

# THE VOICE of St. Matthew's

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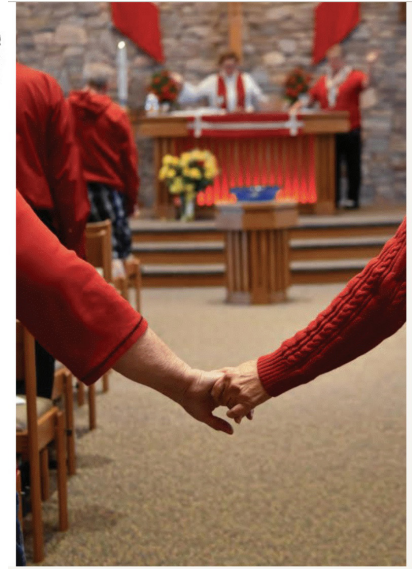
Volume 92, No. 5 - May 7, 2023



**I am the way  
and the truth  
and the life.  
No one comes  
to the Father  
except through me.  
John 14:6**

## Our Pastor's Voice Synod means "Together"

*The body is not made up of one part but of many. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. -1 Corinthians 12:14 & 27*



This Synod is people who gather as 119 congregations. We share in the common mission Christ gives to each of us. As Paul taught, we each are a part of this body and contribute to the work of the whole.

For most of us, we encounter the Synod when a Synod staff person comes to help us get our next pastor (or, interim pastor!) This, of course, is St. Matthew's recent reality. But you also have experienced the joy and wonder of shared ministry with other congregations of our Synod. For a number of years, you have witnessed the faithful members and leaders of Reformation & Cross Churches' unique ministries and neighborhoods where they serve to make Christ known. We have been blessed to not only support their witness, but partner in their work, receive their prayers, and join in bringing God our worship and praise.



I served all of my ordained ministry with this Synod with three congregations, and now, three interims. I think of the people - their faith, their love, their humble service. I think of the pastors serving in this Synod and the collegial support we shared over the years. I think of all the efforts by many to make Christ known.

On Sunday, May 14th, you will be invited to join with these other congregations in our Greater Milwaukee Synod to support a \$2.3 million initiative called "Equipping the Saints." Its focus is to enliven our proclamation of Christ in all of our neighborhoods. As you may know, St. Matthew's is a pillar congregation with this Synod. That is, we are one of the largest congregations and we have been consistently generous in supporting the work of our Synod and national church. To whom much is given, much will be required (Luke 12:48). Whatever we can do to help make Christ known, then let us take up our part in the body of Christ and cheerfully do it. I am confident that with each of our commitments, our congregation will be able to provide \$40,000, and create a surge of financial support for this initiative.

Imagine how our financial gifts will help another congregation or pastor in our Synod, who has passion for proclaiming Christ, and energy for doing good ministry, who simply needs the resources to do it. God is calling us to work together.

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 Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213  
414-774-0441; E-mail: 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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*See page 8 for further information on the Equipping the Saints Synod Mission Appeal.*



## Upcoming Events



### Bishop Paul Erickson to be our guest preacher on May 14 at both services

We are pleased to welcome our ELCA Greater Milwaukee Synod Bishop Paul Erickson as our guest preacher on Sunday, May 14, at 8:30 and 11:00 am

Bishop Erickson will share the Gospel Message as well as share with us the Good News of the Equipping the Saints Synod Mission Appeal. (*More Information on this on page 8*)

The Rev. Paul D. Erickson was first elected in June 2016 and was re-elected May 20, 2023 to a six-year term as bishop of the Greater Milwaukee Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Bishop Erickson has spent much of his ministry working in cross-cultural settings and has traveled extensively to visit global companions in Guatemala, El Salvador, and Tanzania. He feels called to lead the church as it explores ways to move forward with curiosity, courage, compassion, and collaboration.

