

Welcome to St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

February 11, 2024



Welcome to worship We worship as we live — in the name, and under the guidance, of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. May we always follow God's call to listen to his beloved Son.

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.

Flowers at the altar are given by The Malloy Family in honor of John's father, Andrew Malloy, Jr.

New Church council members will be installed this morning at the 11:00 service. They are Alice Rudebusch, Cathy Shaw, and Rob Sholl. Continuing their service on council are Carl Johnson (president), Fred Heim (vice president), Laura Hyland and Michael Wolaver. We thank these people for their time, energy and thoughtfulness in leading us during this pivotal time in our history.

Greetings from Our New Pastor, The Rev. Kevin Kretzmann Farrar:

Hello, St. Matthew's! I am overjoyed to be called to be your new lead pastor! I start on February 28. I've had the pleasure of meeting some of you already and look forward to getting to know all of you. Not only do I look forward to joining St. Matthew's as a pastor but also as a parent. I am excited to raise my daughter, Zoë, and our second child (due in May) in such a faithful, supportive church. I cannot wait to join your community!

-Pr. Kevin

Join us for Worship on Ash Wednesday

February 14 -- Two Worship Services 10:00 am and 7:15 pm

Services include Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion, followed by Healing Services

(No morning Bible Study on Feb. 14)



Bulletin Insert for Sunday, February 11, 2024

Your Help Needed to Deliver Valentine Gift Bags

With Valentine's Day coming up, we will be delivering gift bags to our members who are not able to make it to church regularly. The bags contain various Valentine treats, including bookmarks made by our 1st-5th grade Sunday School classes.

If you are able to make a short visit and deliver this gift to one of our members, please pick up one (or more) of the bags from the table by the church office on February 11th. Bags are sorted by zip code.

Thanks for your help!



Guest Preacher Next Sunday: We are pleased to welcome retired Pastor Marilyn Miller as our guest preacher next Sunday. Pastor Marilyn served at our partner congregation, Reformation Lutheran Church in Milwaukee, as well as leading the MICAH group, working for justice. Please come to hear her message and make her feel welcome.

Upcoming Adult Education:

Sunday Morning Adult Faith Formation in February

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.

February 11

Nehemiah Project - The Milwaukee Center for the Study and Practice of Forgiveness With Marye Beth Dugan; Executive Director for the Nehemiah Project Planning Team

Forgiveness is a by-product of an on-going healing process. It takes time and can go through various stages including grief, rage, sorrow, fear and confusion. Nehemiah has begun a new initiative to build on their past work with forgiveness, striving to create strong and sustainable forgiveness practices throughout the Milwaukee Metropolitan area. Their intention is to be a community resource extending their outreach to private individuals, professionals and organizations.

February 18

What Happened to Monks and Nuns After the Reformation? With David Zersen Travel together to monasteries and nunneries where Lutheran spirituality still exists in creative ways.

February 25 – Part 1 of a three-part series

“The Current Tensions in the Middle East” - Part 1 -Palestinian Perspectives

The conflict between Israel and Palestine becomes more complicated as additional countries become implicated in the issues. This session will examine the current Christian support for Israel as well as the historic and ongoing challenges faced by Palestinians. Dave Zersen will be joined by Othman Atta and Ihsan Atta, two Palestinian-Americans from the Milwaukee area.

Deborah Circle will meet on Tuesday, February 13 at 12:30 pm in the Upper room.

February & March KFC & DOC dates: Join Us for Children's Ministry!

Parents of children in grades 1-5, consider bringing your child for Children's Ministry gatherings. (See the dates below) We will gather for an afternoon of fellowship and fun. Join us for pizza and a game of Capture the Flag. Please bring \$5/child for lunch.

Disciples of Christ (4th & 5th grades)

Sunday, February 11 from 12-2pm & Sunday, March 10, 12:00-2:00 pm

Kids for Christ (1st-3rd grades)

Sunday, March 3, 12:00-2pm

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.

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.

Midweek Evening Adult Bible Study--Wednesdays 6pm-7pm Now Underway:

You are welcome to join them when your schedule allows

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, starting 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! Meeting in the Upper Room

Beer Barons of St. Matthew's - No Skills Required

The Beer Barons had an excellent turnout back in January and look to break "liquid bread" yet again in February! As always, drinking is not required, but the Beer Barons invite men of St. Matthew's to meet other men where they're at. Thursday, February 15th, we'll be O'Sullivan's at 12525 W. North Ave. from 8-10pm.

Women's Retreat planned March 8-10 at Cedar Valley Retreat Center. A registration flyer is at the Welcome Center, or, contact Sue Swing; sueswing@sbcglobal.net for more info. Sign up now, as there is limited space available. There's also a Saturday-only option for attending. Guest presenter for the weekend is Danette Braun of Abundance Life Coaching.

Outreach for Hope Lenten Devotions Available beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 14: "Bridges of Hope: Reflections on the Power of Partnership" is the theme of the stories of thriving partnership in congregations and ministries across our synod, by our Ministry partners, supporters and staff. Look for the devotions on their website:

outreachforhope.org/Lenten-devotions

Lenten Wednesdays are coming! Join your St. Matthew's family on Wednesday evenings, February 21 – March 20

Morning:

10:00-11:00 am Bible Study w/ Pr Ann



Evening:

5:15-6:15 pm Dinner in Fellowship Hall to benefit the Youth Mission Trip

6:15-7:00 pm Family Lenten Time for parents and children up through 3rd grade with Donna Gardner Manke

6:00-7:00 pm Bible Study for adults

5:45-6:30 pm New Creation Choir

6:30-7:00 pm New Generation Choir

7:15 pm Midweek Lenten Taizé Service (30 min.)

Have Dinner with Us in Lent!

We hope you'll join us for dinner Wednesday evenings in Lent from February 21st through March 20th. Dinner will be served continuously from 5:15 – 6:20. Suggested donation for the dinner is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children aged 3-10. It's a great way to spend time with your St. Matthew's family before Lenten Family Time and Choirs!

Parents and Younger Children, Come Join Us on Wednesday nights!

Lenten Family Time, Wednesday evenings, 6:15 - 7:00 p.m.

February 21 - March 20, 2024 -- There are stories, songs, projects, prayer and brief worship, led by Donna Gardner Manke. Children 3rd grade and younger are encouraged to attend with their parents. It's going to be fun. Come join us!

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: James Bowen.

Acolytes: (8:30) Holly Holton, Clare Kasdorf. (11:00) Jacob Foley.

Coffee Hosts: Laura Goeckermann.

Communion Preparers: (8:30) Nancy Bowen, Patrick Gardner. (11:00) Ruth Kallio-Mielke, Maya Tanel.

Communion Assistants: (8:30) Karie Clement, Leslie Gardner. (11:00) Donna McAllister, Julie Schmidt.

Greeters: (8:30) Megan Carroll, Mike & Donna Gifford, Steve & Betty Williams. (11:00) Carl & Eileen Lund, Youa Reinicker, Margaret Bartlett & William Kisamo.

Lay Readers: (8:30) Joseph Ceci. (11:00) Alice Rudebusch.

Ushers: (8:30) Dan Hayes, Grant Nickel, Bill Richter, Joe Chiesa, *captain*. (11:00) Mark Bjorgo, Claire Gifford.

Lay Assistant: (8:30) Pam Stokke-Ceci.

Welcome Center Host: (8:30) Marion Heinz.

Library Assistant: Linda Wunderlich.

Stephen Minister: Heather Deaton.

Worship Technology: (8:30) Brian Smith. (9:45) *open* (11:00) Brian Smith, Lily Wiemer.