

St. Matthew's Weekly Bulletin Update

Welcome to Worship at St. Matthew's January 6, 2019



Epiphany

Welcome to worship! In a world — and a church — that's always changing and reforming, we trust in the constant and sure love of God.

Introduction for the Day: *Epiphany means "manifestation." On this day we celebrate the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles—that is, to all nations. Some Christian traditions celebrate three great epiphanies on this day: the magi's adoration of the Christ child, Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River, and his first miracle, in which he changes water into wine. The word and sacraments are for us the great epiphany of God's grace and mercy. We go forth to witness to the light that shines brightly in our midst.*

Prayer Cards are collected by the pastors at the time of the Hymn of the Day (after the sermon). If you wish the pastor to include your prayer request

at the time of the prayers, you may wish to prepare a card now so that it is ready at the time they are picked up. Please make sure you have permission from those you are listing by name on the prayer cards.

Flowers at the altar have been given by Pastor Ray W. Stubbe in loving memory of his mother, Ruby Stubbe's January 12th birthday.

John Paradowski is away this month, enjoying the last weeks of his sabbatical. We welcome Larry Wheelock back to the organ today as our guest organist.

Christmas Decorations will be taken down and put away today, January 6, after the 11:00 service.

Healing Service Today: There will be a healing service at 9:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary. All those desiring healing prayers for themselves or for others are invited to attend.

Why are some people wearing nametags? We wear nametags on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month in order for us to know more people on Sunday mornings.

Hunger Baskets to be passed today: When the offering plates are passed later in the service, it is followed by a basket for a special collection. This second collection will be directed toward local and world hunger. Thank you for your faith-filled response to this opportunity.

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

Bulletin Announcements - January 6, 2019



St. Matt's First Fridays Book Club: The St. Matthew's book group usually meets on the first Friday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. Here are the next two books:

Jan. 4: [The Girl with Seven Names](#) by Hyeonseo Lee and David John (320 pgs)

Feb. 1: [Jewelweed: A Novel](#) by David Rhodes (449 pages)

Mar. 1: [Slaughterhouse-Five: A Novel](#) by Kurt Vonnegut (288 pages)

Deborah Circle will meet on Tuesday, January 8 at 12:30 p.m. in the Upper Room

Let the Games Begin!

Family - friendly Game Night

Join us for family-friendly game night on Saturday, January 12, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. We'll supply the games, pizza and beverages. You bring your favorite games, if desired, and an appetizer to share. Everyone is welcome!

Blood Drive! Plan now to be a donor for the **January 21 Blood Drive** at St. Matthew's sponsored by The Blood Center of Wisconsin (Versiti). Monday, January 21 from 3:00-7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall at St. Matthew's. The sign-up sheet will be out in the Library Commons. Blood donation is so important, especially this time of year. Give the gift of life! **Here's the link to sign up online: bit.ly/SM0121**

Next Monthly Meeting for Youth Mission Trip is January 6th The next monthly meeting for the 2019 Youth Mission Trip to Houston will be Sunday, January 6th at 12:15 in Fellowship Hall. All youth who are going on the trip should plan to attend. Please bring \$5 for lunch.

Coming up this week:

Monday, January 7

6:30, Monday Morn. Men's Bible Study
10:15, Staff Meeting
11:00, Program Staff Meeting

Tuesday, January 8

12:30, Deborah Circle
3:30, Daisy Girl Scout Troop Meeting
7:00, LAC Rehearsal
7:00, Mt. Meru Coffee Project
7:00, Stephen Ministry

Wednesday, January 9

9:00, A Cabella Ringers
10:00, Bible Study with Pastor Matt
7:00, 7th & 8th Gr. Conf. Big Group
7:00, New Creation Choir

Thursday, January 10

9:00, Stephen Ministry
7:30, Senior Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, January 12

9:00, Diocese of Meru Synod Comm.
1:00, Visitation for Dennis Farrell
2:00, Funeral Service for Dennis Farrell
5:30, Game Night - Fellowship Comm.

During Cold and Flu season, feel free to make use of the hand sanitizer stations around church to kill any germs you may come in contact with here.

