

Welcome to St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

September 3, 2023



Psalm 118:24, NRSV

Welcome to worship. Members and guests, we're so glad you're here, for your presence expands and enlivens our worship. Let us praise God 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.

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

Next Week! Beginning Sunday, September 10, we resume our two-service worship schedule, 8:30 and 11:00 am. Sunday School and the Education Hour runs from 9:45-10:45 am. See insert for Rally Day info.

This Afternoon: An opportunity to hear Chris Kent at The Landing at Hoyt Park from 3:00-6:00pm. Chris, who is a member of St. Matthew's, was mostly rained out from his St. Matt's Meet-Up appearance at The Landing in July. His music builds on traditional folk-rock influences defined by an oft-used finger-picking style that also bring in blue riffing, and blends country-folk and rock'n'roll sounds. His voice is often described as warm and gentle akin in style to James Taylor. The Landing at Hoyt Park is adjacent to the Tosa Pool.

Upcoming St. Matt's Meet-Up:

Thursday, September 7, from 11:00-1:00 at Ally's Powerhouse, 10460 W. Innovation Drive, Wauwatosa. Have you been to Ally's yet? It's an exciting new restaurant on the County Grounds, which has been remodeled from its first purpose, as a powerhouse for the County. The food is good and the atmosphere is casual. This is a great opportunity to share some fellowship with St. Matt's folks and enjoy the food at Ally's. Menu at: allyspowerhouse.com



Rally Day “In the Beginning” – September 10th
We celebrate the beginning of fall programming including Sunday School, adult education, and fall worship schedule with two Sunday morning worship services, at 8:30 and 11:00 am. Children aged 3 years (as of Sept. 1) through 8th grade are welcome at Sunday School from 9:45-10:45am. If you attended last year, no need to sign up again. If you’re new to St. Matthew’s, you can sign up on our website or call the church office, 414-774-0441.

On Rally Day, plan to attend the 8:30 worship service for a special Rally Day skit focused on “In the Beginning,” kicking off the first Sunday School lesson on Genesis.

New This Fall: One Story in Worship--Narrative Lectionary

Starting this September 10th through May, there will be only one scripture reading, and one focus for our Sunday worship and preaching. The readings follow the biblical story, from Genesis through the patriarchs, kings and prophets in the Old Testament, to Christmas and Easter, and finish with readings from the early Church in the New Testament. Our hope as Pastors is to help you to better know the whole story of the Bible. Watch for more information on this, including pew bibles to use during worship, beginning on Sept. 10. ***We invite you to bring your own Bible to worship this fall!***

Children in Worship: Come Visit the PRAY GROUND!

New at St. Matthew’s this fall! There will be a section of the worship space, near the east small chapel, where pew chairs will be removed and a carpet placed for flexible seating for young children during worship. It will be a place for young kids to engage in drawing, writing, blocks and other activities during the worship service, and close enough to the altar so they can see what is happening during worship. We are going to try it out beginning September 3, and adjust as the weeks go on. The purpose is to keep kids engaged and in church, allowing them to participate and be present for the liturgy. And for the parents, if the kids are engaged and content, it will allow them to be, too! If you have young children, we invite you to try it out!

DID YOU KNOW? From birth to age 3, a child’s brain is developing at a rate of 1 million neural connections per second. Connections between synapses—or signals sent through the brain—are strengthened through repeated positive experiences. We can help make worship one of those positive experiences!

Adult Education Gatherings begin next week: We’ll gather at 9:45 am in the Upper Room each week with a variety of topics

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Sept. 10: | Learn about the Narrative Lectionary |
| Sept. 17: | St. Matthew’s New PRAY GROUND – sanctuary space for kids |
| Sept. 24: | Meeting Paul Anew, with Dan Bice |

You and your pet are invited to a Pet Blessing with Wauwatosa Avenue United Methodist Church (WAUMC) *Saturday, Sept. 9th, 9:00-11:00am*

Receive a blessing with anointing for your pet from pastors of St. Matt's and WAUMC in the WAUMC courtyard on Wauwatosa Ave. Visit the St. Matt's parking lot for fellowship time with coffee and donuts. Donations accepted for the Humane Society's Pets for Life program. The Wisconsin Humane Society's Pets for Life program reaches animals and families in underserved Milwaukee neighborhoods with little to no access to pet care resources, serving the 53206 & 53205 communities. All are welcome!

