The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. John 10:3-4
Pastor’s Voice

Seeking the Light

As I write this message I write in the afterglow of the Easter message. The sound of the trumpets, the scent of the flowers and the words of “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” still echo in my head and my heart. But the image that most frequently comes to mind is the resurrection message, life after death, life that began in the darkness of the cave.

As I think of that cave I think of a place that cold and damp. Because it was a burial cave and contained a fresh body it must have been smelly and absolutely dark – or was it?

As I think about it more I realize that rolling a stone in front of the cave probably sealed out most of the light but not all of it. At that time they didn’t have lasers to cut the stone to make it a perfect fit. Was it those little bits of light in the darkness that brought life out of this special place?

As I’ve thought more about those bits of light their importance grows. I’m writing as I sit at my desk as one of the two visitations for funerals we had during the week after Easter takes place.

I can hear the voices of the people coming to pay their respects. I can’t hear their words but I know that they are voices of sorrow and sympathy and hope – voices offering help and comfort to soothe the pain of loss. Loss of a loved one, loss of a job, the pain of a broken relationship – all of these things and more can plunge us into darkness. In dying and rising from the cave Jesus calls us in our times of darkness to look for the bits of light that filter into the darkness of our lives. Look and you will see them. Seek and you will find.

Shortly before Easter I planted some tomato seeds, a gift from a friend who recently died. Ray was his name and he was the supplier of tomato plants for Reformation for the last four years and I will miss him.

I planted Ray’s seeds hopeful that they would grow. I’ve never grown tomato plants from seed before. In the last few days I’m beginning to notice shoots coming up, shoots with tiny pale green leaves. And this morning I noticed that these tiny plants are turning toward the light for sustenance.

Today and always Jesus calls us to turn toward the light, to seek out, no matter how tiny, the bits of light that come into our life and to move toward the light. In dying and rising Jesus showers us with new life. May you always find ways to walk in the light of Christ no matter how faint it might be. Amen.

Pr. Margaret Schoewe

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
Christopher Manke and Margaret Schoewe Pastors
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Visit our website: www.StMattsLutheran.org
Sunday worship at 7:30, 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.
USPS 662-800 -- Published Monthly - Twice monthly in March, July, October and December by St. Matthew’s Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1615 Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213 (phone 774-0441) Periodicals postage paid at Milwaukee, WI. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Voice of St. Matthew’s, St. Matthew’s Ev. Lutheran Church, 1615 Wauwatosa Avenue, Wauwatosa, WI  53213
Submit articles to the church office in care of Sonja Mohr, Newsletter Editor, or sonjamohr@me.com

“Most human events yield to the erosion of time. The greatest, most amazing exception to this generalization...A man, a Jew, some sort of dissident religious prophet, was crucified...In the teachings of this man were two things: first, the principle of charity and love...secondly, the possibility of redemption in the face of self-knowledge and penitence...The combination of these two things...shaped and disciplined the minds and values of many generations - placed, in short, its creative stamp on one of the greatest flowerings of the human spirit.”
June 1st - Celebration Day at St. Matt’s

What is Celebration Sunday?
We are celebrating a wonderful year of growing in faith and service with a special worship service and picnic after worship in our west parking lot. We look forward to welcoming new members, our church partners, neighbors and friends as we give thanks for our blessings and rejoice in the spirit-filled community that is St. Matthew’s!

Morning
Join us for jazz-themed music in worship during 8:30 and 11:00 services
9:45-10:45
Don’t miss Education Hour! We are hosting guest speaker, Barbie Izquierdo, a single Philadelphia mother who grew up in poverty and is trying to provide a better life for her two children. Barbie’s story is featured in the widely-acclaimed documentary A Place at the Table shown to our adult education audience here at St. Matthew’s in March.

Afternoon
12:15-2:00
Enjoy Barbecue, Hot Dogs, delicious side dishes and a “Make Your own Sunday Bar”
Get to know someone new from one of our Partner Churches - Reformation and Cross Lutheran
Celebrate creation by making “Flower Bombs.”
Special Games & Fun planned for the Adults & Kids
Come and celebrate with us! This will be a fun time with one another and an experience of God in the open air that will be good for your soul and a wonderful way to start your summer!

Sign Up in the Commons
Or in the Church office;
Advance Sign Up is Appreciated!
$8 Adults
$4 Kids 2-12
Free Kids Under 2
Maximum cost of $24 for a family
All are Welcome!!

