



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

*At St. Matthews, we are rooted in worship and growing in community.
We gather to praise God, learn the way of Jesus, and serve our neighbors with steady courage and kindness.*

The Spirit of St. Matthew's

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, located at 8320 East Tenth Street in Indianapolis, Indiana, is a vibrant and inclusive faith community rooted in worship, outreach, and fellowship. Established in 1916, the church has long served the city's east side with a mission of hope, healing, and hospitality.

The parish, a place both both reverent and relaxed, is known for its open and affirming stance, welcoming people from all backgrounds with “open hearts and caring hands.” Worship services include traditional Holy Eucharist offerings on Sundays and Wednesdays, with music and choir featured during the 10 a.m. Sunday service.

Each Sunday morning at St. Matthew's, around 50 parishioners worship at one of the two services. Though grounded in commitment to Indianapolis' east side, members live in numerous parts of the greater metropolitan area and beyond. Many are similar in age—in their 50s and older—but have come to St. Matthew's drawn by varied circumstances and have worshiped at St. Matthew's from less than one year to sixty years. A liturgically broad church, the parish treasures a good sermon, stirring service music, and worshipping in community.

Beyond worship, St. Matthew's is deeply committed to community outreach. The church basement houses a full-scale commercial kitchen that supports both church events and local food entrepreneurs, including food truck vendors. Outreach ministries focus on compassion and connection, offering meals, essentials, and support to neighbors in need.

The church also fosters spiritual growth through adult education, youth programs, and a variety of volunteer opportunities. Whether you're seeking a spiritual home or a place to serve, St. Matthew's offers a welcoming space to grow in faith and community.





**“A new life of people are ...
choosing St. Matthew’s because of
what they are getting out of it.”**

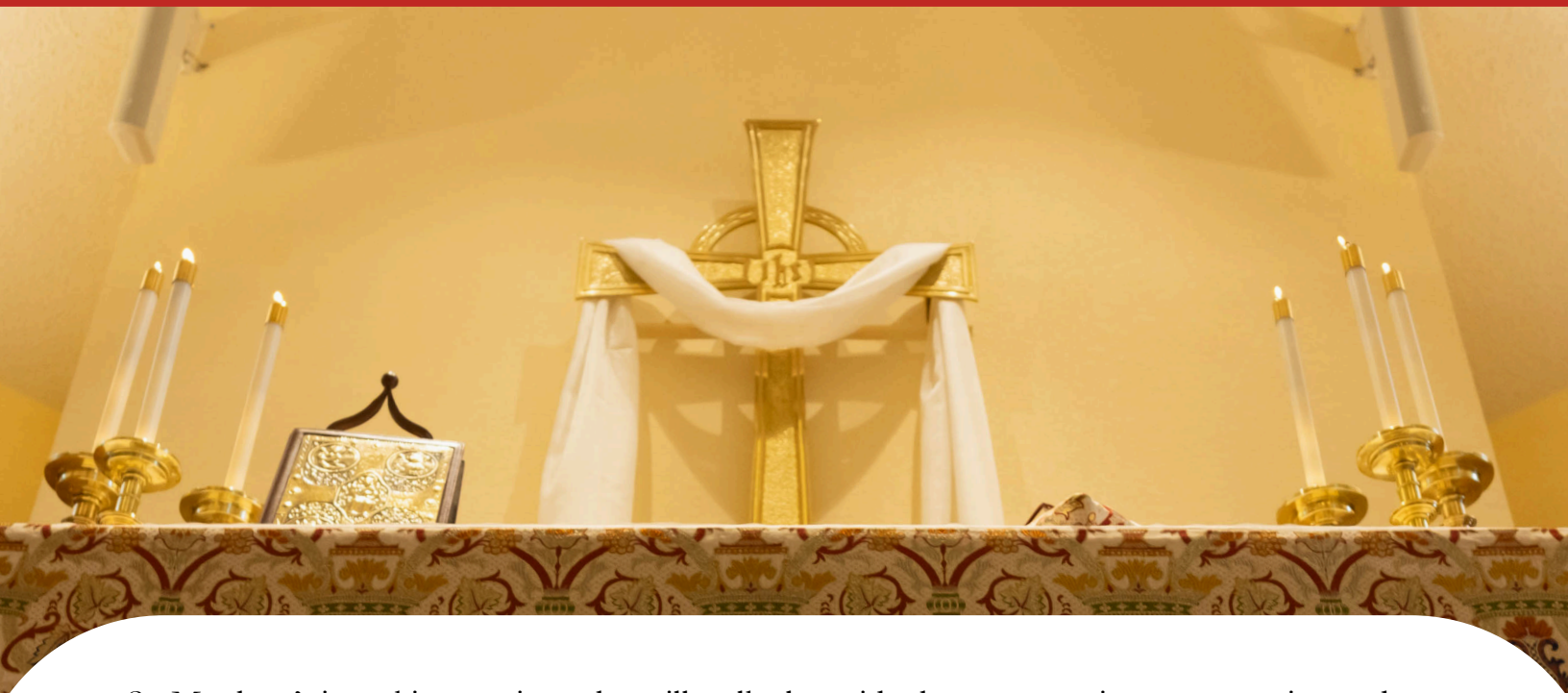
*Jennifer Albrecht,
St. Matthew’s oral history project*

