



# SAINT MATTHEW

**November  
2019  
Newsletter**

## Experiencing The Wonders

Are you interested in being more than just a casual Christian? Then we invite you to attend this 3 day life conference featuring the teaching and preaching of Dr. Rev. Art Brown on November 1 - 3. Mark your calendars for these 3 sessions. On **Friday, November 1 at 7:00 pm** in the Sanctuary - *Experiencing the awesome wonder of the Word of the Lord*. On **Saturday, November 2** join us for breakfast at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Then at 9:30 we will move into the Chapel for: *Experiencing the awesome wonder of the presence of the Lord*. Then on **Sunday, November 3** in both morning services: *Experiencing the awesome wonder of the joy of the Lord*. Come ready to experience joy!

### In This Issue:

**Page 1:** Experiencing The Wonders - Life Conference, Thanksgiving Service, Operation Christmas Child, Hanging of the Greens, Church Business Meeting & Poinsettia Orders.

**Page 2:** From the Pastor's Pen, Recycling Day, Ogles 5K, Everything Christmas Sale, Women of Worth Meeting & a Thank You from Children's Ministry.

**Page 3:** Collingsworth Family Concert, The Glory of Christmas and Ministry News.

**Page 4:** Ministry News.

**Page 5:** Weekly Worship Opportunities, November Calendar of Events & Pastor Information.

## Poinsettia Orders

It is almost time to order poinsettias! They are \$7.00 per plant. They will be on display in the Sanctuary from the Glory of Christmas until the Christmas Eve services. Watch for your order form in the Sunday bulletins.



## Thanksgiving Communion Service

The Lord's supper will be served on **Wednesday, November 27** at the 6:30 pm service in the Sanctuary after the family meal. Join us for an evening of worship, gratitude, and giving thanks! There will be no classes, rehearsals or any other activities on this evening.

## Operation Christmas Child

If you have not already picked up your shoebox please stop by the foyer and grab yours today. A brochure of how to pack your box and an envelope for your \$9 shipping cost will be in the box. You may drop your boxes off here at St. Matthew from **November 18 - November 25**.



Want to participate but don't want to pack a box? We would love to have some willing donors help cover the cost of shipping for the boxes we packed with donated items. You can make out a check to Samaritan's Purse and we will forward the donation on with the boxes.

Which ever way you choose to support this ministry, your donation will give a child the opportunity to hear the Gospel and experience the love of Jesus!

## Hanging Of The Greens

The annual hanging of the greens is **November 25 at 9:00 am** and we need your help! There is no need to sign up, just show up ready to spread some good cheer! Even if you can only stay for an hour, we would really appreciate it. Thank you in advance!



## Church Business Meeting

The entire congregation is invited to a church-wide business meeting on **Sunday, November 10 at 6:30 pm** in the Sanctuary. Here we will discuss the financial health of the church and our budget for 2020.

Do you ever feel like you slipped on a banana peel and when you picked yourself up, it was two months later? Seems like it was just yesterday that we were “gearing up for August.” Now, November is upon us! The good news is that while time seems to be moving at warp speed, there are so many things happening at St. Matthew – and I’m excited about what God is doing in our midst.



During the Colossians series in September, we had 14 people ask Jesus to come into their lives in a deeper way. During the second week of Proverbs, we had 11 more people ask Jesus to be the Lord of their lives. On October 13, we had 25 people join St. Matthew. In the words of C.S. Lewis, “Aslan is on the move!”

Later this month, you will find out more about a prayer initiative to pray for St. Matthew that I believe will be a game-changer for all of us. It’s called Breakthrough Prayer, and it will be a chance for all of us to pray fervently for more of God to “Break Through” St. Matthew. I can’t wait!

Lastly, I want to tell you all how blessed Gina and I are to be here at St. Matthew. Every day when I’m walking home from church, I’m thanking God for all of you. I pray your Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays are blessed beyond measure and that your families are blessed as well. And, I pray that the presence, power and comfort of God’s Holy Spirit be with you daily.