### Join us for Music Sunday May 21st at the 8:30 and 11:00 services

*When in our music God is glorified  
and adoration leaves no room for pride,  
it is as though the whole creation cried Alleluia!*  
- Words: Fred Pratt Green [1903-2000]

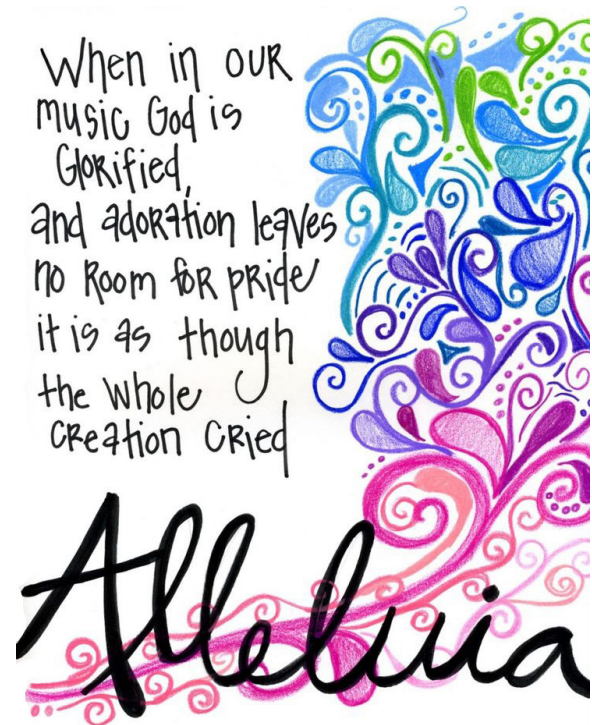
Noted British hymnologist John Wilson suggested that the Methodist Minister, poet, and hymn writer Fred Pratt Green write a text to the tune ENGELBERG, composed in 1904 by the famous British composer Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924).

The hymn text first appeared in 1975. This hymn is groundbreaking in many ways. There are numerous examples in the history of hymnody where music is a metaphor for some theological theme or experience. Pratt Green uses music not just as a metaphor that points us to another idea, but explores music-making as a phenomenon in the Christian's experience in its own right. The second stanza concludes with the marvelous thought that "making music . . . move[s] us to a more profound Alleluia!" In this way, Pratt Green seems to agree with Martin Luther who said, "Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world."

We celebrate God's gift of music that works through composers, authors, arrangers, editors, singers, ringers, and all musicians to glorify God the creator of all. Enjoy the celebration of God's glorious gift of music as the choirs of St. Matthew's share some special music through worship.

**The Senior Choir** will be sharing two exciting anthems: The first, "Te Deum" by Robert Hobby, whose text is based on an ancient hymn of praise to the Triune God from the 4th century, is accompanied by brass quartet, percussion and organ. Originally set in Latin, they will sing the traditional English translation in this exciting work.

The second anthem is "O Love of God, How Strong and True," arranged by Michael McCarthy (no, not the former Packers coach!). Utilizing the beautiful tune "Jerusalem" by British composer C. Hubert H. Parry, the piece begins gently with the choir singing the first few pages a cappella. When



the organ finally enters on a majestic D-major chord, they will sing the final two verses accompanied by the organ, and invite the congregation to join on the fourth verse.

**Bells Angels** will ring a "French inspired" Nocturne and also share a piece depicting the text of When In Our Music God is Glorified.

Please join us to share in this wonderful gift of music and thank all our choirs and many musicians in the congregation for their dedication and service the entire year.

*Let every instrument be tuned for praise!  
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!  
And may God give us faith to sing always Alleluia!*

John R. Paradowski, Minister of Music

## Choir Director David Mohr to retire after 35 years

Join us for a reception in his honor on Music Sunday, May 21st

Calling his tenure “an honor and a privilege” David Mohr will retire from leading St. Matthew’s Senior Choir this spring. Fittingly, we will honor Dave on “Music Sunday” an annual tradition at St. Matthew’s, on Sunday, May 21st. The Senior Choir will sing two special pieces on this day, at both services. A Farewell Reception will be hosted during coffee time (9:45am) with special treats by members of the choir.

We invite you to be part of this day, to enjoy and experience God’s gift of music, and also to attend the reception, to thank Dave for his years of faithful leadership to St. Matthew’s in bringing the gift of choral music to enhance our worship services.

Dave began leading the Senior Choir in 1988 when Pastors Erickson and Shelstad were serving, when the choir processed in ivory colored robes each Sunday, and sang from the balcony in the back of the (old) church.

