



## PARDON OUR DUST!

The long awaited gym renovation is taking place this summer which means a lot of time, money, and energy are being expended. There will be NO VBS at St. Matthew this summer to help us use our limited space most effectively for our current summer programs. Due to the interest level of St. Matthew members to help lead and work with our young children, our VBS for the summer of 2018 is already being planned. Please contact Andrea Unger or the school office if you would like to be included in the planning stages and VBS program for 2018.

Would you like to help with the painting in the gym? Please contact Julie Moody (juliemoodymtc@aol.com). All volunteers with donations of time, talents, and treasure are appreciated.



### Week of 6/18/17 ~ Week 51 ~ 98% of our fiscal year completed

Revenue Type	Rec'd Last Week	Wkly Need	Rec'd YTD	Annual Goal
Plate Offerings	\$11,047		\$500,665	\$521,890
Special Gifts/Power the Ministry	\$39		\$11,562	\$31,640
FFF	\$135		\$56,859	\$43,503
<b>Total o/u goal</b>	<b>\$11,221 \$(261)</b>	<b>\$11,481</b>	<b>\$569,086 \$(16,466)</b>	<b>\$597,033</b>
Tuition (School Yr)	\$1,435		\$223,540 (93% to yearly goal)	\$241,214
Early Learning Ctr (Fiscal Yr)	\$0		\$78,320 (94% rec'd to goal)	\$83,000
Third Source	\$325		\$56,781 (96% rec'd to goal)	\$59,000
FFF	\$0		\$40,000	\$40,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$12,980</b>		<b>\$929,056 (Revenue is at 91% of budget)</b>	<b>\$1,020,247</b>

Rev. Kurt Lambert, Assoc. Pastor + Andrea Unger, Principal + Jamie Ratliff, ELCD Director  
Paul Lehman, Music Director + Kevin Shay, Praise Team Leader  
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Third Sunday after Pentecost ~ June 25, 2017

## So You Think Your Church is Failing...What Can You Do?

By Jock Ficken – President, Pastoral Leadership Initiative

80% of U.S. churches...

- † Worship less than 100.
- † Face steady to rapid decline.
- † Possess collective memories of being 2 times or 10 times larger.
- † Leaders and members are taunted with the whisper that they're failing. Usually today's realities were set in motion years earlier by...
- † A stubborn refusal or inability to make necessary changes for the sake of Mission.
- † A disregard for the shifting community around them.
- † A scarcity mentality that believed that God could not provide what's needed to carry out His mission.

I suppose for half of these churches it's just too late...too far gone...for their future to be different. But, I wonder about all the rest. I wonder if a different future could be cast. Could they still become vital communities of faith with significant Gospel influence in their communities?

### So, here are three choices for churches in that 80% group!

**Relaunch/Reboot** Members choose to shutdown and restart with a new vision and new ministry program usually with a new missionary-type leader. Members may or may not stay but they give themselves fully to the support of this mission work. They become like the kernel of wheat that falls to the ground... to produce many seeds. (John 12:24)

**Merge** They find a congregation that's healthy with a strong mission focus that possesses a vision for multiplication of sites and the multiplication of leaders within those sites. They surrender control and invite the larger congregation to infuse their vision and leadership. (Not to be confused with congregational mergers simply to cut costs or combine resources that typically result in the mathematical equivalent of  $2 + 2 = 2$ ).

**Invest in Discipling Leaders** Slower. Less radical. Churches escape the sense of powerlessness and begin to create leaders who can invest in others. Rather than waiting for the community to "come to church," members become the joy-filled shepherd/missionaries where they live, work and play. They begin to build an engine that powers the ministry. It starts with a couple of leaders who are willing to look at their own lives and see what needs to change and then invite some others to come along and imitate them as they imitate Jesus. (1 Corinthians 4:14-17)

Most churches would not need to be scurrying toward their death if leaders were willing to covenant together and seek God both for His blessing and His direction. Most of us aren't keen on asking for God's direction when we prefer simply more and better of the direction we've already chosen. Each of the choices above requires some level of sacrifice and risk. Most churches refuse because they grieve too heavily what will be lost or they fear too much the uncertainty of an unfamiliar future. ~Blessings, Pastor Kurt

**Serving Our Lord This Week...** **Elders** Tom Kimmel, Russ Gazdag, Curt Gottlieb, Cliff O'Brien  
**9a Ushers** Jim Leese, Weldon Schwiebert, Mel Tockstein, Andy Stupperich **11:15am Ushers** Mel Tockstein, Mark Hagemann, William MacMain **Altar Guild** Merlene Sherry, Carlene Shaw, Barb Couillard, Christine Stockman **Greeters 9a** Sonya Adams/Ruth Esseltine **11:15a** Diane Shoults/Cheryl Rujan



Please fill out your attendance slip every service!

Visitors...

please note your name, address & phone number so that we may contact you & thank you for visiting us.