A note about your valuable items: A reminder to our members and guests that each week as you come to church, any valuable items should be kept with you and not left in coat pockets or in an unlocked space.

Prayer Cards are collected each Sunday during the Hymn of the Day. You are welcome to fill out a prayer card for any prayer needs that you are aware of. Children are also welcome to participate in this. Please print as clearly as possible for the pastors to be able to read and share the request as desired.

Adult Education Today,

9:45 - 10:45 a.m.

January 13 & January 20

Who's In and Who's Out: Inclusion and Exclusion in the Bible

Led by Dan Bice

The Bible is full of stories about groups opening their doors to some people and closing them on others. We will look at the ins and outs of these various passages, such as Jesus' radical attempts to define his movement and the Israelites' response to outsiders. We will even take up God's calls for ethnic genocide (herem) in various situations and how we should respond.

Coming Soon on Wednesday Nights:

Do you have a story from your life you want to write or journal, but can't put pen to paper? Do you wonder how to turn an event into a story? Do you wonder how to write a story that might involve other people you know? Then come to Connie Malloy's writing workshop. Over the course of 3 weeks Connie will address these issues through guided study, meditation, and small group break out sessions. And, if you don't want to share your story, don't worry, it is not a requirement. This will be a safe environment that will give you exercises and tools that will enhance your ability to reflect and experiment through writing.

Wednesday Nights - 7:00-8:00 PM; January 16, 23, 30. Sign up in the Commons today, in the Church Office or contact Sue Swing; sueswing@sbcglobal.net

**Saints January Gathering
Wednesday, January 16, 2019
Older Adults Gathering
“Tai Chi - Powerful Benefits
from Simple Movements”**

What is Tai Chi?

Tai Chi is a gentle exercise suitable for people of all ages and abilities. It can improve balance and reduce falls, lower blood pressure, reduce stress and enhance immune function. Tai Chi was first developed and practiced in China but is now a form of exercise performed throughout the world. Our presenter will be Patricia Corrigan Culotti who has been a Tai Chi instructor in the Milwaukee area for more than three decades. Pat will be sharing findings from her research, explaining the history of Tai Chi, and discussing the benefits of practicing Tai Chi – particularly for seniors. Our presentation will conclude with a demonstration and a mini-lesson of Tai Chi modified so everyone can give it a try. Since our presentation is related to China, we will stay with that theme for lunch. We will be enjoying Chinese dishes catered by one of the most acclaimed Chinese restaurants in town. Although chopsticks will be provided, there will be forks for everyone!

Sign up at the Welcome Center if you'd like to attend. Friends who aren't members of St. Matthew's are also welcome at Saints events.

Long-Term Care Planning: Taking Charge of Your Financial Future: offered at Luther Manor on Tuesday, January 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the Linden Room. Joe Wilson, Vice President and Senior Financial Advisor at Merrill Lynch Wealth Management, will discuss the what, how and why of long-term care planning and options for care. He will cover the facts, why planning is important, financial consequences, your planning options and taking charge of your financial future. R.S.V.P. 414-434-1768 or by email at LutherManor.org/rsvp.

Interested in large-print Sunday bulletins? Do you have vision problems, or is someone you know dealing with that challenge? We create a large print bulletin each week for the Order of Service - the part of the bulletin that lists the parts of the worship service. If this sounds like something you or someone you know would use, call or email the church office to state your interest and which service you generally attend.

Luther & Doris Kloth are traveling to Colombia again for a medical mission trip. While the medical staff sees patients, Doris watches the little ones who are also there waiting. She likes to give them Hot Wheels cars and Beanie babies. We'll start a collection box for this outside the church office. Right now, she needs cars more than the Beanie babies, but will accept both if you wish to donate them to this special use. She also uses Pony Beads (the beads that are easy for young hands to string - google it). They are traveling at the end of February, so please bring them in by February 10. Thank you!

Caregivers Group meets 2nd and 4th Monday afternoons - *Sharing joys and challenges* The caregivers group will meet on the following dates at 1 p.m. in the Upper Room. The group is facilitated by Sharon Thiel, and you are welcome to attend. January 14

Attention Men! We are planning a Men's Retreat for Spring 2019. The theme of the retreat will be "Seeing Ourselves As God Sees Us," living into the truth of who God made us to be. We are looking for a few good men to help with preparations, guidance, organization and participation. If you are interested in being part of the planning for this event, please sign up at the Welcome Center or in the Events Sign-Up Panel. Conor Williams in helping to lead this project along with Pastor Chris.

