

Welcome to St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

January 14, 2024



Welcome to worship We worship as we live — in the name, and under the guidance, of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. As we celebrate the Epiphany, may God enlighten us all.

Holy Communion: All are welcome to come forward at the time of communion to receive God's gift of grace. Gluten free wafers as well as juice are available for those with specific dietary needs. Juice is available as an alternative to wine, in the center of each communion tray. Speak to an usher if you need assistance coming forward.

A large-print bulletin is available from an usher. If it's helpful to you or someone you are worshipping with, please take one.

Welcome to our Guest Preacher Pastor Brent Halverson who joins us today. Pastor Brent served at Trinity Lutheran Church in Cedarburg for many years until 2021, when he began hospice chaplaincy for Brighton Hospice. He lives in the area and worships with us when his schedule allows.

Child for Baptism: (11:00) **Owen Joseph Tonner**, child of Sarah & Ian Tonner, Sun Prairie, was born October 9, 2023. Sponsors are Tyler Breunig & Abby Liverseed.

You've been Asking... here it is: NEW SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITY!

Midweek Evening Adult Bible Study--Wednesdays 6pm-7pm Starting January 17, 2024

Blessed are the peacemakers! For inquiring and spiritual minds, adults of all ages, all genders, couples and singles. Take a pause during the busy week and join us for an hour of fellowship, growth and good humor as we journey through the Bible. We kick things off with the Gospel of John! What are the synoptic gospels and why isn't John one of them? Who is the Disciple Jesus Loved? What's up with foot washing? This is an ELCA study; all viewpoints are welcome. Bring ideas and join us for the conversation!



Happy...joyous...thrilled...excited...awesome...blessed! These are some of the words with which the Call Committee and the St. Matthew's Church Council announces **we have a candidate of choice for our lead pastor!** This Candidate of Choice has been recommended by the Call Committee and approved by the church council. Praise Be to God!

You can meet this person on Saturday, January 27th in Fellowship Hall between 2:00 and 4:00 pm. Then, on **Sunday, January 28th, a vote will be taken** for extending a call to this candidate to become our next lead pastor at St. Matthew's. Thanks Be To God!

Because this is a confidential process and because we want our candidate to have an opportunity to end his current call well and begin this new one well, we must keep this information within the walls of St. Matt's until he has been officially called by the congregation and there has been closure at his current church.

Bulletin Insert for Sunday, January 14, 2024

Sunday Morning Adult Faith Formation in January; 9:45 - 10:45 am

All are Welcome! Come when you can! Our Adult Faith Formation hour supports the faith growth of our church and on line community. This is a weekly opportunity to engage your mind in faith related topics, meet others with similar interests and connect with your church community. We gather on Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:45 A.M.

January 14 -- Who Was Stephen?

This adult education session will focus on St. Stephen: Humble servant, Passionate Preacher, Martyr in Christ. The life and death of Stephen directs us to the meaning of the greatest commandments, "Love the Lord your God with all your might" and "Love your neighbor as yourself." St. Stephen became the model for Stephen Ministry, founded in 1975, and part of the mission of St. Matthew's since 2018. If you wish to familiarize yourself a bit ahead of time, read Acts 6:3-8:2. You are welcome to attend and join the discussion whether or not you have read this passage ahead of time! Pastor Ann and Ginny Cleppe

January 21 - "Do You Have a Question or Two (or maybe a Dozen) about the Bible?"

Join us for the St. Matt's version of the Jewish game, "Stump the Rabbi!" Any and all questions about the Bible and/or church history are fair game for our panel-Dan Bice, Conor Williams and David Zersen! This class will be driven by your questions so come prepared! These "three trying-to-be wise men" will do their best to provide an answer or suggest a source for further exploration. Plan to be on your toes as the experts may throw out an answer that has no truth to it, allowing the class to vote on whether it's valid or not! Don't miss this unique approach to learning more about the Bible and the church while having fun with our experts!

January 28 – No adult education – Congregational Vote for Lead Pastor AND Congregational Annual Meeting

Men's Ministry --- A great time to get involved

Men's Breakfast – Saturday, January 20 at 7:30 am with "The Bridge Builders Story" with Kurt Owens. Learn how Kurt's heart led him to build a better future in the heart of Milwaukee. Come hear this fascinating story, enjoy some good food and fellowship, and learn how you might wish to get involved with this ministry!

Men's Ministry Beer Barons of St. Matthew's – Kickoff meeting on Thursday, January 18th at The Good City Brewpub at The Mayfair Collection from 8:00-10:00pm. The Beer Barons of St. Matthew's is a group of men who generally make good decisions, looking to break "liquid bread" with other men who are also blessed and broken. Drinking beer is not required, but feel free to join us! The goal here is to simply be men of the church meeting other men where they're at. Thursday, January 18th, we'll be at the Good City Brewpub at the Mayfair Collection on Burleigh St. from 8-10pm.

Monday Morning Men's Study meets each Monday morning from 6:30-7:30am.

Saints Older Adults Ministry:

First Program of 2024 will take place on Wednesday, January 17, 11:30am

Guest Speaker Kristine Hansen, an author and speaker on famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright

Sign up at the Welcome Center or call the church office; choose your lunch option, ham or turkey.

