

St Matthew's Community Church

August 2025



Choir Practice – Tuesdays 6:30PM

Atoned 4 Praise Band Practice, Wednesdays at 6 PM except the
Wednesday after we sing

Wednesday Disciple Bible Study
at 3:00 PM and 7:00 PM led by Pastor Doug.

**Our Mission – To share the love and grace of Jesus Christ that leads to
eternal life and conform to the character of Christ.**

A Word from your Pastor

My sense is that we church going, Bible thumping Christians do not take the power of prayer seriously. I include myself. We rarely spend planned purposeful periods of time in prayer. What is prayer? It is communication with your Father in heaven. What makes an ordinary obscure person a powerful weapon in the hands of God? Prayer.

Why don't we pray in faith, in obedience, in expectation, in power and in persistence? Do we not believe God will hear? We are just talking to the wall. Maybe because we don't feel like that educated, eloquent, holy person who has His ear.

I want to quote some theologians on the subject of prayer.

J.G. Ryle wrote "Prayer is the simplest of acts. It is simply speaking to God. It needs either learning nor wisdom nor book knowledge to begin it. It needs nothing but will. The weakest infant can cry when he is hungry. The poorest beggar can hold out his hands for alms and does not wait to find words. The more ignored man will find something to say to God, if he only has a mind."

Andrew Murray wrote, "The powers of the eternal world have been placed at prayer's disposal. It is the very essence of true religion, the channel of blessing, the secret of power and life."

Charles Spurgeon wrote "Prayers are the believers' weapons of war. When the battle is too hard for us, we call in our great ally who, as it were lies in ambush until faith gives the signal by crying out "Arise Lord."

Dr. Paul E. Billheimer "Prayer is not begging God to do something which He is loath to do. It is not overcoming reluctance in God. It is implementing enforcing Christ's victory over Satan. It is implementing upon earth heaven's decisions concerning the affairs of men. Calvary legally destroyed Satan and concealed all his claims. God place the enforcement of Calvary's victory in the hands of the church."

So we need to ask, believe, receive. Faith and prayer are inseparable. Prayer is the slender nerve which unleashes the muscles of an omnipotent God. One more story about Knee-mail...

A clergyman from New York, during a call on President Lincoln at the Whitehouse said, "I have not come to ask any favors of you, Mr. President. I have only come to say that the loyal people of the North are sustaining you and will continue to do so. We are giving you all that we have, the lives of our sons as well as our confidence and our prayers. You must know that no boy's father or mother ever kneels in prayer these days without asking God to give you strength and wisdom."

His eyes brimming with tears, Mr. Lincoln replied, "But for those prayers, I should have faltered and perhaps failed long ago. Tell every father and mother you know to keep on praying, and I will keep on fighting, for I know God is on our side."

As the clergyman started to leave the room, Lincoln held him by the hands and said, "I suppose I may consider this a sort of a pastoral call." "Yes", replied the clergyman. "Out in our country," replied Lincoln, "when a parson makes a pastoral call, it is always the custom for the folks to ask him to lead in prayer, and I should like to ask you to pray with me today. Pray that I may have strength and wisdom."

The two men knelt side by side, and the clergyman offered the most fervent plea to Almighty God that ever fell from his lips. As they arose, the president clasped the visitor's hand and remarked in a satisfied way, "I feel better".

Pastor Doug

August 2025

Words From Your Ad Board Chair

There is always something to work on. Many times, we find ourselves being pulled in multiple directions. Those are the moments we need to step back, take a breath and ask God for his direction. I know how it is to get caught up in too many things and not do justice to any of them. Even at church, we sometimes have our blinders on and can't see the whole picture. I'm so glad to have a wonderful church family who have ideas and thoughts that help. It's important that we are supportive of everyone. And that leads to a request. At the last board meeting, we discussed having our fall meal as a luncheon with a vintage car and tractor show. There is a 25-year-old time capsule that needs opened and it was suggested to do that on the same day. All of this is going to take some planning and help from multiple people. Anyone who is interested in helping, please talk to John Austin, our Mission Chair, or anyone else on the Ad Board.

That leads to the next request for some warm bodies. Betty Ormsby has done a wonderful job, taking minutes at the Ad Board meetings. Jesy Becker has stepped up on multiple occasions and helped when Betty was unavailable. She can't always be there, so we need one or two additional people to volunteer to take the minutes. Please talk with Betty or me.

We still need people to help with the sound board. Emily Stanford has been assisting Ryan while home on college break. This is a real need!! Please, at least talk to Ryan to see what is involved. You might surprise yourself and realize that you are a fit. Stranger things have happened.

I can never say thank you enough to all those people who are heads of committees or members of a committee. It means a lot

when you give of your time and I do appreciate all of you, very much.
Praise the Lord!!

Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed.
Proverbs 16:3

Blessings to All!
Your sister in Christ,
Jan Greaf



If you've been on the Walk to Emmaus and would like to participate in a 4th Day Group, please contact Betty Ormsby at 678-521-9413 or email bettyormsby@gmail.com.

Worship Committee Notes

Has it cooled off yet? The last few days of July have been terribly hot and humid, although I am especially thankful for the recent rains. When my flowers on the back patio start looking bad, I know the soybeans and corn in the fields are suffering, too! So far, the flowers are doing alright, so the soybeans and corn must also be growing. That's a big blessing for my family. I hope you are feeling blessed as well and are enjoying this summer season.

August is a busy month for so many of us, and St. Matthew's Community Church is also keeping very busy in many different ways. Each of the five Sundays in August has something special scheduled for our morning worship services. August 3 is the first Sunday of the month, and we will have pre-service singing along with a celebration of Holy Communion after the sermon. Atoned 4 will provide worship music on the second Sunday, August 10. On the third Sunday, August 17, we will have pre-service singing, and the Gideons will share

information about their mission with us during our announcement time. We will have an opportunity that morning to support them financially, enabling them to spread the Word of the Lord to others. The choir will be singing during the August 24 service, the fourth Sunday. There will be a Service of Music on Sunday, August 31, the fifth Sunday, worshipping with music selected by our congregation members. In order to make your music request for August 31, please fill out a request form found on your pew, then place it in the collection plates located in the hallway that leads to the sanctuary. Sunday, August 10 is the last day to make a request, as the Worship Committee needs some extra time to locate music and videos, and to organize the Order of Worship for this special service. I always look forward to discovering which songs of praise and worship are selected.

Do you play a musical instrument, or do you like to sing? Do you know of anyone in the community you feel might enjoy sharing their musical talents and abilities with us at St. Matthew's Community Church? If you would like to participate or know of someone in the community who might be interested in sharing their talents with us, please contact Leah Jagger at 260-503-9707 or Dana Jagger at 260-609-1461. Thanks so much!

With warm regards to everyone at St. Matthew's, Dana Jagger, Worship Committee Chairman

If you are a greeter, please remember to ask visitors to sign in, provide them with a name tag, and give them a visitor's bag. The bags are by the entry to the front door. Thanks!

Mission for this month is Kentucky Mountain Mission

Emmaus Walks are coming up!

Men's Walk is October 9-12

Women's Walk is October 16-19

Please contact Betty Ormsby at 678-521-9413 or email

bettyormsby@gmail.com for more information.

The Walk to **EMMAUS**

seeks to inspire, challenge, and equip leaders for Christian action in their homes, places of work, and communities.

On an Emmaus Weekend, you will:

Sing, reflect, pray, worship, learn, share Holy Communion, participate in small groups, experience God's grace in community and in the world, and understand Christian love in action.

After an Emmaus Weekend...

you are invited to have a closer walk with Christ through worship, study, and active participation in your local church and by becoming active in service to the world.

To nurture Christian discipleship, the Emmaus movement offers:

- small groups of four to six people that meet weekly to reflect on their spiritual journey and encourage one another in Christian discipleship
- monthly community gatherings where Emmaus participants meet for fellowship, worship, and instruction
- ongoing communication about community events, support needs for upcoming Walks to Emmaus, and other opportunities for servant leadership

*They asked each other,
"Were not our hearts
burning within us
while he talked with us on the road
and opened the Scriptures
to us?" (Luke 24:32)*

Emmaus empowers leaders to be the hands and feet of Christ.



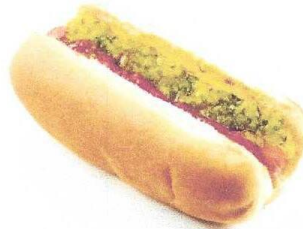
Ice Cream Social

August 2nd, 4-7pm

St. Matthew's Community Church

1460 E 500 N

Columbia City, IN 46725



St. Matthew's Women

President Sally Hull

Our next Ice Cream Social is August 2nd.

Our next meeting will be September 8th at St. Matthew's at 2pm.

We welcome all women of the church to join us in fellowship at this meeting. We will be setting our goals and our budget for 2026.



Our Women's Group Purpose is:

St. Matthews Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Communication Information

St. Matthew's communication system-Tel a Home-is a notification system to inform members of items of importance. If you want a text sent out notify Pastor Doug or Sue Williamson. If you want to be included or removed contact Sue Williamson 260-213-

9787. **If you want to respond to the text do so by calling, texting, or sending a card to the person mentioned in the text, *please* do not respond to the text as it goes out to the 16 people in your group not to the person who needs the support.**

For our Schools and Colleges

O Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

From *The Book of Common Prayer*

Dear ST MATTHEWS COMMUNITY CHURCH (SC601),

The Kroger Co. Family of Stores is committed to bringing hope and help to the local neighborhoods we call home. Our stores are on a mission to not just part of, but to help create a stronger community. We recognize that every community has unique causes that need support. Thank you for being such an important organization in our community.

