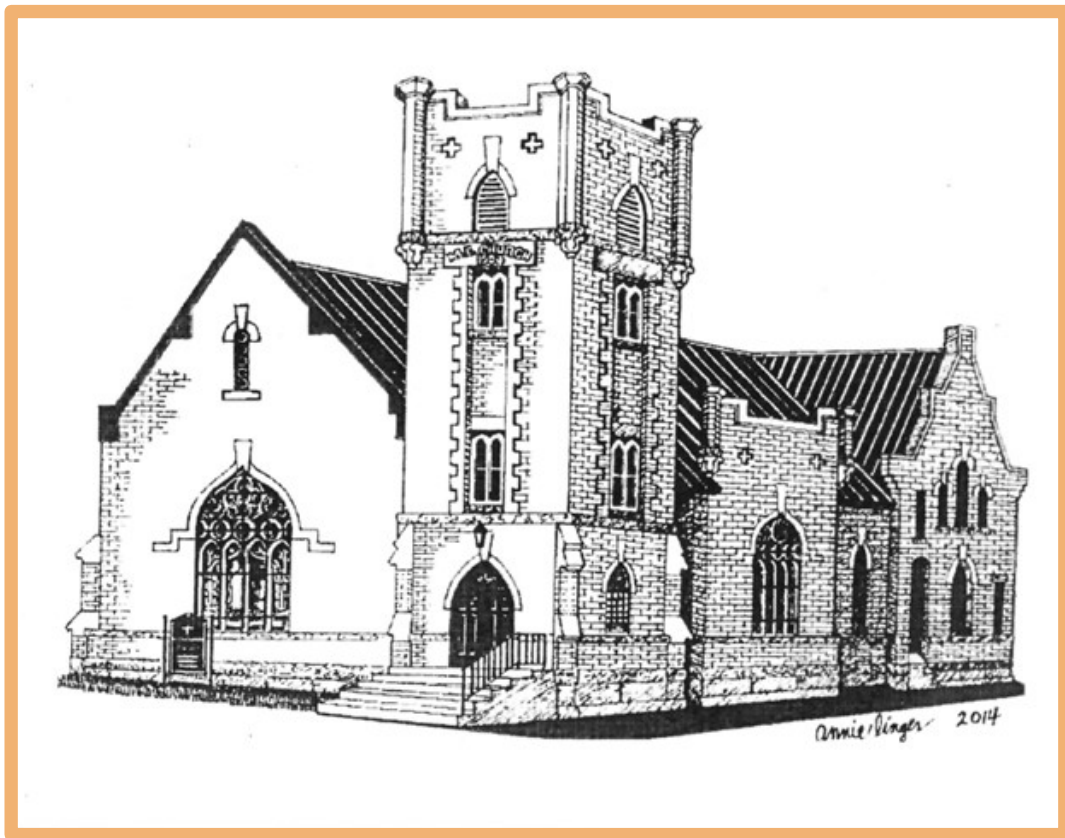


St. Matthew

United Methodist Church



AUTUMN 2026
Newsletter

PASTOR'S NOTES

Psalm 46



God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

“Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.” The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Our little city, and surrounding area really took a hit in July. We are still recovering from massive damage. The church and parsonage escaped major damage, but the church and office building had flooding in their basements. We were much more fortunate than many folks in town and surrounding areas.

I am amazed and impressed with the help and cooperation we are seeing, and the number of churches, businesses and agencies that have come together to help in the recovery process. We’ve had an influx of missions and out of state groups come in and provide assistance. We are blessed to live in a town where folks really care for one another.

This Newsletter will include some of the ways we are working to help in the recovery process. We also are moving forward with plans for regular events in the Autumn season. Here is a short list of all that we have to look forward to:

Choir starts in September. (*We’re always looking for singers to join us*)

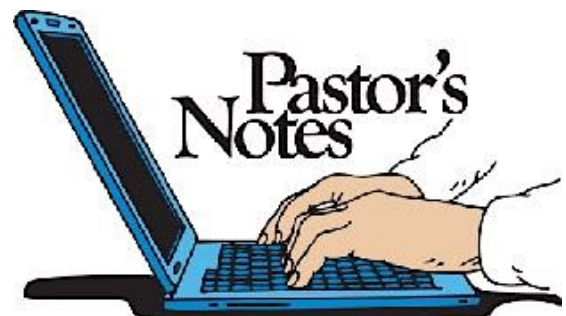
Fall Sermon Series on Spiritual Gifts. (*Check out the list of scriptures following*)

Bible Study begins first week in September. (*A comparison of the Four Gospels*)

Our new Administrative Assistant has done great work getting our new Accounting Software up and running. It will be a tremendous blessing having all our financial information at our fingertips. Thank you Sara Huntz for all your hard work and dedication.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and don’t rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge God, and He will direct your path.” Prov. 3:5-6

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Jeff <’///><



SCRIPTURE LESSONS FOR FALL 2026

September 6 Spiritual Gifts 1	September 13 Spiritual Gifts 2	September 20 Spiritual Gifts 3	September 27
Psalm 37:1-6	Colossians 3:12-17	Ephesians 2:1-10	Vacation
Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-12	1 Peter 4:6-11	Romans 12:1-8	Vacation

October 4 Spiritual Gifts 4	October 11 Spiritual Gifts 5	October 18 Spiritual Gifts 6	October 25
James 1:17-22	1 Corinthians 12:12-20	2 Timothy 1:6-11	Deuteronomy 6:1-12
1 Corinthians 12:1-11	1 Corinthians 12:21-31	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Matthew 22:34-40



OUR NEIGHBOR

Our Neighbor took a major hit with the flooding in July. They had to close their doors for an extended time. Plans are underway for cleaning, disinfecting and repair of their whole building. Please keep this important ministry in your thoughts and prayers. If you'd like more

information on the status of Our Neighbor, Pastor Jeff, Dick Smith, and Paula Hinzman are on the board of directors, and Griff King volunteers every week.

