



St. Matthews, Kentucky Area History



St. Matthews Area Churches S to Z, 1st. Edition

This is one of many sections that contain information, photos, newspaper articles, internet items, etc. of the St. Matthews area. Many of the items came from Al Ring's personal collections but many people have helped and I have tried to give credit where I can.

The purpose of this "collection" was to create the history of St. Matthews, Kentucky. Being retired I now have time to do many of the things I have always wanted, this project is just one of them.

All graphics have been improved to make the resolution as good as possible, but the reader should remember that many came from copies of old newspaper articles and photos. Credit to the source of the photos, etc. is provided whenever it was available. We realize that many items are not identified and regret that we weren't able to provide this information. As far as the newspaper articles that are not identified, 99% of them would have to be from one of three possible sources. *The Courier-Journal*, *The Louisville Times* or one of the *Voice* publications. Books that we have used for some information include, *Randy, Cactus, Uncle, Ed and the Golden age of Louisville Television*, *Waggener High School Alumni Directory 1996*, *Waggener Traditional High School Alumni Directory 2007*, *Memories of Fontaine Ferry Park*, *St. Matthews The Crossroads of Beargrass* by Samuel W. Thomas, *St. Matthews, 25 Years a City Two Centuries a Community*, *St. Matthews 1960-1995*, *Waggener Lair's 1958 to 1962*, *The Holy Warrior*, *Muhammad Ali, Louisville's Own (An Illustrated Encyclopedia Of Louisville Area Recorded Pop Music From 1953 to 1983)*.

Please use this information as a reference tool only. If the reader uses any of the information for any purpose other than a reference tool, they should get permission from the source.



St. Matthews Area Churches:

St. Matthews area churches, A—G:

Some general history of churches in the St. Matthews ares.

Beargrass Christian Church

Beechwood Baptist

Bethel-St. Paul Church, was Bethel Evangelical

Broadway Baptist Church

Calvin Presbyterian Church

Christ Church United Methodist, was Broadway Methodist

East Unit Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

St. Matthews area churches, H—R:

Harvey Browne Presbyterian Church

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

Our Lady Of Lourdes

St. Matthews area churches, S—Z:

St. Johns Lutheran Church

St. Matthews Baptist Church

St. Matthews Episcopal Church

St. Matthews United Methodist Church

Second Church of Christ, Scientist

Second Presbyterian Church

Westport Road Church Of Christ

\$19,000 Pledged In One Day For New Church

September 22, 1955

8 Year Old St. John's Congregation To Build On South Edge Of St. M.

With \$19,000 pledged by the congregation in one day, St. John Lutheran Church took a big stride forward last Sunday toward the eventual construction of a new and larger church edifice farther south on Breckinridge Lane.

The Rev. S. P. Diehl, who was called by the Board of American Missions to organize the church in 1947, is still pastor of St. John's.

The amount pledged the first day of drive for the building fund represented 88 pledges out of 135. Pledge canvassers checked in last night, after Voice press-time. The immediate goal of the drive was \$32,500 to be raised through pledges this year, and an equal amount scheduled to be raised next year.

An attractive eight-page brochure presented to the congregation explained in detail the growth and needs of the church, and summarized the needs of the building fund.

St. John's expects to invest \$170,000 in its new church property, exclusive of land. On March 27, 1955 the congregation approved purchase of 3.6 acres as a site for its new church. The purchase price was \$28,000, the

the congregation in one day, St. John Lutheran Church took a big stride forward last Sunday toward the eventual construction of a new and larger church edifice farther south on Breckinridge Lane.

seller, J. Graham Brown. The site is located 3/4 miles south of the present church property at 239 Breckinridge Lane. T. Norman Mansell, official architect for the United Lutheran Church of America, will be in St. Matthews about October 1 to discuss plans for the new church structure with the Rev. Mr. Diehl and members of the congregation. An edifice of contemporary design is contemplated.

On November 3, 1946, 75 adults met at Greenhouse School to establish a Lutheran church in St. Matthews. This nucleus of membership began Sunday evening services at Greenhouse School in December, under the auspices of The Louisville Lutheran Ministerial Association.

On Sunday, August 1, 1947, the Rev. S. P. Diehl conducted his first service for the congregation. He was called by the Board of American Missions to organize the new church. The congregation purchased the present Church building and property from the St. Matthews Methodist Church. Sunday services began there the first Sunday in January, 1948.

St. John Lutheran Church was formally organized on Palm Sunday (March 21), 1948, with 88 charter members. Sunday School was organized with 65 students with Mr. James R. Wilkinson as general superintendent.

In 1948, the Senior Lutheran League was organized with four young people. By 1954-55, between 60-65 young people in three groups were meeting twice a month.

Growing membership required that two worship services be held every Sunday morning. This began in 1952 and has continued.

The year 1954 brought a new surge of activity and expansion in the church. The women of the church initiated five circles with a membership of 40. In September, the church council planned and carried out a building fund and debt reduction program with \$14,278 pledged.

In seven years, St. John's membership grew from 120 to 475 members. Indebtedness was reduced on the church from \$18,500 to \$3,800, and on the parsonage from \$12,000 to \$2,500.

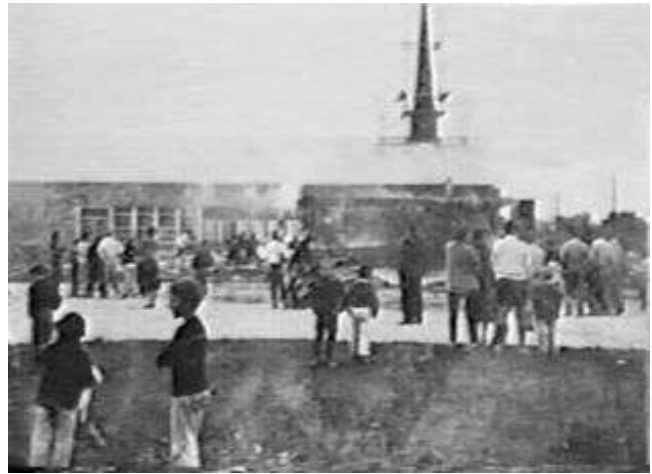
Other accomplishments include the purchase of the new church site; a Sunday School grown to 191 members; three organized young people's groups; a couple's club; and a women of the church organization with 80 members.

St. Matthews Area Churches:

St. John Lutheran Church

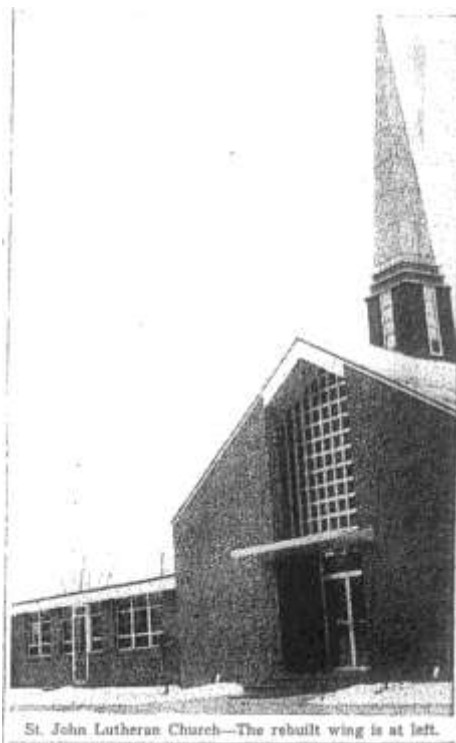
Courtesy Al Ring Collection:

October 21, 1957: While contractors were putting the final touches on the new St. John Lutheran Church the structure exploded. The structure cost \$201,000.00 and was to be dedicated the next month. The wing of the building that exploded and burned cost \$50,000 to \$75,000. (NOTE: there was a re-ignite on this 10/22/1957, 11:05 a.m.)



October 31, 1957: St. Matthews Volunteer Fire dept., 117 St. Matthews Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky, Gentlemen: We wish to thank you for your prompt and efficient action in reducing the damage caused by the recent explosion and fire at St. John Lutheran Church.

Those members of the congregation and church council who were present that afternoon were certainly relieved to find that you had the situation well in hand. Thanks ever so much. Very truly yours, Warren F. Kindt, Council Secretary.



February 6, 1958
The Voice Of St. Matthews

St. John Lutheran plans 'Festival of Dedication'

The dedication ceremony for St. John Lutheran Church, long delayed by vandalism and an explosion and fire, will open Sunday, Feb. 9, at 11 a.m.

"The Festival of Dedication" will last a week.

Speaker at the Sunday morning service will be Rev. Gerald D. Busch, D.D., president of the Kentucky-Tennessee Synod, United Lutheran Churches of America.

A fellowship will be held at 8 p.m. The speaker will be Dr. John N. Stauffer, dean of the Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio. Greetings will be brought by other Lutheran pastors.

Monday, Feb. 10, will be "Neighbor's Day." The Rev. E. A. Walsh, pastor of Bethel E & R Church, St. Matthews, will be the speaker. Greetings will be brought by pastors from other neighborhood churches.

The church will present music by the St. John Choir and an organ recital at 8 p.m. Tuesday. The congregation will join in a pageant at 8 p.m. Wednesday.

Courier-Journal church news editor Ora Spaid will speak at 8 p.m. Thursday. Friday will be Young People's Night. This also begins at 8 p.m.

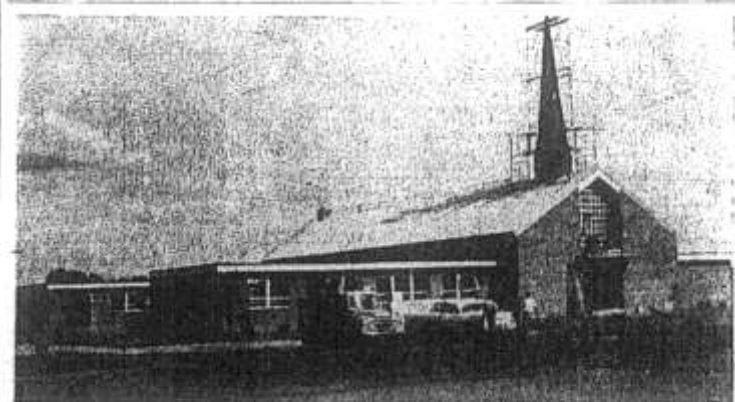
St. John's was organized in 1948. The original church was at Breckinridge Lane and Grandview. The congregation bought a tract of land of almost three acres off Breckinridge Lane just south of Springlee and started building a \$201,000 church in March, 1957. The old church building was sold.

A gas line explosion and fire on Oct. 21, 1957, caused damage to the new building of between \$50,000 and \$60,000 and the original dedication, set for Nov. 24, had to be postponed.

That damage has now been repaired, and the church's steeple is completed.

The church has 15 Sunday School classrooms, an office, study, kitchen, and a nave that seats 280, with an overflow capacity of 125.

Courtesy <http://www.smbclouisville.org/docs/auchp.pdf>



October 3, 1957

The new St. John Lutheran Church on Breckinridge Lane will open Sunday with a World-Wide Communion Service at 11 a.m., conducted by the pastor, Rev. Samuel Diehl. Church school will be at 9:45. The new church will not be quite finished, however, and the dedication date is Nov. 24.

October 24, 1957

No church here can match St. John's luck

No church in the history of St. Matthews can match the bad luck suffered by St. John Lutheran.

During six weeks in August and September, vandals paid three trips to the church building at 901 Breckinridge Lane and did \$600 worth of damage.

On Monday, while the contractors were putting the finishing touches on the \$201,000 building and plans were being made for a dedication ceremony Nov. 24, an explosion and fire injured the pastor and did damage estimated between \$50,000 and \$75,000.

And then on Tuesday, misfortune gave the church a parting shot when the roof caught on fire at about 11 a.m., presumably from a smoldering ember, and the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department had to make a quick run to put it out with only slight damage.

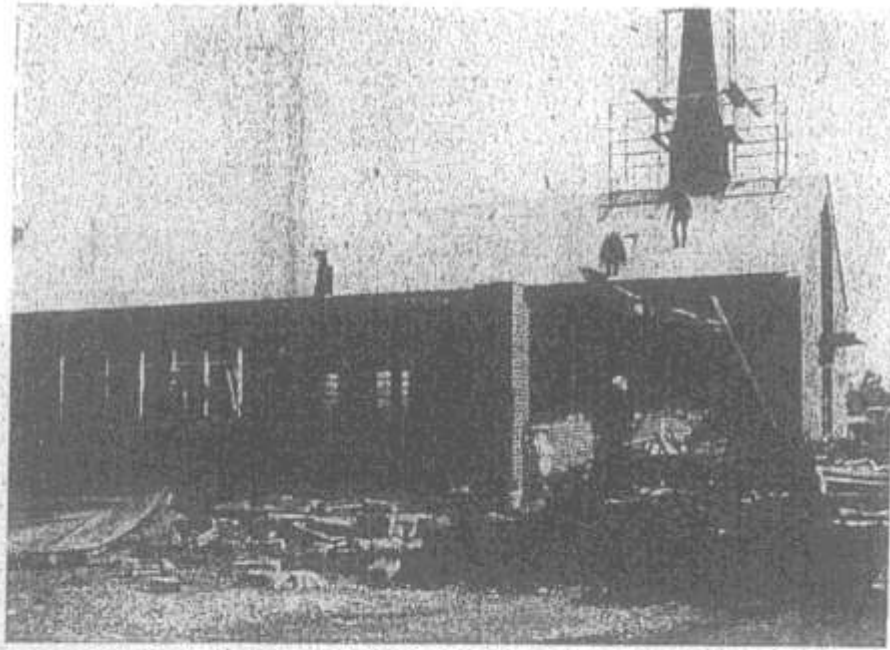
The pastor, Rev. Samuel P. Diehl, was in bed Tuesday, recovering from an explosion that singed his hair, and face, and sent him into a state of shock. Mrs. Diehl reports it is not certain that he will be able to conduct services Sunday, and plans are being made to have Dr. G. D. Busch, president of the Synod, take his place.

Mrs. Diehl also reports that while the pastor has suffered a "terrible disappointment," he is "not going to let it get him down. We will simply start all over again."

James Struck, of Robert Struck and Sons, contractors, who are building the church, estimated Monday it would take about two months to repair the damage. He and the architect, August C. Baker, after a hurried examination, estimated damage at \$50,000 to \$60,000.

However, after a closer examination, these estimates were revised upwards to \$75,000 and six months by the church's building chairman, Wilfred Schickel.