*“I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” (Phil. 1:3-6)*

## News & Events

### **Recycling Drop Off**

In conjunction with the Ogles 5K on **Saturday, November 9**, St. Matthew will be a recycling drop off center from 9:00 am - noon. Items being accepted will include office equipment, machinery, appliances, vehicles, batteries & electronics. Questions? Contact 618-344-7232.

### **Everything Christmas-A-Rama**

Our annual Christmas-A-Rama’s hours are 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 pm On **Thursday, November 14** in the gym. There will be a “Pre-sale” Wednesday evening the 13th, during the Wednesday Fellowship Meal - 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. This is a huge sale of Christmas items of all sorts and this year we have added “gifts” for Christmas as well. You will be delighted and amazed at the items and the prices.

### **Ogles 5K Community Run**

This annual 5K is **Saturday, November 9** at 8:30 am in the St. Matthew parking lot. This 5k is free for all participants and will utilize a unique timing system to determine our award winners. There will be awards for males and female and different age groups. All awards will be recycled from other running events. For registration information visit their facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/BellevilleWestEnd5K/>.

### **Thank You**

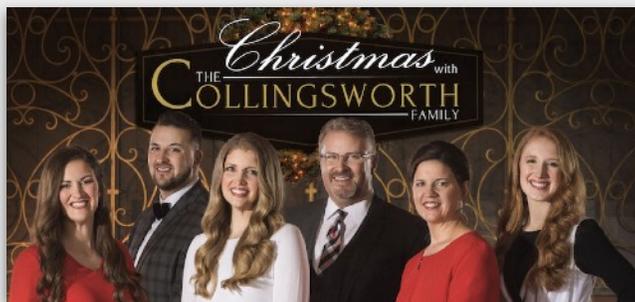
**Thank you** for our fantastic church family who helped us be A Spark in the Dark for Trunk or Treat! To all who donated the delicious candy, helped us set-up/tear down and to those who hosted a vehicle, we truly thank you for caring about our children and our community!

## **Daylight Savings Ends**

Daylight savings ends on November 3.  
Mark your calendars to “fall back” an hour on this date.

### **Collingsworth Family Christmas Concert**

Tickets for this final Christian Concert Series event of 2019 are \$20 in advance and \$24 at the door. You can purchase your tickets in the church office. The concert is **Thursday, December 5**. The food court starts at 5:30 pm. The doors open at 6:00 pm and the concert begins at 7:00 pm.



### **The Glory of Christmas**

The Glory of Christmas, a musical drama production, tells the story of Jesus' birth and God's gift of salvation. An ensemble of over 200 cast, choir and orchestra members amid beautiful costumes, realistic scenery and live animals make it a memorable Christmas experience for all ages. If you know someone who has not seen the Glory of Christmas, invite them. It is a wonderful opportunity to introduce new friends and family to Jesus and to Saint Matthew.

## Ministry News

**Children's Ministry:** *Lindsay Vollmar - 618-660-7552 — [lvollmar@stmatthewumc.org](mailto:lvollmar@stmatthewumc.org)*

**Wednesday Kids Club** is free for all pre-school through 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Club runs from 6:00 – 7:30, so mark your calendars! Club is full of Bible studies, music, games, crafts, skits, fun & fellowship. Check out the flier in Kids' Town or the Welcome Center for more info.

**Tutoring at Ellis Elementary School** has begun and we'd love your help. Are you available Tuesday and/or Thursday mornings from 8:00 – 8:45 am to tutor 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> graders? Please contact Lindsay if you are willing to help. This is a fantastic way that our church can reach out and help our neighbors!

**Kids Crew** is available to all 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders who would like to help out in Kids Worship on Sunday mornings during the 9:00 am and/or the 11:00 am. We are looking for kids who like to be helpful, assist the teachers and help the kids while they are in worship. Contact Lindsay if you child would like to sign-up as a crew member!

