

## Welcome to St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

March 10, 2024



# LENT

**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 journey through the season of Lent, may we listen for Jesus' voice, rest in his care and share his love with others.

**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.

**Altar flowers** are given by Darla Hium in memory of Tom Ament on the tenth anniversary of his passing.

**A Library book** is given by Dee & Don Birschel in honor of Gavin Bratz's 12<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**Name Tags:** To help Pastor Kevin learn people's names, we will offer name tags each week. It will be a great help to him in connecting names and faces as he begins his ministry here.

**Deborah Circle** will be meeting on Tuesday, March 12 at 12:30 pm in the Upper Room at church.

**Disciples of Christ (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Graders)** meet today from 12:00-2:00 in the Youth Room with Donna Gardner Manke. Friends are welcome. Please bring \$5 for lunch.

**Sunday Morning Adult Faith Formation, 9:45-10:45 am:**

***The 3rd of three sessions is offered next Sunday, March 17***

**A Special Series: The Israel-Hamas war: Understanding the ongoing crisis**

On Oct. 7, members of the terrorist group Hamas launched a surprise attack on Israel, killing 1,200 people and kidnapping 200 others. In retaliation, Israeli forces have laid siege to Gaza, where the death toll has now reached 28,000.

What are we to make of all this? At the center of the hostilities are issues of land, millenniums of history and two Abrahamic faiths. Beginning Feb. 25, St. Matthew's will hold three adult forums with religious leaders from our community to provide perspective and background on the conflict:

**March 17:** A Jewish perspective on the Israel-Hamas war, led by Dan Bice with special guest Moshe Katz.

The first two presentations are available for viewing on our Youtube page:

<https://www.youtube.com/@StMattsTosa>

# Bulletin Insert for Sunday, March 10, 2024

*Next Sunday!*

## **March 17<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 & 11:00 Worship--Children & Youth Choirs share: "Jesus Stories"**

Jesus used stories to teach people how to live and love others. His stories were about everyday events and experiences that people could relate to. Jesus also used stories to tell people about God's love for everyone. Our Children and Youth choirs will share songs and stories about Jesus' care and love that he gave to us.

Donna Manke will be sharing a children's message with all on that day as well. Come and be part of the power of community sharing faith together.



## **Middle School Game Day, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 12:00-2:00**

If you're in middle school, March 17 is your lucky day! There will be games, pizza, and maybe even a surprise at the end of the rainbow! We'll start at noon with lunch and end the fun at 2:00. Please bring \$5 for pizza.

## **Saints Gathering for March: "Bach's Birthday Bash" Concert!**

***Wednesday, March 20 Lunch at 11:15 am in the Upper Commons; concert at 12 noon***

Internationally renowned organist Curt Sather will perform great works of Johann Sebastian Bach. Curt, who calls Bach the greatest composer for the organ, said, "There is something so, so religious, so spiritual about it that has always connected with me more than any other composer." Bach was "divinely inspired," he said. Rumor has it the St. Matthew's Organist, whom you may know, will be joining in the recital performing movements of Bach's Brandenburg Concertos transcribed for Organ and Piano. Invite your friends as this concert is free to the public and all are welcome to enjoy the great music of Johann Sebastian Bach. Sign up at the Welcome Center or in the church office so that we may know your luncheon choice (Vegetable Stack, Cranberry Turkey, or Black Forest Ham box lunch, suggested donation \$12 each). You don't need to be a "Saint" to attend this special concert.

## **Sunday Morning Adult Faith Formation, 9:45-10:45 am**

### **March 24 -- Muhlenbergs Create the only American Lutheran Dynasty**

Surnames like Kennedy, Rockefeller and Roosevelt represent familiar dynasties in American history, but five generations of Lutheran Muhlenbergs top them all. Pastors, scientists, politicians, and academics, they dominated cultural life in the Eastern U.S. for two centuries. Why don't Lutherans know more about this clan? Pastor David Zersen shares this fascinating story.

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

The Beer Barons have had an excellent turnout the first two months and look to break "liquid bread" yet again in March. 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, March 21st**, we'll be at J&B's Blue Ribbon Bar and Grill, co-owned by St. Matthew's Bliesner family, at 5230 W. Bluemound Rd. from 8-10pm. We'll be gathered in the back hall.

## Join your St. Matthew's family on Wednesdays, March 13 and 20



**Morning:** 10:00-11:00 am Bible Study with Pastor Ann Williams

**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 & children with Donna 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.)

### **Lenten Dinners each Wednesday night** *Fundraiser for Youth Mission Trip to New Orleans*

Dinner will be served by Mission Trip youth from 5:15 to 6:15. Suggested donation for the dinner is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children aged 3-10. The remaining weeks' menu:

**March 13<sup>th</sup>:** Baked Potato Bar, salad, fruit

**March 20<sup>th</sup>:** Chili, corn bread, fruit, veggies & dip

### **Midweek Evening Adult Bible Study--Wednesdays 6pm-7pm, Upper Room**

For inquiring and spiritual minds, stop by for a midweek session of "God Talk." Adults of all ages, genders, couples, singles all are welcome as we journey through the bible with a new topic and scripture each week. ELCA materials are a starting point. Come for the snacks, stay for the theology! *"Be excellent to each other."* - Bill Preston, Esquire; Ted Theodore Logan

### **Parents and Younger Children, Come Join Us on Wednesday nights for Lenten Family Time, Wednesday evenings, 6:15 - 7:00 p.m.**

March 6, 13 and 20 -- 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. Come join us!

