

Welcome to St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

October 8, 2023



We gather in the name of God who claims us as beloved children, Christ who feeds and nourishes us and the Holy Spirit who gives us faith. May the Lord enrich our time together. Guests, please fill out a yellow welcome card and hand it to an usher or place it in the offering plate.

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. 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.

Altar flowers are given by the Children, Grandchildren, and Great-grandchildren of Marge & Chuck Shantz in honor of their 70th wedding anniversary.

Adult Mission Trip Commissioning: Today at the 8:30 service, the participants in the Adult Mission trip to New Orleans (October 15-21) will be commissioned for their trip. The participants are Ginger Wooster, Barb Bambule, Dan Gordon, Paul Richards, Paul Davis, and co-leaders Al Land and Al Van Lith. The group will work with organizations in the Greater New Orleans area. We ask you to pray for them as they make this trip.

Today's Adult Forum: (9:45 am in the Upper Room)

****Special Guest Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Timothy Wengert; Perspective on Human Sexuality and the ELCA Social Statement of 2009****

The ELCA (the larger church body to which we belong) has many Social statements about real-world issues and topics. One of them is the 2009 Social Statement on Human Sexuality. As you can imagine there was much effort, discussion, and faithful discernment that went into this document. We are excited to have as our guest a member of the committee that produced this Social Statement. Tim Wengert is also the brother of Chris Davis, a member of St. Matthew's. Tim Wengert is emeritus professor of church history at the United Lutheran Seminary (Philadelphia). He is also a prolific author, editor, and co-author. Please come to this session to hear this speaker with a unique perspective on how our larger church body is interpreting God's call for us to welcome all.

Today: Sunday Morning High School Youth Group!

If you are a high school student, we hope to see you this Sunday in the youth room at 9:45 to kick our Sunday Morning Youth Group meetings! Each week, we'll get together for games, conversation, service projects, and food. **This week we will be sorting coats to be given to Cross, Reformation, and Tosa Cares to share with those who need them.** We hope to see you Sunday!

Deborah Circle will meet on Tuesday, October 10 at 12:30 pm in the Upper Room.

Bulletin Insert for Sunday, October 8, 2023

Garden Crew Fall Clean-Up: Volunteers are needed to help prepare the gardens for winter, with raking, cutting down perennials and hauling garden debris on Saturday, October 14 beginning at 9am. Please bring a rake and any other tools you might wish to use.

St. Matthew's Saints Older Adult Ministry

Wednesday, October 18, 11:30 am *Haven't come before? All are welcome*

It's a **Surprise Program** that you're sure to enjoy. (No, it doesn't mean that we don't have a plan... we do... we're just choosing to keep it secret!) Plan for fun at this Saints Gathering. One thing that won't be a surprise is the delicious box lunch available, along with an opening devotion and warm fellowship. Sign Up at the Welcome Center or in the church office. Box lunches are ordered from City Market; suggested donation is \$11 each.

Kids for Christ and Disciples of Christ – Attention Parents of 1st thru 5th graders

It's time for us to gather for Food, Games, Prayer, and Fun! Join Donna Gardner 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 (or sign up thru the church emails). It is helpful to know numbers, so we have enough food. Friends are welcome! Cost is \$5.00

KFC: 1st -3rd graders are invited to join us for Kids for Christ!

Sunday, Oct 8th 12-2pm

Sunday, Nov 5th 12-2pm

DOC: 4th – 5th graders are invited to join us for Disciples of Christ!

Sunday, Nov 19th 12-2pm

New Member Classes begin October 22nd!

God has given us the gift of Christian community. If you have had an opportunity to worship with us and would like to learn more about St. Matthew's please consider attending our membership classes in October and November.

Classes will be held on Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:45.

October 22nd, October 29th and November 5th

New Members will be received on Sunday, November 12th at the 8:30 service. If you have any questions, please contact sueswing@sbcglobal.net, the pastors or the church office.

A Family Need in our Congregation: A young mother in our congregation is in need of help with young children, a 3-year-old girl and a 20-month-old boy. While the mother is home, her medical condition does not allow her to lift her children and fully care for them. The family is seeking to hire help, in their home on the west side of Tosa, for as many hours as possible, between the hours of 7:30am & 6:30pm, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. If you could help out, please contact Andrea at 608.432.9441 or by email at andreabwells@gmail.com It would be a blessing for our congregation to be able to give this family support in their time of need.

A large-print bulletin is available from an usher. If it's helpful to you or someone you are worshipping with, please take one.

A library book is given to the church library by Emily Chiesa in honor of Abby's 22nd birthday.

Adult Education Each Sunday: *Join us, and let's learn together!* We'll gather at 9:45 am in the Upper Room each week.

October 15

MICAH: Milwaukee Inner City Congregations Allied for Hope

Join us on Oct 15th to learn more about MICAH - Milwaukee Inner-city Congregations Allied for Hope. MICAH is a multi-racial, interfaith organization committed to justice issues of greatest importance to Milwaukee residents. MICAH is 34 years old and is made up of 40 congregations, including St. Matthew's, committed to honoring Micah 6:8. *"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."* We will welcome Lisa Jones, Executive Director of MICAH. We will be lifting up MICAH's "We All Belong" campaign which seeks to challenge Christian nationalism in our country. And we will share developments of Wauwatosa MICAH Task Force made up of four Tosa churches working for the common good in our municipality.

