

## Lent 2023 at St. Matthew's: "The Water Holds You"



In this season of Lent we follow Jesus' journey to the cross and remember we are joined to this journey through our baptism—a journey through death to new life. Each week during Lent, we'll reclaim the promises given when the baptismal waters washed over you. A theme will be presented in Sunday worship and echoed on Wednesday night. Water will be our image. God's promise to hold us, like we are floating in water, will be our guide.

### WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT 2023

**MARCH 1st – and continuing each Wednesday thru MARCH 29th, 2023**

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 10:00-11:00am | Bible Study with Pastor Ann in the Upper Room                  |
| 5:30-6:30pm   | Dinner in Fellowship Hall to benefit the Youth Mission Trip    |
| 6:15-7:00pm   | Family Lenten Time for parents and children led by Donna Manke |
| 5:45-6:30pm   | New Creation Choir rehearsal                                   |
| 6:30-7:00pm   | New Generation Choir rehearsal                                 |

[See Details on Page 4](#)

## *Pastor's VOICE*

*He leads me beside still waters;  
he restores my soul. - Psalm 23:2*

The first congregation I served as a pastor was in Racine, a Lutheran community with Danish-American roots. In their sanctuary, hanging by wires from the ceiling was a replica of a sailing ship. It was always a curiosity for visitors and a great opportunity to draw their focus to what stood directly under the ship, the baptismal font. The imagery conveys, "We are, together, sailing on the waters of our baptism to our heavenly home." The Danes, whose country was surrounded primarily by seas, knew the dangers and the necessities of sailing. God's promises in baptism gave them comfort, hope, and a home.

The Church's season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, February 22nd. For 40 days we follow Jesus' journey to the cross and his resurrection - that we might focus on our own death and resurrection through baptism. Our prayer is that God might renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of Jesus Christ.



*Water gives life  
and sustains life.*

At St. Matthew's in this Lenten season, we'll be exploring water stories from the Bible about barren deserts, floods, wells, rivers, lakes and seas. Tears will fall, thirst will be expressed. There will be washing and restoration. The Bible begins with a garden of Eden, with rivers flowing out. The Bible ends with a vision of a restored Jerusalem, with a river of life flowing in the center. In the middle of our Bible story is Jesus crucified, with water flowing from his side when his body is pierced with a sword.

Water, we will again discover, gives life and sustains life. It cleanses and threatens to destroy. Join in on the journey and discover how water, specifically the water of our baptism, holds us. On the waters we discover a promise-filled world. Water is God's gift that flows continually to us through the Spirit, that we might hold a cup of cold water for one another (MT 10:42).

On the journey with you,  
Pastor Karen

### St. Matthew's Mission Statement

Called to fulfill the Great Commission, St. Matthew's Welcomes all to faith in Jesus Christ, Nurtures our faith journey, Equips us to serve others, and Sends us into the world to make a difference in Jesus' name.

### The Voice of St. Matthew's

The newsletter of St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church  
Karen Natterstad, Interim Lead Pastor  
Ann Williams, Associate Pastor

1615 N. Wauwatosa Avenue, Wauwatosa, WI 53213  
414-774-0441; E-mail: [office@stmattslutheran.org](mailto:office@stmattslutheran.org)

Visit our website: [www.StMattsLutheran.org](http://www.StMattsLutheran.org)

Sunday worship at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

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# Upcoming Events

## Come to the Mission Trip Dinner Auction on St. Patrick's Day!

Have the final months of winter got you feeling just a wee bit bogged down? Well, you're in luck because we have just the event to lift your spirits.

And that's no blarney! The Mission Trip Dinner Auction on March 17th



be a night of fun for all ages, beginning at 5:30, with food and entertainment starting at 6:30.

While we can't promise you a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, we can promise a night of good food, camaraderie, entertainment, and fun for all ages. Not only that, there will also be plenty of items to bid on for the silent auction, from hand crafted glass lamps to babysitting and yardwork services to condos in Lake of the Ozarks and Colorado. (Items will be on display and open for bidding in the Commons by March 12th).