Details on Ms. Hansen's presentation:

America's most famous architect, Frank Lloyd Wright, was born in 1867 in the rolling hills of Richland Center, Wisconsin, to a family of Unitarians. Bay View-based journalist Kristine Hansen authored a comprehensive guide for Globe Pequot Press about Wright's designs (and those of his protégés) that are open to the public—as well as insider historical information about sites now demolished, and those available for “drive-bys” only. Learn more about Wright's Milwaukee-area projects, including stories from site managers as well as those who are lucky enough to live in his homes.

January KFC & DOC dates

Kids for Christ (1st-3rd grades) Jan. 14 from 12-2pm

Disciples of Christ (4th & 5th grades) Jan. 21 from 12-2pm

Join us for pizza and a game of Capture the Flag. Friends are welcome. Please sign up in advance through the church office or by replying to an email that you receive. Want to join the email list? Let us know at office@stmattslutheran.org

Middle School Game Day, January 28th from Noon – 2:00

If you are a middle school student who misses playing Capture the Flag, this event is for you! Come to the Youth Room for pizza and stay to play Capture the Flag and other fun games. The event is open to all kids in 6th – 8th grade. Please bring \$5 for pizza.

Communion Class for 2nd Graders on January 21st --Learn about Holy Communion

Children of any age are welcome to receive communion at St. Matthew's - some receive it when they are toddlers, while others wait until they are older. Regardless of when children begin to take communion, each year we have a class and service for 2nd graders and their parents to talk about the significance of this sacrament. This year's class will happen on Sunday, January 21st from 9:45-10:45. (Also open to kids who might have missed it in previous years). We will celebrate the sacrament of communion with the 2nd graders at services throughout the spring.



Auction Items are Welcome

We are looking for interesting items to offer at our Night in Nola Dinner Auction on February 9th, which supports the Youth Mission Trip to New Orleans. Do you work for a business that would consider donating a product or a gift certificate? Do you have a skill or service you could contribute? Vacation rentals are also a welcome item. All donations in very good condition are appreciated! Please talk to Gretchen Hauge if you can help.

Women's Retreat planned March 8-10 at Cedar Valley Retreat Center. An informational flyer is at the Welcome Center, or, contact Sue Swing; sueswing@sbcglobal.net for more info.

Upcoming Healing Services

Those desiring special healing prayers for themselves and/or other are invited to come forward, along with their support persons or family members.

Sunday, January 21, 2024, during the 11:00 service

Ash Wednesday, February 14, after the morning & evening services

Maundy Thursday, March 28, after the morning and evening services

Sunday, April 21, 2024, in worship at 8:30 and 11:00 am

Check out the Healing Prayer Pew card in the rack in front of you for more information on St. Matthew's Healing prayer ministry and how you can participate.

Thank you to our Assistants for worship services today!

(It's possible some of these people have switched dates since the bulletin was printed on Thursday morning. "Open" means this spot was not filled when bulletin was printed.)

Volunteer Host: Ruth Kallio-Mielke.

Acolytes: (8:30) Connor Meier, Mary Ellen Millenbach. (11:00) *open*.

Coffee Hosts: Lisa & Joe Chiesa.

Communion Preparers: (8:30) Robin Bloczynski, Nancy Bowen. (11:00) Hannah Malloy, Siena Petersen.

Communion Assistants: (8:30) Karie Clement, Marion Heinz. (11:00) Joyce Biehn, Robin Grady.

Greeters: (8:30) Steve & Betty Williams, Emily & Josh Baseheart, Toby & Heather Manternach. (11:00) Debbie & Allan Land, Ethan Antczak, Trudy Zauner.

Lay Readers: (8:30) Madelyn Locher. (11:00) Pam Stokke-Ceci.

Ushers: (8:30) Chloe Eckdale-Dudley, Flash & Mary Ann Gordon, John Richter, Ken & Sue Voigt. (11:00) Joe Ceci, *open*.

Lay Assistant: (8:30) Rob Sholl.

Welcome Center Host: (8:30) Diann Lebow.

Library Assistant: Betsy Daniels.

Stephen Minister: Gloria Potter.

Worship Technology: (8:30) Michael Knutson, David Locher. (9:45) *open*. (11:00) Dave McCullough, Brian Smith.

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Pastoral Staff: Ann Williams, Associate Pastor (*Lead pastor position open*)

Volunteer Ministries/Small Groups/Adult Education: Sue Swing

Youth Ministries & Children's Education: Gretchen Haugse, Lynne Thomas

Children's Minister: Donna Gardner Manke.

Music Minister: John Paradowski.

Interim Senior Choir Director: Alexa Doebele.

Music Staff: Jeff Reeves, Amy Dankwardt, Heide Hughes

Technology Coordinator: Brian Smith.

Custodial Staff: Marsha Olson, Dave Fagerberg, Bob Gardner.

Church Administrator: Al Van Lith.

Office Staff: Bridget Smith, Sonja Mohr.



Link thru your smart phone camera to give to St. Matthew's