+ + +

This week at St. Matthew

- Today**  
9a Traditional Svc w/baptisms  
10:20a S. School/Bible Class  
11:15a Contemporary Svc w/communion  
**Monday** Gym closed –floor replaced  
8:30a Prayer & Fasting  
6:30p Toastmasters  
7:30p Prayer & Fasting  
**Tuesday**  
9:30a Pastor Kurt bible class  
6p Bible class w/J.Hackerd  
7p Small group Choir practice  
**Wednesday**  
7p Quilting  
**Thursday**  
6:30p Kathy Carter bible class-Resumes 9/7  
**Friday**  
**Saturday** July 1st

Last Week's Attendance

9a .....143  
11:15a ..... 44  
**Total.....187**  
Sunday school... ~ Offering... \$~  
Children's Church ..... ~  
Bible Class.....~

Join Us...

- + 9a Traditional & 11:15a Contemporary Worship Svcs {Communion @ 9a 1st/3rd Sundays | 11:15a 2nd/4th Sundays}
- + 10:20a Bible Class / Sunday School  
Kindergarten-3rd graders, 1st grade classroom  
4-6th graders, 7/8th grade classroom
- + 11:15a Children's Church
- + 6-7:30p Youth Group 1st & 3rd Sundays Youth Rm
- + Week-Day Bible Classes  
9:30a Tuesdays w/Pastor Kurt  
6p Wednesdays w/J. Hackerd {no class Lent/Advent}  
6:30p Thursdays w/K. Carter office conf. rm-Resumes 9/7

+ Readings +

**Old Testament Reading** Jeremiah 20:7-13 pg. 648  
**Epistle** Romans 6:12-23 pg. 943  
**Gospel** Matthew 10:5; 21-23 pg. 815

+Order of Worship+

9am Order of Matins pg. 219  
11:15am Contemporary w/communion

+Hymns+

**Opening** God Himself is Present #907  
**Sermon** Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus #685  
**Communion** @Contemporary  
**Closing** God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven #877  
**Solo** Eagles' Wings ~Ann Pfeiffer

Happy Birthday!

**Today** Carson Meister **Mon** Paula Wheeler  
**Tues** Manal Quassis, Diane Shoults, Larry Sylvester  
**Wed ~ Thurs** Pauline Klein **Fri** Lynn Bannister,  
Norma Decess **Sat** Judy Hackerd, Leah Holland  
**Happy Anniversary!**  
Mel & Marge Tockstein 51 yrs today  
Weldon & Claire Schwiebert 52 yrs 6/26  
Mel & Penny Albright 30 yrs 6/27  
Dennis & Marta Koczynski 64 yrs 6/27  
Doug & Judy Hicks 48 yrs 6/28  
Kevin & Sandi Wade 14 yrs 6/28  
George & Manal Quassis 22 yrs 6/29



May God continue to bless you with many more years of health and happiness

**Memorials** given in loving memory of *Edgar Decess* by Norma Decess; *Joseph Henry* by Nicole, Olivia & Josh Henry; In honor of *Leah Holland's* retirement by Leigh Holland; In honor of *Norma Decess's* 85th birthday by Howard & Judy Hackerd and Ruth & Gerry Esseltine.

**Altar Flowers** placed in honor of the birthday of Diane Shoults on 6/27 by Cheryl Rujan & family.

**Baptisms** *Olivia Marie Henry & Joshua Michael Henry* will be baptized at our 9am service today.

**Sow the Seeds** Would you like to help support a student financially so they can attend St. Matthew? Please consider donating to our Sow the Seeds Fund or our financial assistance program.



500th Anniversary of The Reformation!

We have 15 tickets on hold for our congregation to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation on Sunday 10/15 at the Breslin Center, MSU.

Worship begins @5pm.

To reserve your tickets please contact the office  
deniseb@stmatthew.info | 734.425.0260.

+New to our prayers this week+

Robb Howell suffered a seizure; Grayson Dodd 3 yr old grandson of Karen & Jerry Cook diagnosed w/leukemia; Dan O'Brien cancer (Smith family friend); Collin 15 yr old great-grandson of Glenda Slaga suffered a stroke

+We continue to pray for peace and healing+

Suzanne Williams recovering from back surgery; Pam, daughter of N. Decess sarcoma; Kayla Barduca lung transplant recovery; Ava, granddaughter of Judy Nelson; Erinne Williams, Jeff McPhail cancer (Jaeger family); Lori Pearse cancer treatments completed (L. Moore family friend); Shirley & Bill Handrich parents of J. Berry; Ken Tanner **In the military** Andre' Mehl, Dennis Hendzell, Caleb Kempf, Courtney & Kyle Goodroe, Robert Fine, Andrew Rauss, Eric Smith, Jessika Williams, Alex & Kenny Goodroe, Bill Hantzmon, Randy Bartz, Craig McDermott, Chris & Kristen McDermott  
**Shut-Ins** Arlene Sellers, Marta/Dennis Koczynski, Irene Cooper, Doris Keehl, Bonnie Smith Heartland, Joyce Love Ashford Ct, Ruth Kelley, Mary Pilch Villages of Westland, Ruth Dickelman Maple Manor, Leroy McDaniel Chateau of Novi; Norma Mueller Walton Wood