The explosion occurred at about 12:15 when the pastor went to the fuse box at the rear of the church



St. Matthews and Lyndon volunteer firemen had the fire under control when this picture was snapped Monday afternoon at St. John Lutheran Church. Foreground is the completely wrecked Sunday School section.

and pulled the switch to light the great cross on the altar. The spark apparently set off gas that had gathered in the Sunday School wing at the left.

The source of the gas is still a mystery. The gas lines in the end of the church that blew up run outside the building.

St. Matthews firemen battled the blaze for two hours. They were given a helping hand for more than an hour by the Lyndon Volunteers.

The church suffered far more damage than is readily visible from the outside. Other than the left wing, which is a complete wreck, the building appears in-

fact and in good shape.

But the entire fir ceiling of the chapel and the eight laminated-pine trusses were scorched beyond repair. The pews were damaged and will have to be replaced, as well as the tile floor. Every window in the left, front and rear of the church was cracked, including the beautiful stained glass windows above the entrance.

The cross and organ were also damaged, probably beyond repair. The fire marshal is investigating. Insurance covers the loss.

The church's spirit was not broken, however. Politely declining the offer of three or four St. Matthews churches to use their facilities, the church council de-

ecided Monday evening to go right on holding services in the undamaged part of the building.

That would include the back Sunday School wing, which holds 150 or 200 people, and the overflow part of the chapel at the right, where the choir is stationed.

Council member Lee Isham reported that the congregation would be split alphabetically for next Sunday, with services to be held for half at a special 8:30 a.m. worship service, and for the other half at the regular time, 11 a.m. Letters are being sent out to the members telling them which service to attend. Sunday School, as usual, will be at 9:45 a.m.

St. Matthews Area Churches:

St. John Lutheran Church

Courtesy <http://www.stjohnlutheranky.org/>

50 YEARS & STILL GROWING

In 2008, just two years from now, St. John Lutheran Church will celebrate its 60 years of Ministry and Mission.

These 60 years have been filled with challenges and triumphs! It was a wonderful time and as the congregation looked back, it continues to respond to the Lord's Call to move on.

Begun in 1948, St John was mission to the "wilderness" of eastern Jefferson County. Over the years "wilderness" has given way to suburbia. What were once corn fields have been transformed into a major medical center – Baptist Hospital East. But in 1957, when the Congregation made a major decision and erected the present Worship Center there was only a few houses in the immediate area.

The Corner stone was laid on April 14, 1957, Palm Sunday. Pastor Kleckley joined Pastor Diehl for that extraordinary event.

The Congregation continued to grow and everything was wonderful. On October 21, 1957, the Congregation would be tested in a unique and horrifying way. There was an undetected gas leak in the new building, the result of which was an explosion and fire that damaged the new Church. Fortunately no one was seriously injured and the Congregation learned a valuable lesson – "When money is the only problem, it's not a real problem."

From new building to a pile of twisted and burnt debris, the people of God at St. John were tested. Restoration took only two months and on the Sunday before Christmas, the Congregation once again worshipped in the new building. Through the years, St. John Lutheran Church has endured, not simply because of the skills, talents, and gifts of its people, but because of its focus on the one Lord of the Church.

Now as we look back, we are encouraged to look ahead and to dream new dreams. Imagine the smiles on the faces of those who have gone before us. They are faithful witnesses and now our witness with them is preparing us for a brand new day. The renovation and construction plans that are proposed will more than double the size of our present facility.

We are in the MISSION and MINISTRY business at St. John, not the building business. God is not calling us to build a building; he is calling us to a ministry that will reach beyond our walls. The building is here to house the ministry and not the other way around! Called through the Gospel, we commend ourselves to the Lord of the Church and to one another. Trusting that the Lord will provide, we are open to his call and together we move into a new millennium. Our renovation and new building completed in 2001 has allowed us to engage in Mission and Ministry in ways that were impossible before. What is truly amazing is that we are on target to pay off the debt for the new building by our anniversary date.

60 years ago, a group of faithful Christians ventured out into the "wilderness" of St. Matthews and embarked on the faith journey we know as St. John Lutheran Church. With the advent of a new millennium, we too will embark on a journey of faith as we build for mission. To the Lord we commend ourselves – body, mind, and spirit. Thanks be to God!

St. Matthews Area Churches:

St. Matthews Baptist Church

Courtesy <http://www.smbclouisville.org/docs/auchp.pdf>

St. Matthews Baptist Church of Louisville, Kentucky, begun in 1927, is a progressive congregation of 1,500 plus members who live in a region of seven counties called Kentuckiana. We are a five generation church who seeks to help people experience a joyful Christian faith. We pursue 100+ ministries by members using their spiritual gifts to make a difference in the lives of people.

Our campus includes a 100,000 square foot facility which includes: a sanctuary with seating capacity for 1,500 people, a fellowship hall with a dining capacity for 600 people, a gymnasium, an office area, classroom spaces for Sunday School & small groups, a music suite for choir rehearsals, the Wayne E. Oates Media Center, a chapel, a weekday preschool, and a shared space & ministry with St. Matthews Pastoral Counseling Center.

Our congregation's composition is primarily Euro-American, middle class, college educated with a median age in the forties. We partner with two inner-city churches, one of which is African-American. The church consciously affiliates with the Long Run Baptist Association, St. Matthews Area Ministries, Greater Louisville Christian Reconciliation Ministries, The Kentucky Baptist Convention, the Co-operative Baptist Fellowship, the Southern Baptist Convention, the Baptist World Alliance, and the Reconciliation Networks of Our World.

Church History

- 1926 – Tent revival gives birth to a vision that is now our church (SMBC).
- 1927 – SMBC organized as an arm of the Walnut Street Baptist Church. About 25 persons are welcomed into the fellowship.
- 1935 – Construction of a building at Breckinridge Lane & Willis Avenue began.
- 1949 – First service held at new Grandview Avenue site on Sunday, October 30th.
- 1954 – A new \$150,000 educational building is constructed.
- 1958 – Weekday Preschool Education began.
- 1960 – Church hosted Kentucky Baptist Convention Annual Meeting.
- 1982 – The church was ravaged by arson's fire on January 10th.
- 1985 – On Easter Sunday, April 7th, first worship service held in new sanctuary.
- 1992 – Church hosted Kentucky Baptist Convention Annual Meeting.
- 1994 – D. Leslie Hollon becomes Pastor.
- 1998 – International Reconciliation Conference hosted at Church.
- 2002 – Church celebrates its 75th Anniversary.
- 2004 – Church hosted annual Kentucky Baptist Convention



Today

St. Matthews Area Churches:

Courtesy *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

St. M. Baptist Okays \$150,000 Church Addition

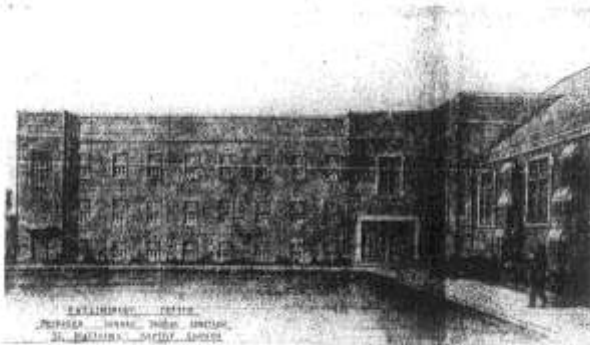
The St. Matthews Baptist Church, in a special business session Sunday evening, voted unanimously to approve plans for a new educational building, and to authorize the architect to ask for bids on construction of the unit. The cost of construction will be approximately \$150,000. Joseph H. Potts, of the firm of Wagner and Potts, is the architect. It is expected that work on the building will begin not later than May 1.

The proposed new building will provide four up-to-date nurseries, two large beginner departments, three primary departments, two junior departments, two intermediate departments, two young people's departments, and three adult departments.

The present building will also be remodeled and enlarged to include a balcony in the auditorium (which will increase the seating capacity to 1000), a new suite of offices for pastor and staff, and a church library and parlor.

The Sunday School attendance for last Sunday was 720, which was the second largest attendance in the church history. The total membership of the church is around 1,200.

St. Matthews Baptist Church



This architect's drawing shows the educational building planned for St. Matthews Baptist Church. The present church structure is at right.

FORMAL *Opening* **—AND—**
DEDICATION
SUNDAY
MAY 8th ☆ **10:45 A.M.**

EDUCATIONAL BUILDING
and Enlarged and Redecorated Auditorium

—OF—
St. Matthews Baptist Church
GRANDVIEW AT MACON

Dedicatory Message by Dr. Carroll Hubbard
SPECIAL MUSIC BY CHURCH CHOIR
AND SOLO BY CHARMER LESLEY

OPEN HOUSE, 3 P.M. TO 5 P.M.

- FOUR NURSERIES
- ELEVATOR SERVICE
- DEPARTMENTS FOR ALL AGES
- NEW BALCONY IN AUDITORIUM

9:30 A.M.—SUNDAY SCHOOL 8:45 P.M.—BAPTIST TRAINING UNION

8 P.M.—CONCERT OF SACRED MUSIC
GEORGETOWN COLLEGE CHAPEL CHOIR

April 1, 1954

May 5, 1955

Courtesy *The Voice-Jeffersonian*:

St. Matthews Baptist To Dedicate New Building

Formal opening and dedication of the new \$150,000 educational building at St. Matthews Baptist Church will be held Sunday, Dr. Carroll Hubbard, minister, announced Tuesday.

The dedication will be held in connection with the regular morning worship service at 10:45 with a special dedicatory message by Dr. Hubbard.

Dr. Hubbard also announced that the Georgetown College Chapel Choir, directed by A. Ray Baker, will present a concert of sacred music at the church, Grandview at Macon, Sunday evening at 8 p.m.

Dr. Hubbard said the three-floor new structure and the sanctuary will be served by an elevator. There are about 75 rooms in the building. On the ground floor is a recreation room and Sunday School departments for juniors.

Four modern nurseries are on the second floor as well as departments for beginners and primaries. On the third floor are two intermediate departments and one adult department.

He said the older part of the building has been rearranged to make a beautiful young people's department. A balcony has been added to the sanctuary, seating 200. This brings the church's seating capacity to about 925, he said. The sanctuary has been re-decorated throughout, he said.

The building will be open to the public from 3 to 5 p.m.

The Georgetown choir of 40 singers, gives concerts in churches, colleges and high schools throughout the State, and has gained a reputation as one of the finest musical organizations in the South. The concert is open to the public.

May 5, 1955

St. Matthews church celebrates birthday

A reunion of present and former members was among the highlights of the 40th anniversary celebration of the St. Matthews Baptist Church, 3515 Grandview Ave., Sunday afternoon, May 21.

Also attending were former pastors and representatives of various Baptist organizations and of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Dr. Verlin Kruschwitz, pastor of Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, was the anniversary speaker. He was pastor of the St. Matthews Church between 1941 and 1962. Dr. Hugh Peterson, of the seminary, recited the prayer.

The church was constituted May 15, 1927, as an arm of the Walnut Street Baptist

Church Louisville. During the early years, the congregation met in Greathouse School and the Harvey Browne Memorial Presbyterian Church building and its own building at Breckinridge Lane and Willis Avenue beginning in 1935.

In 1940, the church relocated on Grandview Avenue. Its present property and facilities are valued at \$800,000. Between 1953 and 1965 when Dr. Carroll Hubbard was pastor, the church erected a \$150,000 educational building and installed an \$18,000 pipe organ.

The church has participated in sponsoring the Beechwood Baptist Church, the Bowman Field Mission and Lake Louisville Chapel. The Rev. Alton H. McEachern became pastor in August, 1966. The present membership is 2,000 and the annual church income is \$137,000.

During the 40 year, 12 young people of the congregation have entered the ministry.

May 25, 1967

St. Matthews Area Churches:

St. Matthews Baptist Church

Courtesy Al Ring Collection:

January 10, 1982: Headline: Keeping St. Matthews Baptist Alive Fire Destroys sanctuary, but not the spirit of the church: A three alarm fire destroyed St. Matthews Baptist Church. The fire was discovered early this morning after neighbors heard an explosion. While the main fire was fought by the Louisville Fire Department, St. Matthews Fire Department patrolled the surrounding streets making sure flying sparks and brands did not land on roofs and start any other fires.

Man gets 18 years for church fire in St. Matthews and other offences.

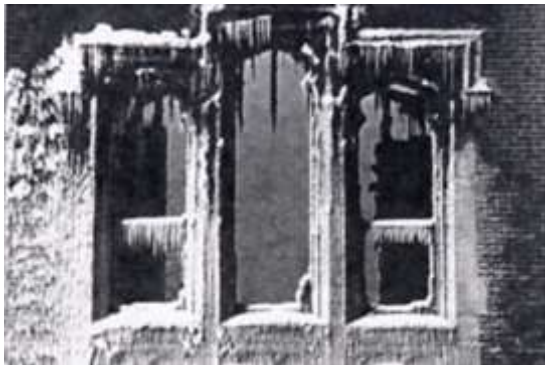
Warren Emrick, 21, was sentenced to 18 years in prison on several arson related charges including the fire that destroyed the St. Matthews Baptist Church.

Pictures from St. Matthews Baptist Library and Earl Stowers



St. Matthews Area Churches:

Courtesy Al Ring Collection:



St. Matthews Area Churches:

St. Matthews Baptist Church

Courtesy Al Ring Collection:



St. Matthews Baptist Church

3515 GRANDVIEW AVENUE / LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40207 / (502) 896-8882

DR. J. ALTUS NEWELL
PASTOR

January 20, 1982

*St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department
201 Thierman Lane
Louisville, Kentucky 40207*

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for working to fight the fire at our church on January 10. You did a terrific job of controlling the blaze, reducing our loss and protecting the property of our neighbors. We are thankful that none of your men was seriously injured.

The fire and the circumstances surrounding it were tragic but our people have responded remarkably well. The experience has taught us many things and has renewed our appreciation for your department and the services you perform for our community.

Again, thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

J. Altus Newell
Jy Altus Newell

JAN/ih

St. Matthews Area Churches:

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews:*

St. Matthews Episcopal Church

St. Matthews Episcopal Church Famous In Community History

The cornerstone placement of the St. Matthews Episcopal Church at Hubbards Lane and Massie will be held at 10:00 a.m. June 25, with Bishop Charles Clingman presiding. Regular church services will be held at that time.

