

Welcome to Worship at St. Matthew's

January 1, 2023



Welcome to St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. We begin worship and this new year as we always live: in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Holy Communion: All are welcome to come forward at the time of communion to receive God's gift of grace. Gluten free wafers as well as juice are available for those with specific dietary needs. Speak to an usher if you need assistance coming forward.

A library book is given to the church library by Leslie & Pat Gardner in honor of Bridget's birthday.

Child for Baptism: Piper Ann Zellmer, child of Jodie and Adam Zellmer, Muskego, was born March 29, 2022. Piper's sponsor is Jeff Sanicola. Piper has a big brother, Lukas, who is three years old.

Christmas Gift to St. Matthew's: New Sanctuary Piano In 2015 the piano fund was graciously established at St. Matthew's in memory of Eric Kloth to replace the piano used in our worship space. Since then, many donations have been made by congregation members. With a recent anonymous memorial gift, we have been able to purchase a used 7-foot 1991 Steinway Grand Piano for the sanctuary for the first time this Christmas Eve. We thank everyone for your support and dedication to our ministry and know that the piano will be used to continue in helping people worship and celebrate our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The Church Office will be closed Monday, January 2nd, 2023.

Offering Envelopes for 2023 are not yet available. We hope they will arrive soon.

Sunday School: Please Note that there is NO Sunday School on Jan. 1st.

Altar Flower & Library Book Sign-Up: You are invited to sign up for altar flowers or a library book for a special occasion which will be noted in the bulletin. Flowers are \$35 and will be ordered from Alfa Flower shop by the office staff. Please make out a check and mark it for altar flowers. You can sign up to donate a book to the library. A book will be chosen for the occasion and you will be notified of which book was chosen. Library books are \$20. This is a great way to support St. Matthew's worship and library ministries in a meaningful way. The Sign-up Book is at the Welcome Center.

Wednesday Bible study resumes on Wednesday, January 11th, 2023.

St. Matthew's First 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.

Friday, January 6

Facism: A Warning by Madeleine Albright, 320 pages

Friday, February 3

The Girls of Atomic City: The Untold Story of the Women Who Helped Win World War II by Denise Kiernan, 416 pages

Full List on our website and also at church.



What Goes Up...

As the song goes: "What goes up...must come down..." Please join us on **Saturday, January 7th at 9:00 a.m.** to pack away the Christmas trees and decorations until Christmas 2023. People are especially needed to climb ladders to get the big trees and wreaths down and put into their storage bags. There are also four smaller trees that need to be taken down and boxed in addition to ornaments and other decorations. Young people are welcome to help as well. Mark your calendars. With many hands, this all can be done very quickly! Thank you for your time and commitment to St. Matt's.

Women's Group – January 8: The next St. Matt's Women's Group will meet on **Sunday Jan 8th at 9:45am.** The topic will be vulnerability. This meeting will help you get the most out of the women's wellness event on Saturday Jan 21st!

January 8 Adult Education

Al Land shares the 2022 St. Matthew's Adult Mission Trip to Houston

In this new year maybe you'd like to challenge yourself to grow in faith and service but aren't sure how to go about doing that. The Houston mission trip participants will encourage you to consider making an adult mission trip part of your plan for the upcoming year. Trip Coordinator, Al Land, shares "Every mission trip is a little different and there are always stories to be told about the people and the homes that the group works on. On this mission trip experience there were unique connections made and relationships were built! This will be a great opportunity to gain a better understanding of just how meaningful these mission trips can be."

Saints January Gathering, January 18, features storyteller "The Endurance"

Professional storyteller and author, Rochelle Pennington, will share the story of the **Endurance**, the three-masted ship in which Sir Ernest Shackleton and a crew of 27 men sailed for the Antarctic in the early 1900's. Sit back and enjoy this fascinating tale. The SAINTS, short for Seniors Active In New Testament Service, is open to all adults. The group typically meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 11:30am.

Lunch will be available to those who sign up in advance. A suggested donation of \$11 is requested. Sign up at the Welcome Center or through the church office.

High School Youth – People in Kentucky Need Your Help!