Used medications being collected for Cross Clinic

St. Matthew's member Tom Wilke is willing to collect medications you no longer need and take them to Cross's Bread of Healing Clinic and use them for patients who need them. To donate used medications, cross out the name of the patient in black marker, but leave the medicines in the pharmacy bottle they were dispensed with. Are you cleaning out a parent's or other relative's home and have a large number of old prescriptions to discard? [Bring them to the church office.](#) Medications not usable will be responsibly discarded.

Funeral Service for Dennis Farrell has been scheduled for Saturday, January 12 with visitation beginning at 1 p.m. and the service at 2 p.m. Please keep Sue, Dennis' wife, in your prayers, as well as their extended family. Pastor Ann will be the officiant at the service.

New Member Classes Start January 20!

God has given us the gift of Christian community. It provides for two of our most basic needs. The church can be a place to belong and a place to become. 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 January and February.

Classes will be held on Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:45. Dates are January 20 and 27 and February 10. New Members will be received on Sunday, February 17th at the 8:30 service. Childcare is available in the Nursery on all class dates.

If you have any questions, please contact sueswing@sbcglobal.net, the pastors or the church office. A mailing is being sent to those known to be interested in joining St. Matthew's.

Sunday Morning Volunteers

St. Matthew's uses Ministry Scheduler Pro (MSP) an on-line scheduling program to schedule our Sunday morning volunteers.



The current schedule runs from January 6 - April 28 and is available on-line.

If you would like to become part of the Sunday morning volunteer ministry please contact Sue Swing; sueswing@sbcglobal.net 414-774-0441.

Benefits of Music

One of the most wonderful rewards of being part of a musical ensemble is the opportunity to create something more beautiful than any one musician could create alone. When you contribute your talents to the musical and spiritual life of the church, you help enrich our collective congregation and nurture the spirit of all.

Choir Programs - Come Join us! Praise Kids!

Thursdays starting 1/31, from 4:00-5:00

Praise Kids is held on Thursday afternoons. Jeff Reeves and Amy Dankwardt lead our singers in age appropriate music education activities and singing.

New Creation Choir

Wednesdays starting 1/9 from 7:00 to 8:00

For grades 3-6 Jeff Reeves and John Paradowski co-direct the New Creation Choir singing God's praises. They will be working on their April musical; The Three Trees.

New Generation Choir

Wednesdays starting 2/6 from 6:00 to 6:45

For 7th through 12th grades the New Generation Choir is a great opportunity to sing the praises of our Lord with each other. A variety of musical styles are sung and we help in worship once a month.

Senior Choir Thursdays, from 7:30 to 9:00 Bells Angels [Adults]

Thursdays starting 1/31 from 6:15 to 7:30

The EmbELLishments

Tuesdays starting 2/5 from 9:30 to 10:15

Adults can get in on the act as well with the Senior Choir which meets every Thursday at 7:30, or our adult handbell Choirs, The EmbELLishments [Tuesdays at 9:30 am] or Bell Angels [Thursdays at 6:15] Contact John Paradowski or Dave Mohr for more information. We look forward to seeing many of you join in all the activity of serving our Lord and giving thanks through God's gift of music.

Stephen Ministry

A Stephen Minister is:

- A trained lay volunteer
- A good listener
- Trained in confidentiality
- Supervised for quality care
- Ready to offer God's love through a caring relationship

What Does a Stephen Minister Do?

- Listens
- Encourages
- Keeps confidence
- Prays
- Supports
- Walks beside a hurting person

How to learn more?