List of contents to be deposited in metal box in the cornerstone include: a bible, book of common prayer, a cross, list of the founders, copy of the charter, picture of the opening service in September, 1948, picture of first three children baptized Sara Nutting, 404 Ormond Road; Malcolm McClasky, Locust Lane, Anchorage; and William Vatter, Northbourne Drive, Lyndon), list of present families in the congregation, two copies of the Bishop's Letter, (the periodical of the diocese of Kentucky), a copy of the service at the ground-breaking ceremonies, and a tape recording of the ceremonies.

These services, inaugurating construction of the building, will symbolize the re-establishment of a landmark that played a significant role in the history of St. Matthews, the name itself being taken from the church.

Original Church

The original St. Matthews Episcopal Church was established in 1838 on Westport Road, where the building of the Palmer-Ball Company now stands. This land was donated by members of the Bullitt and Keys families. Other families closely associated with the church were the Chenoweth, Hardin, Tulcey, Robinson and Brown families.

St. Matthews Named

The small community around the church was known as Gilman's Station, a name derived from the owner of a prosperous tavern. Several years after the institution of the church, a United States Post Office was established here and the citizens declined to use the name Gilman's Station, preferring instead to use the name of the church.

Thus, the name of St. Matthews was born.

In 1862 the St. Matthews church was burned to the ground and rebuilt shortly thereafter. For a time services were held in the rectory and girls' school which still stands at the northeast corner of St. Matthews Ave. and the L. & N. Railroad, and was formerly used by the V.M. C.A.

Church Merged

The growth of the church was a slow but steady process, until it was merged with the newly organized St. Mark's Church in Crescent Hill shortly after the turn of the century.

With the rapid growth of the St. Matthews community after the flood of 1937 and the conflict of war years, friends of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Kentucky determined to revive the congregation originally established in St. Matthews.

April 2, 1948, 24 persons met at the home of Bishop Clingman to plan for the organization of the new congregation. Several meetings later, a petition signed by 33 adult communicants requested the creation of a new mission to be called "St. Matthews." (A mission is a congregation which receives financial assistance from the missionary funds of the Diocese, is distinguished from a parish, which is entirely self-supporting).

Mission Reformed

The mission was formally instituted in May of that year and the Rev. Wilfred Myll, Assistant

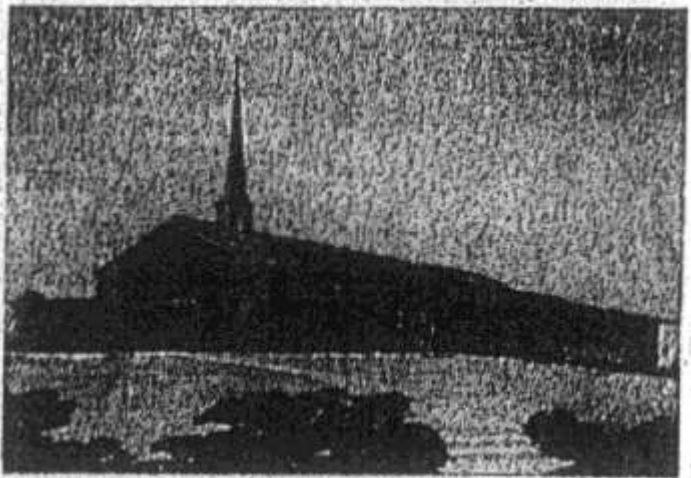
Rector of St. Mark's Parish, San Antonio, Texas, was called to be minister at the new church. Rev. Myll had formerly served in Kentucky as Rector of Trinity Church, Owensboro, from 1939 to 1948.

In September, the new congregation held its first services in the newly erected St. Matthews Women's Club building on the Shelbyville Road, just east of Brown's Lane, at which time there were 83 members in the mission. Since that time membership has grown till it now numbers over 300, and has been a self-supporting parish since 1951.

Early in 1949 the present eight-acre site was purchased and plans were made for the first unit, which is to be used temporarily as both church and parish house. Ground for this construction was broken on April 6 with appropriate ceremonies conducted by Bishop Clingman and Rev. Myll.

With the cornerstone placement on June 29, the St. Matthews Episcopal Church again becomes a reality.

June 26, 1952



THE NEW ST. MATTHEWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews:*

REV. CLINGMAN TO OFFICIATE AT CEREMONY

Formal Service Begins At 4 P.M.

The new first-unit of Saint Matthew's Episcopal church, on Hubbard Lane and Massie Avenue, will be dedicated on Sunday, Feb. 8. There will be a special service in the new building for the Sunday School children at 9:30 Sunday morning, and at 4 p.m. the service of dedication will take place, the Rt. Rev. Charles Clingman, D.D., Bishop of Kentucky, officiating, assisted by the Rev. Wilfred Myll, rector of Saint Matthew's Church, and other local clergy.

The church is situated on an eight-acre tract, on a fairly high point, where it can readily be seen by persons approaching from the north and south along Hubbard Lane, from the west along Massie Avenue, and from the east along Rudy's Lane.

The building, with an exterior of red brick and redwood and with large areas of glass, is so planned that other units can be built later with a minimum of difficulty.

The building will temporarily serve a two-fold purpose, that of church and parish house. The main part of the building is on one floor with the part which is built on the hill side on two levels. On the first floor there are the main church auditorium or parish hall, sacristy, nursery room, kindergarten room, other classrooms, kitchen, and office, with the primary department rooms on the lower level.

Louis and Henry were the architects and Robert Struck and Sons the general contractor.

Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church was started as a mission by a group of interested persons meeting with the Bishop in April 1948. In a sense, this was a re-organization, for the St. Matthews community took its name from an Episcopal Church first established in the area over a century ago, located somewhere near where Ridgeway and the railroad now are. But this church was consolidated with another Episcopal Church in what was then a more densely populated area.

Subsequent organization meetings with the Bishop were held during the summer of 1948. A rectory was then purchased, and the Reverend Wilfred Myll was called from St. Mark's Church, San Antonio, Texas, to become Minister-in-charge. The Diocese of Kentucky was not new to Mr. Myll for before going to San Antonio, he had been rector of Trinity Church, Owensboro.

Arrangements were made with the St. Matthews Woman's Club for the use of their building for Sunday School classes and Church services, and on Sept. 5, 1948, the first service was held in that building. Saint Matthew's remained a mission church until April, 1951, when it was admitted to union with the Diocese, thereby becoming a parish.

It did not take the Sunday School and Church long to outgrow the facilities of the Woman's Club and to realize the necessity for building. In May, 1951, a successful campaign for funds with which to build the first unit was conducted, with A. L. Entwistle as chairman of the building program finance committee. The building committee, with Henry J. Scheirich, senior warden of the church, as chairman of the building program, began the complex job of determining what to build.

In January, 1949, the site on which the church now stands was purchased. On Palm Sunday, April 6, 1952, ground was broken for the new building. On June 29, 1952, the cornerstone was laid. Now on February 8, 1953 the service of dedication of the first unit of Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church will take place.

(Continued On Page Six)

Rev. Clingman

(Continued from Page One)

The church has had a continuing health growth, from about 81 persons in September, 1948, to approximately 350 at present, with a Sunday School of over 200 children.

After Sunday, February 8, Sunday services in the new building will be: a celebration of the Holy Communion each Sunday at 7:30 a.m.; church school at 9:30 a.m.; morning prayer and

sermon at 11 a.m.; on the first Sunday in each month a celebration of the Holy Communion at 11 a.m.; during Lent it is planned to have Wednesday evening services and during the week of March 22, the Right Reverend Everett H. Jones, Bishop of West Texas, will come to Saint Matthew's Church for a week's preaching mission.

February 5, 1953

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews:*

St. Matthews Episcopal church plans ultramodern building, will look like huge canopy

St. Matthews Episcopal Church will start construction about the first of the year on an ultramodern, unusual church structure.

Architects, Hartstern, Louis and Henry describes the structure as "four intersecting saddle-type hyperbolic paraboloids". The metal-covered roof, which will look like a large canopy, will be supported by concrete piers at only four points.

Other construction materials will be masonry and laminated timber arches. Cost of the building has not been determined, the architects said. Another unusual feature

will be a central altar surrounded on three sides by pews. That and the unusual shape of the roof have been attracting most attention, the architects said.

Lawrence Lels, designer with the architectural firm, said that the shape of the building and the free-standing altar really are revivals of features of churches in earlier periods.

"The design recognizes the early origins of the church," Lewis said. "In fact, early buildings involved from tents which had the altars in the center."

One authority on church architecture says the aim

of the central-altar design is to inspire a greater participation by the congregation in the central act of worship. The early church, he says, met together as an intimate group.

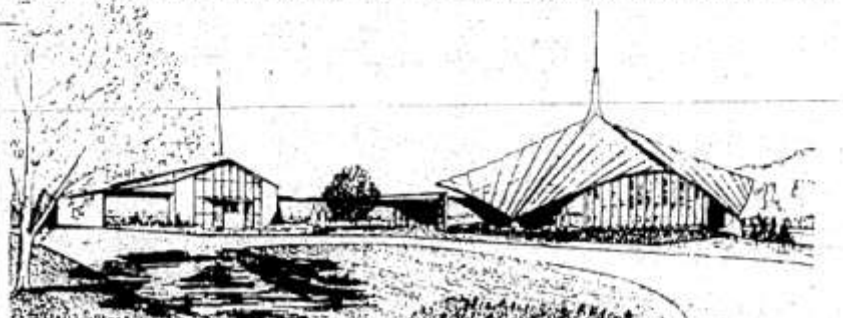
The plan for the Episcopal Church building permits a seating arrangement calculated to foster more intimacy. The greatest distance between seats and the altar will be only 40 feet whereas the average distance in most churches is 60 feet.

The building will feature wide windows on three sides for natural lighting during the day. Light

will be controlled with baffles attached at intervals inside the windows, which will rotate to deflect light in the desired direction.

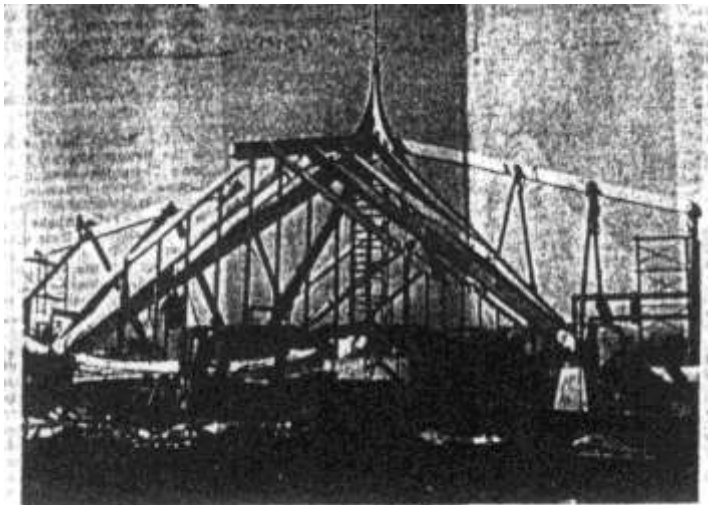
The building will be built adjacent to, and connected with, the building now serving as the church on Hubbard Lane at Massie Ave. The present building will become a parish hall and chapel.

The new building will seat about 400. The Rev. Wilfred B. Myll, rector, said the loose ends of a building fund campaign are now being caught up, and that work will go forward immediately on detailed plans for the structure.



Sketch shows a schematic impression of the new proposed St. Matthews Episcopal Church. The structure on the left is the church's present building. Construction is to start about January 1. Cost of the building is yet to be determined.

May 17, 1962



Ribs are showing. The supporting beams for the parabolic type roof for St. Matthews Episcopal Church addition forms an interesting pattern. The new addition will house the sanctuary and other related facilities.

November 26, 1964

Gay nineties fair slated by Episcopalians

The Women's Auxiliary of St. Matthews Episcopal Church will have a gay nineties fair Nov. 16 and 17 at the church at Hubbard Ln., and Massie Ave.

Featured will be a melodrama by a newly formed theatre group, The Parish House Players. The group will present "Her Fatal Beauty--Or A Shop Girl's Honor" and will be directed by Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Jagers.

This group comprised of members of the congregation and other local people, was formed for this special event, but plans to continue with regular performances. The show will also feature barber shop quartet singing and can can dancers.

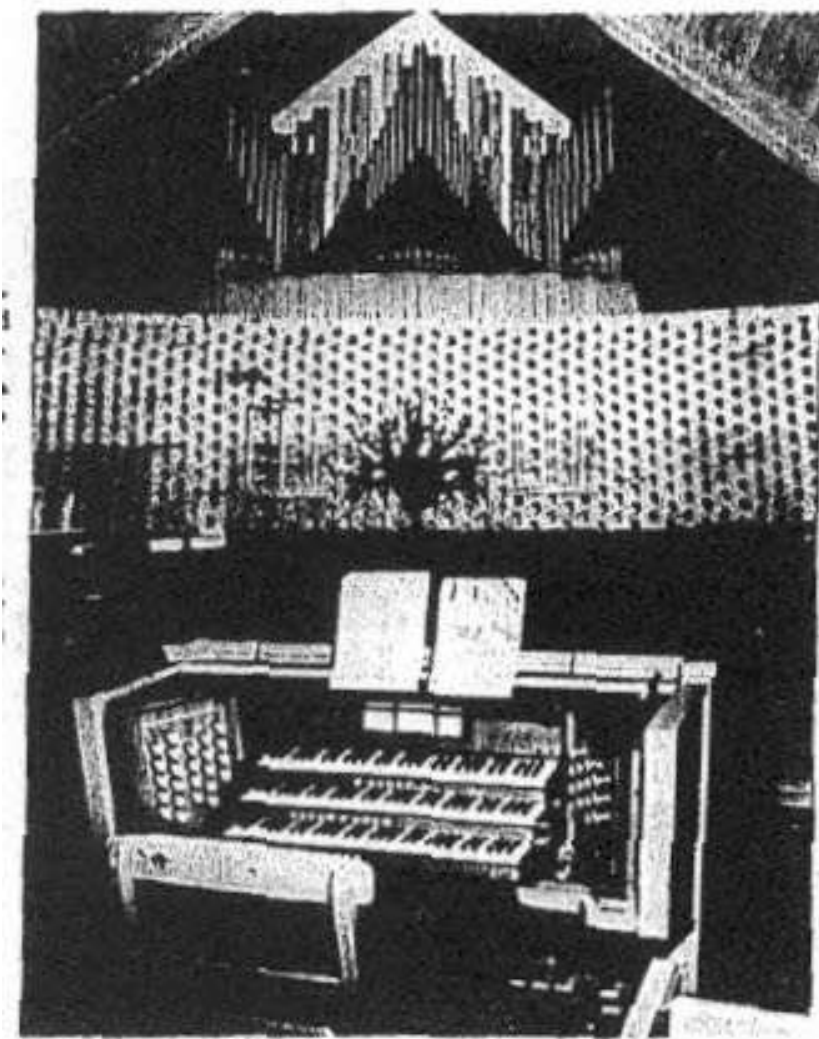
Other features of the fair will be a Mad Hatters tea party for the children, an English tea shop for the ladies, and a golf putt for the men. There will also be a gift shop, white elephants and Christmas and Thanksgiving arrangements.

