# The Evangel

The Newsletter of St. Matthews United Methodist Church

# Join us in *Mission* this fall!

After being so limited during the pandemic in the ability to offer in-person opportunities to serve and bless others, we are so excited to be offering two amazing opportunities this Fall. Prayerfully consider how you and your family can jump in with both feet and use your gifts to show the love of Jesus!

## Trunk or Treat: Sunday, October 31, 2:00pm - 5:00pm
## River City Campus (4611 Lowe Rd.)

This year our goal is to provide a safe, socially distanced Trunk or Treat, specifically targeting families that may not feel comfortable coming to a traditional event. Everything will be outdoors, masks will be required, trunks will be socially distanced, and every stop will be expected to have a socially-distanced candy delivery method. Here's how you can help:

*Continued on next page*

- Sign up to sponsor a trunk! Our goal is to have between 50-75 trunks and, even if you don't decorate your car or have an elaborate costume, your presence matters! Sign up at the following link or in-person on Sunday mornings: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D45ACA92CA7F94-trunk.
- Donate candy! We are asking for individually wrapped candy donations. They can be dropped off at the church office or you can purchase from our Amazon wishlist and have it delivered directly to the church: https://a.co/d9cK1hR.
- Participate! Bring your family, invite your friends, share the event on Facebook, and help us make sure we have a great turn-out for this year's event. For those within the church, we are asking you to reserve a time slot to help control numbers and social distancing, but we will definitely not turn away guests that just show up. Here's the link to sign-up: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D45ACA92CA7F94-trunkortreat.

## Habitat for Humanity United Methodist Build 2021

This Fall we are sponsoring the 9th Habitat for Humanity house in our church's history. This is a wonderful opportunity for volunteers, age 16 and over, to bless the Samriye family, who immigrated to the U.S. from Somolia (see page 7 to meet this amazing family). While there will be many opportunities to help during this build, here's how you can help right now:

- Pray! Please join us in praying for the Samriye family [Ardo-mother; Abdulahi (boy) 20, Tahani (girl) 19, Abdiaziz (boy) 17, Isse (boy) 16, Fehimo (girl) 14 and Ali (boy) 14], volunteers, and partnering churches (St. Paul UMC, Prairie Village UMC, and St. John UMC). There will also be an in-person ground blessing at the worksite (3817 Oboe Drive) on Saturday, October 23 at noon.

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# *In Sympathy*

Our thoughts and prayers are with Karen and Tom Fenton on the death of her mother, Lois Haswell on Sunday, September 12.

## Join Our Fall Missions (Continued from page 2)

- Volunteer! Raise the Roof is scheduled for October 21-23 and we are looking for 4 volunteers for each day. Please contact John Stokes (jstokes@twc.com) for more details.
- Give! Donations of any amount are greatly appreciated. Just designate your gift for "Habitat for Humanity" or give online at our website and select "Habitat" as the fund (https://www.stmatthewsmethodist.com/giving). Our goal is to raise $10,000 in donations from the congregation.

We have always been a church on the move with missions and outreach in the community and we are excited to bless our community with your help!

In Christ, Adam

Each of our campuses has a dedicated page with different options for giving:
Browns Lane: https://www.stmatthewsmethodist.com/giving
River City: https://www.rivercitymethodist.com/give-online/

# SMUMC Tweens and Youth

## Tweens

Tweens meet on Sunday afternoons from 3:30-4:30, and is open to 3rd-5th graders at all campuses.

For more information, contact either Shannon Seidt at:
sseidt@stmumc.org
or Lexie Chapman at:
lexiecallaham@gmail.com

## Youth

Middle and Senior high students from both campuses meet Sunday afternoons from 5:00-6:00.