Volunteers Needed: Contact Sue Swing at sueswing@sbcglobal.net



SAINTS Gathering for September – Please note – New Topic! – Wed. Sept. 20

Historic Milwaukee Inc. presents an Early History of Milwaukee.

This exploration of Milwaukee history, covering the Prehistoric, Village and Commercial periods of Milwaukee's early development, is intended to build upon a basic understanding of Milwaukee's development. Sharing stories about familiar figures and introducing lesser-known players, this presentation will take you back in time to where Milwaukee began. Begins at 11:30 am. Our presenter will be Frank Matusinec, a long-time HMI tour guide and volunteer.

We're changing up our lunch menu for September. Join us for a delicious City Market box lunch of sandwich, fruit, chips, cookie and beverage. Choose from Roast Turkey with Colby cheese, lettuce, tomato, Market sauce, and multigrain quinoa bread or Black Forest Ham with baby Swiss cheese, lettuce, tomato, Market sauce on whole wheat sourdough bread. Sign Up at the Welcome Center or in the church office. Lunch suggested donation is \$11.00.

Join the Senior Choir! Now under new leadership – *It's not too late to join in*

Senior Choir resumed August 31 at 7:15 with Dr. Alexa Doebele, who is our Interim Senior Choir Director this Fall.

She sends this invitation: "Whether you have been singing with the Senior Choir in recent years, or you sang with the choir many years ago and haven't since, or you've never sung with the choir before, I invite you to join us."

Confirmation for 7th & 8th Grades Begins on September 13th

Confirmation classes for 7th and 8th graders will take place on Wednesday nights from 7:00 – 8:15 beginning on September 13th. Parents are asked to attend this first class on September 13th, which will include an orientation. If your child is an 8th grader who did not participate in confirmation last year, they are welcome to participate this year, but we ask that you let us know before September 13th by contacting Pastor Karen or Gretchen Hauge or by calling the church office.

Sign up now to join the Adult Mission Trip 2023

We are going to go to New Orleans, LA for our Adult Mission Trip this year. We will be traveling Sunday October 15 and returning Saturday October 21. We will be working for Opportunity Housing. These are houses that SBP is building for people who lost their homes to Hurricanes Katrina, Isaac and Ida. If you are interested in going, please let Al in the office know. A deposit of \$250 is due by September 10 to hold your space in the group; having a firm number for the size of the group will allow us to begin making housing reservations.

Lutheran Disaster Response: Help those affected by the **Hawaii wildfires**. Exacerbated by strong winds, wildfires on Maui have claimed dozens of lives and have destroyed homes, businesses and lines of communication. Thousands of people are under evacuation orders, some moving to other Hawaiian islands. Lutheran Disaster Response is coordinating with the Pacifica Synod and other partners to assess the needs of people impacted by the wildfires. Gifts given specifically to US Wildfires will be used in full for those affected. You can give through St. Matthew's, marked for wildfires, or directly to LDR at elca.org/disaster

Upcoming Dates:

Sunday, September 10 -- Rally Day!

Worship Schedule changes to 8:30 and 11:00 am

Sunday School begins, 9:45 -10:45 am for 3-year-olds thru 8th graders

Adult Education resumes, 9:45-10:45 am – Narrative Lectionary

Wednesday, September 13 Bible Study with Pastor Ann resumes, 10:00 am

Saturday, September 16, 9:00-1:30 – Quilt Ministry Blitz

Sunday, September 17, 8:30 am service – 2nd graders receive Bibles in worship

Saturday, September 23, 7:30-9:00am – Men's Breakfast

Sunday, September 24, 9:45 am – Baptism Class for families planning a baptism

Tuesday, September 26, 6:30pm – Women's Prayer Walk

Monday, October 2 – Blood Drive at St. Matthew's

YTD Financial Results as of:	08/27/23
General Fund Receipts	\$606,557
General Fund Budget (total monthly)	\$571,448
Over/(Under) Budget	\$35,110
 Benevolence Disbursements	 \$103,855
 Building Fund Balance	 \$195,972

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