Did you know?
There are two weeks left in the Sunday School schedule:
May 11 and May 18

June 1st Celebration Sunday to Feature Guest Speaker
National Hunger Advocate
Barbie Izquierdo
Will Speak During Forum Education Hour
As part of our Celebration Sunday on June 1st, we will welcome Barbie Izquierdo, who will share her struggle with food insecurity and the ways in which she is using her voice to end hunger in this country. Barbie, a young mother of two children, is featured in the movie, A Place at the Table, which explores the problem of hunger in the US. The movie was the topic of a recent Adult Ed series and is also a discussion focus for this year’s youth mission trip. Copies are available in the library if you would like to view it.

Barbie is a national speaker, who has spoken at the White House, the US congress, and national conferences on hunger and advocacy. She is the featured speaker at the ELCA Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly this year on May 30th. We are fortunate to have her extend her stay in Milwaukee to share her story with us during the education hour, 9:45 - 10:45, on June 1st.

Reflecting on her experiences, Barbie has said: “But being able to go through all of that and still be able to stand as a person, whether I’m ashamed at times or not, whether I’m embarrassed at times or not, I can still say that I got through it. That’s why I do what I do, why I chose to share my story.”

Barbie is a gifted and eloquent speaker with an important message. We hope you’ll come to hear her on June 1st during the education hour.

Barbie is pictured here with actor and hunger advocate Jeff Bridges, who also appears in “A Place at the Table.”
Building Renovation Phase 1-b

On April 27 at the congregational meeting, voters said ‘yes’ to beginning Phase 1-b of the three-phase building renovation plan. The list below describes what areas are being renovated or constructed. Phase 1a of the renovation replaced the outdated HVAC equipment in the building and was completed last fall. The next phase will most likely begin in May.

What will we accomplish in this round of Renovations?

Add a New Kitchen in lower commons:
- New location by the current lower commons / Youth Room storage area
- New convection ovens, grill tops and burners
- New hooded vent with HVAC to supply and meet codes
- New commercial refrigerator and freezer (that we already have)
- New coffee, water and ice station
- New dish cleaning room with commercial dishwasher
- Stainless steel countertops and solid stone tops for decorative accent
- New entrance points for meal serving and cleanup (back of Fellowship Hall)
- New electric outlets in the Fellowship hall floor for serving meals
- New cabinetry
- New Hot water heaters

Add a New Meeting Room next to the new kitchen in lower commons:
- Separate meeting room with windows
- Cabinet and decorative countertop for storage
- AV for showing media in meetings
- Double doors from the kitchen into this new meeting room – will allow for this space to function as a overflow room to the kitchen.

Create two new dedicated storage areas
- for supplies in the lower commons

Add new HVAC for the Youth Room, new meeting room and Room 101 with A/C

Revise lower commons hallway layout with the central stairwell layout changed
- Remove “landing” step at bottom of central stair to meet the lower floor
- Make a new opening through stairs into back lower commons
- Redo wood trim
- New fire shutter at landing to add fire protection

Renovate the old (current) kitchen to convert it to office work / copier space
- Cut a new doorway from the kitchen into the office for easy access
- Remove old kitchen equipment (Stoves, dishwasher, Range hood, etc.)

Add a new fire protection sprinkler system installed throughout the entire building
- Add sprinklers through entire building for protection of life and property
- Insulate above three attic areas to better insulate in order to avoid pipe freezing

Adjust Education Wing heating controls and valves
- Remove all Pneumatic controls to Education wing
- Zone upstairs office’s heating controls

Add “Facelift” improvements to various parts of the building.
- Replace carpeting through ground-level hallways and into new classroom.
- Replace ceiling and lighting in all 6 Education wing Bathrooms
I love coming to church, but where can I park? Parking Suggestions for worship at St. Matthew’s

1) West Lot: St. Matthew’s owns the west lot at the southwest corner of Underwood and Milwaukee Avenues.
2) City parking lot south of the fire station. Go south on Underwood Avenue, and there’s a temporary gravel parking lot for all uses.
3) Starbucks/Qdoba lot is private. You can only park there if you’re patronizing one of the businesses in that shopping area.
4) But just north of Starbucks, across the street, is another municipal lot. Enter off Wauwatosa Avenue, just before a right turn onto Harmonee. It is a small lot right at the corner of Wauwatosa & Harmonee Avenues.
5) Wauwatosa Women’s Club: This is located just east of St. Matthew’s, across Wauwatosa Avenue. There are several spots and we have permission to use the lot on Sunday mornings.
6) Wauwatosa East High School: Two possibilities - one is the lot on the west side of the building, enter off 74th Street (remember that 74th Street is one-way, so to get to it you’ll need to go around by way of Hillcrest Drive). There is another Tosa East parking lot north of the school building, accessible from Wauwatosa Avenue.

While parking on Sunday mornings can be a challenge, there are spots available if you’re mobile and a little bit creative.