Sundays in October:
Meet at River City campus
4611 Lowe Road
**(NO MEETING on Halloween, October 31)**

Sundays in November:
Meet at Browns Lane
**(NO MEETING November 28, Thanksgiving)**

Contact Amber Jenkins at:
ajenkins@stmumc.org

United Methodist Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

# SARAH CIRCLE MISSION CELEBRATION 2020 - 2021

Even from a distance, we managed to put our faith, hope, and love into action! We made $1,850 in donations to the following:

- Henderson Settlement House
- KY United Methodist Children's Home
- Portland Promise Center
- Redbird Mission
- Touched Twice Clinic
- UMCOR- for flood buckets in KY

Our service projects included a toy drive for Portland Promise Center, making soup for shut-ins and sick members of our congregation, 7 knitted prayer shawls – one for Grace Hunt and the remainder to Wesley Manor, and 16 baby blankets for babies in need.

We were recognized at UMW's District Mission Celebration on September 26, 2021, for achieving the 6 Star Unit of Giving and for participating in the Mission Today requirements. Ten women participated in the reading program and read a total of 36 books. Three members participated in the Zoom Mission U study, Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom.

If you are not a member of the Sarah Circle, we would love to have you join us. We offer opportunities for spiritual growth, supportive fellowship, and participation in mission, focusing on women and children. Contact Eileen James at epjames27@twc.com or 671- 7767 for more information.

# St. MAM Thanksgiving Donations

IT'S TURKEY TIME.

## Thanksgiving Baskets

In Paper Bag or New Reusable Grocery Bag:

- Stuffing Mix
- 1 Can of Carrots
- 1 Can of Green Beans
- 1 Can of Cranberry Sauce
- 1 Can of Yams
- Turkey Gravy
- Corn Muffin Mix
- 1 Bag of Brown Sugar
- 1 Bag of Marshmallows
- 1 Box of Cake Mix
- 1 Can of Icing

Bring your donations to CrossRoads Christian Church
4004 Shelbyville Road (pull into lot behind the church)

**Sunday, October 31, 2021: 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

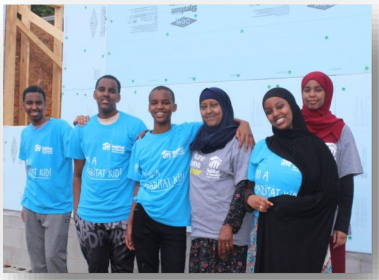
In addition, please consider donating a $25 Kroger gift card for a turkey and perishable items.

*Happy Thanksgiving!*

# Fall Back
## NOVEMBER 7

Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday, November 7. Remember to set your clocks BACK one hour before you go to bed Saturday night, and change the battery in your smoke detector.

# Meet our Habitat Homeowner, Ardo Samriye!



Ardo has been working tirelessly to provide her children with more opportunities and a stable home. Her children range in age from 14-20: Abdulahi (boy) 20; Tahani (girl) 19; Abdiaziz (boy) 17; Isse (boy) 16; and twins Fehimo (girl) 14 and Ali (boy) 14.

Ardo and her family are from Somalia. As the war there escalated, Ardo was forced to flee, without her husband, to an Ethiopian refugee camp where she and her six children would spend the next 8 years. "We lived in one small room: girls slept in the front, boys in the back. Our shelter was destroyed once due to a flood so we had to completely rebuild it," shares Ardo. "My children would ask me every day when is daddy arriving and I would say, 'one day, we will reunite with him,' but in the back of my mind, I was worried because I didn't even know if he was dead or alive."

Then, after 8 long years of living in the camp, Ardo received news from the UN that her application had been approved and the family was moving to America. The family arrived in Louisville on October 1, 2015.

Ardo immediately began working at Tyson Foods to bring home an income for the family. Her six children have adjusted well to their new life: her oldest, Abdulahi currently works for Amazon and attends classes at JCTC; Tahani is entering her second year at JCTC this fall; her next two boys, Abdiaziz and Isse will be entering their Senior and Junior years at Iroquois High School; and her twins, Fehimo and Ali are entering the 8th grade.