All proceeds from this fun event will go to the Youth Mission Trip to Kentucky, where we will be working to rebuild homes damaged by historic flooding last summer. So, wear your green and celebrate St. Patrick's Day with us to benefit a good cause! It's appreciated if you sign up for Dinner Auction at the Welcome Center, in the office, or by clicking on the link in the weekly emails.

## Call to ask for late registration 414-777-7700 "Stepping On" Reducing Fall Risks

If you are at risk for falls or are worried about falling, Stepping On is a program that can help you.

### Workshop Sessions:

Tuesdays, 9-11 am

March 7 - April 18

Cost: \$10 for seven-week series

Where: At St. Matthew's in the Upper Room

Register: Call 414-777-7700 or visit [froedtert.com/classes](http://froedtert.com/classes) to register. Registration deadline was March 1.

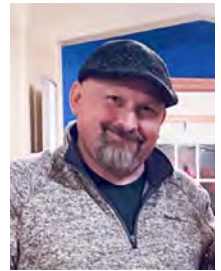
## Women's Group Meets First Sunday of the Month from 9:45-10:45 Sunday, March 5th & Sunday, April 2nd

In February Katie Nickel led the discussion on Mental Health and we had some time in small groups to share our stories and resource ideas with one another. We will continue this topic in March and encourage all women to stop in. All ages are represented and we benefit greatly from the faith, wisdom and laughter that is shared in this hour. All are welcome! Come when you can!

## Men's Breakfast

Saturday, March 11th 7:30-9:00am

Enjoy a hearty breakfast with the men & friends of St. Matthew's at 7:30 a.m. The breakfast will be followed by a powerful faith sharing & testimony given by St. Matt's member, Mike Reinicker.



## Julia Murphy resigns from Saints Coordinator position

**A Celebration to give thanks for her ministry to be held on March 12, 9:45 am during coffee time**

Our Saints Older Adults Ministry Coordinator, Julia Murphy, has resigned from that position effective with the new year. Julia has begun a new volunteer ministry of beginning a L'Arche community here in the Milwaukee area. (See this recent adult education session given on February 5 on our Youtube page) Because of her additional responsibilities with her family's small business, she has chosen to give up her Saints leadership position.

Julia Murphy has led the Saints for over five years, and shown careful leadership during the pandemic challenges. We are especially thankful for the thoughtful leadership she provided for our whole congregation in 'returning to worship' safely as vaccines became more widely available.

Please join us for cake and give thanks for Julia's work these past five years. She and her family will remain members of St. Matthew's, so we will still be able to see her at church.

## Parents Night Out

Thursday, March 23rd 5:00-8:00 PM

**Back by Popular Demand!**

Dave & Dana Wurzburger will host this fun dinner at Cafe Hollander for the parents while the kids are fed and cared for at St. Matthew's church. Childcare will be provided by some of the grandparents of St. Matthew's. They are looking forward to this truly intergenerational event! There is no cost for the meal/childcare that is provided to the kids. Older siblings welcome to volunteer

as childcare workers! Sign up with Sue Swing; [sueswing@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sueswing@sbcglobal.net) or at the Welcome Center at church.





# Our Lenten Journey: Wednesdays March 1-29

## Have Dinner with Your St. Matthew's Family During Lent!

We hope you'll observe Lent with us on Wednesday evenings from March 1st through March 29th, starting with a healthy dinner each week. Dinner will be served continuously from 5:30 – 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. Proceeds go to the Youth Mission Trip.

Here's what's on the menu:

**March 1st : Baked Ravioli, salad, bread**

**March 8th : Tacos, fruit, vegetables and dip**

**March 15th: Pulled Chicken Sandwiches, salad, fruit**

**March 22nd: Baked potato bar, salad, fruit**

**March 29th: Build-your-own-sub, fruit, vegetables and dip**

It's appreciated if you sign up for the dinners using the sign-up sheet on the Lenten table or by clicking on the link in the weekly emails. You can also help us out by signing up to donate food for the dinners on the sign-up sheet on the Lenten table.