**“They’re welcoming.
They’re loving. They’re caring.
They’re a true family.”**

*Bonnie Godfrey,
St. Matthew’s oral history project*



St. Matthew's Vision for a New Priest



St. Matthew's is seeking a priest who will walk alongside the congregation, encouraging and supporting all to be better versions of themselves. Holy Conversations and discernment surveys reflect a desire for a priest who emphasizes the importance of building a Christian community, sustaining its life and growth, and developing disciples of Christ.

The parish is looking for a candidate with a flexible leadership style, who knows when to be collaborative, when to delegate and entrust others, and when to coach and train others. Engagement and support for community outreach are of high importance. The congregation values sermons that are engaging, inspiring, and thought-provoking.

Pastoral attributes important to the parishioners are flexibility and respect for others; ministering to the sick, shut-in, and bereaved; attracting and incorporating new members; and welcome for visitors.

The community envisions its future as a time of multigenerational discipleship, with new and younger members, children, and strong diversity. A vibrant priest could lead St. Matthew's to more visibility, to more engagement in nearby Hancock County, to fuller pews and expanded outreach opportunities. Now is the time to take new adventures and continue to grow as a beacon of hope for the east side of Indianapolis.

"I would love it to continue to be a community that loves and welcomes, that provides individuals that come through its doors the opportunity to grow and be authentically themselves in relationships with others."

—Crystal Black, *St. Matthew's oral history project*

The Greater Community

The extended metro area of Indianapolis is home to almost two million citizens with 900,000 living in the city proper. St. Matthew's is located in Warren Township, home to 105,000 residents.

Neighborhoods surrounding St. Matthew's are socially and economically diverse. Demographics of the area show a median age of 37; 55% are female. Race and ethnicity figures are 41% Black, 37% White, and 14% Hispanic. The median household income is \$48,763.

The township is home to a supportive community of businesses, not-for-profits, churches, and other organizations working to build a stronger community. St. Matthew's actively supports a number of those programs. Much work could still be done, and St. Matthew's strives to support its mission by supporting others.

Indianapolis, the "Crossroads of America," is a city that blends rich history with a modern, friendly atmosphere. The sixteenth largest city in the United States and the capital of Indiana, it is famous for professional and amateur sports, serving as home to the NFL's Colts, the NBA's Pacers, and the WNBA's Fever, as well as the NCAA headquarters. In addition, the sports world focuses on Indianapolis each May when the city hosts "the greatest spectacle in racing," the Indianapolis 500. The city offers far more than sports, however. It hosts world class museums, including the Children's Museum of Indianapolis, ranked the number one U.S. museum of its kind in a *USA Today* reader's poll. Other museums of note include the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art, Newfields, (home of the Indianapolis Museum of Art), and the Kurt Vonnegut Museum. Indianapolis is also home to a number of other cultural attractions, including the Indianapolis Zoo, the world-class Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, Indianapolis Opera, and numerous other arts venues. Area clergy and religious institutions have benefitted from the outreach and support of the Lilly Endowment.



