

Welcome to St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

March 17, 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 worshiping with, please take one.

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.

Today: **Children & Youth Choirs share: "Jesus Stories"**

Jesus 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. Thanks to the New Generation Choir, New Creation Choir, and Praise Kids choir for giving this gift to the congregation today.



Sunday Morning Adult Faith Formation, 9:45-10:45 am: 3rd of three sessions today

The Israel-Hamas war: Understanding the ongoing crisis At the center of the hostilities are issues of land, millenniums of history and two Abrahamic faiths.

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>



TODAY: Last Day to Order EASTER FLOWERS for Easter: Please fill out a green form and turn into office with payment, or order online at the link using the QR code. Remember that beside flowers, you can also give the gift of education to our partnership families through scholarship gifts. Thanks in advance for helping beautify the Easter Sunday décor and supporting the children in El Salvador and Tanzania.

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.

Bulletin Insert for Sunday, March 17, 2024

Middle School Game Day, March 17th, 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.

What's New With Mt Meru Coffee? Introducing the Mt. Meru coffee, Spring Blend.

- Blend of 80% regular and 20% Peaberry -Available in regular grind or bean.
- Natural flavors of chocolate, citrus, and coffee blossom. -12 oz. size for \$15.
- Available by special order only, as Supply is limited.

In addition, don't forget our standard coffees in regular, decaf, and peaberry, grind or bean, available at the coffee cart for purchase. Stop by and check it out today!

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." 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.

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.

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.

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.

Join your St. Matthew's family on Wednesday, March 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 Dinner 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. **March 20th:** Chili, quesadillas, 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 for Lenten Family Time, Wednesday evenings 6:15 - 7:00 p.m. March 20 – Come for stories, songs, projects, prayer and brief worship, led by Donna Gardner Manke. Children 3rd grade and younger are encouraged to attend with their parents.

Lent & Holy Week Offerings to Support Scholarship Programs in El Salvador and Tanzania *Your donations are providing 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. 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 News! Children's Clothing Swap returns Date: Sunday, April 14th, 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.

Looking Ahead: Undie Sunday collection is coming up April 7-21! We do this collection for Guest House and Benedict Center, and collect all sorts of underwear for men and women. Look for a list in an upcoming bulletin, and if you see a sale on underwear in the meantime, please consider picking up some before the collection begins. Thanks for your support of this collection!