Much has changed through the years, but the mission has stayed the same: Lead and shape the talents of the singers in presenting thoughtfully chosen anthems to enhance the worship of our Lord and Savior for 40+ Sundays per year.

Choir member Dennis McBride shared these thoughts with Dave: *You’ve served St. Matt’s with distinction for 35 years -- more than one-third of the church’s existence! During my 20 years with the Senior Choir, I’ve developed a deeper and deeper appreciation for your musicianship as I’ve learned more about music and singing. Your patience, musical ability, and leadership of the Senior Choir have been nothing short of extraordinary. For me, singing in the choir has been an artistic release and a positive distraction from the pressures of my day jobs, as well as a good social outlet with a terrific group of people. Thanks for all that you’ve done for me and St. Matt’s.*

Join us on May 21st to celebrate the gift of music at St. Matthew’s. The choir will sing on June 4th to end the spring season.



Many worshipers may recognize David Mohr best from the back as he directs the choir each Sunday.



Sunday May 21st

Music Sunday

Special Music at 8:30 & 11:00 am

Retirement Reception at 9:45 am

for David Mohr

Senior Choir Director

Happy Retirement!



This photo from the mid-1990s shows the home of the choir before the remodeling when the sanctuary perspective was turned 90 degrees. The balcony was at the back of the worship space.



# SAINTS

## St. Matthew's Older Adults Ministry

Saints is back! Now that Lent and Easter are behind us, join us in May for a timely topic to consider for spring cleaning. Remember to sign up in advance at the Welcome Center or by calling the church office, 414-774-0441.

### May 17: Smart Moves:

#### Getting Down-sized and Organized

Studies show clutter can add stress to our everyday lives. The stress can impact our physical and emotional well-being. This presentation gives tips on sorting through the "stuff and treasures" so we can gain peace of mind. We'll learn how to best downsize papers, books, photos, collectibles, tools, furniture; you name it.



Our speaker will be **Certified Senior Move Manager Melinda Stuart**, whose firm **Smart Moves** was founded in 2003 to help seniors transition through the many choices and chores involved in downsizing and moving. She is a member of the National Association of Senior and Specialty Move Managers.

As usual, a box lunch will be available at a suggested donation of \$11/person. Guests and friends are welcome always. Sign up at the Welcome Center or in the church office.

*Looking ahead to June, mark your calendars for the June Saints Gathering!*

### June 21

#### Wisconsin Lighthouses with Ken & Barb Wardius

Ken and Barb Wardius are sought-after lighthouse authors and speakers. Their presentation covers nearly one-third of the lighthouses in the state including Wisconsin Point Light in Superior, the Apostle Islands Sand Island and Michigan Island Lights, Cana Island Lighthouse in Door County, Rockwell Lighthouse on Lake Winnebago, Rawley Point near Two Rivers, Old Port Washington, and Wind Point in Racine. If you are a lighthouse buff, a nautical enthusiast, or enjoy breathtaking photography, you will love this presentation.

### Combined KFC & DOC for Spring - Sunday, May 7, 12:00noon to 2:00 pm

It's time for us to gather for food, games, prayer, and fun! Join Donna Manke in the youth room for pizza. We will then play Capture the Flag in the education wing. Please join us for this time of fellowship and fun. Call the church office to sign up. 414-774-0441 (It is helpful to know numbers, so we have enough food) Friends are welcome! Cost is \$5.00

1st -5th graders are invited to join us on Sunday, May 7th 12-2pm.

### Vacation Bible School 2023: July 31 – August 4, mornings

As you prep your summer calendar, be certain to save July 31 – August 4 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! Registration will begin soon.

### 2023 VBS Volunteer Registration

Join us July 31st – August 4th from 8:45-11:45am and volunteer for a faithful and fun-filled week. Click on the link below and fill out the form no later than July 16th. An individual form needs to be submitted for each volunteer. If you have any questions, you can call the church office at 414-774-0441 or email Donna Gardner Manke at [donnagm@me.com](mailto:donnagm@me.com). Looking forward to having you join our team!  
<https://forms.gle/Eq2KrSZfB3aVYtHM8>



### Baptismal Anniversaries Highlighted

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 list May baptisms for the past few years, and ask for your prayers and support for the spiritual growth of these little ones.