The fair will be from 1 to 9 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 16, and from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Saturday. Dinners will be served from 5 to 7:30. The melodrama will be at 8 p.m. Nov. 16 only.

Mrs. William Dietrich and Mrs. Paul Disney are co-chairmen of the event and Mrs. Mary Heckenkamp is in charge of tickets.

November 1, 1962

Courtesy The Voice—Jeffersonian:



ORGAN DEDICATED: The Carolina Scheirich Memorial Organ was dedicated April 30 at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, St. Matthews, by the Right Reverend C. Gresham Marmion, D.D., Episcopal Bishop of Kentucky. The new organ consists of 1,320 pipes and a three keyboard console with an electro-pneumatic action. Mrs. James F. Thomas is organist and choir director; the Rev. Wilfred Myll is Rector of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church.

May 18, 1967

St. Matthews Area Churches:

St. Matthews Episcopal Church

Courtesy The Archives of St. Matthews Episcopal Church, Louisville, Kentucky, Ed Hill:



The first service of the re-established St. Matthews' Episcopal Church. Sept. 5, 1948. There was a St. Matthew's Episcopal Church established in 1839. That church went out of Existence in the early 1900s.



This is a picture of the parsonage for the original St. Matthew's Episcopal Church. The Church stood at near what is now St. Matthew's Avenue and Westport



Augustus Eleanor with her Sunday School class at the St. Matthew's Woman's Club - 1948.



The first service at the St. Matthew's Woman's Club Sept. 5, 1948. The crucifer is Joseph Scheirich. The clergyman is Bishop Charles Clingman.



Sunday School class at the St. Matthew's Woman's Club 1948.

St. Matthews Area Churches:

St. Matthews Episcopal Church

Courtesy The Archives of St. Matthews Episcopal Church, Louisville, Kentucky, Ed Hill:



The first rector of the re-established St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Bill Myll, and his wife, Eleanor. 1949.



Ground breaking for the new sanctuary - April 1942. Bishop Charles Clingman



The laying of the cornerstone for the new sanctuary - Jun 29, 1952.

The laying of the cornerstone for the new sanctuary - Jun 29, 1952. Bishop Charles Clingman



St. Matthews Area Churches:

St. Matthews Episcopal Church

Courtesy The Archives of St. Matthews Episcopal Church, Louisville, Kentucky, Ed Hill:



The laying of the cornerstone for the new sanctuary - Jun 29, 1952. Bishop Charles Clingman. On the left is Henry Scheirich, the first senior warden and one of the charter members. On the right is Bill Myll the first rector.



Exterior of the original sanctuary - 1952.



Picture of the grounds for the present church. This picture was taken at the time of the ground breaking in 1952. The photographer had his back to Hubbard's Lane. Massie Avenue

St. Matthews Area Churches:

St. Matthews Episcopal Church

Courtesy The Archives of St. Matthews Episcopal Church, Louisville, Kentucky, Ed Hill:



Service in the original sanctuary - 1952.



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church children's choir - 1956.



The original sanctuary for the re-established St. Matthew's Episcopal Church. The first service was held in this building on February 8, 1953.

St. Matthews Area Churches:

St. Matthews Episcopal Church

Courtesy The Archives of St. Matthews Episcopal Church, Louisville, Kentucky, Ed Hill:



The construction of the current sanctuary. This sanctuary was dedicated on June 27, 1965.



The construction of the current sanctuary. This sanctuary was dedicated on June 27, 1965. This picture was taken in 1963.

St. Matthews Area Churches:

St. Matthews Episcopal Church

Courtesy The Archives of St. Matthews Episcopal Church, Louisville, Kentucky, Ed Hill:



Aerial photo of the church grounds - about 1965.

St. Matthews Area Churches:
Courtesy St. Matthews Episcopal Church web site:

St. Matthews Episcopal Church
May 1966

Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church

230 North Hubbards Lane Louisville, Kentucky 40207
 Tel. 495-3485



When the first unit was designed the style proposed by the architect was considered by many to be extreme and far too modern for an ecclesiastical building in a neighborhood of traditional red brick pseudo-Colonial houses. The general acceptance of the contemporary design of the original units, which acceptance was reinforced by the experience of using the spaces for ten years, made it possible for the architect to suggest an even more unusual liturgical departure for the sanctuary.

The form of the new sanctuary was not developed to be different but rather it evolved from the desire to achieve a close relationship between the altar and the congregation. It was also considered desirable to have the choir, acolytes and other participants in the services become a part of the congregation by being seated in pews, thus giving greater emphasis to the altar and less to the robed participants.

The location of the altar at the physical center of the structure is expressed on the exterior by the absolutely symmetrical roof which reaches its greatest importance by means of the upswEEPing of the lead-coated copper elements, culminating in the slender spire and cross directly over the altar.

Although acceptance is not unanimous in all respects such acceptance does cross all age lines.

+ + +

May 1966.

WELCOME

We welcome to Saint Matthew's Church the members of the One hundred and Thirty-Eighth Annual Convention of the Diocese of Kentucky and the Eighty-Third Annual Meeting of the Episcopal Churchwomen of the Diocese of Kentucky.

Some of you may be familiar with the history of Saint Matthew's Church, but some may be new to the area; therefore, in this little pamphlet we are telling you something of the story of our church here in St. Matthews.

Every work of art and love is born first as a dream in the hearts of those who would create it. So it was that on April 2, 1948, at a meeting in the home of Bishop Clingan, the dream of Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church had its beginning. Called together by the Bishop to discuss the organization of a mission church in St. Matthews, 27 hopeful people organized themselves into committees to investigate temporary quarters for the mission.

In a sense this was a re-organization of the church, for there had been in this area at one time, an Episcopal Church called Saint Matthew's, which was founded during the 1830's and disbanded shortly after the turn of the century, and from which the St. Matthews community, formerly called Gilman's Point (derived from the name of the owner of a prosperous tavern in the area), later took its name, St. Matthews.

Arrangements were made with the St. Matthews Woman's Club to use their building as a place in which to hold worship services.

On June 1, 1948, the present rector, the Rev. Wilfred Myll, was called from St. Mark's Church, in San Antonio, Texas. Mr. Myll accepted the call and a rectory was purchased at 4035 Island Road.

The first services of the newly organized Saint Matthew's Mission, conducted by Bishop Clingan, were held September 5, 1948, at the St. Matthews Woman's Club. The Myll family arrived during the week and on September 12, 1948, Mr. Myll conducted his first service here.

THE REVEREND WILFRED MYLL, Rector

Organist and Choir Director Mrs. James Thomas
 Parish Secretary Miss Margaret Curry

THE VESTRY

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Term Expires January 1967 | Term Expires January 1968 | Term Expires January 1969 |
| Carl G. Beck, Jr. | Edward W. Agostus | Reid H. Allen |
| Dale F. Lisch | David N. Hill | Paul E. Disney, Jr. |
| Dr. Joseph W. Lockere, Jr. | Harry L. Moore, Jr. | Mrs. John A. Laird |
| Arthur F. Myers | Lele G. Spalding | Robert S. McCasley |
| Earl H. Schaaf | Sidney G. Stevens | Aidan M. Sears |
| Senior Warden Dale F. Lisch | Treasurer Ben H. Dulin | |
| Junior Warden Sidney G. Stevens | Building Fund Treasurer Richard Strath | |
| Secretary David N. Hill | | |

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion
 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer and Sacrament (Holy Communion on the first Sunday in each month) Church School, Crch. Room for babies.

WEDNESDAY

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion

In 1949 the mission purchased the 8-acre tract at Hubbards Lane and Massie Avenue where the church stands today.

Throughout 1949 and 1950 the church continued to operate as a mission. In 1951 it became self-supporting and was given full standing as a parish by the Diocesan Convention that year.

Soon the architects, Louis & Henry, began sketching plans for a building. Ground was broken for the first unit on April 6, 1952. The first service in the completed new modern building was held on February 8, 1953. This building had many uses. It was functional and often had to be converted overnight from a place of worship to a parish hall where parish meetings, dinners, and other affairs were held.

The church membership continued to grow and soon additional space was needed. In March 1954 plans were under way for the addition of an educational wing, the second phase of the building program. On June 23, 1955, ground was broken and on January 8, 1956 Church School classes met in the new building for the first time.

But the third phase of our building program.....our dream.... a permanent place of worship....to which everyone had looked forward from the beginning was yet to come.....

On November 17, 1963, ground was broken for the third unit, which completed our church building project; and on June 27, 1965 the dedication service was held and we began holding worship services in our beautiful new sanctuary.

Here is what our architect, Fred Louis, has to say about the style of the architecture of our buildings.

"The original unit of Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church was built in 1952, consisting of what is now the parish hall and adjacent class rooms and attendant facilities.

"An addition, consisting of expanded educational facilities, was added in 1955.

(continued)

Courtesy *The Voice—Jeffersonian*: August 17, 1967

19th century landmark to be destroyed soon

A landmark connected with the naming of St. Matthews in the 19th century will go up in smoke soon.

The landmark is a two-story frame building on the northwest corner of Westport Road and St. Matthews Avenue.

Officials of the Palmer Asbestos and Rubber Corp., owner of the building, have agreed to let the St. Matthews Fire Department burn the structure as part of a massive fire-fighting exercise.

According to C. B. Palmer-Ball, vice-president of the company, the building is considered "an eyesore and public nuisance."

He said he agreed to have the building removed "after persuasion" from city officials.

The building, built between 1840 and 1860, originally was a rectory and girls' school of the St. Matthews Episcopal Church.

Back then the main church building, which had been built around 1820, was located where the Palmer plant is now located, on the northwest corner of Westport Road and St. Matthews Avenue.

In 1862, the main building was destroyed by fire and for a time services were held in the rectory and girls' school. The

church was rebuilt on the site and remained at the St. Matthews Avenue location until about 1900.

Then the church was merged with the Crescent Hill Episcopal church until 1948.

The new St. Matthews Episcopal Church, at 330 N. Hubbard Lane, was organized that year.

The original church building was the first church in this area, when the community was called Gileman's Station.

Later the city was named after the St. Matthews Episcopal Church.

The rectory building became a private home in the early 1900s until it was used as headquarters for the St. Matthews Y.M.C.A.

The "Y" moved to its new headquarters on Northorne Boulevard in 1955. Since then the old rectory has not been occupied.

Palmer-Ball said the 2 1/2-acre tract on which the building sits will be set aside as an expansion area for the plant.

He said that probably the burning of the building in a fire-training exercise will be within a week or two.

SITE FOR NEW SHOP

Historic tract sold for \$60,000

A tract of land connected with the naming of St. Matthews has been sold for \$60,000 to Elmer E. Kaelin and Fred J. Wolf, co-owners of Jim's Body Shop at 3950 Westport Rd.

The historic tract, totaling two acres, is across from Palmer Asbestos & Rubber Corp. at 146 St. Matthews Ave.

Kaelin said the body shop will be moved to that location. A 10,000 square-foot steel building will be erected to house the business sometime this year, Kaelin said.

"We had outgrown our place of business on Westport Road," Kaelin commented. He said the building on Westport Road will be leased or sold.

The St. Matthews Avenue tract was the site of a rectory and girls' school of the St. Matthews Episcopal Church. The church itself, long ago destroyed, stood where the Palmer Asbestos & Rubber Corp. plant now is located. St. Matthews was named after the church. The girls' school later became the first location of the St. Matthews Y.M.C.A. Through the years the building deteriorated. Last year the building was leveled in a fire-fighting exercise by the St. Matthews Volunteer Fire Department.

Kaelin and Wolf purchased the ground recently from the Palmer Asbestos &

Rubber Corp. The tract measures 300 feet along the L. & N. tracks and 262 feet along St. Matthews Avenue.

Jim's Body Shop has been at the Westport Road location 22 years.

The partners said they haven't decided on the design of the new body shop. "We're shopping around for ideas," said Kaelin.

The company employs seven persons.

May 8, 1969



LATE STAGE: To be destroyed soon is this two-story frame building which once was the rectory of the St. Matthews Episcopal Church. The house is located at Westport Road and St. Matthews Avenue.

St. Matthews Area Churches:

St. Matthews Episcopal Church

Courtesy Al Ring Collection:

1968

November 11, 1968: Landmark's "death" draws hundreds of spectators: A landmark connected with the naming of St. Matthews died a dignified death Sunday morning, while hundreds watched.

The landmark, built between 1840 and 1860, was originally a rectory and girl's school of the St. Matthews Episcopal Church.

The building was burned by the St. Matthews and McMahan Volunteer Fire Departments as a fire-fighting exercise.

The building, dressed to die by the fire departments with crude oil, finally crumbled at noon after four hours of fire fighting training.

The exercises beginning about 8:30 were extensive. The firemen first fought a smoke fire. Many of the firemen, tears streaming from their eyes, exited from the building. The smoke fire was finally extinguished by men equipped with self breathing apparatus.

Both fire departments performed rescue operations. The firemen rescued Oliver the dummy, a stuffed property of the St. Matthews department.

At 11 the death blaze was started. Firemen, numbering 35, attacked the building in force. With smoke curling skyward and with flames licking their heels, the firemen, Spartan-like, blitzkrieged the building with axes.

Lt. Kenny Freid, of the McMahan department, collapsed after inhaling too much smoke. Freid was back on his feet in a few minutes and charged back into the building.

Skip Golden grabbed Al Ring, preventing Ring from being crushed by a flaming ceiling. In fact, the training exercise was so real, many onlookers thought the fire was the real thing.

Captain Jack DeHart of the St. Matthews department coordinated the attack on the building.

The building located at the corner of St. Matthews Avenue and Westport Road, was on the property of the Palmer Asbestos and Rubber Corp.

According to S. W. Palmer-Ball, vice president of the company, the building was used as a training exercise because it was considered "an eye-sore and public nuisance" by the St. Matthews City Council.

He said he agreed to have the building removed "after pressure" from city officials.

