



Welcome to Worship at St. Matthew's Sunday, October 24, 2021

Welcome to worship and Christian education, a time to reconnect and form new connections. 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. Welcome, one and all.

Join us for Holy Communion at the 8:30 service: All are invited to the Table of our Lord Jesus Christ to receive the real presence of Christ in bread and wine. Children are welcome to receive the sacrament with parental support.

Coffee Time after the 8:30 Service: We offer coffee after the first service, outside in the southeast corner of the parking lot. In the safety of the outdoors, we can share coffee, fellowship, and sometimes treats together. Until it is safe to enjoy coffee time indoors, it is possible that coffee time may be canceled due to rain or cold weather.

Child for Baptism (11:00) Clementine Ann Seckar-Anderson, child of Dane & Anna Seckar-Anderson, Germantown, was born March 4, 2021. Sponsors are Lacey Sleik and Whittney Seckar-Anderson.

Today's Adult Education: 9:45-10:45: "Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart" Our Stephen Ministers have provided hundreds of hours of care to those who are suffering, struggling or going through a difficult time in the last 3 1/2 years. They have learned something very important about walking with others...They don't have the answer that will make it all better. "Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart" is built on a solid biblical foundation and is filled with practical examples and specific suggestions about what to say or do - and what not to say or do. Join our Stephen Ministry team for this conversation on how we can all be guided in bringing Christ's loving care to our own family and friends.

Altar Flowers have been provided by Don & Judy Van Buskirk in honor of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Holy Communion to resume traditional distribution October 31: In two weeks we will resume our practice of coming to the front of the church for communion distribution, and returning to seats after communion for a prayer and blessing. We have been advised that it is possible to safely receive the communion elements at the front, with pastors and communion assistants masked for their safety. We are excited to resume this meaningful method of receiving our Lord's Supper among the gathered community.

Announcement Insert for 10-24-21

Women's Book Discussion "Rising Strong: How the Ability to Reset Transforms the Way We Live, Love, Parent and Lead" by Brené Brown Meeting in person at St. Matthew's Wednesday evenings from 7-8 pm in October (October 6, 13, 20, 27). All are welcome at any of the weeks.

Volunteer Needed: Quiet Sacs - Maintain Quiet Sacs that are used in worship. This will take about 2 hours per month. It can be done whenever the church is open; day or evening. Great for a parent waiting for a child in choir, confirmation... Please contact Sue Swing sueswing@sbcglobal.net.

Next Sunday, October 31st is Reformation Sunday, when we celebrate the birth of the Lutheran Church and Martin Luther, the reformer. Red is the liturgical color of the day, representing the Holy Spirit's presence in the Reformation. Sometimes people **wear red to church** on Reformation Sunday.

**Next Sunday's Adult Education (Oct. 31):
Facilitated by Pastor Ann and Pastor Sheila**

The Protestant Reformation was the 16th-century religious, political, intellectual and cultural upheaval that splintered Catholic Europe, setting in place the structures and beliefs that would define the continent in the modern era. Reformers like Martin Luther challenged papal authority and questioned the Catholic Church's ability to define Christian practice. What were the cultural influences of the time that impacted the Reformation? And what are the cultural influences that are having an effect on reforms in the church today? Come with questions as we take a closer look at these themes on Reformation Sunday!

Also on October 31st: We begin our Fall Stewardship for 2022. "Forward Together... in Faith" This week, you will receive by email an invitation to pledge, with instructions for how to make your 2022 financial pledge online, and how to serve by completing an "Activities and Ministries" form. Paper copies will be available beginning next Sunday if you wish to make your commitment in that way. There will also be assistance available on Sunday mornings, with answers to any questions you may have. Please make your commitments by November 21st, when there will be a consecration of our commitments during worship services. Thank you for your commitment to the future of St. Matthew's and our ministries together.



Church Office Update: Jill Due, our office assistant for these past 16 years, is retiring at the end of this year, joining her husband, Brian, in retirement. We are grateful for her years of caring service to our congregation.