**Important 2019 Dates For The Calendar:** Children's Easter Celebration (April 11, 2020), Kids spring musical (May 6, 2020), Vacation Bible School (June 8 – 12, 2020), Beulah Bible Camp 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders (June 15 – 18, 2020), Beulah Beginner Camp 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> graders (June 19 & 20, 2020). Please note the change of camp weeks for Beulah this year! They are 2 weeks earlier than in past years.

**Kid Check!** Don't forget to sign your kids in through our Kid Check system. Check-in systems are available in Nursery 1, Nursery 2/3 and Kids Town gazebo. Not registered? No worries! Let one of our ministry helpers know and we'll get it taken care of.

**Good News Club** is a free after school program for Kindergarten – 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. It's a fun time packed full of Bible stories, music, games, memory verses, skits and planting the seeds of Jesus in the lives of our kids in the community. We need your help, though. Please, be in prayer for seeds of faith to be planted and nurtured within our children.

**Student Ministry:** *Matt Vollmar - 618-795-6250 - [mvollmar@stmatthewumc.org](mailto:mvollmar@stmatthewumc.org)*

**November 9** - Ogles 5K. We will pass out snacks and refreshments to the runners after the race.

**Senior Ministry:** *Jeanie Lively - 618-979-7434 - [jlively@stmatthewumc.org](mailto:jlively@stmatthewumc.org)*

**OUR NEW LIFE CLUB MEETING** will be held November 14 at noon in the Vine Cafe rather than our usual third Thursday of the month. We will be having our PITCH-IN-DINNER. Members are asked bring one dish of the following; A-F= Salad; G-L= Potato, Pasta, etc.; M-R=Vegetables; S-Z = Dessert. Meat, rolls and drink are provided. Our program will be Jim Heil with "Caricatures and More." This is a very popular program. Our devotion will be presented by Alice Waeltz, with Carol Schwoebel as Hostess. We will also be holding our annual **"EVERYTHING CHRISTMAS -A- RAMA**, with hours of 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 pm in the gym. There will be a "Presale" Wednesday evening the 13th, during the Wednesday Fellowship Meal - 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. This is a huge sale of Christmas items of all sorts and this year we have added "gifts" for Christmas as well. You will be delighted and amazed at the items and the prices. Don't Miss This One. Reservations are not necessary. Just bring a friend and come early to shop. *Anyone is invited to come and shop even if you do not attend the meeting. Get Your Christmas On!*

**NEW LIFE CLUB CHOIR** is practicing Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m. in the Park Room. We are gearing up for our visits in December to many assisted living centers where we will present our Christmas Program.

**REDEEMED AGAIN - THE THRIFT SHOP OF ST. MATTHEW** is in full fall and winter swing. We appreciate all your donations and they are greatly needed in the community.

**SENIOR TRAVEL**

- \* NEW \* - St. Louis Symphony at Powell Hall Holiday Celebration and Dinner at Walnut Grill Sunset Hills - Sunday, December 15, 2019 - Cost: \$125.00 at booking.
- \* NEW \* - Fireside Dinner Theatre FT. Atkinson Wisconsin Overnight - June 4 - 5, 2020 - Deposit: \$50. Single: \$300, Double: \$230.00, Triple: \$205, Quad: \$190.
- St. Louis Cardinal Spring Training 2020 - February 28 - March 7, 2020 - is full with a waiting list. Please put your name on the waiting list if you want to attend. Folks from this list always get on the trip. The Cardinals released their pricing a few days ago. Our trip description/pricing will be out soon. It will be mailed to those on the trip so far and will be on the website and at our Welcome Center.
- Branson for Christmas - November 18 - 21, 2019 - \$700 double - Six shows, all breakfasts and dinners included and 1 lunch. Deposit: \$100 upon booking - Waiting list is shorter as some folks are now on the trip.

