St. Matthew's Church Chronology

1839 - John & Helen Bullitt Massie Martin deed one acre at Gilman’s Point for St. Matthew’s Church
   The Rev. Charles H. Page is Rector.

1846 - The Rev. R. M. Chapman becomes Rector.

1854 - The Rev. George Beckett becomes Rector.

1858 - Church burns to the ground.  Martin gives two more acres to church.


1870 - First service conducted by the Rev. William Perkins in rebuilt church.

1871 - The Rev. Meade Nelson becomes Rector.

1880 - The Rev. J.T. Helm becomes Rector. (source?)

became a mission prior to 20th Century-   services continued 1906 -1912

1913 - St. Matthew's property sold.

1948 - First organizational meeting of new St. Matthew's Church held at Bishop Clingman's home.
   New mission established at St. Matthew's.  The Rev. Wilfred B. Myll becomes minister in charge.
   First service held at the St. Matthews Woman's Club building.
   First confirmation class
   First Every Member Canvass
   Rectory purchased on Leland Road.

1949 - 8-acre tract purchased at corner of Hubbards Lane & Massie Avenue.
   First Men's Club meeting
   First Annual Parish Meeting

1950 - Young couples’ group formed

1951 - St. Matthew's becomes a parish.
   Rev. Wilfred Myll installed as Rector.

1952 - Ground was broken at current site.  ("First unit.")
   Landscaping done in consultation with the Olmsted Firm of Boston.

1953 - First service held in new building, in what is now Clingman Hall.
   Day Kindergarten established.
1955 - Ground broken for second unit.

1956 - First Sunday School classes held in second unit.

1963 - Ground broken for third unit.

1965 - Third unit, the present sanctuary, dedicated.
       Altar hangings made for chapel.

1970s - Chapel screen dedication.

       National Episcopal Church Convention held in Louisville.

1975 - Charlotte Price sculpture for Narthex.

1976 (May 16) Holy Trinity Catholic - St. Matthew's signed covenant relationship

1976 - David Selzer began as curate (assistant rector)

1977 - Basketball and volleyball (?) teams started.

1979 - Library started.

1979 (May) Mortgage paid off

1980 - Young Adults Group formed (eventually Weekenders)

1980 (September 21) Church consecrated

1980 - Agape Dinner tradition began

1982 - first Foot-washing as part of Maundy Thursday service

1985 - (October) Bookstore opened.

1985 - Survivors of Suicide began

1986 - Parish Players "Double in Diamonds"

1986 - Mending the Nets (Capital Campaign)

1986 - Memorial Garden created.
       Wing added to building for offices and additional classrooms.

1996 (September) Foyers established formed by Small Groups Committee

1996/7 - Rev. David Gable, Interim Rector

1998 - Services increased to three:  8:00, 9:00, 11:15.
      50th Anniversary celebration.

1999 - First Habitat home sponsored by St. Matthew's

2000 - Services changed to 8:00, 10:00 and 5:00.


2002 - $2 million bequest from Eleanor Augustus.  Half used as seed money for capital
      "Building the Spirit" campaign.

2003 - First Habitat home co-sponsored by St. Matthew's and Holy Trinity
      others co-sponsored in 2007, 2009, and 2011

2005 - Campaign ends, and groundbreaking for new construction takes place

2008 (April 13) Dedication of refurbished Library

2008 - first Ministry Fair

2009 - Oral History Project begins

2009 (September 9) Community Preschool of St. Matthew's Episcopal begins

2010 (March 20) Food Pantry opens in Saints Hall

2010  Living the Spirit Building Campaign (follow-up to Building the Spirit)

2010  first Living in Zin

2010  first Alternative gifts fair

2013  Rev Laird -- to American Cathedral in Paris

2013  Rev. Thomas A. Momberg - Interim Priest

2014  Rev. Kelly Kirby - 4th Priest at St. Matthew's

revision 9-23-2104