



ST MATTHEWS
BAPTIST CHURCH

**Loving and
Leading people
into a Growing
relationship
with Jesus**

Web Site:
www.smbclouisville.org

E Mail:
smbc@smbclouisville.org

January 3, 2016

Attendance

Bible Study: 382
Worship: 497

Giving

Budget Offering:
\$25,648
Campus Renovation:
\$1,045

January 10, 2016

Attendance

Bible Study: 379
Worship: 397

Giving

Budget Offering:
\$22,521
Campus Renovation:
\$2,388



**“Lord, what do You want to do through me to carry out
Your will for our church?”**

In 1784, a Baptist church began in what became known as St. Matthews. At the time, Beargrass Baptist was the only church within a 30 mile radius of Louisville. A church merger created Beargrass Christian Church in 1842.

In the mid-1920's, O.M. Huey, pastor of Crescent Hill Baptist Church began to REIMAGINE a Baptist presence in this area. A tent revival, held in 1926, drew about 25 people who would eventually form St. Matthews Baptist Church.

Services were held at Greathouse School. During the years of the Great Depression our church began to REIMAGINE the future. What would it be like to have a building of our own? They didn't have enough people or money, but God was faithful and in 1935, SMBC moved to Willis Avenue.

Our church grew, and began to REIMAGINE its future again. This led to the purchase of land and a building project. Funds were tight, but God was faithful and in 1949, SMBC made the move to Grandview and Macon.

As the church grew, the need for expanded facilities arose, and in 1976, SMBC entered a major construction project, building education space, a gym, and renovating existing facilities. The cost exceeded \$1 million, but God was faithful, people gave sacrificially, and the project was soon completed.

In January 1982, a devastating fire created a need to rebuild. Interest rates were high and church attendance declining. Fortunately our church stepped out on faith, members gave sacrificially, and in 1985 moved into our present facility.

For more than 85 years, St. Matthews Baptist Church has continued to REIMAGINE its ministry under God's leadership. Now, at the dawn of 2016, we have an opportunity to update our present facilities and create a more welcoming and secure environment for a new era of ministry. As we pray and commit ourselves to following God's leadership, we will come together to once again do more than we can imagine.

Please join me in praying, “Lord, what do you want to do through me to carry out your will for our church?” Together, we will once again REIMAGINE the future of SMBC. I'm grateful to have the opportunity to dream a new dream with you.

It is powerful and encouraging to hear how God has been at work in the lives of our church family. The REIMAGINE Prayer Team invites you to share your story of faith! Stories may be printed in a devotional booklet or shared on social media. Can you recall a time when God provided what you needed or helped you overcome a challenge? Likely, there is a verse of scripture that either gave you inspiration or reflects upon your experience. We are asking each interested devotional writer to share a significant scripture, your faith story and a prayer. A question to ponder may also be included. Devotions should be no more than half a page. Devotions can be emailed to Reimagine@smbclouisville.org or dropped in the collection box at the Welcome Center. A sample devotion will also be available at the Welcome Center. Deadline to submit devotions is February 14. We look forward to celebrating what God has done!

—REIMAGINE Prayer Team

**A TIME FOR SHARING
OUR VISION**

Sunday, January 31
10:30 am Worship Service

As we come together in worship, we will consider ways in which God's plans and the dreams of SMBC intersect as we REIMAGINE our shared future.

**EARLY COMMITMENT
DINNER**

Thursday, February 25

This will be an opportunity to gather and listen to different options for giving. You will have an opportunity to commit early. Please call the church office if you would like to be included.

LEGACY LUNCHEON

Friday, February 26
11:30 am Fellowship Hall

This will be an opportunity for our senior members to learn more about legacy gift opportunities and creative tax beneficial gifts. Please call the church office if you would like to be included.

Bible Drill & Bible Buddies are underway!

Children's Bible Drill (grades 4-6) and Bible Buddies (grades 1-3) began on Sunday, January 10. Both programs meet during worship. Details can be found on our website. Please encourage your child to participate!

Mr. Mike's Tub O Goo!

What's in it? You don't want to know! Preteens will find out on Sunday morning, January 31!