October 22

Tosa Cares Food Pantry

Tosa Cares Food Pantry operates out of Mount Zion Lutheran Church and serves Tosa and surrounding communities serving over 300 families with food distributions every seven weeks. This number is almost double the number of families in 2019-2020. Our ongoing food collections at St. Matthew's support Tosa Cares and Cross Food Pantries, and with food expenses continuing to climb, our food donations are needed more than ever. St. Matthew's member Kristin Hanson is a Tosa Cares Board member who serves as Volunteer Coordinator for the pantry. Hear what she has to share about the ways Tosa Cares meets the needs of people, and find out how you can be part of this ministry.

Mt Meru Coffee: Coffee prices have increased as of Oct. 1. These increases will enable the Mt. Meru Project to continue to pay the farmers in Mt. Meru Tanzania more than they would normally get if they sold their coffee based on regular world market prices. Thank you for your continued support. Stop by the coffee cart on Sunday mornings and make a purchase to support Tanzanian coffee farmers and their families!



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. See the website, under 'Adult Ministry' for the complete list.

November 3: *That Good Night: Life and Medicine in the Eleventh Hour*, By Sunita Puri

All Saints Sunday – November 5th Remembering with Thanksgiving

During our **All Saints Sunday Remembrance** on November 5th we will hold up those whose lives have walked the paths before us and beside us in faith. There are Remembrance Cards available for you to fill out and drop off at the Welcome Center where you can list names of those who have touched your life. We will use those cards to be held up in prayer on that Sunday.

MICAH Public Meeting, Focusing on the *We All Belong* Campaign

- Thursday, October 26
- 6 – 8pm
- Wauwatosa Avenue United Methodist Church
- 1600 Underwood Avenue, Wauwatosa

Come to MICAH's annual meeting where representatives from the 30+ congregations in Milwaukee Inner-city Congregations Allied for Hope gather to celebrate achievements on the path to justice in this past year and orient ourselves to the work ahead. We at Saint Matthew's have been part of MICAH for 20+ years. Contact Conor Williams conorw1@me.com to sign up or add your name to the sign up list at the Welcome Center

Caregiver Discussion Group

Tuesday Evenings - October 3, 17, 31 & November 14 -- 7:00-8:15 P.M.

If you are looking for a place to share and be supported please come to this newly created Caregiver Discussion Group. The purpose of this group is to listen and affirm one another in the joys and challenges of our unique caregiving journeys. Facilitated by Sue Swing; sueswing@sbcglobal.net This is an open group for all to attend.

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, October 22 during the 11:00 worship service

Sunday, November 12 after the 11:00 worship service

Sunday, December 10 after the 8:30 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.

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.

Thank you to our Assistants for worship services today!

("Open" means this spot was not filled when bulletin was printed.)

Volunteer Host: Ruth Kallio-Mielke.

Acolytes: (8:30) Holly Holton, Mary Ellen Millenbach. (11:00) Lily Wiemer.

Coffee Hosts: Don Birschel, Susan Bisswurm.

Communion Preparers: (8:30) Robin Bloczynski. (11:00) Margaret Crawford, Julie Schmidt.

Communion Assistants: (8:30) Dee Birschel, Nancy Bowen, Mary Ann & Flash Gordon.

(11:00) Jan Johnson, Alice Rudebusch, Ginger Wooster.

Greeters: (8:30) Dylan Mann, Marian Benz, Jim Bowen. (11:00) Sarah & Matt Frets, Jennifer Kramer.

Lay Readers: (8:30) Nancy Bowen. (11:00) Joy Buer, Joanne Ziarek.

Ushers: (8:30) Quinn Assenheimer, Joe & Lisa Chiesa, Kevin Meissner, Greg Strand, Bret Rockenbach, *Captain*. (11:00) John Dobbe, Maggie Dugan.

Lay Assistant: (8:30) Rob Sholl.

Welcome Center Host: (8:30) Diann Lebow.

Library Assistant: Betsy Daniels.

Stephen Minister: Joyce Biehn.

Worship Technology: (8:30) Michael Knutson, David Locher. (9:45) *open* (11:00) Dave McCullough.

Are you on the list of assistants?? *If not, please consider helping on a Sunday morning with one of these tasks. It's a great way to get involved, meet people, and contribute to the Sunday morning worship experience for our church. Scheduling can be worked into your own schedule, and switching dates can always be arranged if you end up with a personal schedule change. Contact Al Van Lith at al@stmattslutheran.org.*

YTD Financial Results as of:	10/01/23
General Fund Receipts	\$689,747
General Fund Budget (total monthly)	\$758,709
Over/(Under) Budget	(\$68,962)
 Benevolence Disbursements	 \$115,864
 Building Fund Balance	 \$196,701

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.

Interim Senior Choir Director: Alexa Doebele.

Music Staff: Jeff Reeves, Amy Dankwardt, Heide Hughes

Technology Coordinator: Brian Smith.

Library Coordinator (volunteer) Linda Wunderlich.

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