<b>Finn Ryan Gintoft</b>	<b>May 1, 2022</b>
<b>Josephine Colette Yentz</b>	<b>May 1, 2022</b>
<b>Everest Stanley Benson</b>	<b>May 15, 2022</b>
<b>Lincoln Otto Krajcik</b>	<b>May 29, 2022</b>
<b>Andrew Byrne</b>	<b>May 26, 2019</b>
<b>Samuel Greenley</b>	<b>May 27, 2018</b>
<b>Maxton Ehlers</b>	<b>May 27, 2018</b>

# Our Quilt Ministry - *Stitches of Love*

## Stitches of Love Quilting Ministry of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church Blessing on Sunday, May 14, 2023

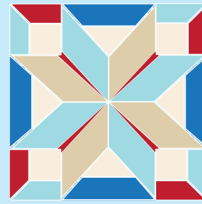
*19th year of Stitches of Love Ministry  
Total of 2,838 quilts and blankets*

The ministry welcomed many blessings throughout the 2022-2023 service year. The return to all in person quilting workshop days was wonderful. We welcomed some new volunteers, kept our faithful members and enjoyed visiting together. The fabric we acquired filled our bins so volunteers could make quilts on their own time. The mission of the Stitches of Love Quilting Ministry is to spread the love of our Lord through the warmth of quilts with beautiful patterns. We receive delightful messages in gratitude from the many agencies. Prior to the handiwork being distributed, they receive a prayer and blessing. Colossians 2:2 states "that they may be encouraged in heart, knit together in love, and filled with the full riches of complete understanding, so that they may know the mystery of God, namely Christ."

Here are the charities that will receive items local and nation-wide:

- **The Linus Project** – a national organization that distributes blankets as needed to local hospitals and Bethany Christian Services.
- **Milwaukee Women's Center** – through Community Advocates, this agency assists men, women, children whose lives are affected by domestic violence, mental health, poverty and drug issues.
- **Kathy's House** – a home for families with loved ones receiving care and treatment at area hospitals.
- **The Lutheran Home** – memory care, assisted living and short term rehab.
- **CareNet** – a safe haven for expectant mothers.
- **Pine Ridge Indian Reservation** - The Pine Ridge Indian Reservation covers more than 2.8 million acres in southwestern South Dakota, with residents dealing with high rates of poverty.
- **Ronald McDonald House** – provide a cost-free haven for families to sick and injured children.
- **Allies for Teens** – supplement the need for education and social needs for those in a group foster home.

## Annual Blessing of the Quilts Sunday, May 14 at both worship services



View the many quilts which will be on display on the pews in worship, before they are distributed to recipients.

Interested in joining their work? Contact Bev Etzelmueller, 262.250.3969.

Following is the breakdown of bedding completed from September, 2022 through May, 2023:

- 139 quilts and blankets completed
- 9 receiving blankets completed and presented at the time of Sacrament of baptism at St Matthew's
- 3 boxes sent to Pine Ridge Reservation filled with blankets, clothes and shoes through a Thrivent Action Team Project grant
- 57 pillowcases to Ronald McDonald House
- 3 bed runners for Kathy's House
- 10 Christmas gift bags to Allies for Teens

Everyone is welcome to join the ministry, which meets four times a year as a group. No experience or equipment is needed, no deadlines and all work is done at home or at the workshop dates. For further information, please contact Bev Etzelmueller at #262-250-3969 or the church office.





### Adult Education Class for May 7 “Welcoming All” 9:45-10:45am

The conversation continues. What can we continue to learn that could help us expand our welcome to those in the LGBTQ community? Using guidance from the ELCA’s Reconciling Works, we’ll learn about the community building benefit of engaging in “one to one” visits. We’ll also preview the 2009 ELCA Social Statement on Human Sexuality. This 48 page document is the ELCA’s official guidance on key matters, such as marriage, family, same-gender relationships, protection of children and youth, and more.

### 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. The two remaining books for the season are:

- May 5**            **Raft of Stars: A Novel** by Andrew J. Graf, 304 pages
- June 2**           **West With Giraffes: A Novel**, by Lynda Rutledge, 371 pages

Watch for the 2023-2024 booklist to be released this summer!