## Family Lenten Time for parents and children, 6:15-7:00pm

There are stories, songs, projects, prayer and brief worship, led by Donna Manke. Children 3rd grade and younger are encouraged to attend with their parents. Participants will learn about Bible stories about our Lenten theme of 'Water.' We encourage families to come for the dinner (5:30), then stay for the family time. It's going to be fun! Come join us.

## 5:45-6:30pm New Creation Choir rehearsal

## 6:30-7:00pm New Generation Choir rehearsal

## 7:15pm Lent 2023 Midweek Service

## Lenten Wednesday Worship:

## "The Water Holds You"

Our Lenten path will offer a simple and beautiful service that can be a time to meditate and pray. As the darkness of the evening surrounds us, we ask God's presence to abide and stay with us. We who are thirsty, ask for the life-giving water that Jesus provides. Our Lenten journey will take us to that glorious Easter Sunday, where we once again can sing "Alleluia." Take time this Lent to reflect, it will be a meaningful ending to your day.

Waters of baptism give us:

Lent 1: Identity

Lent 2: New birth

Lent 3: Satisfaction

Lent 4: Forgiveness

Lent 5: Eternal Life

## Our Lenten Offerings will provide TWO water wells through ELCA Good Gifts Giving Goal: \$5,000 or two water wells

Water is essential to life. As Christians water is one of the first sacred elements we encounter in our baptism. This year we will be celebrating our Lenten season with "The Water Holds You." Therefore, it is only fitting that our designated Lenten offerings go to water. Nearly a billion people – one of every seven people in the world today – lack access to clean, safe drinking water. These individuals must walk, on average, 3.7 miles each day to fetch water, and often the water they do find is not safe to drink. Combined, unclean water and sanitation are the world's second largest killer of children.

Did you know that ELCA Good Gifts help provide water with items as basic as hygiene kits and water filters up to a simple water well that can help as many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe water.

For \$2500, a community can receive a simple water well, through the ELCA World Hunger and its partners. Through one well, as many as 500 families will gain access to clean, safe water. The community will be healthier. People will spend less money on medical expenses and more on food and education. And instead of spending hours each day gathering water for the family, women and children will have more time for work or school.

Make your donation online at: [stmatthlutheran.org](http://stmatthlutheran.org) "Give" page

Or, drop cash, bills or change, in the 5 gallon water bottle displayed in the Commons.

**Watch this video for fascinating details: <https://goodgifts.elca.org/simple-water-well>**



## Can You Give the Gift of **Education** to a Student in El Salvador?

Pan de Vida, our sister parish in El Salvador, is asking for our help to make sure the children of their congregation have the opportunity to attend school. For many families in the congregation, the costs of education are out of reach. The estimated monthly income for families in rural areas is \$92. And even for the few families who receive remittances from family members in the US, the monthly average increases by only about \$100. School costs per child range from \$200 per year for the youngest students to \$1600 for university tuition. When you multiply that by several kids, you can see how difficult it is for families to come up with these costs, especially for older grades.

Yet education is what lifts kids out of poverty. In her request for a scholarship program at St. Matthew's, Pastora Emely Chavez said:

*Right now, many young people, men and women, see migration or gang integration as the only options for their future. But we need to encourage them to imagine a different future and aspire to more. Accompanying young people, especially those at high risk, will be an invaluable part of our program.*

The goal of the program is to contribute to the social well-being and equality of young people by keeping kids in school and to provide students with the necessary tools to lift them out of poverty.

We invite you to be part of the scholarship program to expand opportunity for the kids of Pan de Vida. There are 39 students, ranging from kindergarten through university who need assistance.

**Tuition costs by grade level are:**

- **Grade School - \$200 - \$250**
- **Middle School - \$300 - \$350**
- **High School - \$450**
- **University - \$1600**

We welcome one-time or ongoing donations of any amount. Just as we do with our scholarship program for Sing'isi Lutheran in Tanzania, we will transfer funds to Pan de Vida twice a year to be distributed to the students. We will share regular updates on the children who receive financial assistance.

Education is a gift of the future to these families. We appreciate your support of the Pan de Vida Scholarship Fund! If you have any questions, please talk to Gretchen Haugse.



