your friends!

St. Matthew's Bowling Team

For the second year in a row, the St Matthew UMC bowling team was runner up in the Tuesday Men's Spinoff League at St Clair Bowl. We were the 2nd half champions & lost in a roll off to the 1st half champions. L to R in the back: Bud Elliott, Gary Swain, Terry Atwood. L to R in the front: Bob Blankenship, Del Brashares, Tom Thom. Let us know if you have an interest in joining our team! St Matthew has fielded a team since 2000.



The Wednesday Night Meal Preview

Meal service is from 3:30 pm - 6:30 pm. Dine in or carry out!

You can order a meal by: calling the church office at 618-397-5994, signing up in the foyer on Sunday mornings, through the St. Matthew App or through an order form on our website at: <http://stmatthewumc.org/wed-meal>.

June 1

Meatloaf
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Peas
Salad Bar
Rolls
Dessert

June 8

Chicken & Dumplings
Orange Glazed Carrots
Salad Bar
Rolls
Dessert

June 15

Taco Wednesday
Tacos
Enchiladas
Chips & Salsa
Salad Bar
Dessert (Empanadas)

Stewardship Corner

“So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth,
who will trust you with true riches?” (Luke 16:11)

How we handle money is an accurate indicator of the condition of our spiritual lives.

Wrong priorities about money can stunt our spiritual growth and cause us to become stumbling blocks to other Christians who are seeking victory in their own lives.



Special Events Calendar

June 2	NLC Bible Study
June 4	Matty & The Music Makers Concert
June 5	VBS Training
June 6	(6 - 9) VBS Work Week
June 7	SPRC Meeting
June 9	New Life Club 50th Anniversary Party & Women's Craft Night
June 13	(13 - 17) VBS Week
June 14	Trustees Meeting
June 17	VBS Closing Ceremony
June 18	Women Of Worth Meeting
June 19	Father's Day
June 20	(20 - 25) Beulah Youth Institute
June 21	Finance Meeting
June 23	NLC Bible Study & LifeGroup 50/60
June 27	(27 - 30) Beulah Bible Camp

Weekly Worship Opportunities

Sunday

Morning: 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Kid's Worship: 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Wednesday

6:15 pm in the Chapel

Senior Pastor: Robert Swickard

Associate Pastor: Andy Black



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St. Matthew has a new YouTube channel! Click on this link and Subscribe!

<https://youtube.com/channel/St.Matthew>