Buildings and Grounds

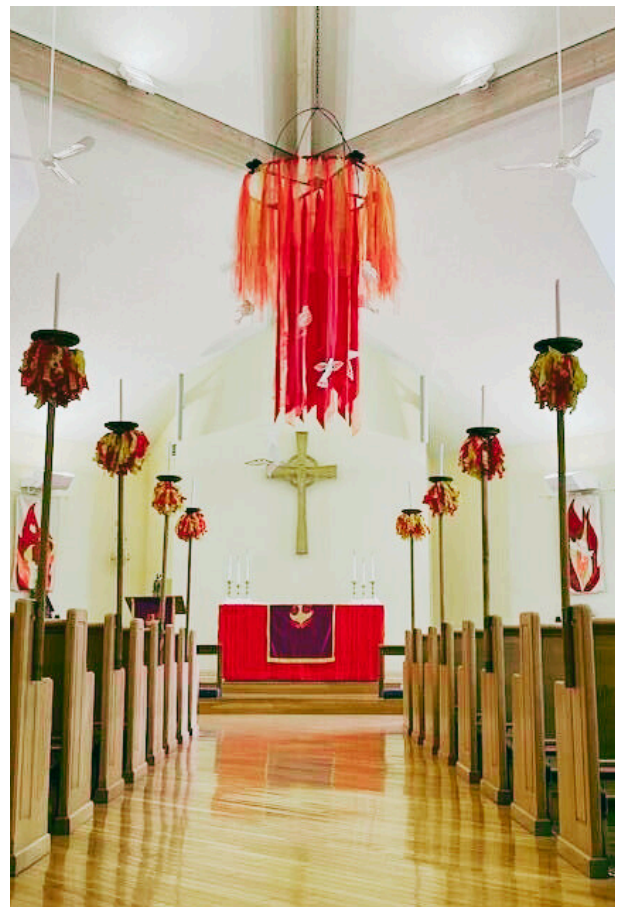


Located in a residential neighborhood, St. Matthew's is on a major street served by a city bus line. The building encompasses 14,000 square feet and is situated on five acres. The sanctuary is a beautiful, light-filled space with excellent acoustics for music.

“...I wanted to be somewhere where the music was of the people. And so that led me to St. Matthew's, which had a wonderful music program.”

“St. Matthew's has always been a loving, welcoming church.”

*Crystal Black,
St. Matthew's oral history project*



In addition to the main building, there is an outdoor worship space, a columbarium, as well as a commercial kitchen. Moorhead Community Resource Center is next door, which offers outreach opportunities for the congregation.



Financial Stability

St. Matthew's is financially stable and has become stronger over the last five years on the strength of good financial stewardship and generous members.

Pledges and Gifts

There is a strong base of pledging members:

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Pledges	36	38	39	40	45	44
Givers of Record	14	14	14	13	14	13
TOTAL	50	52	53	53	57	57

Below is a summary of revenue and primary expenses from 2020 until 2025.

St. Matthew's Financial Statements 2020-2025						
	2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Budget
Revenue						
Pledges	142,110	178,530	168,338	170,227	170,418	169,946
Givers of Record/Other	91,645	83,631	74,213	87,769	69,500	72,549
Building Use	20,747	20,926	14,533	29,872	37,543	36,800
Total Revenue	254,502	283,087	257,084	287,868	277,461	279,295
Expenses						
Clergy Support	87,478	96,931	99,251	104,313	109,532	115,089
Diocesan Assessment	18,183	26,731	29,458	32,731	34,030	36,394
Building	61,699	72,682	72,603	99,568	60,704	66,828
All Other	54,283	59,444	59,610	50,406	62,507	60,984
Total Expenses	221,643	255,788	260,922	287,018	266,773	279,295
Surplus/Deficit	32,859	27,300	(3,839)	850	10,688	-

Significant revenue from building use is collected from the community commercial kitchen ministry and the use of the former rectory as a rental property.

St. Matthew's Balance Sheet				12/31/2024
Assets (Bank Accounts, Investments)				180,613
Liabilities				
Debts				-
Unrestricted Designated Accounts				33,522

Additional financial achievements from the last six years include the following:

- The building's mortgage was paid in full.
- Replacement of all HVAC units was completed.
- All lighting fixtures throughout the building were replaced with energy efficient LED fixtures.
- The roof was replaced.

St. Matthew's is prepared to offer an annual cash compensation of \$75,000-\$85,000 based upon experience. A generous benefits package is available through the diocese.

Commitment to Outreach

St. Matthew's has a rich history of supporting those in need in the local community, with outreach programs rooted in faith, compassion, and service.