**Easter Flowers! Help beautify the church for Easter Sunday, March 31.** Pick up an order form at the Welcome Center or across from the church office, fill it out and turn it in with your payment either in the offering plate or in the church office. OR order online on our website home page and pay through our giving page. Help us to fill the front of the church with flowers on that glorious Easter Morning. There is also the opportunity to give to our Lenten Benevolence, which is the Scholarship fund for El Salvadoran and Tanzanian partners. Details in the commons. Order a flower, and add a benevolence gift, if you can. **The deadline for orders is March 17.**

### **Lent & Holy Week Offerings to Support Scholarship Programs in El Salvador and Tanzania** ***Can you Pledge a Dollar a Day for the 40 Days of Lent to Give a Child an Education?***

Offerings collected during Lent and Holy Week this year will be used to help students in our partner parishes in El Salvador and Tanzania. These families live in a reality where an education is out of reach because of their poverty. You can help end this cycle by pledging a dollar (or more!) per day for the 40 days of Lent – a Lenten discipline that can help young people in El Salvador and Tanzania imagine a different future – one that can give them hope and lift them out of poverty.

**Good Friday Easter Egg Hunt & Worship**--Friday, March 29, at 10:00 am

Join us Good Friday at St. Matthew's for our annual Good Friday Easter Egg hunt. We will meet at 10am in the Fellowship Hall. A craft will be available as we await the start of the egg hunt. We will then gather in the Sanctuary for worship.

**Easter Eggs Needed!** *Pick up a bag of empty eggs outside the church office.*

We are asking for donations of wrapped candy-filled Easter eggs for the Good Friday easter egg hunt. Please bring them by Wednesday, March 27, 2024.

**Good News! Children's Clothing Swap returns Date: Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 9:30–11:00 a.m.**

**In the Commons area - outside library** Simply bring your kids' outgrown or unwanted clothes (size newborn through size 14), shoes and accessories and swap them for other items. We only ask that the clothes you bring are appropriate for spring/summer and in relatively good condition. If possible, please group clothing by size and mark the size on the bag/box. Clothing may be dropped off at the church office from April 2nd – April 13th (labeled "Clothing Swap") or brought on the morning of the swap. Clothing only; no toys or children's furniture.

**MICAH Health Summit 2024:** MICAH, elected officials, community members, organizations and health systems will work together to restore health services to the Metcalfe Park area, whose residents have some of the worst health outcomes in Milwaukee. Please join Conor Williams and others from St. Matthew's to attend this summit on **Thursday, March 21, at 5:00 pm at Hephatha Lutheran Church, 1720 W. Locust Street.** There will be vendors and light refreshments following the summit. Email Conor about your availability to attend at [conorw1@icloud.com](mailto:conorw1@icloud.com)

**Brian McLaren comes to Wauwatosa, Saturday, March 16:**

***A Big Name Christian Writer, Right in our Neighborhood***

"Do I Stay Christian? Is there Faith after Doubt?" These are some of the questions that popular writer, speaker and activist Brian McLaren will be addressing when he visits Wauwatosa at Underwood Memorial Baptist Church, 1916 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Saturday March 16. Tickets are \$35, and registration is online at the link connected with the QR code on the right.



**Worship Assistants today: Volunteer Host:** Jim Bowen.

**Acolytes:** (8:30) Michael Knutson, Tyler Goeckermann. (11:00) Nathan Searing.

**Coffee Hosts:** Don Birschel, Susan Bisswurm.

**Communion Preparers:** (8:30) Pam Stokke-Ceci, Noah Weiler. (11:00) Ruth Kallio-Mielke, Hannah Malloy. **Communion Assistants:** (8:30) Jan Johnson, Joanne Ziarek. (11:00) Donna McAllister, Alice Rudebusch.

**Greeters:** (8:30) Toby & Heather Manternach, Brian Due, Megan Carroll. (11:00) Trudy Zauner, Dan Brovarney, Allan Land, Youa Reinicker.

**Lay Readers:** (8:30) Laura Staats. (11:00) Marion Heinz.

**Ushers:** (8:30) Chloe Eckdale-Dudley, Brad Iding, John Richter. (11:00) Evelyn Antczak, John Dobbe.

**Lay Assistant:** (8:30) Rob Sholl.

**Welcome Center Host:** (8:30) *Open.*

**Library Assistant:** Judy Holmes.

**Stephen Minister:** Carl Johnson.

**Worship Technology:** (8:30) Owen & Eli Schaar. (11:00) Eligio Cavazos, Dave McCullough.