**Pastora Emely Chavez, center, is surrounded by members of the congregation of Pan de Vida and the visiting St. Matthew's group in January, 2020.**



# Church Council

## St. Matthew's Annual Meeting held January 29th

"Trust" was at the heart of the business of the annual meeting held during the Education hour on January 29th. Our leaders provided examples of the many blessings that have appeared out of a challenging year 2022. There is trust that the Holy Spirit is guiding our leaders and that our leaders are open to trust this guidance.



**Rob Wedel**, our congregation's treasurer, gave a positive report of how our budget deficit was able to be almost wiped out due to careful financial stewardship and strong giving in December. The carefully considered budget for 2023 was passed unanimously with no questions or discussion.



**Tara Laatsch**, the outgoing congregational president, led the meeting, including the more tedious sections on approving bylaws and amendments to the constitution.

Continuing to trust, meeting attendees voted unanimously to approve all of these mostly minor changes.

**Diane DuBois**, representing the Call Committee, gave an update that the Call Committee continues to interview candidates who show interest in the lead pastor position, and that our MSP (a detailed description of our church) has been updated with post-pandemic numbers. The Call Committee thanks you for your patience and trust in the process as we await a new lead pastor.

**Pastors Ann and Karen** gave a joint pastors' report, with Pastor Ann challenging us to stop waiting for a new pastor, and to get involved in ministry *now*, and the right lead pastor will join us in the work already in progress.

The leaders of St. Matthew's would like to thank YOU, the people of St. Matthew's, for your trust and support as we renew our determination to carry out God's work through St. Matthew's ministries. *To God be the Glory!*

## Joint Council-Staff Retreat held in early February

Council and Staff met for a productive retreat to get to know one another better, determine how we can work together and collaborate better, and brainstorm for the church's future.



All council members and all full-time staff attended the gathering on February 4.

St. Matthew's Church Council 2023

**Carly Crave, Diane DuBois, Fred Heim, Laura Hyland, Carl Johnson, Pam Stokke-Ceci, Michael Wolaver**

Retreat participants from staff:

**Pastor Karen Natterstad, Pastor Ann Williams, John Paradowski, Gretchen Haugse, Sue Swing, Al Van Lith, Sonja Mohr**

Thanks to Diane DuBois, council president, for making sure we were well fed during our working Saturday!



The new, streamlined and smaller church council met together for the first time on Monday, February 13. The council is digging back into the Visioning Document created 2 years ago and to see where the Spirit is leading St. Matthew's in our ministry together.

## Update from St. Matthew's Human Resources Committee:

### Pastor Ann Williams, 3/4 time permanent Associate Pastor

During this interim time, Pastor Ann has been serving an additional 1/4 time through a contractual agreement. This year, St. Matt's has asked her to make this a permanent arrangement. Her responsibilities have expanded to include additional teaching, preaching, support work with Council, and staff supervision, along with oversight of care ministries.



### Al Van Lith, Church Administrator

Al has accepted an expanded role of responsibility at St. Matthew's that includes oversight of property, guest groups, and staff supervision.

He will eventually relinquish oversight of Sunday worship volunteers. This role reflects a modified version of the Church Administrator role that the Organizational Development Team envisioned.

### Julia Murphy, Older Adult Ministry Coordinator (SAINTS)

Julia has left this position at the end of 2022 to assume leadership for L'Arche Community-Milwaukee. We are grateful for the 5 years she has served on our staff and happy she will remain a congregation member. She has led our SAINTS group, planning and hosting its monthly gatherings. (SAINTS leadership continues with volunteers and staff.) Julia also served as Supervisor for re-opening our church building after the Covid required shutdown. Please join us in the Commons on Sunday, March 12th between services to congratulate and thank Julia in person. Cake will be served.

## Sunday Morning Adult Education -- All are Welcome! Come when you can!

Our Adult Education program continues to support 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. September-May. The goals of our adult education program are to:

- Increase Biblical Literacy
- Educate on religious matters
- Provide practical advice on daily Christian life
- Offer outreach information and opportunity to serve

We are always looking for new ideas to share and potential speakers. Please contact Sue Swing; [sueswing@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sueswing@sbcglobal.net) with your suggestions.

