

Welcome to St. Matthew's

April 28, 2024



Jesus says, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love" (John 15:9, NRSV). One way we do that is to gather in Christian community. Welcome, beloved ones!

Holy Communion: All are welcome to come forward at the time of communion to receive God's gift of grace. Gluten free wafers are available to those using the center aisle distribution stations. 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 through the month of May. Thanks for helping him to learn names, and for making it easier for all of us to become better acquainted.

Adult Education 9:45-10:45am in the Upper Room: TODAY: Pastor Ann spoke about applying for a sabbatical grant during the annual meeting. What is a sabbatical anyway? What is the goal of a sabbatical for both pastor and congregation? What will happen while she's away? Come hear about the What, Where, When and Hows of a sabbatical in the Upper Room on April 28th.

Wednesday evening adult Bible study continues through May. Meeting from 6:00-7:00 p.m. every Wednesday. Come for the learning and laughter! Stay after for the snacks! Contact David or Robbie Locher for info; davidjlocher@gmail.com

First Fridays Book Group Discussion - We meet on the first Friday of each month for a discussion, beginning at 7:00 pm in the Upper Room at church. You can come just for the books you choose to read with us! Or come to all of them. You're sure to enjoy the discussion.

May 3 *The Sweetness of Forgetting* by Kristin Harmel, 367 pages

June 7 *Remarkably Bright Creatures: A Novel* by Shelby Van Pelt, 360 pages

Tosa Cares, the Wauwatosa Food Pantry we support, has begun their first fundraising campaign, after 16 years of serving families in Wauwatosa. Economic instability, job losses and rising costs of living have pushed more families to seek assistance from our pantry than ever before. The number of families we serve regularly has increased from 188 in 2019, to 313 in 2023. With your support we have risen to meet this increased demand, but we need additional resources to continue our mission to serve our guests. **Your \$50 donation** will allow them to provide food and personal care items for one family at an upcoming distribution. To make a donation of any size, or learn more about how you can get involved, scan the QR code here or visit the web site at tosacares.org



Bulletin Insert for Sunday, April 28, 2024

We Invite You to consider sponsoring a child through Compassion International – May 5
Marilyn Day brings us this opportunity to develop a one-on-one support relationship with a child
Millions of children around the world live in extreme poverty, unable to access even the most basic of needs. As the hands and feet of Jesus, we're called to do something about it. Compassion works to end child poverty by connecting children in need with local churches who care for them by fighting malnutrition, offering medical care and more. With these needs met, children can go from simply surviving to thriving — mind, body and soul. When you become a sponsor, you're personally connected with a child. Through letter writing and prayer, you'll be a source of encouragement as they break free from the cycle of child poverty.

- An introduction to the gospel of Jesus.
- Health care, including an annual medical exam.
- Hygiene training.
- Malnutrition monitoring and intervention.
- Education and vocational training.
- Mentorship, love and belonging.

Looking Ahead to some fun opportunities:

Game Night: Game Night is Friday May, 3rd from 6:00-9:00 pm at St. Matthew's! Bring a game, snack and a friend! Sign up at the Welcome Center or contact Bill Richter; wrichter1977@gmail.com. All are welcome!

Volleyball: St. Matt's member, Sarah Frets, has organized a St. Matt's volleyball team. The season starts on Tuesday, May 7th at 7:15 pm at Classic Lanes in Oak Creek. Subs may be needed and fan support is highly encouraged! For more info please contact Sarah; sebolgert@gmail.com.

Kids for Christ and Disciples of Christ (grades 1-5) will meet together with Donna Gardner Manke on Sunday, May 5 from 12:00-2:00 pm. Join us for pizza, Capture the Flag and other fun games. Cost is \$5. Friends are always welcome. Please sign up by calling the church office, or by emailing Donna at donnagm@me.com

Looking Ahead: Adult Education 9:45-10:45am in the Upper Room

May 5 - Breaking Barriers: Mental Health & Faith In honor of Mental Health Awareness Month, join us for a transformative presentation on navigating mental health with faith. Discover how to access free resources, utilize Stephen Ministry, and seek professional help. Learn to debunk myths, explore the intersection of spirituality and well-being, and break down barriers together. Presented by St. Matthew's member, Katie Nickel

May 12 - Our Building Renewal Plan

What is it? Why do we need to do this now? What is the scope of the projects and when will they be completed? Please join Carl Johnson and others who will give you all the answers you need to understand our latest needs.

Eat at Jose's Blue Sombrero & Support the Youth Mission Trip to New Orleans!

Certificates Available in Church Office The certificates cost \$5 a piece and are worth \$5 toward the food that you purchase. St. Matthew's earns \$1 for every certificate, which supports the Youth Mission Trip. Certificates are available in the office. Thanks for your support!