Because of this we now have a unique opportunity available to work in the office at St. Matthew's, approx. 17 hours/week. Office assistant is responsible for preparing and completing the bulletins for Sunday Service; preparing and completing special mailings; serving as the office receptionist; and other duties as needed. Schedule is flexible with Wednesday and Thursday being preferred days.

Candidate should be compassionate, cooperative and welcoming; basic computer skills necessary for the preparation of the weekly bulletin, with knowledge of Microsoft Office, especially MS Word preferred. Will need to welcome and assist people in person or on the phone in a friendly manner, with a willingness to work with others and be part of team ministry. Flexibility in hours and a positive, mission-centered work environment are benefits. Contact Sonja Mohr at office@stmatthslutheran.org or 414.774.0441 weekdays to receive job description or to provide resumé.

Progress toward a New Lead Pastor: Now that the Ministry Site Profile is complete, the Synod Office can begin to give our Call Committee names of potential candidates. While we are hopeful that we can call a new pastor as soon as possible, this will take some time, in order to find the right candidate, and to schedule the interviews and conversations. Please keep the Call Committee in your prayers as this work begins.

Members of the Call Committee: Nancy Bowen, Andrew Cherney, Diane DuBois, Brian Due, Natalie Ford Sajdak, Michael Wolaver.



If you wish to see the Ministry Site Profile, which contains detailed information about St. Matthew's ministry setting pertinent to calling a new pastor, here is a link to it:

<https://bit.ly/2YqkJW9-MSP>

And if you wish to watch the Congregational Forum meeting from October 3, here is a link to a recording of the meeting:

<https://youtu.be/oBPDgmhcKks>

Remember Mount Meru Coffee! Your support is SO important as coffee farmers in Tanzania depend on this support to receive a fair price for their coffee beans. Look for the display and pick some up today. If you don't see what you want, contact AI in the church office, who can order larger quantities or K-cups.

The Library is now open Sundays during the Education Hour, 9:45-11:00 a.m. Please feel free to visit! The Library has almost 4000 books and DVDs available for check out. It is staffed by members of the Library committee that can assist you in finding books on a specific topic as well as help you with the self check-out system.

Used medications being collected for Cross Medical Clinic *Also needed: these over-the-counter supplements & meds* - Tom Wilke, retired pharmacist of St. Matthew's, volunteers at Cross each week, and picks up our collected used medications and other medical supplies donated. **Specific needs:**

Vitamin D • Calcium • Baby Aspirin

The next time you're out shopping, please consider picking up some at your favorite discount store and bring them to the church office for donation to Cross's clinic. Thank you!

First Fridays Book Discussion Group: Discussions begin at 7 p.m. on the dates listed. For now, the meetings will continue through the use of Zoom to reduce the risk of virus transmission. All are welcome for any of the books of interest to you.

Nov 5, 2021 Montaigne in Barn Boots: An Amateur Ambles Through Philosophy, by Michael Perry (240 pages)

Dec 3, 2021 The Death and Life of the Great Lakes, by Dan Egan (384 pages)

More information available from Fred Heim, Book Group Coordinator. Contact the church office if you need contact information.

Help us to prevent the spread of COVID. If you or someone in your household is diagnosed with COVID soon after you have been at St. Matthew's, please contact the church office to let us know. We will always keep your personal health information private. But we do want to be able to contact those who were in close contact with you and send out a notification to relevant people. We greatly appreciate everyone doing their part to help prevent the spread of COVID in our community!

Office Hours: The church office is open full days 8:30 – 4:30, with the exception of Fridays when we close at 3:00. We are often closed over the lunch hour, Noon-1:00pm.

Pastoral Staff

Karen Natterstad, Interim Lead Pastor
Ann Williams, Associate Pastor
Sheila Rawn, Interim Associate Pastor

Office Staff

Al Van Lith, Jill Due, Sonja Mohr