### March 5

#### “My Pronouns are What and Who Now?” Navigating the Changing Landscape of Being a Welcoming People

*Jay McDivitt, former ELCA pastor  
and Pastor Ann Williams’ spouse*

The last few decades have seen a rapid shift in acceptance and welcome of people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, marital statuses, and family structures. For those longing to be included and celebrated, it may feel like there is a long way to go, and things aren’t changing quickly enough. For those who want things to stay the same, it may feel very frustrating and even infuriating to see emerging generations welcoming and celebrating identities and lifestyles that were once widely considered taboo and wrong. Join Jay McDivitt (he/him/his), a former ELCA pastor of two Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregations, as he welcomes your questions and wades into the sometimes murky waters of “All Are Welcome.” He is not an expert in all things LGBTQIA+\* (yes, we can talk about all that, too). He is a church leader who has worked to help congregations sing and live the promise that “All Are Welcome,” while fumbling and failing countless times along the way as new challenges emerge. We’ll talk about pronouns, the difference between sexual orientation and gender identity, and pretty much anything else you want to discuss (time permitting). This will be a safe place to bring all your hard, silly, confusing, even accidentally offensive questions, starting with the assumption that we are a people of Grace who are committed to growing in compassion, curiosity, and courage together.



Jay McDivitt



### March 12

#### The Water Will Hold You: Water Stories and Themes in Lent with Pastor Karen

Lent is a time of renewal. We focus on the death and resurrection of Jesus - and in turn focus on our own death and resurrection found in baptism. In this session, Pastors will review additional baptismal promises such as an identity, forgiveness, and gifts to sustain us. These promises are meant to hold us, like floating in water.

### March 19

#### Caregiver Sunday

Caregivers work hard and often go unrecognized. Gather with other caregivers for sharing and support. All are welcome. With Pastor Ann & Sue Swing



### March 26

#### THIRTY-EIGHT TO REMEMBER: SIX TO SURPRISE US

Increasingly the Christian community is paying special attention to women who served their Lord in creative ways through the centuries. Both the ELCA and the LCMS commemorate on specific days of the year thirty-eight women from around the world. How many of them do you know? Dr. David Zersen will surprise us with the stories of six of them.



Dr. David Zersen



John Paradowski gave an interactive and entertaining presentation on hymns in church history, combining background information with a hymn sing-a-long for everyone. Over 60 people attended.



# Children's and Youth Ministry

## Kids for Christ (gr. 1-3) and Disciples of Christ (4-5) are Back

KFC: 1st -3rd graders are invited to join us for Kids for Christ! Sunday, March 5 12-2pm

DOC: 4th – 5th graders are invited to join us for Kids for Christ. Sunday March 12, 12-2pm

We will gather in the youth room for pizza. We will then play big group games including Capture the Flag in the education wing. Please join us for this time of Fellowship and fun. Call the church office to sign up. (It is helpful to know numbers, so we have enough food) Friends are welcome! Cost is \$5.00.

## Vacation Bible School 2023: July 31-August 4th

As you prep your summer calendar, be certain to save July 31st – August 4th for Vacation Bible School. Those entering Jr. K through 5th grades will gather mornings for a week of fellowship and fun. We certainly will need youth and adult volunteers, so please save the dates!

## Baptism Anniversaries

### “We Promise to Pray for You...”

Several times each month, babies, children and adults are baptized during our worship services. During the service of baptism, after the person is baptized, the congregation welcomes him or her and promises to pray for him or her during his/her faith development. We reprint these baptism names and dates from the previous few years as a reminder of those baptized. Your prayers are welcomed!

Liam Brooks Bankert	March 13, 2022
Eric Albert Jochen, Jr.	March 15, 2020
Eloise Clara Yentz	March 31, 2019
Amelia Elaine Anderson	March 11, 2018
Charlotte Rose Williams	March 18, 2018
Zachary Richard Cavazos	March 12, 2017
Youa Reinicker	March 26, 2016

## Statewide Youth Advocacy Event for High School Kids, April 14-16

High School Youth are invited to join with kids from other parts of Wisconsin and the UP to talk about how they can use their voices and actions to bring about positive change by participating in an advocacy retreat in Madison the weekend of April 14th-16th.