Any senior may travel with us. They need not be a member of St. Matthew. We have many such friends that travel with us month by month. We love meeting and traveling with "like minded" folks of all denominations and backgrounds.

New Trips Are Presented at our New Life Club meetings held the third Thursday of each month.

**COMPLETE TRIP DESCRIPTIONS** are at the Welcome Desk. You can also check the church website at [www.stmatthewumc.org](http://www.stmatthewumc.org) for up to date trip information. Anytime a trip is full that you are interested in, please sign up on the waiting list. We always get to most folks on this list. Come travel with us!

## November 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Box of Cereal	2 Peanut Butter
3 Stuffing Mix	4 Boxed Potatoes	5 Mac and Cheese	6 Canned Fruit	7 Canned Tomatoes	8 Canned Tuna	9 Dessert Mix
10 Jar of Applesauce	11 Canned Sweet Potatoes	12 Cranberry Sauce	13 Canned Beans	14 Box of Crackers	15 Package of Rice	16 Package of Oatmeal
17 Package of Pasta	18 Spaghetti Sauce	19 Chicken Noodle Soup	20 Tomato Soup	21 Can of Corn	22 Can of Mixed Vegetables	23 Can of Carrots
24 Can of Green Beans	25 Pray for the family who will receive this blessing and drop it off at the food pantry Monday, November 25 between 1 - 3 pm!			27 Happy Thanksgiving!	28 Happy Thanksgiving!	29 30

**Interfaith Food Pantry  
Holiday Donation Calendar**

Thanksgiving and Christmas are a very busy time for the food pantry. You can help those in need have a nice holiday dinner by donating a box of food. Each day add a different item to the box. On the last day, bring the box to the food pantry. This is a great idea for a service project for your scout troop or for Sunday School classes!



## Weekly Worship Opportunities

### Sunday

Morning: 9:00 am & 11:00 am  
 Kid's Worship: 9:00 am & 11:00 am  
 Cornerstone Deaf Church: 6:00 pm

### Wednesday

Prayer, Praise & Preaching Worship Service  
 6:30 pm, Chapel.

*Nursery available at all Worship Services*

## November Special Events Calendar

- Nov 1      Experiencing the Wonders - Life Conference
- Nov 2      Experiencing the Wonders - Life Conference
- Nov 3      Experiencing the Wonders - Life Conference
- Nov 3      Daylight Savings Ends
- Nov 5      Trustees Meeting
- Nov 9      Neighborhood 5K
- Nov 9      Recycling Day
- Nov 13     Everything Christmas Sale
- Nov 14     Everything Christmas Sale
- Nov 16     Women of Worth Meeting
- Nov 14     New Life Club Luncheon
- Nov 19     Finance Committee Meeting
- Nov 21     Administrative Board Meeting
- Nov 25     Hanging of the Greens
- Nov 27     Thanksgiving Communion Service
- Nov 28     Thanksgiving / Office Closed
- Nov 29     Office Closed

### **Daylight Savings Ends**

Daylight savings ends on  
 November 3.

Mark your calendars to “fall  
 back” an hour on this date.

### **In This Issue:**

**Page 1:** Experiencing The Wonders - Life Conference, Thanksgiving Service, Operation Christmas Child, Hanging of the Greens, Church Business Meeting & Poinsettia Orders.

**Page 2:** From the Pastor's Pen, Recycling Day, Ogles 5K, Everything Christmas Sale, Women of Worth Meeting & a Thank You from Children's Ministry.

**Page 3:** Collingsworth Family Concert, The Glory of Christmas and Ministry News.

**Page 4:** Ministry News.

**Page 5:** Weekly Worship Opportunities, November Calendar of Events & Pastor Information.

Senior Pastor: Robert Swickard  
 Associate Pastor: Andy Black  
 Pastor of Congregational Care: Larry Patton

1200 Moreland Drive  
 Belleville, Illinois 62223  
 (618) 397-5994  
 www.stmatthewumc.org