### Erickson Scholarship Applicants Apply now for scholarship consideration

It is time to apply or renew your application for a scholarship from the Rev. Gary and Susan Erickson scholarship Fund for the 2023-2024 school year. Eligibility is based on:

- 1) Students studying at a theological seminary;
- 2) Students enrolled in a bachelor of arts music program with intent to work in church related music;
- 3) Students enrolled in ELCA college or any Lutheran college.

Applications can be found at the church office or online at [www.stmattslutheran.org](http://www.stmattslutheran.org) or request the document by email to <[office@stmattslutheran.org](mailto:office@stmattslutheran.org)> Any questions regarding the scholarship or application may be addressed to Al Van Lith or Nancy Herrell. The deadline for applications is **June 15, 2023**.



THE REV. GARY & SUSAN ERICKSON  
SCHOLARSHIP FUND

### Good Friday Morning Children’s Service and Evening Service



The Good Friday Children’s Service ended with a child-friendly worship service after the egg hunt.

Lexi Schmidt and Xuriana Chisum extinguished the candles one by one after each reading at the evening service.



The Nickel Family came prepared to find eggs at the Children’s Service.



Donna Manke led the Children’s service on Good Friday.



Lois Marks was one of the readers. Julie Schmidt and Carl Johnson also read the GF scripture.

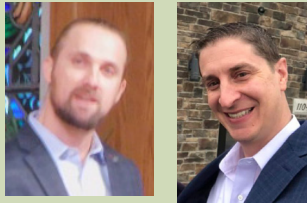


Carol Heim accompanied Bells Angels on Good Friday evening.

# Equipping the Saints: Synod Mission Appeal

*The ELCA (Ev. Lutheran Church of America) Greater Milwaukee Synod (of which we are one of 100+ congregations) seeks to raise \$2.3 million for the Equipping the Saints Mission Appeal. The Appeal has two primary emphases:*

- **Innovation and Collaboration: \$1.2 million**
- **Leadership: \$1.1 million**



**St. Matthew's Co-chairs  
of this Appeal are  
Chris Kent and Andrew Cherney**

## Leadership:

**Racial Equity:** A new synod position, Organizer for Racial Equity. At least 50 GMS congregations will develop strategies to deepen their understanding of systemic racism and expand their work for racial equity.

## Campus Ministry:

A significant partner in raising up the next generation of leaders, we will provide resources for campus ministry to have long-term health and vitality.

## Rostered Ministers

We will raise funds for professional development and financial wellness, providing grants for student debt relief, continuing education and sabbaticals and retirement planning. Recently 42% of all pastors responding to a Wisconsin Council of Churches survey, shared that they had actively considered resigning or retiring due to the increased stress of serving in a pandemic.

## Missional Tithe for Leadership to Companion Synods

We will support leadership development programs in the Diocese of Meru, Tanzania, and the Lutheran Synod of El Salvador to strengthen the vital work of their leaders across the church.

## Innovation and Collaboration: Why:

God is calling us to work together in new ways. This has long been evident, but the pandemic has forced us into this more quickly as we have needed to embrace technology to gather as community. We have also deepened our understanding of the need to collaborate as we build stronger partnerships to confront systemic racism so that all may know God's love in their lives.

## Grants to Congregations:

Mission Appeal funds will provide grants of up to \$50,000 to support congregations and other ministries which engage in experiments that shape a new generation of church expressions. These grants will create a network of congregations and leaders who innovate faithfully and share best practices as they explore new ways of being church and inviting more people into life-changing relationships with Jesus Christ.

## Betr Earth Textile Recycling Bin to return to St. Matthew's in May

The Social Ministry encourage people to save up their textile recycling for the month of May, when the large bin at the main entrance will return.

BETR collects gently used clothing and shoes for men, women, children and infants. All items should be clean and in relatively good condition. Desired items include:

- **Shirts, blouses, t-shirts and other tops**
- **Skirts, pants, jeans and shorts**
- **Dresses and suits**
- **Paired shoes, boots, purses and belts**

While we are looking for wearable clothing, we will accept items with small tears, or that are lightly stained. BETR Earth also accepts clean household items such as sheets, blankets, comforters, towels, curtains and tablecloths.