As you choose your spot, we ask younger and more mobile people to leave the main parking lot for those who can walk only short distances. Thanks

May 18 Adult Forum:
“Greater Tosa Interfaith”
Learn about this local organization supporting seniors to stay in their own homes

Diane Euting from Greater Tosa Interfaith will be doing a temple talk and adult Ed explaining the services of Interfaith for Older Adults an organization that serves all of Milwaukee County. Learn how you can help serve older adults in our community or how you as an older adult can use your skills to serve others. Giving older adults rides is only a small part of what Interfaith does. Become a reading tutor in MPS, help with the senior meal program, provide handyman services and more.

“We Promise to Pray for You…”
When we are baptized, we are welcomed into the congregation, whose people promise to support the parents in raising their child in Christ. This listing of the baptized makes your prayers more personal and will be a reminder of that promise.

We have completed the year in listing baptisms from the years 2000-2013. We will list the last two years for each month in the forthcoming issues. Here are the baptisms since March 2013.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 10, 2013</td>
<td>Quinn Elizabeth Farrell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 30, 2013</td>
<td>Dylan Mann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 30, 2013</td>
<td>Phoebe Jane Mann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 9, 2014</td>
<td>Nathaniel Dolan</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 16, 2014</td>
<td>Madison Mae Passint</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 30, 2014</td>
<td>Oliver Welch</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 14, 2013</td>
<td>Miles Huth</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 14, 2013</td>
<td>Charlotte Norman</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 21, 2013</td>
<td>Marcella Mathis</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 28, 2013</td>
<td>Piper Tanem</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 19, 2014</td>
<td>Leo Dupee</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 19, 2014</td>
<td>Norah Dupee</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 12, 2013</td>
<td>Jacob Evans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 12, 2013</td>
<td>Paige Towles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 26, 2013</td>
<td>Stella Kunz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Celebrate Children’s Book Week next week!
As we celebration Children’s Book Week on May 12-18 let us be mindful to inspire kids to read. Home is where this quality habit can begin. Parents have a wonderful opportunity to find quality books and encourage reading habits. The more we read, the more we love to read. Children learn by example as adults can demonstrate good reading practices to pass along the passion of reading to children!

Stop in the Library to receive a FREE book bag!
The Ice Cream for BOOKS! Reading Program at St. Matthew’s Church Library continues throughout the summer months. Readers will scream for the tasty Ice Cream theme! The current reading program began in September, 2013 and continues through September, 2014. The program encourages children to read 10 books by completing the flyer, receive a small Christian prize and watch the giant cone get bigger and bigger as the kids add scoops of ice cream for time spent reading. Kids can complete as many flyers as they wish.

The Library will be open twice each month 9:30-10:15 a.m. on the following Sundays:
- June 15th & 29th
- July 13th & 27th
- August 10th & 24th
We’re collecting books again for the “Milwaukee Working” agency which employs men in urban areas where jobs are scarce

We will again hold book collection in June to benefit the Milwaukee organization “Milwaukee Working.” This organization accepts donations of books of all kinds. The newest books, with resale value, are the most helpful to them, as they post them on Amazon.com and resell them. But even old books can be recycled.

Most of the 15 employees have spent time on the street, or even in prison, and never held full-time jobs before. Milwaukee Working is a faith-based non-profit aimed at creating jobs in the heart of one of the most impoverished cities in America.

During the month of June bring your books; they will also accept CDs, DVDs, and games in good condition. Tax receipts available.

Watch for information about bringing a truck into the parking lot on one of the Saturdays in June, through which neighbors and community members can also donate to this organization. When the Saturday has been set, share the info with your neighbors about this great organization benefiting Milwaukee.

Join the NAMI Walk in memory of Eric Kloth

_By Doris and Luther Kloth_

Eric, our eldest son, suffered from mental illness for 20 years. NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness played a huge role in his life. NAMI, Greater Milwaukee Chapter helped Eric get better care and housing and gave him a sense of purpose. Eric spoke about living with mental illness to groups all over Milwaukee in the _In Our Own Voice_ program. His mission was to reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness, a stigma he constantly felt. This year we are again continuing Eric’s mission by having a team, _Remembering Eric Kloth_ in the NAMiwalks.

The NAMiwalks is being held on Saturday, May 17th at Veterans Park, 1010 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive. Registration is from 9:30 to 11 and the walk begins at 11. We invite you to participate by donating to our team and/or walking with us on May 17.

You can donate and register in advance to walk online at namiwalks.nami.org/rememberingeric or mail your donations to Luther and Doris Kloth, 2205 North 71st Street, Wauwatosa, WI 53213. We appreciate your support. Thank you.

Mother’s Day Diaper Drive!

_Contribute toward adequate supply for all_

We are still accepting diapers for this Mother’s Day drive. Bring them to the collection area outside the church office.