Sign up now for the Youth Mission Trip to Kentucky from June 18th – 25th:

In December, 2021, devastating tornadoes tore through small towns in Western Kentucky, leaving homes severely damaged or destroyed, and ripping out the centers of communities. Just over seven months later, in July, 2022, communities in the eastern part of the state were inundated by floods and mudslides. As with all natural disasters, the people who were hardest hit are those who live in poverty.

Recovery and rebuilding efforts are underway but will likely take years to complete.

High School Youth, you can be part of the effort to restore communities and bring people home by coming on the Youth Mission Trip to Kentucky this summer, where we will work to rebuild homes destroyed by the storms.

Go to this link to sign up: <https://tinyurl.com/missiontrip2023> (Please sign up by December 31st).

Questions? Talk to Gretchen Hauge (ghaugse@me.com)

First Monthly Meeting for Youth Mission Trip is January 8th

The first monthly meeting for the 2023 Youth Mission Trip will be Sunday, January 8th at noon in Fellowship Hall. All youth planning on going on the trip should plan to attend. Want more information on the Youth Mission Trip open to all 9th-12th graders for next June? Talk to Gretchen Hauge.

Women's Wellness Event

Saturday January 21st, 2023

9:30-11:30am

FREE EVENT

Register online at <https://forms.gle/B7nhx7S2SXMZ1RZe9>

With all the different wellness trends circling, fitness social media influencers posting, and ever changing superfood list how does someone keep track of it all these days?

More importantly, where does God fit into all of it? Join Katie Nickel and the St.

Matthew's Women's Group to learn about key wellness facts and tips to live a healthier lifestyle. You'll leave empowered with dozens of physical, mental, and faith-based

wellness tools that you can begin applying immediately. Plus, you'll have the opportunity to connect with other women in a faith-based setting and learn more about the St.

Matthew's Women's Group. Brunch will be served. Volunteers Needed! Sign up at the Welcome Center to help!

Notice of Annual Meeting:

The Annual Meeting of St. Matthew's Congregation will be held on Sunday, January 29, 2023 at 9:45 am. The Annual Report will be available one week prior to the meeting so

that you have time to see it before the meeting. Please plan to attend and be updated on all that is happening with our congregation, as well as to vote on the budget for 2023.

Upcoming Healing Services

Sunday, January 22 After 11:00 Service

Wednesday, February 22 (Ash Wednesday)

After morning and evening services

Sunday, March 19 During 8:30 & 11:00 services

Thursday, April 6 (Maundy Thursday)

During morning and evening services

Monday Morning Men's Bible Study: Come join us from 6:30-7:30 am on Monday mornings to study and discuss scripture. Matthew 4:4 – *Jesus answered: "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"* We meet in the Upper room at St. Matthew's. All men are welcome! Resumes tomorrow, January 2, 2023. Start your new year off right!

Get the St. Matthew's App. A new way to be connected and a shortcut to the important ways to connect to the information you want you to know. Use your phone camera to scan the QR code here, then follow the instructions on your phone.



What should I consider when attending worship, to be considerate of others?

- 1) **If you are a little bit sick**--maybe with a cold, or you're not sure what it is--**please stay home!** This is the best way to care for those around you and be a responsible citizen in our community.
- 2) **Please keep up with the latest vaccines**, for yourself, and for the future of mitigating the effects of this virus. Vaccines are proving to be effective against the variants, and especially against severe illness requiring hospitalization.
- 3) Still not sure it's safe? **Remember our Livestream** of Sunday Services at this link: **bit.ly/StMattsLive** (at the time of the services)

Pastoral Staff: Karen Natterstad, Interim Lead;

Ann Williams, Associate Pastor

Volunteer Ministries/Small Groups/Adult Education: Sue Swing

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

Children's Minister: Donna Gardner Manke.

Music Minister: John Paradowski.

Music Staff: David Mohr, Jeff Reeves, Amy Dankwardt, Heide Hughes

Older Adults Coordinator: Julia Murphy.

Technology Coordinator: Brian Smith.



Link thru your smart phone camera to give to St. Matthew's