- Talk with a Pastor
- Visit the Stephen Ministry Center in the commons
- Write your interest on a blue prayer card and place it in the offering basket

As I have loved you, so you must love one another. John 13:34:b



The Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee NEEDS YOU to host an Amazing Faiths Dinner Dialogue. We are scheduling dinners for January-March 2019. If you have participated in an Amazing Faiths Dinner dialogue, you are invited to “pay it forward” and host one of your own! Amazing Faiths is possible because of the generosity of our volunteer hosts and moderators. Hosts provide a space and light vegetarian meal for 8-12 people. If you don’t like to cook or don’t have enough space, consider co-hosting with a friend. Most dinners this season will generally take place on Sunday in the late afternoon, with one dinner on Tuesday evening. The following are the dates and times for proposed dinners:
Sunday, Jan. 27, 4-7 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 24, 4-7 p.m.
Tuesday, March 26, 6-9 p.m.

If you are interested in hosting, contact Rhonda at rhondah@interfaithconference.org. Include a list of dates that will work for you, in order of preference, and then as a host, list the maximum number you can host, your street address, contact information. Please try to respond by Friday, December 21, 2018. Thank you!

2019 Contribution Envelopes are now available for pick-up - Library Commons
2019 Contributions are now available for pick-up in the Library Commons. We encourage using contribution envelopes for your church donations. ***Please note that if you participate in the Simply Giving automatic withdrawal giving program, you will not be assigned offering envelopes.***

If you have any questions about this, please contact Al in the church office, 414-774-0441 or al@stmatthslutheran.org.

All are welcome at monthly healing services

Healing services are offered monthly at St. Matthew’s at a variety of times to give all the opportunity to come forward for healing prayer for themselves or others. You can share your concern with the pastor/leader at the altar, and then he/she along with the healing ministries will lay on hands and give a special prayer for your concern.

**Sun. Jan. 6, during Education Hour
at 9:45 a.m.**

**Sunday, February 10, after the
11:00 service**

**U.S. Wildfires -
LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE
Reaches Out Wherever Help is Needed**

Now that the critical period of the California wildfires has passed, the need continues as people begin to clean up and consider rebuilding. Lutheran Disaster Response helps all over the world when any type of natural disaster hits. Your donations to St. Matthew’s, and designated ‘LDR’ will help people who need it get the help they need quickly. Thank you.

Stitches of Love:

The New Year brings the opportunity for a Quilt Ministry Blitz on **Saturday, January 19th from 9:00-1:30 PM in Fellowship Hall**. All are welcome. It doesn't matter if you are experienced or willing to learn. Join in the day to see how many quilts are completed in the timeframe. Bring your own lunch / salad or soup shared. Contact Bev Etzelmueller at #262-250-3969 for questions.

Eat at Jose's Blue Sombrero & Support the Youth Mission Trip to Houston! Certificates Available in Church Office

Planning to eat at Jose's Blue Sombrero in the village? Then stop in the office to buy some gift certificates to pay for your meal. The certificates cost \$5 a piece and are worth \$5 toward the food that you purchase. St. Matthew's earns \$1 for every certificate, which supports the youth mission trips

Certificates are available in the office all week and on Sunday mornings during the education hour. Thanks for your support!

The St. Matthew's Meal Outreach Ministry

Just One More: Volunteers assemble packaged meals to be picked up by area churches and programs **each weekday morning at 9:00 a.m.** Food packing takes place at 6442 River Parkway, Wauwatosa. Call the JOMM office at 414-292-5112; OR go online to the JOMM website: jomministry.org and click on "volunteer" - you can sign up right there!

Guest House: Two to three volunteers are needed each month to prepare and serve a dinner for 85 men at the Guest House, a homeless shelter in Milwaukee. Please contact Carl Johnson by phone or text message at 414-771-1023, or by email johnsoncr@cdmsmith.com to sign-up. *Thanks to everyone who has volunteered recently, the next opening for volunteers are on April 14 and May 12, 2019.*

Repairers of the Breach: We supply 100 bag lunches for the homeless twice a month. We pack the lunches at church on the **2nd and 4th Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m.** Volunteers are needed to provide beverages, fruit, chips and sweets and/or pack the lunches. Contact Tom Geib (414-321-3391).