Mt. Meru Coffee: *Your support is needed now especially*

Just as we have experienced some changes in our weather this past year, so have the coffee farmers in the Mt. Meru region of Tanzania in East Africa. This has affected the size of coffee harvests this past year so your purchase of Mt. Meru coffee is more important than ever.

We stock the standard coffee in regular and decaf, grind or bean, in 12 oz. bags for \$12. We also try to keep our Peaberry coffee in stock. This is a regular coffee in 12 oz. bags for \$18 and is less acidic than the standard regular. Besides our flavored coffees there are other sizes and packaging options available for order. Stop by the coffee cart for more information. Justice never tasted so good!

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, May 26, after the 9:30 am worship service

Sunday, June 16, during the 9:30 worship service

Sunday, July 21, after the 9:30 am worship service

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.

Annual Mother's Day Diaper Collection is Now in Progress:

Bring Diapers to St. Matt's through Mother's Day, May 12th

Donations of diapers (all sizes), unscented diaper wipes, and diaper rash creams are needed by our central city partners. These items will be shared by Reformation Lutheran Church at their Baby Fair on May 18th and by Cross Lutheran at their food pantry. In Milwaukee, diapers are harder to access in communities of color, and they are not covered by low income assistance programs like SNAP and WIC. Donations are needed by Sunday, May 12th and can be left in the collection area under the coat rack across from the office. Thanks so much for your generosity!

Milkweeds for Monarchs and Natives for Nature: The Friends of the Monarch Trail invite you to plan your garden this year with a purpose—with wildlife as the theme. We can help you! Our group sells key native plants, including 6 types of milkweed. These native plants are grown chemical free, they are locally sourced and available at our plant sale May 11 & 12. You can pre-order full or half flats of milkweed or our easy mixtures for monarchs and pollinators by visiting

www.TheMonarchTrail.org Pick up orders or shop in person on May 11, 11:00am-4:00pm and May 12, 11:00am – 2:00pm at the Greenfield Park Pavilion, 2028 S. 124th St. West Allis.

The Lutheran A Cappella Choir of Milwaukee offers its spring concert featuring John Rutter's "Requiem" with the theme Eternal Life, Sunday afternoon, April 28 at 3:00 pm at Mount Carmel Lutheran Church, 8424 W. Center St., Milwaukee. Tickets are \$15 general admission and students free with student ID. The group is led by Thomas Ajack and accompanied by Richard Ewert. Paul Davis, Karen Haglund and John Schilling are St. Matt's members who sing in the choir.

This spring's **Jubilate Chorale Concert** will feature *Jubilate Deo* by Dan Forrest with Chamber orchestra. This concert will be performed twice: Saturday, May 4 at 7:30 pm at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Waukesha, and Sunday, May 5 at 3:00 pm at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in New Berlin. Tickets are available at www.jubilatechorale.org. Brian & Bridget Smith of St. Matthew's are singers in the choir.

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) Chase Assenheimer, Grant Nickel. (11:00) Kaden Bitar, *open*.

Coffee Hosts: Bob & Theresa Zwaska.

Communion Preparers: (8:30) Robin Bloczynski, Anne-Marie Nickel. (11:00) Maya Tanel, *open*.

Communion Assistants: (8:30) Tim Goetsch, Jan Johnson. (11:00) Marion Heinz, Donna McAllister.

Greeters: (8:30) Bridget & Brian Smith, Holly Holton, Susanne Forrest. (11:00) Evelyn Antczak, Trudy Zauner, Sarah & Matt Frets.

Lay Readers: (8:30) Laura Staats. (11:00) Dara Greene.

Ushers: (8:30) Don Birschel, Jenn & Paul Kramer, Daniel Zello. (11:00) Steve Mielke, *open*.

Lay Assistant: (8:30) Annette Olson.

Welcome Center Host: (8:30) Erin & Rob Weileder.

Library Assistant: Peggy Klemme. **Stephen Minister:** *open*.

Worship Technology: (8:30) Noah Weileder, Michael Wolaver. (9:45) Heather Deaton. (11:00) Dave McCullough, *open*.

YTD Financial Results as of:	04/21/24
General Fund Receipts	\$288,104
General Fund Budget (total monthly)	\$362,215
Over/(Under) Budget	(\$74,111)
Benevolence Disbursements	\$30,664
Building Fund Balance	\$185,579

Pastoral Staff: Kevin Kretzmann Farrar, Lead Pastor; Ann Williams, Associate Pastor

Adult Ministries: Sue Swing

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

Children's Minister: Donna Gardner Manke.

Music Minister: John Paradowski.

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