Please consider donating diapers in sizes 2 through 5, diaper wipes and diaper rash cream to St. Matthew’s for distribution to our partner churches. Thanks to Annie DeArmond for leading this collection. The diapers will be given to our partner congregations, Cross and Reformation Lutheran Churches.

Just One More Meal Ministry received MANDI Award:

The “PNC Trail Blazer award” was given to the Just One More meal ministry recently. MANDI stands for Milwaukee Awards for Neighborhood Development Innovation. This award is on display in the Commons, along with information on MANDI. There is also a video that was created showing just what J.O.M.M. is - look for it in the Commons next to the award.

NEW for Mount Meru Coffee:

Mt. Meru Coffee is now available in K-cups (regular only). Of course, you can still get the coffee in the forms you are used to: drip, whole bean, etc. Thank you St. Matthew’s for your continuing support of our partnership with our brothers and sisters in Tanzania. Please stop at the coffee table on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Together we are making a difference. Questions may be directed to Bruce Johnson at 414-366-5053.
Good News for TAD:
Another $1.5 Million allotted for Treatment Alternatives & Diversions

The state legislature recently approved a $1.5 million annual increase to the TAD (Treatment Alternatives and Diversions) fund. This builds on the $1.5 increase that was approved in the summer of 2013. This means that, in the past year, funding has gone from $1 million per year to $4 million per year. Based on the past performance of TAD programs, we can conservatively estimate that the $3 million/year increase will result in:

- At least 150 fewer prison admissions per year
- At least 850 fewer county jail admissions per year
- A net savings to Wisconsin taxpayers of at least $3 million
- 1,000 fewer people will be incarcerated every year!

It is rare that we can see so clearly the positive impact of our work for justice. Our thanks go to everyone who has participated in any way in the 11x15 Campaign.

Let’s keep up the good work!
Stay up to date with our 11x15 work by checking our website regularly: www.prayforjusticeinwi.org

Sent by WISDOM: Linking communities across Wisconsin to work for justice

ELCA World Hunger
“The vision of ELCA World Hunger is bold yet simple: to end hunger in this world. ... In nearly 60 countries around the world, including the U.S. [they] are linked to the resources needed to make positive changes. Thanks to you and thousands of other dedicated people in your congregations like yours... our vision is coming ever closer to reality. ...Thank you for your unwavering financial support, for your constant prayers and for your faithful participation. You really do make a difference in people’s lives. - Dan Rift, Director ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal.

ELCA Malaria Campaign:
Thank you so much for your congregation’s faithful support of the ELCA Malaria Campaign. ... Let me tell you about little Solomon Biliyati and his devoted mother, Grace. When Solomon was just 6 months old, he contracted malaria for the first time - but not the last. ... Grace (Solomon’s mother) had to sell almost everything she had just to take care of her precious boy. Thanks to your support of the ELCA Malaria campaign through your financial gifts, Life has changed for Solomon and the whole Biliyati family.

It’s About LOVE

It’s Easter Monday and I have spent much of the day on the telephone letting relatives and friends know that my only living uncle had most unexpectedly died. He was actually my “step uncle” and only ten years older that I am. My mom’s mother died when my mom was only ten or eleven years old. A few years later my grandfather married a sweet lady with two sons. Her older son died only a few months ago and we attended his funeral in Missouri.

Let me tell you a bit about this uncle, Guy Lee. To many he seemed “unlovable.”

He was loud and boisterous. He loved to wheel and deal. He loved to make money. And he loved to talk about it. And, I loved him. And I know he loved me because we told each other so.

I keep thinking of Pastor Manke’s Easter sermon and the repetitive refrain he used: “it’s about love.”

We need to tell each other so through our words and actions. And St Matt’s provides so many opportunities. One way close to my heart is through Interfaith Programs and Services for Older Adults. On May 18, Diane Euting, director of the Greater Tosa Interfaith Neighborhood Program will be the presenter for the Adult Forum. I hope you will plan to attend and learn about the services provided and about the volunteer opportunities. Marge Shantz and I have been Board representatives for several years and now Marge is retiring. It was easy to see how Marge loved helping others: She told them so through her actions and dedication. Thank you, Marge, for the direct ways you lived out “It’s About Love.”

Jane Sandstrom, Coordinator of Older Adult Ministry
Leading the singing during the Good Friday Children’s service was a family effort for the Mankes.

Conor Williams and John Stolte help to prepare one of the Lenten dinners.

Annie DeArmond and her son, Everett

Margo Blomquist and daughter Morgan

The Ubell Family: Matt and Katrina and their children George (In the center), Weston and Violet.
During the presentation of the Passion Scenes on Palm Sunday, Mary, played by Maddy Cox, is escorted away from the cross by Veronica (Annette Olson), Rachel (Dara Greene), and Hezekiah (Al Van Lith) and Barabbas (Steve Winters).