The building became a private home in the early 1900s. Later it became the headquarters of the St. Matthews YMCA. The YMCA moved in 1955. Since then the old rectory was not occupied.

This is what the building looked like except in much more run-down condition.

From: St. Matthews The Crossroads of Beargrass, by Samuel W. Thomas,

Photo from *The Courier-Journal* 1951, by Thomas V. Miller, Jr.



St. Matthews Area Churches:

Courtesy Al Ring Collection:

St. Matthews Episcopal Church

1968



St. Matthews Area Churches:

Courtesy Al Ring Collection:



St. Matthews Episcopal Church

1968



The old St. Matthews Episcopal Church rectory and girls school on St. Matthews Avenue becomes a ball of flame last Sunday. Firemen burned the building in a massive firefighting exercise.

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews:*

Work Begun On Addition To Methodist Church

Work has begun on remodeling of St. Matthews Methodist Church and the addition of seven rooms for church school purposes, Rev. James S. Curry, pastor, announced this week.

This first unit of a projected three-unit expansion program will cost about \$45,000, he said. When all units are completed, the value of the church's property will be \$400,000, he estimated.

The completed structure has been designed to meet the needs of a church school of 900, with a church sanctuary seating 1,000, said Rev. Curry. The present sanctuary, with a seating capacity of 275, will eventually become the smaller chapel of the church, he added.

The church has had a 35% increase in membership in the last 18 months, with the present total

at about 500, he said. It is located at 318 Browns Lane.

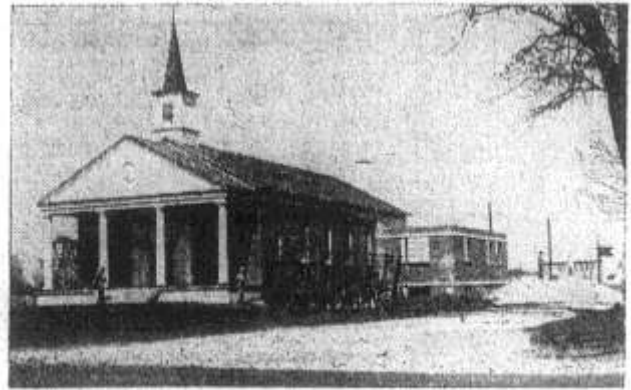
The St. Matthews Methodist Church began with a tent meeting in 1938, when 30 members signed up. Services were held in the old Greathouse School building on Lexington Road. A lot was purchased on Breckinridge Lane at Grandview and the cornerstone for the church was laid on July 3, 1939. Formal opening ceremonies were held September 10.

The present church site was purchased in 1947. The church bought a chapel from Bowman Field and moved it to the Browns Lane lot. First services were held May 23, 1948.



Looking over plans for an enlarged St. Matthews Methodist Church are Rev. James S. Curry, pastor; Hobert Ledford, chairman of the church board; Gibson Whittaker, chairman of the commission on finance; and Dan Chitwood, chairman of the church board of trustees. — (photo by Frederic Beck.)

January 21, 1954



Even on Saturdays the work continues on St. Matthews Methodist Church. At the right rear, walls for the addition are going up.

Easter Finds Methodists Building

As the Easter season is upon us, workmen are still busy on the renovations and additions to St. Matthews Methodist Church on Browns Lane. At the back of the church, walls are going up for the complete nursery, church office, and three Sunday School rooms. This is the first unit of a projected three-unit building program, the total cost of which will be about \$270,000.

The first unit and the complete remodeling of the present church structure will cost about \$45,000.

The crews are also working on the first part of the second unit. This will give the church 12 additional Sunday School rooms. It is expected to be finished in August and will cost \$53,000. The second part of this unit will give the church more educational room and will cost an estimated additional \$47,000.

With all this out of the way, the

church will start building unit three, a new sanctuary, at a cost of about \$125,000.

The modest but attractive church sits across the road from the entrance to Norbourne Estates, loveliest of St. Matthews' sixth class cities. It typifies the strenuous building programs being planned or conducted by many of the churches in St. Matthews. These include Bethel Evangelical and Reformed, St. Matthews Baptist, Harvey Browne Memorial Presbyterian, Beechwood Baptist, Holy Spirit Catholic, Broadway Baptist and St. Matthews Episcopal Churches.

By the time next Easter arrives, St. Matthews Methodist Church will have more elbow room for its growing congregation to worship in and to educate children and adults in the tenets of the church's faith.

April 15, 1954



Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews:*

Methodists to break ground

St. Matthews Methodist Church, 319 Browns Ln., will break ground for its new sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 11, with the resident Bishop of the Louisville area, Walter C. Gum, officiating.

Mayor of St. Matthews, B. F. Bowling, former pastors of the church and other guests will share in the occasion.

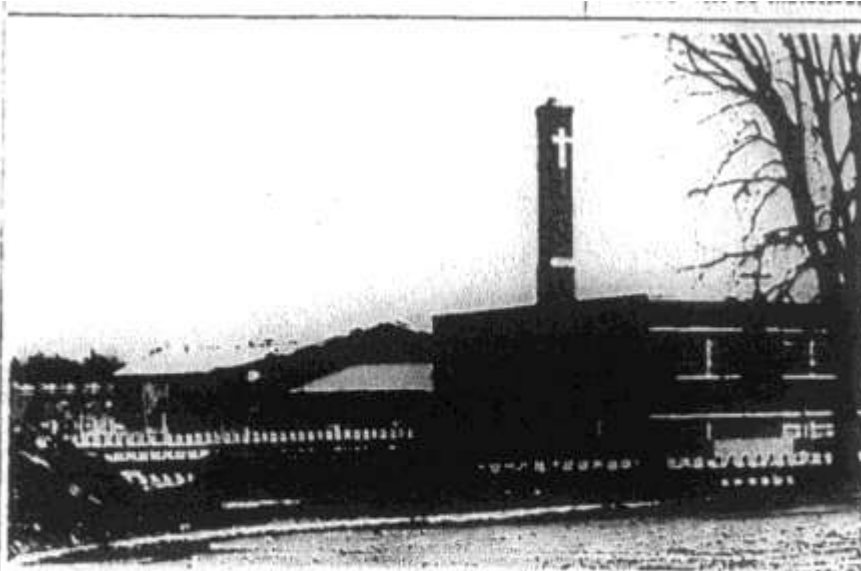
The new sanctuary, which will complete the church's present building plans, will be of Colonial design and will seat 560. There will also be office and classroom space.

Nevin and Morgan are the architects and Bowlds Construction Company has been awarded a contract to begin construction immediately. Cost of the sanctuary and furnishings will approximate \$300,000.

John R. Field is chairman of the building committee and J. Ashby Miller was chairman of the building fund campaign which began last October.

The church was established in 1938 with meetings in the Greathouse School. The congregation moved to its present location on Browns Lane in 1948, and since that time has completed a chapel and a church school annex.

February 8, 1962



Construction is underway for the new sanctuary at the St. Matthews Methodist Church, 319 Browns Ln. Ground was broken in February for the new structure which is designed to seat 560. Nevin and Morgan are the architects and the construction work is being done by the Bowlds Construction Co. Cost of the sanctuary and furnishings is approximately \$300,000.

Methodists budget calls for \$68,604

St. Matthews Methodist Church last week set up a proposed budget of \$68,604 for 1962-63.

More than \$17,000 of the budget is allocated to programs outside of the home church. In this program \$5,000 goes to the Bishop's Crusade for Christian Education and Church Extension; \$3,200 to World Service and \$3,000 to Advance Mission specials. Also in this bracket are \$1,495 to Christian higher education and a similar amount to retired ministers.

Some \$26,000 of the budget is allocated for the home church, which includes more than \$14,000 toward construction of a new sanctuary. Nearly \$26,000 will go for salaries.

The church's congregation will be asked Sunday for pledges toward the budget, with 100 men assigned to the task. Donald Hundley is chairman of the visitation.

A dinner meeting is set for team visitors at 6:30 tomorrow night.

April 26, 1962

Methodists Cornerstone rites slated

The St. Matthews Methodist Church will lay a cornerstone for its new sanctuary, which is under construction on Browns Lane, at 12 o'clock this Sunday.

The colonial structure, begun in February, is being built by Bowlds Construction Company, the architect is Nevin and Morgan. Occupancy is promised for Thanksgiving.

The building, costing approximately \$300,000 is designed to seat 560 in the sanctuary. It will be air conditioned. The building also includes a suite of offices, a music room, conference room, visual aids room, and a prayer chapel.

The building will complete the present building plans for the congregation except for interior changes and rearranging in the present building when the new sanctuary is occupied.

The frame house, formerly used as a parsonage, at 325 Brown's Ln., will also be removed.

June 28, 1962

May 17, 1962

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews:*

Cornerstone rites set by Methodist

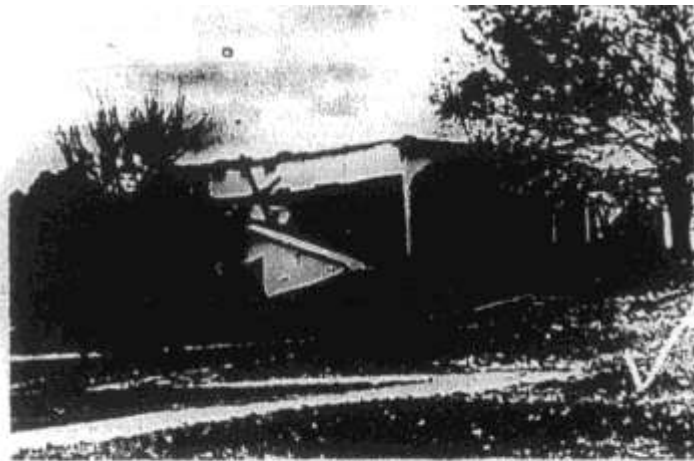
A cornerstone laying ceremony for the new sanctuary of Christ Methodist Church, Brownsboro Road, at Blankenbaker Lane will take place at 10:30 a.m. at the close of the Sunday School hour, Sunday, Sept. 30.

The Rev. W. W. Slider, pastor will read the ceremony. Others taking part will be Dan Allen, chairman of the church board; Gordon Brown, superintendent of the church school; Ben Ewing, chairman of the historical committee; Joe Raine, chairman of trustees; Mrs. Harold Irick, president of the women's society; and Miss Rebecca Sims, representing the youth.

Articles placed in the cornerstone will include contents of the old Broadway Methodist cornerstone, clippings and photographs of building progress, hymnals and a membership list.

Ground was broken for the new sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April, 22, 1962 and is to seat approximately 800 people. Construction is expected to be completed by Dec. 1.

September 27, 1962



The old parsonage of St. Matthews Methodist Church will soon be gone as workmen are demolishing the old residence which has been used in recent years for classrooms. A new sanctuary under construction will soon make the building no longer needed. There is nothing immediately scheduled for the site.

November 8, 1962

Methodists await cross from Congo

Members of the St. Matthews Methodist Church are looking forward to the arrival of a 9-foot cross as a gift of appreciation from the Methodist Church in Lubudi, (Mantaga), Congo.

The cross of African mahogany was made by the people of the Congo church in appreciation to the St. Matthews Church for helping to build a parsonage and a six-room school there.

Rev. Rual T. Perkins, minister of the St. Matthews Church, said this contact with the Congo Church began about four years ago when the St. Matthews Church chose to send money to the Congo as a missionary special. The money sent was used to build a parsonage for the native minister, Rev. Joab Marlela.

Rev. Marlela came to America about three years ago as a delegate to the General Conference of Methodist Churches

held in Denver. He visited in St. Matthews about eight days. At that time the St. Matthews church agreed to build and furnish a six-room school in the Congo.

Rev. Avery Manchester, American missionary minister to the Congo, has been on furlough and before returning to the Congo last August, asked permission to send the cross.

Rev. Perkins said a letter from Mr. Manchester stated the cross had been shipped about six weeks ago and is expected to arrive "any day". The cross will be used to hang over the free standing altar in the new sanctuary.

January 31, 1963

Methodists set first service in new sanctuary

St. Matthews Methodist Church has set Sunday, March 31 for the first service in its new sanctuary. The congregation will assemble for the 10:50 a.m. service in the chapel where services have been held since 1948, then after a hymn and prayer will move into the new sanctuary in a procession led by the ministers and choir.

Bishop Walter C. Gum will preach and lead the service of consecration of the new sanctuary on Palm Sunday, April 7 at the 10:50 a.m. service.

Memorial Sunday will be April 28 when all the memorials will be announced and formally accepted by the church.

Word has been received that the 9-foot cross, a gift from a Congo Church in appreciation to the St. Matthews Church for helping to build a parsonage and school there, has arrived in New York and is expected to be at the church some time next week.

March 21, 1963

Episcopal church plans 16th anniversary

Saint Matthews Episcopal Church, 330 N. Hubbards Ln., will celebrate the 16th anniversary of the establishment of the present church on Sunday, Sept. 6.

Services will begin with a celebration of the Holy Communion at 7:30 and at 8 a.m. The morning prayer and sermon will be at 9:15 a.m., followed by a reception to celebrate the anniversary. The 11 a.m. service will resume Sept. 13.

The church started as a mission in 1948 and the first service was held Sept. 5, 1948 in the St. Matthews Woman's Club, with Rev. Wilfred Myll as minister-in-charge. In 1951 the mission obtained "parish" status and the Rev. Myll became "rector."

Groundbreaking for the first unit of a building program was held April 6, 1952, and was dedicated and the first services held in Feb. 1953. In June 1955, ground was broken for the second unit and the Sunday School classes met for the first time in the new unit in Jan. 1956.

On Nov. 17, 1963, ground was broken for the third unit, now under construction. The church now has 850 communicant members.

September 3, 1964

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews:*

Christian Scientists Build \$200,000 Church

Work is well underway on the new church building of the Second Church of Christ, Scientist, on Frankfort Avenue at the corner of Thierman Lane. Ground was broken in June on the site, which was for many years the Arterburn homestead.

This newest church addition to the community is modified Early American in design and furnishings. The main entrance faces Shelbyville Road; the auditorium, shown in the accompanying picture runs eastward along the front and has a seating capacity of more than 300 persons. The Sunday School wing stretches northward toward the rear and will comfortably seat 200 or more children. The wing shown on the left of the spire is the Reading Room, entrance to which may be had either from Shelbyville Rd. or Thierman Lane. This Reading Room will be open to the public during week days, where books on Christian Science may be read, borrowed or purchased.