Ardo has always dreamed of providing her children with a home that gives them stability and security. "Home is the heart of life. It's a safe place where you are protected from the elements and where, at the end of the day, we can all come together, even if we build our own families." For the past 4 years, the family has lived in a 3-bedroom, 1-bath apartment. Ardo's currently sharing a bedroom with her youngest son. Becoming a homeowner will give Ardo not only financial stability, but it'll provide her children with more opportunities, space and their first

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## Ardo's Habitat House (continued from page 7)

backyard. "My boys love to play soccer," shares Ardo. "So, a goal is probably the first thing they'll want to install in our backyard."

"When I finally received my acceptance letter to Habitat's program on my second time applying, I was so overwhelmed with happiness," Ardo says. "This has been a dream of mine for so long. I can finally be proud that all of my hard work was worth it."

Construction on Ardo's home is a partnership with four United Methodist Churches. "Words can't describe what this means for my family. I'm grateful and thankful for your support. You are helping make my dreams come true."

And the best news of all: after 8 years, Ardo and the kids learned that their dad is indeed living!, Ardo's husband now lives in Uganda and is in the process of moving to the United States; he's currently at the interview stage with the UN, and the family is anxiously waiting for the day when they can be reunited as a family of eight.

THE EVANGEL is the newsletter of St. Matthews United Methodist Church - Browns Lane & River City Campuses. Send all items for inclusion in the newsletter to: hzoercher@stmumc.org.

ST. MATTHEWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CANVAS - RIVER CITY - TABERNACULO DE AVIVAMIENTO

## SERVICE INFORMATION

### BROWNS LANE CAMPUS

Sunday Morning Worship

8:30am Traditional

**IN-PERSON & LIVE-STREAMED**
https://www.facebook.com/St.MatthewsUMCLouisville
-or-
https://www.facebook.com/CanvasSt.MatthewsUMC/

Available Sunday afternoon at:
https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=st+matthews+umc+louisville

11:00am Traditional
**IN-PERSON ONLY**

11:00am Canvas (Contemporary)
In Person

12:30pm Tabernaculo de Avivamiento
(Gordon Hall)

**IN-PERSON & LIVE-STREAMED**
https://www.facebook.com/tda.church.1

### RIVER CITY CAMPUS

Sunday Morning Worship

10:45am **IN-PERSON & LIVE-STREAMED**
https://www.facebook.com/rivercityumc/

NOTE: FACE MASKS ARE REQUIRED AT ALL INDOOR WORSHIP SERVICES AND EVENTS.

## IN OUR PRAYERS

### SENIOR/ASSISTED LIVING AND REHAB

THE ALTENHEIM
Debbie Brown

BELMONT VILLAGE
Barbara Harding
Barbara Tracy

CHEROKEE PARK REHAB
Grace Hunt

ENCLAVE OF EAST LOUISVILLE
Liz Swindler

FOREST HILLS COMMONS
Ailene Elliott

THE FORUM AT BROOKSIDE
Geneva Madden

GRAYSON MANOR (LEITCHFIELD)
Linda Garrett

THE LEGACY (ENGLISH STA.)
Harold Freeman

PARR'S AT SPRINGHURST
Forest Bower

SENECA PLACE
Sara Fredenberger

SUNRISE OF LOUISVILLE
Ina Reeb

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Fred Bennett
Russell Browder
April Bunn
The Cox Family
Ronnie Dolen
Barbara Douglas
Mark Foster
Owen Fredrickson
The Freeman Family
Tom & Diane Fuchs
Charlie Gatton
Barbara Head
David Hilliker
Monica Layton
Judy Leonard
Judy Marilla
Jamie Mercer
Erin Murphy
Tabby Nuckols
Rachel (Weaver) Potter
Anna & Terri Purol
Elizabeth Putnam
Bob Royer
Brady Royse
Tom Schoeberl
Leonora Schultheis
Gail Shaw
John Sheesley
Tom Sherman
Jim Simpson
Chester Skubiszewski
Orson Smith III
Don Wagaman
Bill Wild

Let us know how we may join in your prayer concerns by filling out a prayer request card, by phoning the church office, by email at prayers@saintmatthewsumc.org, or on the church website: www.stmatthewsmethodist.com.