We will keep you updated on any news that we have regarding repairs and eventual re-opening which hopefully will not be too far in the future. We ask for your prayers and thank you for your continued support of this important mission in our community.



UPDATES FROM THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees have met in August and would like to share with you their members and some of the progress they have made this summer.

Members:

Chair: Tim Conrad

Secretary: Dorothy Garton

Sandy Virden, Donis Hannah, Jim Sumpter, Marvin Murphy,
Jesse Grubb, Patty Smith, Brad Montgomery, Larry Silcott



Projects:

- ✓ Front door cleaning & refinishing
- ✓ Re-plastering & repainting the sanctuary walls
- ✓ Replace & reinstall lights around church parking lot
- ✓ Mucking out and drying out basements in church and office building.
- * Repairs/replacement of furnaces in church and office building.

Ongoing:

- * Men's bathroom in fellowship hall - costly repair
- * Electronic sign: first estimate too costly - searching options

UM MEN'S GROUP PRAYER BREAKFASTS



The Mens' Group will resume their monthly breakfasts starting September 13 at 8AM. We meet the 2nd. Sunday of the month. Larry Silcott serves up a delicious meal, we have a prayer & devotion and then discuss plans for upcoming events and missions. You can speak to Griff King or any other UMM member if you have questions about our meetings or events we sponsor. All men of the church are invited to come and participate.

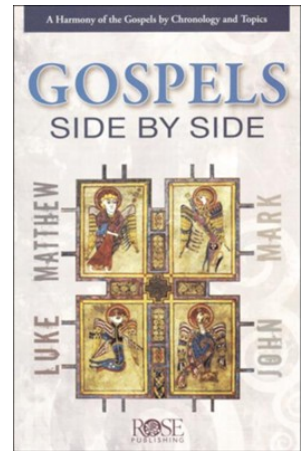
UMW MEETINGS BEGIN

The Women's Group, United Methodist Women will resume their monthly meetings in September. Their first meeting will be September 8 at 1PM. Due to some changes, things will be different this year. The group is looking for input and ideas as to how they can be in ministry to their church family and the community around them. Please speak to Sandy Matthews or another member of the Women's group if you are interested in joining them. All women of the church are invited to come and participate.



FALL BIBLE STUDY

Our **Fall Bible Study: A Comparison of the Gospels** is ready to begin on September 3. We will meet each week on Thursdays at 11AM for about an hour. I'm excited to share my findings with the group. I have a reading list and will break things down into sessions. There's a ton of information to share and I'm looking forward to the whole process.



BRUNCH AT THE PARSONAGE

We enjoyed a wonderful picnic brunch on Saturday, August 18. The weather was a little threatening, so our attendance was lower than expected, but those who came really had a great time.



We had eggs and pancakes, breakfast casseroles, and biscuits with sausage gravy. Pictured are a group sitting under the gazebo, and the buffet table with all the good things we had to eat. This was our second year having folks at the parsonage, and we will look to do it again in the future.





Thurs. Sept 3	Bible Study 11AM in the Conference Room
Sun. Sept. 6	Sunday School 9AM Communion during Worship 10AM
Mon. Sept. 7	Labor Day
Tues. Sept. 8	UMW Meeting 1PM All Women invited
Thurs. Sept 10	Bible Study 11AM in Conference Room
Sun. Sept. 13	Men's Breakfast 8AM, Sunday School 9AM, Worship 10AM, Choir Sings!
Thurs. Sept.17	Bible Study 11AM, Church Council 1PM
Sun. Sept. 20	Sunday School 9AM, Worship 10AM
Sat. Sept. 26	Community Meal 4PM
Sun. Sept. 27	Aiosa's on Vacation, Sunday School 9AM, Worship 10AM
Thurs. Oct. 1	Bible Study 11AM
Sun. Oct. 4	Sunday School 9AM World Communion during Worship 10AM
Thurs. Oct. 8	Bible Study 11AM
Sun. Oct. 11	Men's Breakfast 8AM, Sunday School 9AM, Worship 10AM
Tues. Oct. 13	UMW Meeting 1PM All Women invited
Thurs. Oct. 15	Bible Study 11AM
Sun. Oct. 18	Sunday School 9AM, Worship 10AM, Charge Conference 5PM
Thurs. Oct. 22	Bible Study 11AM
Sat. Oct. 24	Community Meal 4PM
Sun. Oct. 25	Sunday School 9AM, Worship 10AM
Thurs. Oct. 29	Bible Study 11AM

PRAYER LIST

Ginger Bailey, Eleanor Kafer, Aidan Linger, Brad Montgomery
 Carol Haan, Mary Anne Lamb, Joan Hinzman, Julia Bragg, Pat Reckart,
 C.D. Cole, David Parks, Cierra Deploy, Catherine Ratliff, Esker Davis,
 Marvin & Marcia Murphy, Tom Virden, Patty Smith, Jean Bennett,
 Shirley Bennett, Lisa Sturm (Conrad), Ginny Lamb, Lloyd Kuhl,
 Joe & Vicky Shreve, Autumn Titus, Glenda Haan, Bob Reed,
 Jennifer Ballard, Deena Saeler, Betty Mitchell



To add or remove someone from the prayer list, please call the office at 304-269-2428