We encourage you to ask your supporters to link their rewards card to your organization. Community Rewards is easy to use, The more your supporters shop with us, the more money your organization will earn!

We are committed to carefully protecting our customer's personal information. In order to meet their expectation of privacy, we have adopted a simple policy to never share a customer's personal information. Our privacy policy applies to Community Rewards participation as well.

Thank you for being such an important organization in our community,

Community Rewards Staff

See next page for how to sign up!

TO SIGN UP FOR KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS
FOR ST MATTHEW'S COMMUNITY CHURCH ON
YOUR PHONE

1. If you don't have the Kroger App, go to the App Store to download
2. Either Log In or create a login
3. Click on the three bars at the top right of the screen
4. Click on Rewards
5. Click on Community Rewards
6. Click on Enroll
7. Search for St Matthew's and click on it
8. It will automatically give a portion to St Matthew's



August Birthdays

Dale Becker – 8/3
 Lauren Brown Jagger – 8/5
 Kathy Ehinger – 8/7
 Jeff Heaton – 8/13
 Chad Whetstone – 8/15
 Susan Grissom – 8/16
 Maralee Borawski – 8/23
 Donna Toole – 8/24
 Connie Dittmer – 8/24
 James Maggard – 8/27
 Dixie Reid – 8/28
 Luca Myers – 8/31

August Anniversaries



Phil & Kathy Ehinger - 8/4
Gary & Sally Willson - 8/8
Don & Deb Miller - 8/9
Angie & Travis Bradford - 8/10
Al & Barb Huth - 8/14
Dixie Reid & Jack Davis - 8/26
Chad & April Whetstone - 8/28
Carl & Rita Chalk - 8/29

Supplied by Connie Dittmer – Pie of Life

3 tablespoons disappointments

1 cup trials

½ cup lack of sleep

2 cups misunderstandings

5 teaspoons insecurity

1. Mix altogether and realize you cannot handle it another moment.
2. Tell Jesus you accept the bitter taste.
3. Thank Him for taking it when He took that bitter cup at His death.
4. Generously allow Him to slather grace, healing, and mercy over all.

Let set, absorb in wonder, and taste the goodness of the Lord.

You will notice the sting of unfairness has left and find yourself coming back for liberal servings of this soothing concoction that is sure to satisfy you.

Prayer Concerns

Devier and Kay Weicht
 Ryan and Hanna Vance
 Craig & Allison and First Responders
 Vance – first responders
 Middle East
 Our Nation and Military
 Richard and Chris Watkins
 Chad and Gina Johnson
 Hurricane victims
 Fire, flood Victims
 Earthquake Victims
 Pastor Doug
 Texas flood victims' families
 Jane Bunn
 Penny Reece
 Hope Swihart
 Kayla Pearson
 Kris Oliver – Liver Cancer



Mike Johnson
 Mike Hyndman
 Sandy Barkey
 Ed Kimble
 Mark Brown – cancer
 Scott McQueen – cancer
 – Patty's nephew
 Barry Horner - cancer
 Howard Lowen
 Mechelle Goldwood – Cancer
 Roger Byers
 Rob Austin
 Donald Lee – Cancer
 Surgery

Condolences

Corbin Gallmeyer Family
 Ray Grace's family

Joys and Celebrations

Beautiful Weather
 Family visiting
 Mici's Birthday
 Nathan Ormsby doing well and going back to Purdue this fall
 16 children attended VBS!

Don't Forget!

Sign up for Sunday morning cookies. The sign-up sheet is by the front entry door.

Bible verse

Philippians 4:13
 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Joke of the Month

A flood struck a town, and one man was stuck on his roof. He prayed, asking God to save him. Soon, a rowboat came by. The rower yelled, "Jump, I can save you."

The man replied, "No, I prayed, and God will save me." Later, a motorboat came along. The motorboat operator yelled, "Get in, quick."

Again, the man on the roof said, "No, it's fine. God is going to save him."

A helicopter flew over and dropped a rope ladder onto the roof. Again, the man said no, that God would save him.

The waters rose, and soon the man was at heaven's pearly gates. He saw God at the entrance and said, "What happened? I prayed and trusted you would save me."

God said, "Well, I sent you two boats and a helicopter."

Please send notes of support and encouragement to:

Sandy Barkey
413 N Wolf Rd, Room 210
Columbia City, IN 46725
Phone 260-609-0856

Delores Claxton
616 Opportunity Dr, Apt 404
Autumn Trace
Columbia City, IN 46725

**The deadline for the September 2025 newsletter will be
August 27. If you have an article and/or pictures for the
newsletter, email it to Betty at:
bettyormsby@gmail.com. Thank you!**