The parish actively supports the Community Outreach Ministry Eastside (COME) as well as the Irvington Community Advocacy Network (ICAN) by collecting donations for those in need. Also, Scouting America Troop 161 has been chartered to St. Matthew's since 1956 and is a partner in many activities.



ICAN

IRVINGTON COMMUNITY
ADVOCACY NETWORK



The parish has a close relationship with its neighbor, the Moorhead Community Resource Center, that provides services for families in Warren Township. Each year, St. Matthew's joyfully hosts a Christmas party for students and families receiving services next door, brightening the holiday season for many. The church has also hosted bingo lunches for parents and caregivers receiving services at Moorhead and continues to deepen the relationship by finding new ways to support the families.

St. Matthew's has a deep history with the Irvington Association of Ministers (IAM), an ecumenical group of clergy who also provide oversight for ICAN. The priest called to St. Matthew's has the opportunity to join a long-standing, supportive group of faith leaders active in the local community.



Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis



Led by Bishop Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows, the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis is composed of 47 worship communities spanning the southern two-thirds of the state. Additionally, the diocese owns Waycross Camp and Conference center in bucolic Brown County. Other diocesan ministries include dedicated youth, college, women's, Black, and LGBTQ organizations, as well as numerous regional and global partnerships.

The Indianapolis diocese is well-regarded for its collegial interactions among personnel as well as numerous options for clergy support. The diocese was the first to call two female bishops in succession; Bishop Jennifer is the first African-American woman elected as a diocesan bishop. Currently, the diocese is engaged in a discernment journey to consider a reunification with the diocese of Northern Indiana in order to better serve parishioners and God's mission in Indiana.

Rooted in hospitality and welcome, the St. Matthew's community is committed to a culture of understanding and belonging for all seekers.

Open

St. Matthew's has historically nurtured curiosity and broad-mindedness. The parish was engaged with trial versions of the 1979 prayer book as they were introduced. Several female members became parish and diocesan leaders in an era when women were not always welcome. The Reverend Jackie Means was raised up from St. Matthew's to become the first regularly ordained female priest in the nation. Discerners considering ordained ministry regularly find their time at St. Matthew's important to their journeys. This open spirit continues to draw many members to the congregation.

Resilient

A congregation that has remained open for 110 years must be resilient. St. Matthew's has survived financial challenges, societal and demographic changes, clergy illness, and disagreement. In many ways, the spirit of resilience has strengthened the congregation, offering hope even when circumstances seem daunting.

Bold

St. Matthew's major building projects are one example of taking risks in order to support parish growth and serve the east side of Indianapolis. These projects required important conversations that balanced needs, dreams, and financial reality. Asking for greater financial support and sometimes taking on debt has been a test of faith, purpose, and commitment.

St. Matthew's is dedicated to hope, healing, and hospitality. Even when the call to be an inclusive faith community has presented challenges throughout the parish's history, its strength has been in its willingness to be open, resilient, and bold. The opportunity that awaits the next rector is to harness this commitment and lead St. Matthew's into the future.

If you feel called to enter into discernment with St. Matthew's, please contact Canon Giulianna Cappelletti Gray.

Resources

- **St. Matthew's Episcopal Church:** www.stmattsindy.org
- **St. Matthew's YouTube Channel:** www.youtube.com/@st.matthewsepiscopalchurch5904
- **All About Indianapolis:** www.visitindy.com
- **Warren Township Data:** censusreporter.org/profiles/06000US1809780144-warren-township-marion-county-in
- **Irvington Information:** indyencyclopedia.org/irvington
- **Irvington Community Advocacy Network:** www.irvican.org
- **Community Outreach Ministry Eastside:** www.communityoutreachministryeastside.org
- **Moorhead Community Resource Center:** www.warren.k12.in.us/o/mcrc
- **Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis:** indydio.org
- **Waycross Camp and Conference Center:** indydio.org/waycross-camp-and-conference-center
- **Lilly Endowment:** lillyendowment.org

110 Years of History

When the east side was growing in 1916, St. Matthew's was established as a mission of downtown's Christ Church. Its first building was in Irvington, one of the city's first planned suburbs, dating to the 1870s. After 40 years at that location, and with limited room for expansion, the parish chose to construct a new building four miles farther east. It opened in 1958. Membership grew with the baby boom and the surrounding suburban housing boom. In 1998, the parish dedicated a new sanctuary, expanded and renovated offices, classrooms, and hospitality space.



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