At the Easter Vigil, worshippers gathered outside around a fire and processed into church.

Worshippers hold candles at the beginning of the Easter Vigil Service. Left to right: Carol Steinkraus, Jo Gialdini and Jim Daul.

Aaron Rockenbach, who portrayed Jesus, speaks to his disciples at the Last Supper.
Shoe recycling returns to St. Matthew’s!

It’s springtime & that means it is time for shoe recycling to return to St. Matthew’s. St. Matthew’s will once again be collecting old, worn out athletic shoes to be recycled through the Nike Reuse-a-shoe program. Instead of going to the landfill, the shoes will be recycled into materials for new athletic surfaces.

Please participate by dropping your athletic shoes during church hours (a blue barrel is located near the church office). Also, please Tie Your Shoes Together in Pairs! This is a new requirement of the program. DO NOT however, put any shoes in plastic bags or contribute shoes that have any metal, cleats or spikes. This program can only work with athletic shoes.

The program will run throughout May. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Kramer at jenkqk@yahoo.com

DO:
- Bring your old/unwanted athletic shoes. Very heavily used shoes accepted, too. Shoes in good condition will be passed along to our partner congregations.
- Tie the shoes together in pairs
- Place them in the blue barrel outside the church office.

DON’T:
- Bring shoes that have any metal in them.
- Put the shoes in plastic bags

NEW this summer!
The Library will be open twice each month 9:30-10:15 a.m. on the following Sundays:
- June 15th & 29th
- July 13th & 27th
- August 10th & 24th

The Church Library will be open on a weekly basis beginning Sunday, September 7th from 9:30-11:00 a.m. All Are Welcome!

Green Tips for Spring

CLEAN NATURALLY
Why scrub counters, floors, and tubs with harsh chemicals that reduce indoor air quality and harm the environment when you can use a few common household items to get the job done? Some basic ingredients for DIY cleaners include baking soda, lemon, vinegar, salt, liquid soap, and hot water.

CLEAN WITH REUSABLE WIPES AND SCRUBBERS
Spring cleaning doesn’t have to result in a trash can full of used paper towels. Instead, try reusable scrub brushes or homemade cloth cleaning rags. Synthetic sponges are petroleum-derived and can contain triclosan. Greener options for natural sponges include those made of wood-pulp cellulose.

USE NATURAL AIR FRESHENERS
To really freshen up a room, try opening the windows first. Next, invest in houseplants. NASA has been studying the pollution-reducing abilities of plants for years. Some of the plants tested by NASA and shown to remove benzene, trichloroethylene, and formaldehyde from the air include the peace lily, spider plant, golden pothos, mother-in-law’s tongue, bamboo palm, ficus, pot mum, and gerbera daisy.

CHOOSE EARTH-FRIENDLY CLEANING PRODUCTS
You dump all sorts of fancy-smelling products into the machine with your clothes, but those commercial detergents are full of nasty chemicals that can end up in rivers and streams. Consider switching to a plant-based, biodegradable laundry soap (but beware of greenwashing and don’t forget to read the instructions on the container, because you may be using much more detergent than necessary). Worried about your whites? Instead of chlorine bleach, scan the store’s shelves for a nontoxic alternative -- and skip the fabric softener altogether.

LET IT HANG OUT
Now that the weather’s warmer, instead of tossing your damp clothes into the dryer, hang them outside. Line-drying uses zero energy (except your own) and we think sun-dried clothes actually smell better. If the weather doesn’t permit (or for more delicate items), invest in an inexpensive drying rack that you can set up inside. If you want to use a clothesline but your homeowners’ association forbids it, consider getting involved with Project Laundry List or a similar advocacy organization.
Men’s Ministry Events
Put some “spring” in your faith walk!

Men’s Movie Night: “Romero”
Wed. May 21st (6:30 – 8:30 p.m.)
Join us as we watch the docudrama “Romero,” to gain a better understanding and perspective of our El Salvador partnership. Archbishop Oscar Romero was initially selected as a ‘safe choice’ for the spiritual leader of El Salvador in the 1970’s. His witness to events of fellow citizens and his own personal experiences eventually led him to speak out against the government. At the heart of his courageous stand is the right of all citizens to basic human freedoms. A short discussion will follow the movie. Light supper, snacks and beverages provided!
Contact Brian Due @ 378-7274 or duedrops@sbcglobal.net with any questions.

You’re invited to a Men’s Breakfast:
Saturday, May 17th, 7:30 a.m.
Speaker: Eugene Schulz
Topic: WWII & General Patton’s 3rd Army
Join us for a presentation to honor our military. Eugene Schulz will share his experiences as a member of Patton’s Third Army headquarters group. His experience includes eyewitness accounts of seeing Nazi concentration camps. He has written a book about his experiences.
Breakfasts are always a time for good food, good fellowship and a great message!