The weekend will include presentations and interactive events focused on issues such as the environment, hunger, racism, and inclusion. There will also be social time with other kids, as well as music, and reflection.

The registration fee, which includes hotel and meals, is \$75. (There may be an additional transportation cost if we need to rent a vehicle). The registration deadline is March 19th.

This is a great opportunity to get to know kids from other communities and to talk about ways that we can work together to make the world a better place!

If you have questions or are interested in going to the event, talk to Gretchen Haugse. We have a group going; join us!



Gretchen Haugse and Pastor Ann taught a First Communion class to 2nd graders and others who wish to begin receiving the Sacrament of First Communion. At the end of the class, students lined up to try the communion elements.



With their preparation completed, these children and their families are choosing a date to receive their first communion at worship in the next few weeks.





# Social Ministry

## UNDIE SUNDAY Collection now UNDERway!

You can still bring UNDIE garments for those in need until March 12. Ladies UNDIES will go to the Benedict Center and mens UNDIES will go to the Guest house.

Here's a listing of what we collect:

**Men's briefs or boxer briefs (sizes S, M, L, XL, 2X and 3X)**

**Men's Socks, size 6-12**

**Women's panties, sizes 4-24**

**Women's Bras, sizes 34A - 42C**

**Women's Socks**

**Women's Pajamas and long underwear, sizes up to 2X**

Bring your donations to the wooden collection box outside the church office.



### Here's what the Guest House and Benedict Center do:

**Guest House:** provides holistic care to those experiencing homelessness, addressing the root causes and developing an individualized plan for independence. They house 86 men overnight each night of the year.

### Benedict Center Sisters' Program

The Sisters Program helps women in the street-based sex trade find hope and live healthier and safer lives through a harm reduction and housing-first approach. Many women at the Sisters Program have dealt with violence all their lives including childhood sexual abuse, repeated sexual assaults as a teen and adult, violent relationships and past experiences of being trafficked as well as current traffickers controlling them.

Many of the issues women face are systemic harms - poverty, substance use disorders, and homelessness - that require community solutions like more affordable housing, more living-wage jobs and changes to policies that stop women from making progress in their lives.



## Lutheran Disaster Response responds to those affected by the earthquake in the Middle East:

Two powerful earthquakes hit Turkey and significantly impacted neighboring Syria. The two quakes have devastated Turkey and Syria, collapsing thousands of buildings and damaging infrastructure. Over 40,000 people have been killed and thousands more have been injured.

Lutheran Disaster Response and its partners are accompanying our neighbors impacted by these earthquakes. One hundred percent of your gifts to "Middle East Crisis" go to supporting earthquake survivors and other people affected by disasters in the region. Support the response today through LDR:

<https://bit.ly/3I1sFkm>

or through St. Matthew's giving page:

<https://www.stmatthslutheran.org/give>



Quilters gathered in February to work on quilting as well as to box up quilts for Pine Ridge Reservation. Participants were: (L to R) Linda Merklein, Kris Etzelmueller, Nancy Bowen, Kelly Mathwick, Mary Ann Gordon, Chris Davis, Christine Anderson, Bev Etzelmueller and Trudy Zauner.

# Caring Ministries

*Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus. Romans 15:5*

We are pleased to once again display handiwork of The Prayer Shawl ministry and Stitches of Love Quilting Ministry. The display of these comforting shawls and quilts is located outside of the church library.

The shawls are donated by many gifted hands and a blessing is offered to give peace and comfort to the recipient. Do you know of someone that is in need of a prayer shawl? Simply select one that appeals to you and take it home to share. If you would like to make a prayer shawl, simply lay it on the display to bless someone in need. St. Matthew's has given away hundreds of shawls to unknown friends and family over the years. We have learned that, like the story of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:30-37, knitting for others allows us to care for people regardless of their needs and background.