The C. Wilbur Foster Associates are the architects, and the Christian Scientists expect to hold services in their new church "in the not-too-distant future," according to church clerk, Mrs. Louise R. Wolke. The cost of the building is upwards of \$200,000.

Many of its members are residents of the St. Matthews and surrounding area, and the congregation is presently holding services in the Arterburn residence on the property. The new church will

replace the old one at Fourth and York which recently was sold to the Standard Auto Company.

John Hart is chairman of the church board of trustees.

July 12, 1956



St. Matthews Area Churches:

Courtesy <http://sccslouisville.com/>



Second Church of Christ, Scientists



History

Because of the healing work being done by earnest workers, interest in Christian Science in Louisville was rapidly increasing and attendance at church services was steadily growing larger.

In view of this, in the early part of 1916 a group of earnest Christian Scientists called a conference to determine the advisability of organizing a new branch of The Mother Church.

After thoughtful consideration and prayer for divine guidance, it was decided to go forward. A meeting was held May 3, 1916, at which it was voted to organize and establish Second Church of Christ, Scientist, Louisville, Kentucky. The Church was recognized as a branch of The Mother Church on June 29, 1916.

There was great joy and inspiration in the preparatory work and many beautiful demonstrations were made in securing quarters for holding services and locating a Reading Room. The Elks Hall, then located at 316 West Walnut Street, was obtained for the services and the first service was held the first Sunday in May, 1916.

The Church obtained its charter July 31, 1916, and was incorporated on that date. Four years later, larger quarters were needed and a search resulted in purchase of a church building at 738 South Fourth Street in June, 1920. Second Church occupied this edifice until June, 1954, the property having been sold the previous April.

Property at 4125 Shelbyville Road was purchased August 29, 1952. After leaving the Fourth Street edifice, Second Church held services in the Crescent Hill Woman's Club auditorium, 2641 Grinstead Drive, during July, August and part of September, 1954, while a house then located on the Shelbyville Road property was remodeled. The first service in the remodeled building was held on September 29, 1954. Services were continued there until the new Church edifice on the same property was completed. The first service in the Church took place January 7, 1957. The dedication service, which could occur only when all debt on the project was paid, was held on November 19, 1967.

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews:*

Rolling Fields Church Dedication Is Saturday

The Second Presbyterian Church, Rolling Fields, will be dedicated Saturday, April 30, at 3:30 p.m., Dr. W. R. Clarke, minister, announced last week.

Dr. Clarke said the Second Presbyterian Church, Second and Broadway, Louisville, will continue operations. Both it and the local unit will be under his ministry, he said.

Dr. Clarke will conduct first services in the Rolling Fields Unit, at 3701 Brownsboro Road, Sunday, May 1, at 9:30 a.m.

The unit consists of a chapel for 400 people, and education facilities. Total cost of construction and grounds, about six acres, was about \$300,000.

Part of the Sunday School will be transferred to the chapel, from Chenoweth School, where it has been conducted by the church since fall.

Dr. Clarke will dedicate the new building. The sermon will be preached by Dr. Frank Caldwell, president of the Louisville Presbyterian Seminary. Two lessons will be read, one each by Omar Carmichael, clerk of the session, and J. McFerran Barr, chairman of the Board of Deacons.

Representatives of the Louisville Presbytery will also attend.

One of Louisville's oldest and largest churches, Second Presbyterian has been located at Second and Broadway since 1874. Groundbreaking ceremonies for the Rolling Fields Church were held last June, 12 years to the day and hour from the time Dr. Clarke was taken prisoner by the Germans on Crete in World War II. The cornerstone was laid in July.

A Scot who was chaplain in the Argyll and Sutherland Highland Regiment, Dr. Clarke spent three years in German prison camps. He has been minister of Second Presbyterian since July 1950.

The ground was broken by Stuart Duncan, oldest member of the church.

Mrs. Charles V. Edmonds, who was present at the dedication in 1874 of the Louisville Church, deposited historical records of the church in the cornerstone of the Rolling Fields Church.



Heads were bowed Saturday as Dr. W. R. Clarke, pastor, at the podium center right, reads the rites of dedication for the Second Presbyterian Church in Rolling Fields. First services were held Sunday.

Rolling Fields Church Dedicated

The two-fold function of the church is binding and loosing men in relation to the Kingdom, said Dr. Frank Caldwell, president of the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, at the dedication of the Second Presbyterian Church's Rolling Fields Chapel Saturday.

"The church building which we dedicate is but an instrument of the real church," he said. He quoted Visser T'Hooft, a secretary of the World Council of Churches: "The reality of the church is a tension between the Divine intention and the actual of the church in the world."

Dr. W. R. Clarke, church minister, conducted dedication of the chapel, built for about 400 people, and education facilities. Cost of construction and about six acres of ground was about \$300,000.

It is the first of three units to be built. The second will be an education building. The third will be the main sanctuary.

A full crowd of more than 400 attended the ceremony. First services in the church were held Sunday.

Scripture lessons were read by Omar Carmichael, clerk of

the session, and J. McFerran Barr, chairman of the deacons.

Members of the building committee are Stuart W. Allen, chairman (deceased), Charles B. Price, chairman, M. Ewing Brown, vice-chairman, Baylor Landrum, secretary, J. McFerran Barr, Mrs. William L. Burford, Stuart C. Campbell (deceased), Dr. Clarke, Robert B. McDowell, Murray P. Nicol, Gary Sutcliffe, and Mrs. Arthur Welsh.

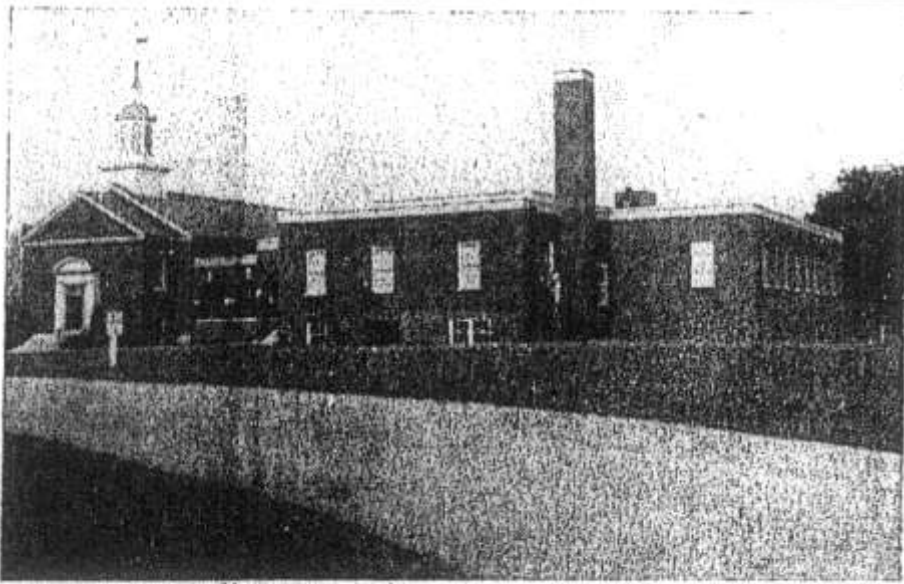
Architects were Nevin and Morgan.

Builder was the Struck Construction Company.

April 28, 1955

May 5, 1955

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews:*



At right is the new wing of the Second Presbyterian Church, Rolling Fields, joined by an arched walkway with the original chapel.

Presbyterians plan dedication

The second unit of the Second Presbyterian Church, Rolling Fields, will be dedicated Saturday, May 24, at 4 p.m.

The new unit, which includes a complete education building, and is the second of a planned three, cost around \$400,000.

Dr. W. R. Clarke, the pastor, said the dedication ceremony will be held according to Presbyterian rites. He and his assistant, Rev. Douglas C. Chase, aided by three young people from the church school, will conduct the ceremony.

Music will be choral singing by the junior and senior choirs, di-

rected by Richard Dales.

Dr. Clarke said the new unit will provide "adequate accommodations for all departments," including the 600 people in the church school. The fellowship hall will seat 400 for dinner and 600 on chairs, he said.

The new unit is fully-equipped and air conditioned. It includes a church lounge.

Dr. Clarke said the third and final unit will be the main sanctuary.

The first unit, consisting of a chapel for 400 people and education facilities, was dedicated April 30, 1955. Total cost of construction and grounds, about six

acres, was about \$300,000.

One of Louisville's oldest and largest churches, Second Presbyterian was located at Second and Broadway from 1874 to 1953. Ground-breaking ceremonies were held in June, 1954, 12 years to the day and hour from the time Dr. Clarke was taken prisoner by the Germans on Crete in World War II.

A Scot who was chaplain in the Argyle and Sutherland Highland Regiment, Dr. Clarke spent three years in German prison camps. He has been minister at Second Presbyterian since June, 1950.

Robert B. McDowell was building chairman for the second unit.

May 8, 1958

St. Matthews Area Churches:

Second Presbyterian Church

Courtesy http://69.89.27.161/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=41&Itemid=59

A Condensed History

Adapted from the Louisville Encyclopedia of History (1997)

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, now located at 3701 Old Brownsboro Road, is the second oldest continuously active Presbyterian congregation in Jefferson county. It has been situated at four different locations, three of them in downtown Louisville. From this church have come clergy, missionaries and lay leaders dedicated to outreach. Five of its pastors have served as moderators of the denomination's General Assembly.

The church was first organized on April 17, 1830, when twelve members of Louisville's First Presbyterian Church withdrew to organize the Second Presbyterian Church. Dr. Eli Newton Sawtell was chosen as the first pastor. By 1832, the congregation, which numbered 100, was located in a permanent sanctuary downtown on Third Street.

With Dr. Stuart Robinson's coming in 1858, the membership grew to 1,500. In 1869 after the Civil War, property was acquired at Second and Broadway Streets to build a larger facility. The first unit, an educational wing, was erected, followed in 1874 by the main Gothic structure. These buildings served as the church's home until 1956, when the congregation moved to eastern Louisville.

Between 1875 and 1900, the growing congregation helped start seven local Presbyterian churches. Also, two members were responsible for the founding of the Presbyterian Community Center in 1898 and the Cabbage Patch Settlement House in 1900. The first classes of the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, established in 1893, were held at the church.

As the Louisville population grew and shifted from downtown in the 1950s, Second Church built a chapel on Old Brownsboro Road in the Rolling Fields subdivision to serve that area. After fire in February 1956 destroyed the downtown facility, all activities were moved to the chapel. Additional classrooms, offices and a 660-seat sanctuary were later built and dedicated on April 17, 1980.

This church's history of mission work began in 1850 with these programs initiated by women members: Bible classes; the city's first free kindergarten; aid to the poor; and work with prospective ministers. More recently, the church, although damaged, served as an emergency center in the wake of the April 1974 tornado.

Relieving the problems of others continues to be a prime interest of this congregation as it attempts to answer city, regional and world needs. The church has built alliances with agencies that assist children, feed the hungry, and help the poor.

Through the Grace of God, Second Church has survived dissension, flood, fire, war and wind. Its prime mission remains to teach and spread the gospel of Jesus Christ.

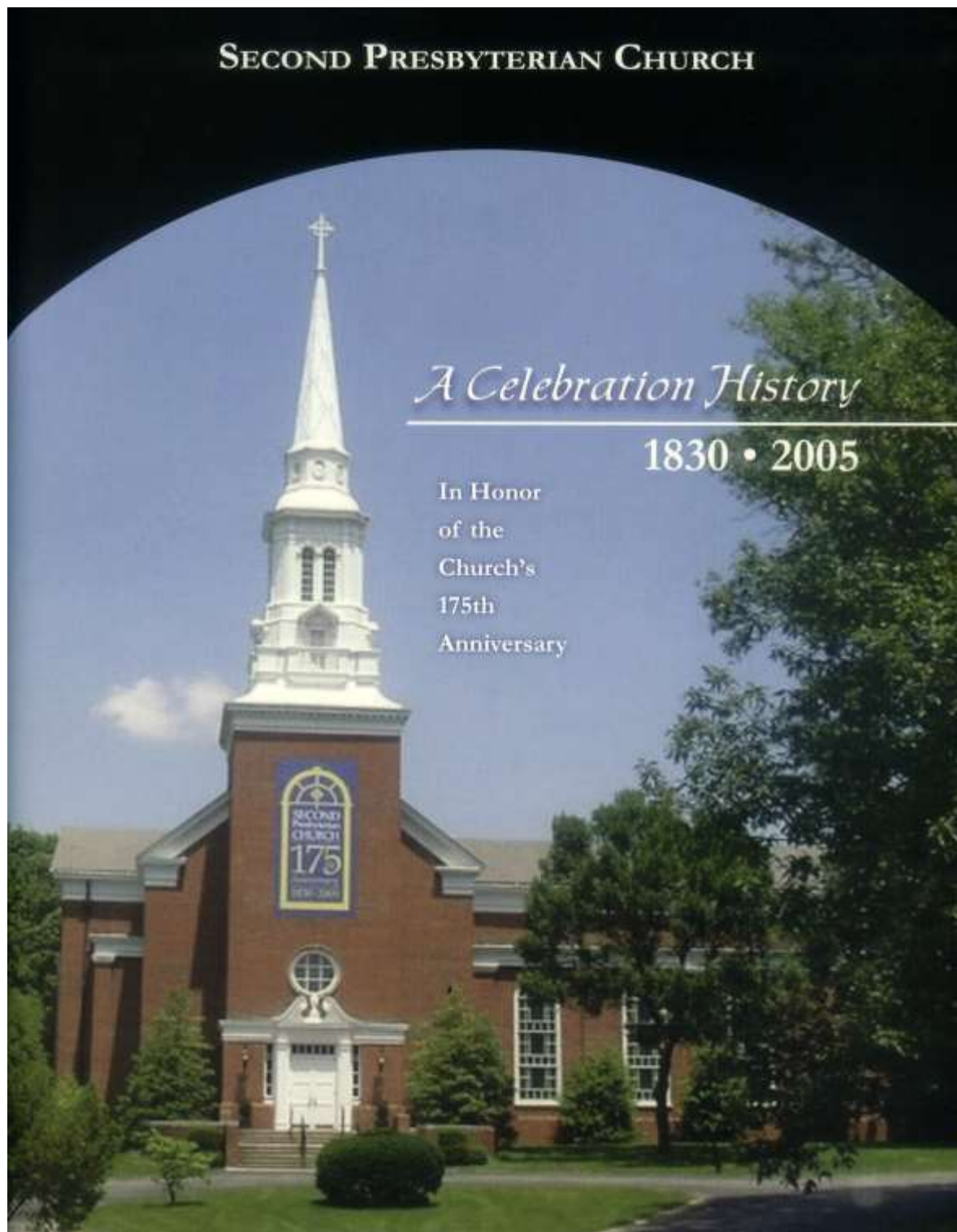


St. Matthews Area Churches:

Second Presbyterian Church

Courtesy Ron Nelson, Second Presbyterian Church:

A Celebration History, 1830-2005



History in Images



3

1,2—April 17, 1830. Rev. Eli N. Sawtell, minister of First Presbyterian Church, left with four men and eight women to organize Second Presbyterian Church.