Looking ahead to summer:
St. Matthew’s Men’s Golf Outing:
The third annual Bob Biehn/Tim Ireland memorial Golf Outing will be held on Friday, August 8, 2014. Please save the date for a great time and good fellowship. Details will be posted in the Bulletin and Voice when completed. For questions, see Jim Bowen, or call 414-614-2799.

Garden Partnership with Reformation continues in 2014 growing season
Save the date – Saturday, May 17, join us to prepare the Reformation Angel Garden for planting – clean the garden area, turn the soil in the plots and add compost, and mulch the walkways. Watch for more information in the Sunday bulletin. Sign up if you wish to carpool to the gardens. NOTE: If you are starting vegetable seedlings indoors, why not start a few extra to donate plants to the Reformation garden.

Make Shopping for Our Partners a Habit!! Look for the Red Bag
Help Reformation and Cross Lutheran Churches serve their neighbors by making shopping for them a habit. Reformation needs our ongoing food donations to make their community food outreach happen, and Cross relies on donations of hygiene items to for their food pantry and clinic visitors. So, as you leave worship on Sunday morning, look for the red bags in the commons and take a bag and a shopping list to fill with some – or all – of the listed items. Then return the filled bag the next week.
Thanks for making these ministries possible with your contributions!

Reformation Store Needs Volunteer Help!
In addition to the regular volunteer needs at Reformation’s Store – such as sorting the large volume of clothing donated – they could use additional help as a result of changes resulting from the impending sale of the building. The plan is for the store to lease its current space at the church until a new home is found. That space will also be used to house some of the other ministries at Reformation, so help is needed to rearrange the space. Volunteers are always welcome on Mondays from 10:00 until noon and Thursdays from 1-3. If you have questions or would like to volunteer at another time, contact Diane Roznowski, Neighborhood Store Volunteer Coordinator, at diane.roznowski@gmail.com.
Quilt Blessing Sunday - May 11

Quilt Blessing for 2014 is on Mother’s Day
Created with love by Stitches of Love Quilt Ministry Celebrating 11 years of ministry

The Quilt Ministry strives to make beautiful quilts and blankets from donated fabrics for distribution to individuals who are in physical, emotional, or spiritual need. Each item sewn through the Ministry is uniquely created and made with love, just as each of its members who created them has been formed by God. Many different talents, skills, friendship and creative minds woven together to touch the lives of those in need has been a miracle unfolding. Thanks to church members, children, grandchildren and friends of the quilting ministry for their donations. Prior to distribution, all quilts receive a prayer of blessing.

The quilt ministry Stitches of Love at St. Matthew’s came into being in late 2003. A total of 1,668 quilts have been donated to date and this concludes our 11th year of creating love and warm to those in need.

Accomplishments of Quilt Ministry
Sept. 2013-May 2014

- 120 quilts created & completed by the St. Matthew’s Quilt Ministry
- 4 blankets sent to Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in SD in conjunction with ELCA Women of Greater Milwaukee Synod
- Numerous bibs made for the needs of infants locally & Guatemala
- 25 new bed pillows & custom made pillowcases created for distribution to The Joy House
- 30 teddy bears with jacket, head piece and prayer given to community police departments, Reformation Church & Joy House to offer comfort to children in crisis situations

Quilts and blankets will be distributed following the blessing through the following organizations:

- The Linus Project – a national organization that distributes blankets as needed to local hospitals Christian social services
- The Joy House – a welcoming home that addresses the needs of women and children through Milwaukee Rescue Mission.
- Care Net Pregnancy Center of Milwaukee – that serves and supports the needs of women.
- Additional donations are made on an as-needed basis

Everyone is welcome to join the work of the Stitches of Love Quilting Ministry. We meet four times a year on Saturdays. Pick up a bright green brochure at the table in the Library Commons for details.

All are welcome at monthly healing services

Healing services are offered monthly at St. Matthew’s at a variety of times to give all the opportunity to come forward for healing prayer for themselves or others. You can share your concern with the pastor/leader at the altar, and then he/she along with the healing ministries will lay on hands and give a special prayer for your concern. Your concern can be general if there are concerns you don’t wish to share specifically. Here are the upcoming dates:

- Sunday, May 11 - Mother’s Day - Education Time, 9:45 a.m.
- Sunday, June 15 - Father’s Day during the 10:15 a.m. Communion Service
- Sunday, July 20 - After the 10:15 service

A previous year’s quilt collection and display on Mother’s Day.
Consider The Lutheran:
A magazine for ELCA Lutheran churches and members
By Eileen Lund

In April The Lutheran, our ELCA national magazine, published a beautiful article entitled “Just One More Rescues Food and Souls.” Julie Sevig, editor for Congregations and Community section of the magazine, drove up to Milwaukee to spend a good part of her day learning about the ministry and getting to know the people involved. She visited both Redeemer and St. Matthew’s in order to get the story straight.

