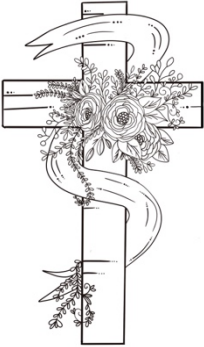


Welcome to St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

April 23, 2023



Christ is risen! Alleluia! Welcome, one and all, as we continue to celebrate Jesus' resurrection. Friends, we welcome you in the name of the one God who has defeated death forever by raising Jesus from the tomb. Guests, please fill out a yellow welcome card and hand it to an usher.

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.

Altar flowers have been provided by Dale and Dollie Kirchner in honor of their 61st wedding anniversary.

Repairers of the Breach Bag Lunch Assembly will take place today at 9:45 am in the main kitchen downstairs.

Name Tag Sunday: Please join us in wearing a name tag, which will help us become better acquainted by name.

New Member Classes Continue Today: 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. Classes are held Sunday mornings from **9:45-10:45**. The two remaining **dates are April 23 and 30**. New Members will be received on Sunday, May 7th at the 8:30 service. Contact Sue Swing or one of the pastors for more information.

Adult Education: 9:45-10:45am Today: St. Matthew's Garden Crew: Why We Garden Gardening is a passion that many of us look forward to each year as winter draws to a close. Some would say that they garden as a form of exercise. It can be a social experience or a solitary prayerful ritual. Be part of this fun and timely conversation with the St. Matthew's Garden Crew.

What is "Equipping the Saints" Synod Mission Appeal?

Our Synod (group of area ELCA churches, approx. 120 in southeastern Wisconsin) has been running this fundraising program for the last 18 months or so, and they are already about halfway to the \$2.3 million goal for a two-pronged plan: a) Innovation and Collaboration, and b) Leadership. There is a well-thought-out plan for how this money will be used to benefit our own synod as well as our partner synods in Tanzania and El Salvador. Chris Kent and Andy Cherney are co-chairing this appeal at St. Matthew's, and each week we will hear a little more about it. On May 14th, we will welcome Bishop Paul Erickson as guest preacher, and there will be an opportunity to make a commitment gift to this appeal during worship services. Check out this website for more information:

<https://www.equippingthesaintsgms.org>

Bulletin Insert for Sunday, April 23, 2023

Next week's Adult Education: 9:45-10:45am - April 30 "Clobber" Passages The Bible contains several verses in the Old and New Testaments that are used to bash the LBGTQ+ community. What are these passages, and how might we understand them today? We will also review Bible passages that invite us to extend our welcome and work for justice. **Led by Dan Bice**

Women's Group Meets 1st Sunday of the Month from 9:45-10:45 - Next Meeting May 7th All women are welcome to stop by the women's group whenever you are available. There is good conversation, sharing and discussion. Learn more about what it is by stopping in! We meet in the Youth Room next to Fellowship Hall and all are always welcome! Questions? Reach out to Katie Nickel; katiernickel@gmail.com.

Save your textile recycling for the month of May, when Betr Earth Recycling will have a collection box at our parking lot entrance for gently used textiles and shoes. Details to follow.

Combined KFC & DOC –Sunday, May 7th, 12:00-2:00pm

First – Fifth Graders: 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

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.

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

The Lutheran A Cappella Choir of Milwaukee collaborates with

The Heritage Chorale in spring concert, April 23

A special event in music is this collaboration of two talented choirs to perform the Robert Ray Gospel Mass along with familiar praise and inspiration spirituals: Today, Sunday, April 23 at 3:00pm at Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church, 8424 W. Center St., Milwaukee.

Tickets are \$15 general admission and students free with student ID. Thomas Ajack is the Artistic Director who has programmed this special concert. Come and enjoy! More information at lutheranacappella.org

*Our Older Adult Ministries Group: SAINTS:
Looking forward to May 17, here's the topic:*

“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.

Vacation Bible School 2023: July 31 – August 4

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.

Now is the time for volunteers to sign up! 2023 VBS Volunteer Registration

Join us July 31st – August 4th from 8:45-11:45 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. Looking forward to having you join our team!

Click on the link to volunteer!

<https://forms.gle/Eq2KrSZfB3aVYtHM8>

Can You Support Our Scholarship Program for El Salvador?

Pan de Vida, our sister parish in El Salvador, is asking for our help to make sure the children of their congregation have the opportunity to attend school. Many families in the congregation struggle to get by, and the costs of education are out of reach for them. Yet education is what lifts kids out of poverty.

We invite you to be part of the scholarship program to expand opportunity for the kids of Pan de Vida. There are 39 students, ranging from kindergarten through university who need assistance. Tuition costs by grade level are:

- Grade School - \$200 - \$250
- Middle School - \$300 - \$350
- High School - \$450
- University - \$1600

We welcome one-time or ongoing donations of any amount. Education is a gift of the future to these families. We appreciate your support of the Pan de Vida Scholarship Fund!. If you have any questions, please talk to Gretchen Hauge.

Wednesday Bible Study continues this week! Join Pastor Ann and the great group of people who enjoy gathering each week for bible study and discussion, beginning at 10:00am and lasting one hour. It's a great way to deepen your faith in a positive way. Everyone is welcome. The study meets in the Upper Room.

Special offer 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.

Upcoming Healing Services

Those desiring special healing prayers for themselves and/or other are invited to come forward, along with their support persons or family members.

Sunday, May 7 After 8:30 service

Sunday, June 11 In Worship 9:30 am

YTD Financial Results as of:	04/17/23
General Fund Receipts	\$309,499
General Fund Budget (total monthly)	\$316,048
Over/(Under) Budget	(\$6,549)
 Benevolence Disbursements	 \$40,225
 ELCA - Lenten Water Project Collected	 \$11,908
 Building Fund Balance	 \$193,929

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

Technology Coordinator: Brian Smith.

Library Coordinator (volunteer) Linda Wunderlich.

Custodial Staff: Marsha Olson, Dave Fagerberg, Bob Gardner.

Office Staff: Al Van Lith, Bridget Smith, Sonja Mohr



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