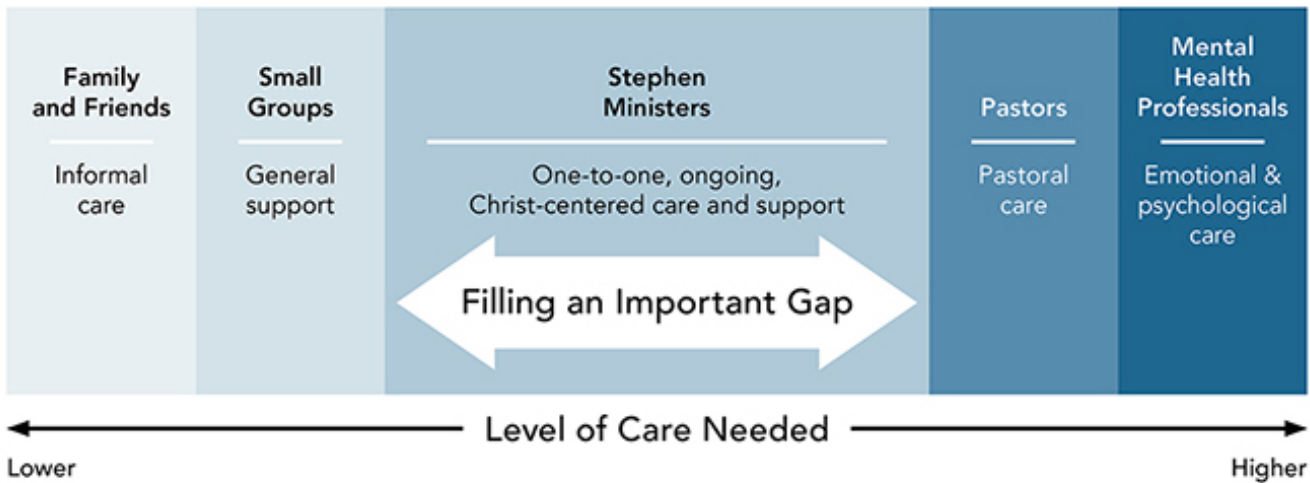
The Stitches of Love Quilting Ministry meets four times a year creating beautiful, colorful quilts to be blessed on Mother's Day and distributed among the local communities such as Care Net, Ronald McDonald House, Project Linus and The Women's Center.

If either of these ministries appeal to you, pick up a brochure at the table and begin the journey. Questions and concerns may be shared with the church office or Bev Etzelmueller at 262-250-3969.



## THE SPECTRUM OF CARE

This graphic shows how Stephen Ministry fills a unique and important niche among the types of care available in a congregation for people experiencing a life crisis.



Interested in learning more about Stephen Ministry? Contact Sue Swing at church or by email: [sueswing@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sueswing@sbcglobal.net) or Pastor Ann Williams at church or by email: [pastorannwilliams@gmail.com](mailto:pastorannwilliams@gmail.com)



# Bulletin Board

## The Augustana College Choir will be in concert in Waukesha March 27

You're invited to hear a college choir concert at 7:00 p.m., Monday, March 27, 2023, at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 300 Carroll St., Waukesha.

Augustana College, located in Rock Island, IL, is an ELCA liberal arts college. Augustana was founded in 1860 by Swedish immigrants.

The 52-voice ensemble, directed by John Hurty, will sing a selection of traditional and contemporary choral works. The choir is known for its innovative programming, attention to detail, and musical excellence. A free will offering will be collected.

## Women Together in Prayer

### (WTIP) Breakfast

Sat April 22, 2023 from 9-11am.

### Open to all women and friends of St Matt's

Prayer partners from the past year will be revealed and new partners will be selected in April with a new twist to the prayer partner relationship

## New Member Classes

### coming up in April

God has given us the gift of Christian community. It provides for two of our most basic needs. The church can be a place to belong and a place to become. If you have had an opportunity to worship with us and would like to learn more about St. Matthew's please consider attending our membership classes in April. **Classes will be held on Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:45. Dates are April 16, 23, 30. New Members will be received on Sunday, May 7th at the 8:30 service.** If you have any questions, please contact [sueswing@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sueswing@sbcglobal.net), the pastors or the church office.