It wasn’t until after the article appeared that I realized how few St. Matthew’s members would ever read it because not very many of us subscribe to The Lutheran—yet. But I am hoping that an invitation might change that. Please consider expanding your knowledge and vision of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, our Church, by ordering and reading The Lutheran.

Published twelve times a year, the magazine presents news, thoughtfully written articles about monthly topics, portraits of ministries happening throughout the church, as well as Bible studies, reflections, letters, and a monthly message from our bishop. Reading The Lutheran helps me to see how St. Matthew’s is a part of something that affects many parts of the world, which is both humbling and exciting. It also challenges me to think about my theology and my Christian life. It is a monthly gift.

The Lutheran offers a variety of plans. An individual print subscription delivered to your home costs $19.95 a year and includes access to the current digital edition and archived digital editions. Group rates are available for as little as $8.95 per year for print copies and $5.00 per year for digital copies. The price is so reasonable for the value within. If just 25 more households subscribe, we will be eligible for the group rates.

If you are ready to receive The Lutheran, you may call the church office for assistance (414-774-0441) or visit the display table in the narthex on May 11, 18, or 25.

Assistants for Sunday, May 11, 2014
4th Sunday After Easter

**Greeters:** 7:30, Theresa Krahn. 8:30, John Swenson, Lisa Winters, Harvin & Mary Ann Abrahamson, Maisey Michelz. 11:00, Pat Heuler, Diann Lebow, Rosalind Rouse.

**Lay Reader:** 7:30, Marian Benz. 8:30, Joanne Ziarek. 11:00, Brenda Ray.

**Nursery Helpers:** 8:30, Mary Borhart, Jayden Comerford, Yanna Glaspy. 9:45, Gail Freeborn, Megan Reuter. 11:00, Kamrynn Lamontagne, Hailey Lippold, Lydia Wehrley.

**Acolytes:** 8:30, Kondi & Eden Gissibl. 11:00, Alexis Falcí, Ali Ray.

**Coffee Hosts:** 8:00, Dan & Allison Byrne, Sandy Forbes, 9:30, Dave & Carol Anderson.

**Ushers:** 8:30, Dan Anderson (captain), Sue & Ken Voigt, John & Sandy Richter, Mark Olson, David Mraz, Brad Iding, Ernst Bunde. 11:00, Tim Muehlfeld (captain), Mike Thomae, Joseph Wehrley, Chris & Alissa Schneider, Logan Schmidt, Judith & Joe Sayrs, Craig Johnson.

**Communion Prepurers:** 7:30, Marcia Connell, Suzanne Hansen. **Communion Assistants:** 7:30, Marian Benz, Pam Stokke-Ceci. **Bread Baker:** Adam & Heather Bastjan.

**Welcome Center Host:** 8:30, **Needed.** 11:00, Bob & Carol Beecher.

**Welcome Assistant to the Pastors:** 8:30, Harry & Sandy Proifo. 11:00, Bob Beecher.

**Library Assistant at 9:45:** Bridget Smith.

Assistants for May 18, 2014
5th Sunday after Easter

**Nursery Helpers:** 8:30, Lauren Fassbender, Shjonna Petersen, Libby Sukowatey. 9:45, Nikki & Marty Ring. 11:00, Meredith Jambura, Emma Murphy, Sally Salkin.

**Acolytes:** 8:30, Nick and Emily Koranda. 11:00, Cheyanne Dallapiazza, Elizabeth and Madeline Langenstroer, Maeve Williams.

**Coffee Hosts:** 8:00, Sarah Ebbenhoe, Denise & Jeff Higgins, 9:30, Dollie & Dale Kirchner.

**Greeters:** 7:30, Charles Koeble. 8:30, Helen Kinsey, Mike & Brenda Dahlquist, Mitchell Weinberg-Kinsey. 11:00, John, Brianna and Jacob Stolte, Conor & Lisa Williams, Julie and Jean Tennesen.

**Lay Reader:** 7:30, Mark Crego. 8:30, David Weinberg-Kinsey. 11:00, Lisa Williams.

**Ushers:** 8:30, Paul Kramer (captain), Steve Raasch, Cory Olson, David Holmes, Peter Ernst, Jim Clement, Peter Chang, Don Birschel, Jack Albee. 11:00, Paul De Young (captain), David Rotgers, Don Reynolds, Steve and Jack Mielke, Natalie Hanson, John Geertsen, Claire Geertsen, Matthew Doberstein, Mark Bjorgo.