Upward update!

Upward games are underway! We have 26 teams and 2 cheer squads in action every weekend! Visit our league website, check out the game schedule and join us for a game! Upward Day at SMBC is scheduled for Sunday, February 7. On that day we will invite our entire league to join us for worship. Phil Morrison, Professional Sports Trainer and Director of Upward Stars Louisville, will be our special guest.

Box Tops and Labels for Education

The next deadline to turn in any Box Tops and/or Labels for Education is Wednesday, February 10, so that we can get them sorted and sent to St. Matthews Elementary School and Sunrise Children's Services before the deadline.

Elvis Impersonator Has Been Rescheduled!

Due to weather, we were forced to cancel the January Lunch with Terry featuring Elvis Impersonator, Todd Bodenheimer. We have rescheduled him for March 8. Sign ups will be available in February.



SAVE THE DATE!

The 9th Annual Great Bowls of Fire Chili Cook-Off will be held on Sunday, March 13. All proceeds will benefit the SMBC Youth Ministry and their summer mission trip to the Dominican Republic and also Passport Camp.

Please consider competing in the cook-off as well as thinking about how much you can donate. Competitor sign ups and tickets will be available beginning in February.

Wednesday Night Meals

If you do not have standing reservations, please make sure and call the Church Office **by Monday at 4:00 pm** to make reservations for next week.

If you DO have standing reservations, but need to cancel any given week, please do so by 4:00 pm on Monday.

January 27

- Roasted Pork Tenderloin
- Green Beans
- Scalloped Potatoes
- Assorted Salads
- Assorted Desserts

February 3

- Chicken Parmigiana
- Buttered Noodles
- Zucchini and Yellow Squash
- Caesar Salad
- Green Salad
- French Bread
- Italian Cream Cake
- Chocolate Cake

February 10

- Spaghetti and Meatballs
- Broccoli
- Caesar Salad
- Vegetable Salad
- Garlic Bread
- Assorted Desserts

February 17

- Sausage & Egg Casserole
- Bacon
- Hash Brown Casserole
- Biscuits & Gravy
- Mixed Greens with Citrus
- Fruit Bowl
- Assorted Muffins & Pastries

February 24

- Chicken & Artichokes
- Orzo Pasta
- Roasted Brussel Sprouts
- Asparagus
- Oriental Salad
- Green Salad
- Rolls
- Assorted Desserts

**All Menus are Subject to Change*

2016 Women's Retreat THESE THINGS

April 15 - 17
Salt Creek Resort
Brown County, IN

Start making plans now to attend this fun and inspiring event at beautiful Salt Creek Resort in Nashville, IN with guest speaker Alica Kirkpatrick Bremer. We will be studying Philippians 4:8 - *Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy, meditate on THESE THINGS.*

Shared room is \$160, private room is \$240. Registration begins soon.

LUNCH WITH TERRY

FEATURING
Stephen Mattingly
Director of Classical Guitar Studies and Community Music Program
University of Louisville



FOR RETIRED/SENIOR ADULTS

WHEN
Tuesday
February 9 Noon

WHERE
Fellowship Hall

COST
\$6 (Due at Sign-up)
Deadline
Sunday, Feb 7

**Long Run Baptist Association
WMU Ladies Tea**

February 20, 2016
1:00-3:00 pm
St. Matthews Baptist Church
Fellowship Hall

Join us for a time of fellowship as we hear from National Woman's Missionary Union President, Linda Cooper. Girls and young ladies are welcome to attend. Beverages and refreshments will be served. A donation of \$5 is requested with registration. Make checks payable to LRBA WMU. Deadline to register is February 12. Contact Stephanie Garland at 502.939.3715 or Linda Rodgers at 502. 896.2653 to register.

Help Around the House!

Do you ever have...

- *Snowy walkways and driveways?
- *Leaves that need to be raked?
- *Gardens that need to be weeded?
- *Lawns that need to be mowed?
- *Furniture that needs to be moved?

We have willing and able youth in this church that can be of assistance. If you are interested in their services, please contact Brian Johnson at 502.896.8882.



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