# NOVEMBER Birthdays

Nov. 1 ..... Arlie Browning
Sue Ellen Melo
Nov. 3 ..... Jonathan Stinnett
Nov. 4 ..... Joan Priest
John Everitt
Carolyn Robinette
Sandy Hottell
Nov. 5 ..... Jonah Boutell
Hayden Cox
Cammie Cox
Nov. 6 ..... Dude Cahall
Taj Cederholm
Medha Nareshkumar
Nov. 7 ..... Diane Fuchs
Lisa Ballard
Laura Ernspiker
Troy Morgan
Nov. 8 ..... Marc Norton
Nov. 9 ..... John Freeman
Jonathan King
Gene Miller
Nov. 10 ..... Mark Brighty
Nov. 11 ..... Clara Putnam
Nov. 12 ..... Janet Wolfe
Bonnie Jackson
Brad Lipe
Nov. 13 ..... Daniel Bly
Taylor Cline
Nov. 14 ..... David Williamson
Bennett Fulner
Mary Ann McDonald
Nov. 15 ..... Floyd Gordon
Lynn Satterfield
Nov. 17 ..... Jennifer Cline
Greg Browning
Adley O'Bryan
Nov. 18 ..... Jack Britton
Russell East
Nov. 19 ..... Patty Kelly
Nov. 21 ..... Forest Bower
Nov. 22 ..... Joe Dolen
Darlene Trimble
Nov. 23 ..... Sarah Jestel
Libby Mook
Nov. 24 ..... Martha Royse
Cordell Lawrence
Drew Picklesimer
Nov. 25 ..... Jonatan Rojas Carralero
Nov. 26 ..... Matthew Cooksey
Nov. 28 ..... Olivia Barkley-Raymer
Evelyn Lipe
Nov. 29 ..... Benjamin Harrington
Erick Berryhill
Nov. 30 ..... Patrick Sullivan
Ron Crompton
Sarah Bly
Aaron Sprowles
Tonya McCarthy

The Evangel for October 20, 2021
St. Matthews United Methodist Church
319 Browns Lane at Norbourne Boulevard
Louisville, Kentucky 40207

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SEEKING
the Kingdom of God
SHARING
the Gospel of Jesus Christ
SERVING
our neighbors

ST. MATTHEWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
319 Browns Lane at Norbourne Boulevard • Louisville, KY 40207
502-897-6449
www.stmatthewsmethodist.com

Traditional Worship - 8:30 & 11 AM; Contemporary - 11 AM
Sunday School - 10:00 AM Hispanic Worship - 5:30PM

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Adam Sparks ..... Senior Pastor
Rev. Renee Jennings ..... Associate Pastor
Rev. Maikel Rojas ..... Associate Pastor
Kate Shafferman ..... Care Coordinator
Harrison Zoercher ..... Director of Discipleship & Missions; Organist
Shannon Seidt ..... Director of Children's Ministries
Noel Weaver ..... Director of Music Ministries
Miriam Rodríguez ..... Music Associate, Canvas
Raiko Ruz ..... Music Associate, TDA
Aaron Weaver ..... Music Associate, Youth
Mark Benz ..... Music Associate, Children's Choirs
Amber Jenkins ..... St. Matthews Campus Youth Minister
Andrew Chapman ..... River City Worship Leader
Lexie Chapman ..... River City Children's & Nursery Ministry Director
Sandy Hottell ..... Administrator/Financial Secretary
Allyson McCormick ..... Nursery Coordinator
Trent Salter ..... Ministry Intern
Frank Krause ..... Sexton