3—September 28, 1832. Second Presbyterian Church dedicated its first sanctuary, on Third Street, between Green (now Liberty) and Walnut (now Muhammad Ali Blvd.) Streets.

4—1836. Edward P. Humphrey became the second minister of Second Presbyterian Church.

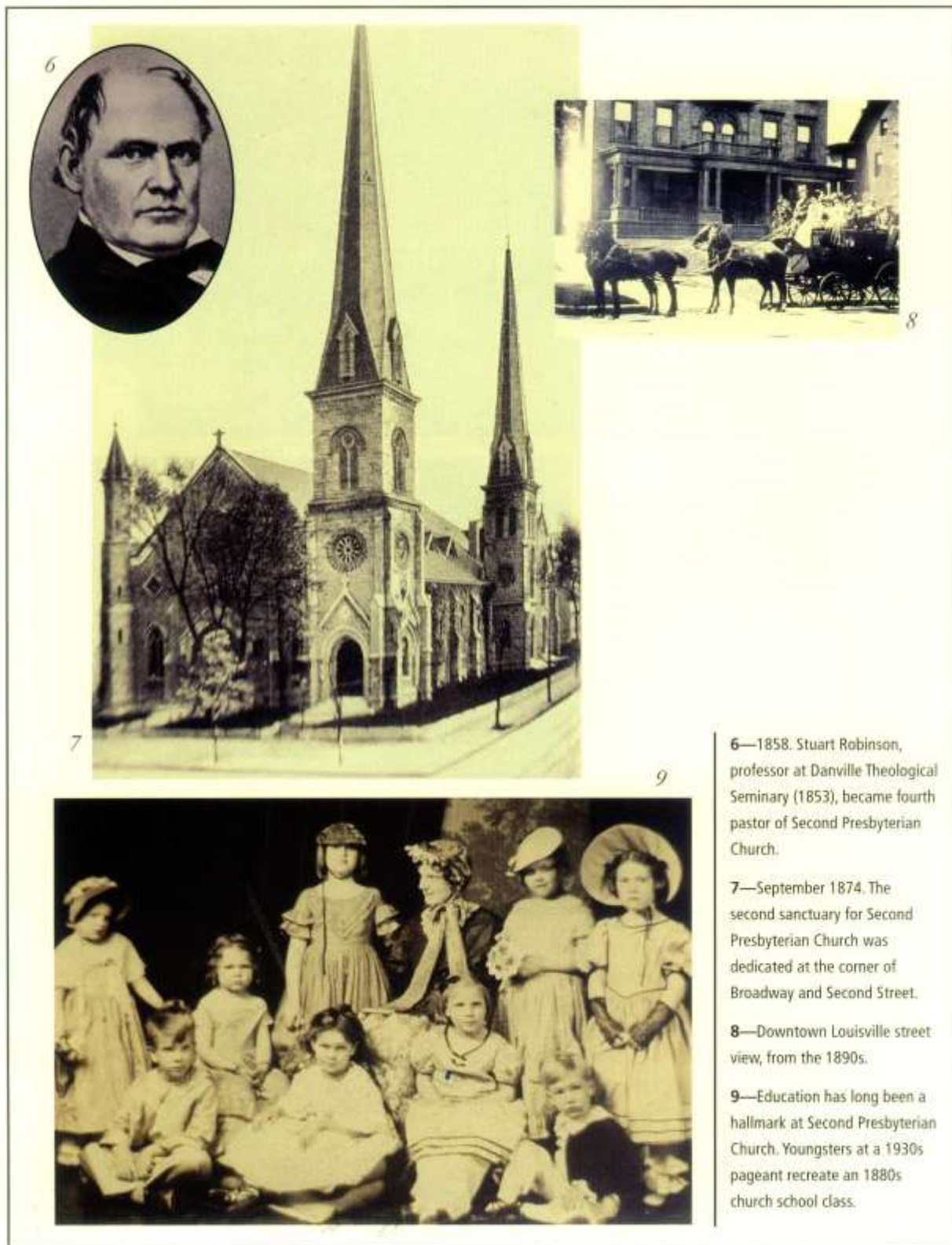
5—Women's Groups in the church existed as early as 1850. A portion of the women's ministry known as "The Benevolent" sewed regularly for the Red Cross from 1914, before the United States entered WWI, until its conclusion. After the war, when they returned to "comfort-making," they took the name "The Benevolent Sewing Circle."

Photo is re-enactment from 1961 pageant.

5



History in Images



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6—1858. Stuart Robinson, professor at Danville Theological Seminary (1853), became fourth pastor of Second Presbyterian Church.

7—September 1874. The second sanctuary for Second Presbyterian Church was dedicated at the corner of Broadway and Second Street.

8—Downtown Louisville street view, from the 1890s.

9—Education has long been a hallmark at Second Presbyterian Church. Youngsters at a 1930s pageant recreate an 1880s church school class.

St. Matthews Area Churches:

Second Presbyterian Church

Courtesy Ron Nelson, Second Presbyterian Church:

A Celebration History, 1830-2005

History in Images

11

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10, 11—1885. Charles R. Hemphill became sixth minister of Second Presbyterian Church. Dr. Hemphill also helped to organize Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, which held classes at the church before the campus was constructed at 109 E. Broadway. From 1910-1920, he served as the seminary's first president.

12—1898. Rev. John Little, with help of other Presbyterians from Second Presbyterian Church, founded the Presbyterian Community Center.

13—Second Street looking north to Broadway. In this photo, the church is located across the street from the horse-drawn trolley. *Photos from the Fredrick H. Verboeff Collection, The Filson Historical Society, Louisville.*

14—1906. Egbert Watson Smith became the eighth pastor of Second Presbyterian Church.

15—February 8, 1908. A devastating fire in the church's sanctuary proved to be a momentary distraction from the many mission projects begun throughout the city. The church would suffer a second major fire as depicted in this 1956 photograph.

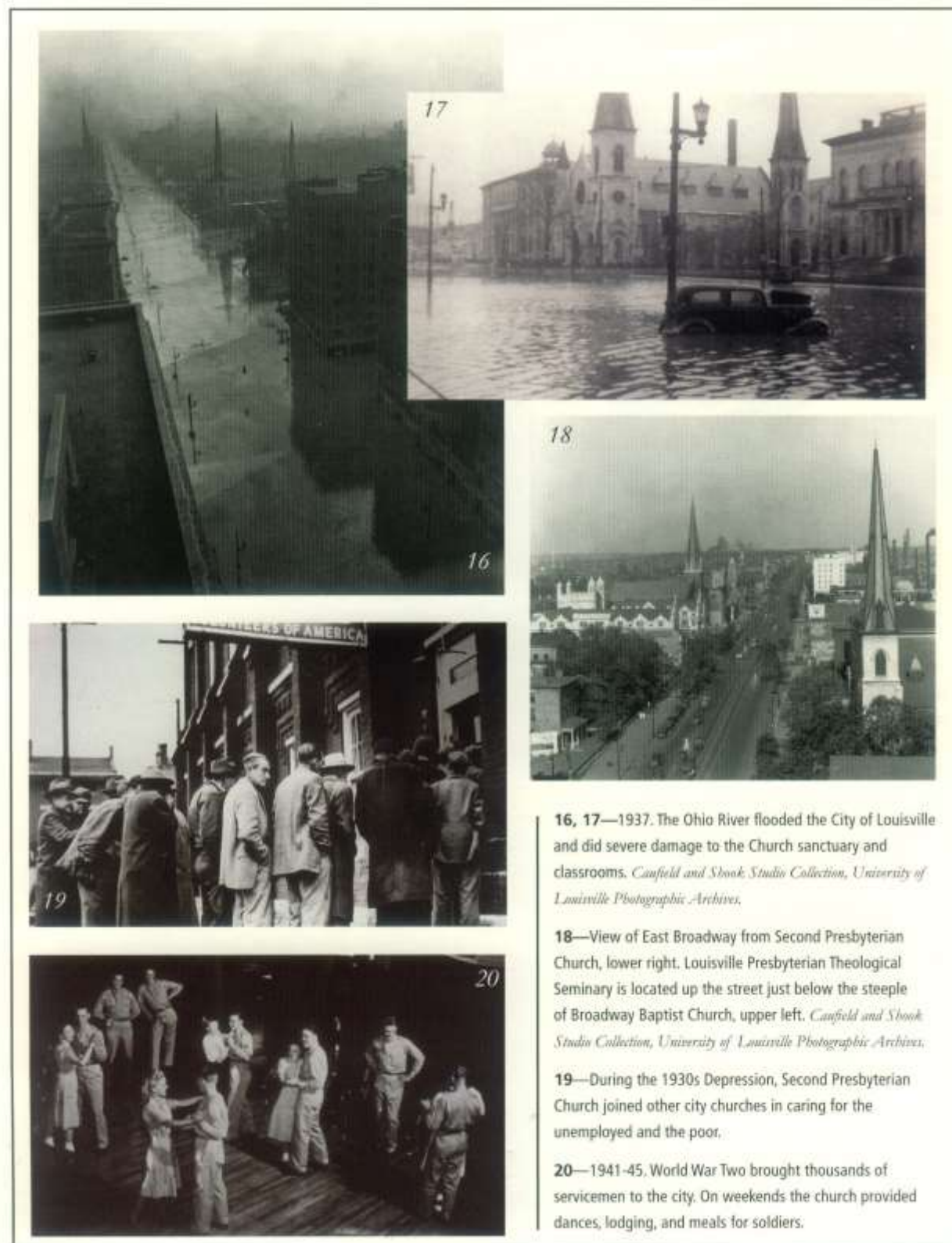
St. Matthews Area Churches:

Second Presbyterian Church

Courtesy Ron Nelson, Second Presbyterian Church:

A Celebration History, 1830-2005

History in Images



16, 17—1937. The Ohio River flooded the City of Louisville and did severe damage to the Church sanctuary and classrooms. *Canfield and Shook Studio Collection, University of Louisville Photographic Archives.*

18—View of East Broadway from Second Presbyterian Church, lower right. Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary is located up the street just below the steeple of Broadway Baptist Church, upper left. *Canfield and Shook Studio Collection, University of Louisville Photographic Archives.*

19—During the 1930s Depression, Second Presbyterian Church joined other city churches in caring for the unemployed and the poor.

20—1941-45, World War Two brought thousands of servicemen to the city. On weekends the church provided dances, lodging, and meals for soldiers.

History in Images



21—1951. At the request of Louisville Presbytery, Second Presbyterian Church Session votes to build a mission chapel in suburban Rolling Fields. A second fire destroys the downtown Second Presbyterian Church in 1956. The church does not rebuild and moves the congregation to the Rolling Fields property.

22—Teunis Gouwens was pastor of Second Presbyterian Church for 27 years (1921-1948), serving longer than any other pastor.

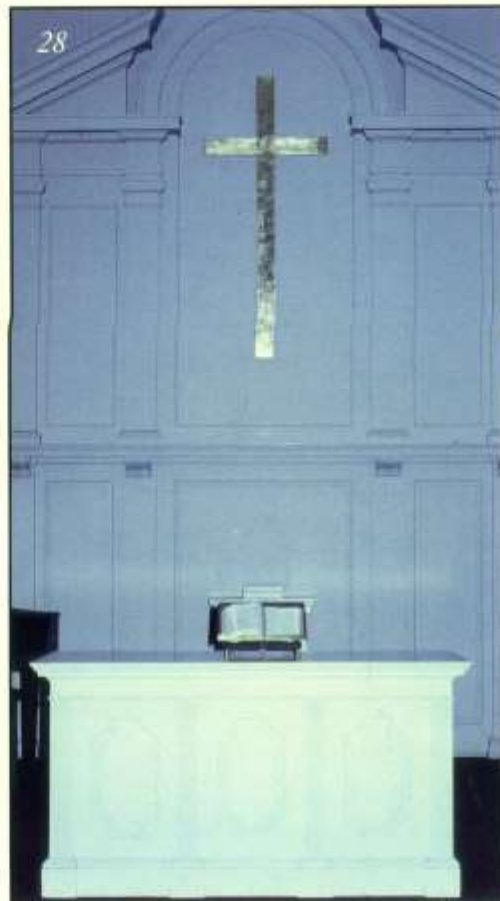
23—William R. Clarke, *right*, leads the church from 1950 to 1968. With him is Douglas C. Chase, a Louisville Seminary graduate and assistant pastor at the church during the 1950s.

24—For many decades, Second Presbyterian Church's outreach has also embraced children at Bellewood Children's Home in Anchorage, Ky.

25—The ministry of music at the church is greatly enhanced by a graded choir program for adults and youth of all ages.



History in Images



26, 27—1974. A tornado swept through Louisville, resulting in severe damage in the Rolling Fields area. Second Presbyterian Church became a Salvation Army Emergency Center, and Major Wesley Mott lends church women a hand in feeding neighborhood folk.

28—The Chapel at Rolling Fields, with its gold cross and simple lines, was quite different from the large downtown church.

29—The Fellowship Hall, completed in 1958, offers added space for Christian Education classes, such as this one taught by Elder Charles Lambert Sr. in the 1950s.

St. Matthews Area Churches:

Second Presbyterian Church

Courtesy Ron Nelson, Second Presbyterian Church:

A Celebration History, 1830-2005

History in Images



30, 31, 32, 33—Chosen for his understanding of worship in the Reformed tradition, Harold Waggoner, based in Philadelphia, became the architect for the new sanctuary. The stained glass windows that surround the sanctuary and the narthex are not just pretty glass, but are specific images that reflect the church's theology. The new sanctuary was dedicated on April 17, 1980. *Photographs by Van Cavett, congregation photograph by Charlie Castner.*

34—Glenn Dorris headed the church's ministry team from 1968 until his retirement in 1988. This picture shows him baptizing young Will Flowers.

35—From Presbyterian Church (USA) headquarters, Robert Miller served the church from 1990-1993.