**Communion Prepurers:** 11:00, Robin Bloczynski, Rosie Haas, Carrie Haver. **Communion Assistants:** 11:00, Joyce Biehn, Dan Jambura, Sarah Timmerman.

**Welcome Center Host:** 8:30, Patti Cimermancic. 11:00, Joy Wedel. **Welcome Assistant to the Pastors:** 8:30, Frank & Patti Cimermancic. 11:00, **Needed.**

**Lay Assistant:** 11:00, Anne-Marie Nickel.

**Bread Baker:** John Dankwardt, Laura Lange.
Bulletin Board

Easter Decorators! Thanks to those who decorated the Sanctuary and church for the Easter celebration services. They were: Danette Braun, Lois Bross, Pat Engelhardt, Pr. Margaret. Ed Bross, Aaron Michaelson and Paul Braun made up the technical team that hoisted and placed the heavy stuff, such as the suspended crosses, butterflies, banners and drappings. Gretchen Haugse contributed advice for balance and detail. Our apologies for any workers not included in the list above.

Caregivers Group meets 2nd and 4th Monday afternoons - Sharing joys and challenges The caregivers group will meet on the following dates at 1 p.m. in the Upper Room. The group is facilitated by Sharon Thiel, and you are welcome to attend. May 12th; June 9th and 23rd

Needed: Golfing buddy for an adult man with special needs. As a part of Special Olympics, there are many opportunities available to this man if he has a person to transport him and even golf with him. The main schedule is golf practice on Monday nights, but there are also games and other events at other times. You can be as involved as you’d like to be - a few Mondays, or other opportunities if you are able to partner with him. This could have shared responsibility, meaning more than one volunteer could help out. If you can help or would like further information, please talk to Pr. Margaret.


Thanks for your generous donations of professional men’s clothing for the Guest House.

Thanks for donations to Bottomless Closet of women’s clothing appropriate for employment.

Our Church Family

Recently hospitalized: Bob Jonas; Ruth Zarse; Ron Coates.

We give thanks for the life of Teresa Hanus. Though her life on earth was shortened due to illness, she touched many people through her quiet caring ways. We ask for prayers for comfort and peace for her husband, David and daughter Claire. A memorial service was held at St. Matthew’s on April 22.

God’s care be with Arlene Hastings in the death of her sister Beverly Dullar on April 16.

Thank You to everyone who volunteered their time during Holy Week/Easter Sunday. Over 100 people helped with decorating the church and assisting with various roles in the worship services. The sincere giving nature of this congregation is a blessing and we give thanks for each and every one of you!

Assistants for May 25, 2014 - 6th Sunday after Easter

Nursery Helpers: 8:30, Elizabeth Greene, Tim Greene, Cassie Smith. 11:00, Samantha Abrahamson, Moriah and Abby Mucha.

Acolytes: 8:30, Hayden Collins, Jessica Marty, 1 more needed. 11:00, Donovan McBride, Samuel Rose.

Coffee Hosts: 8:00, Curt Brewer, Erin Fassbender, Kim Procopis. 9:30, Mike, Donna and Abby Gifford.

Communion Preparers: 8:30, Patrick Gardner, Rita Reinke, one more needed.

Communion Assistants: 8:30, Sue Haberman, Shelly Jones, Brian Smith.

Greeters: 7:30, Fred & Roylee Pflughoeft. 8:30, Jill & Brian Due, Jack & Arlene Hastings, Bridget & Brian Smith. 11:00, Steve & Lisa Winters, Abby, Emily, Joe and Lisa Chiesa, Jenny Acompanado.

Lay Reader: 7:30, Charles Shantz. 8:30, Dara Greene. 11:00, Jane Sandstrom.

Ushers: 8:30, Larry Jurss (captain), Sherri & Jerry Wirtz, Gary Thiel, Mark Scheiber, Arvis Kraetsch, Paul Fassbender, Dave Fagerberg. 11:00, Barrey Swing (captain), Ginger Wooster, Ethan Wooster, Rob Wedel, Richard and Nick Tennessen, Mitchell Swing, Ethan Stewart, Eric Oquist.

Welcome Center Host: 8:30, Gregg & Mary Collins. 11:00, Mary Ellen & Donald Ralfs.

Lay Assistant: 8:30, Annette Olson.

Bread Baker: Mary Henneman & Patrick Schumacher.

Welcome Assistant to the Pastors: 8:30, Carl & Eileen Lund. 11:00, Robert Beecher.
The Voice of St. Matthew’s

We are called to welcome, nurture, equip and send

Next issue of the VOICE is dated June 1, 2014.