Items should be packaged up in plastic bags. Help to keep items out of landfills, as they will be recycled as much as possible.

## Annual Mother's Day Diaper Collection: Our annual Mother's Day Diaper Collection is happening now!

We're collecting diapers of all sizes (newborn through pull-ups) as well as unscented diaper wipes and diaper rash creams to St. Matt's May 7th through June 4th. These needed items will be shared with our partner Reformation Lutheran Church and will be distributed at their Baby Fair on June 10, which offers safe sleep information and provides support to young parents. The cost of diapers is prohibitive to many families. About a third of US families struggle to afford diapers for their children, and diapers are not covered by low income assistance programs like SNAP and WIC.

Additionally, if you have baby clothes or other baby items those are also welcome. Please leave donations in the collection area outside the church office. (If you have any large items that you wish to donate, please call 414-614-3440 Nancy Bowen.) Thank you.





## What's New in the Pew?

Next time you are in church, check out the updated Pew Card describing our Healing Prayer Ministry. The card is designed to explain the biblical foundation for Healing Prayers as well as what to expect during Healing Prayer services.

The full content of the card is printed to the right for your convenience, but here are a couple key points.

- All healing comes from God, and includes the abundant gifts of medical science.
- Healing is not dependent on the strength of one's faith or that of those who are praying, but is an expression of God's loving grace.
- You are invited to come forward to requests for healing and wholeness, for yourself or for another, wherever there is brokenness – in health, in relationships, in communities, in our world.
- Healing Services are held monthly, either during or after Worship Service. You may also request a Healing Service, which can be held at church, a home, a hospital, etc. by contacting the Church Office.

Please take a minute to read the pew card on the right side of this page. Questions? Please contact Pastor Ann or the Church Office.

## Schedule of Healing Services for the rest of 2023

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 7** After 8:30 service
- Sunday, June 11** In Worship 9:30am
- Sunday, July 23** In Worship 9:30am
- Sunday, August 20** - In Worship 9:30am
- Sunday, September 17** - After 8:30 worship service
- Sunday, October 22** - In Worship 11:00am
- Sunday, November 12** - After 11:00 worship service
- Sunday, December 10** - After 8:30 worship service



## New Healing Prayer Pew Cards

### Healing Prayer Ministry



Healing Prayer is a ministry to the whole person; mind, spirit, body, emotions, and relationships. The laying on of hands is a traditional practice that allows the one being prayed for to sense God's love and grace through the empathetic presence of those praying.

#### This ministry is grounded in the belief that:

- All healing comes from God.
- We are all eternally healed through the waters of our baptism, made possible by the sacrifice of Jesus.
- Anointing and laying on of hands is found both in Scripture and throughout the history of the church.
- Anointing is a reminder of our baptismal anointing in which we are claimed by God forever.
- Medical knowledge is a gift of God: God works through doctors, nurses, and medicines to bring healing.

Healing Prayer Services are offered monthly either during worship or immediately following worship. All are welcome. Special requests for additional Healing Services at church, home, hospital, etc., are available upon request.

All who feel called to serve as a conduit of God's healing love are welcome to join this ministry. Please contact a Pastor if you are interested in learning more.

#### As you come forward for prayer, please know:

- Specific prayer requests are held in confidence
- Healing is for people of all ages—children too
- Personal prayers for healing of body, mind and/or relationships are welcome
- Global prayers for healing during war, violence, division or environmental disaster are also appropriate
- You may come for yourself or on behalf of others (mentioning their names and needs)
- You may bring a loved one with you
- You may request a cloth—a tangible symbol of the prayers we offer—and take it with you or give it away

***"Is any of you sick? He should be called to the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord."***  
**James 5:14**





# Easter At St. Matthew's: 🎵 This Joyful Eastertide 🎵

The Easter Worship Celebrations drew 775 people. With the joyful sounds of children, brass, handbells and singing, it was a jubilant experience. Dozens of volunteers made the worship services run smoothly.



Praise Kids sang a joyful message for Easter.



Pastor Ann Williams gave a hopeful message.



Bells Angels added their jubilant sounds to the Easter message.