History in Images



36—The church's continuing support for the Presbyterian Community Center translates into a new neighborhood health clinic, which opened in 2003.

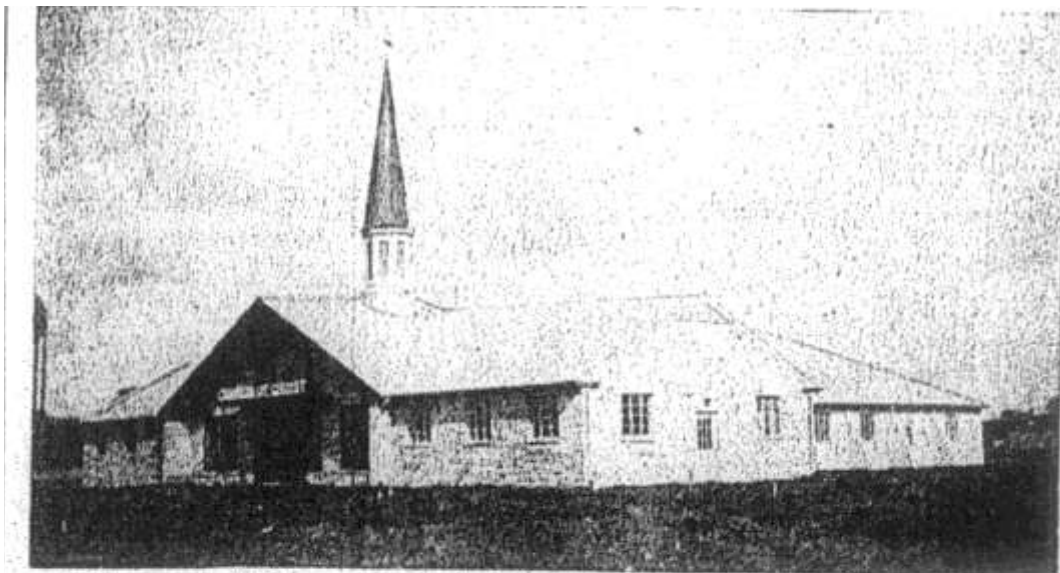
37—The Weekday School, founded by the Women of Second Presbyterian Church in the late 1950s, offers a preschool curriculum for more than 200 children.

38—1983. The reunion of the Presbyterian Church is accomplished, and the united Church votes to locate its new headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky.

39, 40—Stephens G. Lytch is the fifteenth pastor of Second Presbyterian Church.

41—In April 2004, Second Presbyterian Church kicked off its year-long celebration of 175 years in mission with a ground-breaking service for new education and fellowship space.

Courtesy *The Voice Of St. Matthews:*



THE NEW ST. MATTHEWS CHURCH OF CHRIST BUILDING

April 25, 1957

Church of Christ To Hold First Service April 28

The newly built St. Matthews Church of Christ will hold its first church service next Sunday, April 28.

Church services are scheduled for 10 and 11 a.m. with a Sunday School at 11 a.m.

Willard Collins, vice president of David Lipscomb College, Nashville, Tenn., will be the principal speaker at the opening service.

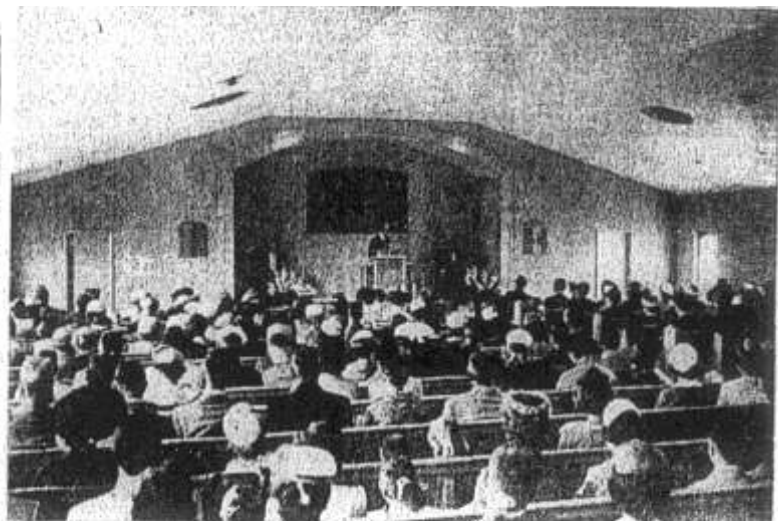
James Brasher is the minister of the church.

The church, a modern air-conditioned building housing an auditorium, an office, and 14 Sunday School rooms, is located off West-

port Road, just west of Herr Lane. Shaped like an inverted T, the building covers 8,500 square feet. It is made of stone and redwood trim.

Cost of the church was about \$92,000, according to J. Frank Kurfees, Jr., chairman of the finance committee. The building will seat about 420 persons.

Claud Harris will direct the singing in the absence of Mr. Kurfees at the 10 a.m. service.



—photo by Charles Stone

First services were held in the new St. Matthews Church of Christ building on Westport Road last Sunday. This interior shot shows part of the large crowd that attended. Pictured at center is Claud Harris, who directed the singing. At left on the altar is William Peden, who read the lesson and led the prayer. At right is Willard Collins, vice president of David Lipscomb College, who was the main speaker. Rev. James Brasher is the minister of the congregation.

May 2, 1957

**WE
MUST
LOVE**



**Westport Road
Church of Christ**

Thou Shalt Love . . .

A lawyer once asked Jesus, "Which is the great commandment in the law?" (Matthew 22:36). Jesus answered, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second like unto it is this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments the whole law hangeth, and the prophets." The apostle Paul related this same principle of love to New Testament faith and practice. He wrote "Love therefore is the fulfillment of the law" (Rom. 13:10).

What is the New Testament application of these great laws? Let us consider the first and greatest, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God --" What does it mean to love God?

The apostle John wrote, ". . . and everyone that loveth is begotten of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love." (1st John 4:7,8). In the second chapter of that same letter John wrote, "And hereby we know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; but who keepeth his word, in him verily hath the love of God been perfected." Jesus said, If ye love

me, ye will keep my commandments. . . He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me." (John 14:15,21). Jesus also said, "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46).

Members of the churches of Christ know and believe that there can be no "New Testament" Christianity without genuine love. They also know and believe that there is no genuine love without obedience. It is contradictory to say that "love is better than obedience," because there can be no love without obedience. Disobedience is the opposite of obedience, and disobedience is the opposite of love.

At what point may I refuse to obey God and still love God? May I refuse to repent of sin? or to confess Christ? or to be baptized for the remission of sins? It is important that we practice charity and good will and justice toward all; but, may I obey God in these last commands and refuse to obey him in such matters as repentance, confession and baptism and still qualify as loving God with all the heart, soul and mind? Obviously, the answer is "No."

If you would like further study of this subject please write to the address given below.

YOU can know your Bible better. Enroll in a Free Bible Correspondence Course. The Bible is your only text. Study for yourself in the quiet of your home. Take as much time as you need for each lesson.

Send name and address to: **Westport Road Church of Christ**
c/o Yarborough Leigh
4500 Westport Road
Louisville, Ky. 40207

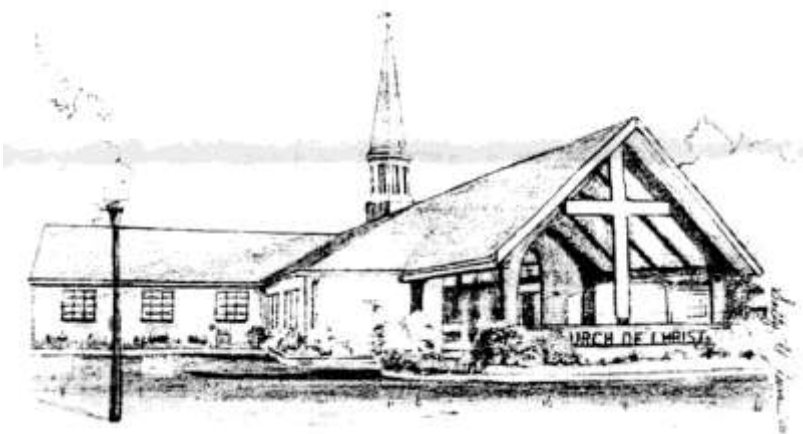
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St. Matthews Area Churches:

Westport Road Church of Christ

Courtesy Phyllis, of Westport Road Church Of Christ:



2009



Church History

The Westport Road Church of Christ was born out of the vision of the Bardstown Road and Haldeman Avenue churches who saw the need for a congregation in the St. Matthews area of Louisville. The first worship assembly in Greathouse School, November 27, 1949, had just twenty-seven people present. Jim Brasher served as the first full-time minister, beginning in 1952.

In 1957 the 150-member congregation moved to the present location, purchasing property for \$18,000. Dr. William Gray, J.F. Kurfees, Jr. and H.E. Sparks broke ground for the new building. Additions to the facilities in 1964 and 1994 were necessary to meet the increasing need for classroom and fellowship space.

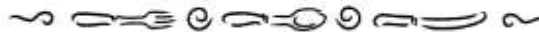
Our current ministry staff began to take shape in 1997 with the arrival of Arnis Pape to serve as pulpit minister and Doug Lalli, youth minister. They were joined in 2003 by Dale Phillips, a licensed clinical counselor, who services the counseling needs of the membership and the community. In 2005 Doug Lalli moved into a new arena, focusing on worship and spiritual growth and Daren Lugafet was brought in to work with middle school and high school youth.

We have a growing, culturally diverse, and involved membership with many active ministries. In 2005 we began the first phase of a 3 million dollar expansion project to meet our ever-increasing need for space. Groundbreaking for a new worship facility is planned for the latter half of 2008.

Our congregation has enjoyed a richness of blessings. We are grateful to God for talented leadership, dedicated Christian teachers, and a close fellowship among the members.

Faithful brothers and sisters laid the foundation for us. They built the fire that keeps our hands warm today.

"Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." 1 Corinthians 15:58



St. Matthews Area Churches:

Westport Road Church of Christ

Courtesy Phyllis, of Westport Road Church Of Christ:



Westport Road Church of Christ

Louisville, Kentucky

1949 to 1997

The congregation that was to become the Westport Road Church of Christ got its spark from a two week gospel meeting sponsored by the Haldeman Avenue and Bardstown Road Churches of Christ. The meetings, led by Hugo McCord in mid-November 1949 at the New Eline Garage on Frankfort Avenue, attracted families who were exchanging their World War II uniforms for civilian clothes, starting their families and building their homes in the St. Matthews area. The area was growing rapidly, and there was a need for a local church.

Spurred on by the meetings, a group of 27 men, women and children met for their first worship service on November 27, 1949 at the Greathouse School. Mid-week Bible study took place in the homes of some of the founding members: Charles and Sarah Mitchell, Huba and Mildred Sparks, and Frank and Harriet Kurfees. For a brief time Harry Pickup, Jr. served as minister, until ill health forced him to resign. Jim Brasher followed him in 1950, and remained for eight years.

In 1953 the congregation, then known as the St. Matthews Church of Christ, moved to the St. Matthews Women's Club on Shelbyville Road. Huba Sparks and Tom Doak were selected as the first elders.

Continued growth led to the construction of the church building on Westport Road, and the Westport Road Church of Christ held its first service in the new building on Sunday April 29, 1957. Claude Harris led singing, William Peden read the lesson, and Willard Collins, then vice president of Lipscomb College, was the guest speaker.

Yarborough Leigh came in 1963 to be the minister. Steady growth prompted the construction of the side classroom wings in 1964, and the first educational director, Dennis Kelly, was hired a year later.

Having solidified their position on Westport Road, the congregation turned to outreach programs. The Middletown Church of Christ was started in 1967 with members from Westport Road, and support for Harley Walker as minister. Two years later support was given to Woodrow Hazelip's work at the Collingswood, Ontario congregation, and later still Westport Road supported work in Versailles, KY and Glasgow, Scotland (Jerry Harville). Support of Alfred White's work in Cristobol, Panama was begun in 1974.

Willard Pyles became our minister in 1969, followed by Ralph Burris in 1972, and Max Johnson (minister) and Rick Nease (assistant minister) in 1978. A two-story

St. Matthews Area Churches:

Westport Road Church of Christ

Courtesy Phyllis, of Westport Road Church Of Christ:

In addition including classrooms, a kitchen and a multipurpose room were added to the building in 1976. Don Peden was appointed minister of missions in 1979 and made several trips to Panama in this capacity. Members of Westport Road medical community also traveled to Panama to dispense medical treatment and teach the gospel.

During a brief period without a full time minister in 1983 Johnny Duke filled the pulpit, followed by the arrival of Bill Carpenter in 1984. The first youth minister, Art Kirby, joined the congregation in 1985, followed by Tyler Tredway in 1987, and Greg Hoskins in 1991.

Brother Barry Sanford joined Westport Road in 1990, and was assisted by Mike Jones and youth minister Brett Phillips (1994-97). In the summer of 1994 Westport Road participated in Habitat for Humanity's "Blitz Week", helping to construct a house in the west end of Louisville in seven days. Mission efforts supported by the congregation included East End (Louisville) Church of Christ, Danville, KY Church for the Deaf, the mission church in Duluth, MN (Danny Jaekle), and the LaRue County Church of Christ in Hodgenville, KY. During his tenure, the church expanded once again, renovating the office, foyer and kitchen areas in a project completed in 1994.

Following the devastating floods of Spring 1997 the congregation distributed food and cleaning supplies to families and churches in need in the Louisville area. In June 1997 youth group members traveled to Hounuras on a mission trip.

Our current minister Arnis Pape came to Westport Road in July 1997. At this time, the congregation supports churches in Duluth, MN, Hodgenville and Danville, KY. Also, funding is provided for Childplace, World Christian Radio, Herald of Truth, International Bible College (Florence, AL), North Haiti Church of Christ, India Fund, and Elizabethtown's (KY) mission in the Ukraine.

Other programs active at Westport Road are the Sunday evening Bible study SHARE groups (Dale Herold); benevolence, including distribution of Christmas food boxes in Louisville and assistance to the needy (Dewey Danner); grief counseling (Diane Hogan); Vacation Bible School (Greg & Lauri Hoover); education (Larry Sims, Angie Dunavin and Kimberly Robinson); and youth activities (Joe Henderson and Larry Ellison).

Active early childhood programs reach out to the community during the week, too. Both Mother's Day Out (Lucy Ann Danner and Helen Taylor) and Preschool (Susan Mudd) meet at the building.