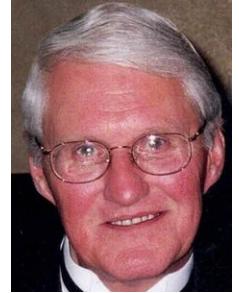
## St. Matt's 1st Fridays Book Group

You decide which books you wish to read for the discussions you wish to participate in. Discussions begin at 7pm on the dates listed, held at St. Matthew's.

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <b>March 3</b>                       | <b><u>The Air We Breathe: A Novel</u></b> by Andrea Barrett, 320 pages.   |
| <b>April 14</b><br><i>2nd Friday</i> | <b><u>All Creatures Great and Small</u></b> , by James Herriot, 448 pages |
| <b>May 5</b>                         | <b><u>Raft of Stars: A Novel</u></b> by Andrew J. Graf, 304 pages         |
| <b>June 2</b>                        | <b><u>West With Giraffes: A Novel</u></b> , by Lynda Rutledge, 371 pages. |

# Church Family

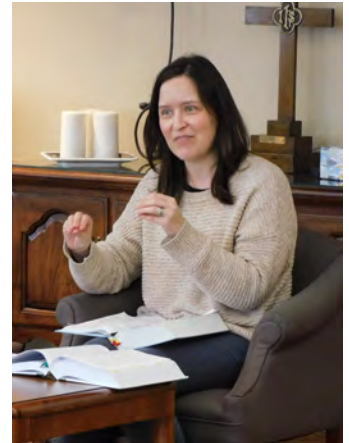
**David Anderson** died on January 28, 2023. David was a faithful worshipper at the 8:30 service before the pandemic, a man whose faith was important to him and who lived out his faith in his good works and generosity. Our sympathy to his three adult children Tim (Jennifer), Joni (Jay) Yuergens, and Dan, as well as five grandchildren.



David and his wife Carol, who died in 2021, traveled extensively together to over 100 countries, and they were involved in many community organizations.

We hold firm to God's promises that although Dave's life on earth has ended, he has new life in Christ and his legacy on earth continues.

**Wednesday morning Bible Study with Pastor Ann continues through Lent, March 1 - 29. There will be no Bible Study April 5 & 12. You are welcome to attend any of the sessions. The group has lively discussion, listens well and learns from each other.**



**Marilyn Day and Sue Farrell**



**David and Judy Holmes**



# St. Matthew's

Ev. Lutheran Church ✝ ELCA  
Wauwatosa, Wisconsin  
www.stmattslutheran.org

## PERIODICALS RATE

Mail Carrier: Please deliver by March 4, 2023.

### The Voice of St. Matthew's

*We are called to welcome, nurture, equip and send*

Next issue of the VOICE is dated April 2, 2023.



Connie and John Malloy each gave a moving faith statement during worship services on January 29.



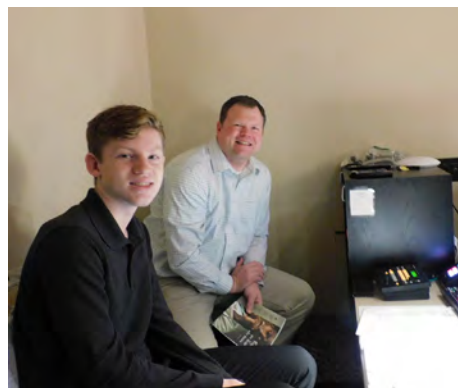
Pastor Brent Halverson was the guest preacher on February 12. He currently serves as a hospice chaplain.



Fred Heim and Laura Hyland were reelected to the church council at the Annual Meeting on January 29.



Chris Kent accompanied the Senior Choir on a new anthem titled "When the Poor Ones."



Eli and Jon Schaar served as technical assistants on a recent Sunday, handling the slides and live streaming for the worship service.



David HB Drake gave an entertaining and informal concert for the Saints gathering in February. It was held in the Upper Commons, creating a more comfortable space for the attendees.