The scene at the empty tomb was created in drama with the Marys, a guard and an angel.



Easter breakfast guests received a warm welcome from Grace Williams and Kate Charlson, who are participating in the Run to Rebuild Mission Trip to Kentucky this summer.



# Bulletin Board

## Spring offering from Mt Meru Coffee

Our spring special offering from the Mt. Meru coffee project is available now for just a short time. This special roast is from the Makumira area farms and uses a lighter Vienna roast to extract its rich flavors. This flavor blend includes dark chocolate, citrus and coffee blossom. This coffee is \$15 for 12 oz. and because of limited quantities is available by special order only.

Remember our premium Peaberry coffee is in stock. This blend is lightly roasted to bring out its special flavor and is less acidic than regular coffee. It is available for \$15 for 12 oz. In drip grind or bean.

## Pot of Gold Derby Dinner Auction a Success Thanks to You!



A huge thank you to all those who supported the youth dinner auction in March by donating items, bidding on items or attending the dinner. Not only was a fun evening of celebrating, but it was a **successful fundraiser, raising over \$5000** for this summer's Youth Mission Trip to Kentucky. This is our biggest fundraiser for the Mission Trip, which helps keep the experience affordable for the youth who participate. We are so grateful to the congregation for your ongoing support of these impactful service experiences.

## Thanks for Eating with Us in Lent and at Easter!

It was an uplifting experience throughout Lent to gather as a community around a meal at our weekly Lenten Dinners. It was a time of fellowship and connection that we have missed for the past few years. This year's meals ended with the festive breakfast on Easter morning, where a large crowd enjoyed a hot breakfast and each other's company.

We are grateful to the people of St. Matthew's for supporting the Youth Mission Trip by attending these meals!

### Looking Ahead to Summer:



We'll begin summer worship schedule on Memorial Day weekend, Sunday, May 28:  
**One service at 9:30 am**  
All summer long

Our Lenten and Easter offerings were directed toward ELCA Good gifts to purchase wells for areas without nearby drinking water. Each well will benefit 500 families, making it more efficient to obtain safe water with less time spent walking to their nearest well. The goal to raise enough for two wells was reached before Palm Sunday, and your generous donations continued. Thank you for the gift of water to areas of the world where it is even more precious.



The Youth Advocacy Retreat ended at the State Capitol. Participating in the event were (l to r) Julia Fossum, Gretchen Hauge, Kristen Charlson, Kate Charlson, and Clare Kasdorf.

## St. Matthew's Sends Group to ELCA Youth Advocacy Retreat

A group of St. Matthew's teens spent the weekend of April 14-16 in Madison learning about faith-based advocacy at a retreat sponsored by the Lutheran Office of Public Policy in Wisconsin (LOPPW). Joined by teens from all over Wisconsin and the UP in Michigan, the group heard from speakers and participated in simulations to increase awareness on issues like climate justice, diversity, and hunger. Bishop Paul Erickson was one of the speakers who helped kids think about how their faith informs their actions in the world and how they can use their voices to help others. We look forward to growing this group of teens at St. Matthew's. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Gretchen Hauge.



# St. Matthew's

Ev. Lutheran Church ✝ ELCA

Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

[www.stmattslutheran.org](http://www.stmattslutheran.org)

## PERIODICALS RATE

Mail Carrier: Please deliver by May 6, 2023.

### The Voice of St. Matthew's

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

Next issue of the VOICE is dated June 4, 2023.

### In Case You Missed It...



George Ubell led the congregation in a beautiful song titled "How Big Are Your Arms, O God?" on March 26.



Pastor Frank Janzow was a guest preacher on April 16th, and began his sermon with a song he wrote, with congregational participation.



Kait McCullough led the Women Together in Prayer breakfast on April 22. The theme was "Friendship is a Jewel." About 30 women attended.



This group of St. Matt's parents enjoyed dinner together while their children were being cared for at church by volunteers on March 23. Parents Night Out is back!



These people (and others) are taking communion to those in our congregation who cannot come to church. Clockwise: Don Schaffer, Conor Williams, Chris Davis, Bev Etzelmueller, Paul Davis, Pastor Ann, Sue Farrell, Judy Holmes, Emily Wanezek, Brian Due.