Serenity Inn: Volunteers prepare and serve 6-8 residents the second Sunday of each month. Volunteers carpool meeting at church at 5:15 returning at 7:15. **Coordinator:** Rachel Vetter; rvcvetter1986@gmail.com. Next Meal: Jan. 13

Cross Lutheran Lunch Program We serve 300-400 people on the fourth Wednesday of each month at Cross Lutheran Church, 1821 N. 16th Street. We carpool from St. Matthew's at 10:15 a.m. and serve beginning at about 11:00 and returning to St. Matt's at about 1:00. **Next Meal: Wednesday, January 23, 2019.** Pick up a card in worship on the Sunday prior to the meal to donate food.

Chocolate and Coffee for Sale:

LWR Fair Trade Chocolate available at St. Matthew's: "Divine Chocolate"
- Chocolate made with Fair Trade certified Cocoa beans grown by a farmer owned cooperative in Ghana, is available for purchase **every Sunday** at the Mt. Meru Coffee/LWR Chocolate Project cart, in several delicious flavors. **Large Bars are \$3.50 each and small bars are \$1.50 each.**

Mount Meru Coffee wants you to try the new PEABERRY coffee!

A special treat for you, your family and your friends. Only 5% of coffee beans picked are peaberry. These are single beans that have grown within the coffee "cherry" where two beans normally grow. These single coffee beans offer a richer coffee taste while being less acidic than standard coffee. It has the wonderful flavor of Mt. Meru Premium Coffee but in a richer form!

The coffee is \$15 for a 12oz bag and will be available at the coffee cart in the Upper Commons this Sunday! Only available in regular, drip or bean (but not decaf).

Mt. Meru Coffee - Mmmmm...

Delicious Mt. Meru coffee is available for sale from the cart in the Upper Commons. This product which is purchased at a fair price from the local farmers who live in the area of Tanzania where we have a partnership relationship. Stop by the display in the Commons and see! K-cups for single cup coffee brewing (like Keurigs) are also available.

Child care Available: There are part time vacancies in January at Miss Julie's Child care, for children 6 weeks to 4 years old; warm, caring in-home atmosphere, clean safe, pet free, smoke free; age appropriate outings, flexible days and hours. Julie Abraham-Gifford and her family are members of St. Matthew's who live near Roosevelt Elementary School in Wauwatosa. You can call/text 414-416-3648 or email her at: abraja20@gmail.com to set up a time to meet.

Searching for Part Time Infant nanny:

We are seeking a part time nanny to care for our 4 mo baby boy one day every other week (~two days per month) in our Whitefish Bay home. Days needed are variable but would typically be either a Monday or Wednesday from 8 am - 5 pm. CPR certification, experience caring for infants, and references required. Please contact Mike and Sarah Zwaska if interested - nahn@uwalumni.com

Simply Giving: St. Matthew's Stewardship Committee partners with Thrivent Financial for electronic transfer of contributions from parishioners' checking or savings accounts directly to St. Matthew's bank account. For more information or to request enrollment documents, contact Al in the church office, 414-774-0441 or al@stmattslutheran.org

Youth Ministry

Attention Families of Second

Graders: Sunday, January 20 is the First Communion Retreat, when you and your parents come to church in the afternoon for a class to learn about what communion is. The class runs from 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. Then on Sunday, February 3, there will be a special First Communion Service just for you and your family, to celebrate your first opportunity to take communion during a worship service. Questions? Ask one of the pastors.

Dinner on Wednesdays for Confirmation Kids

Did you know that your 7th – 9th grader can get dinner on Big Group Wednesdays before confirmation? Dinner is served from 5:30 – 6:20 in the youth room and includes pizza, make-your-own subs, or tacos, on a rotating basis. All meals include fruit and vegetable sides and desserts for a cost of \$5. It's a great way to avoid the meal-time rush on Wednesday nights, and it's a good chance for your child to get to know other St. Matthew's youth. If you have any questions, talk to Gretchen Hauge.

Remaining date is January 23

Attention 9th Graders who were confirmed in November: Your class photo is available for pick-up in the Youth Room.

7th & 8th Grade Confirmation continues each week Class meets on Wednesdays from 7:00-8:30 p.m. The upcoming schedule looks like this:

Jan. 9	Big Group
Jan. 16	Service Night

Come be a part of KFC/DOC for fun at church with your friends!

All children in grades 1-5 are welcome to be a part of Kids for Christ (grades 1-3) and Disciples of Christ (grades 4-5), along with friends. At these meetings, we usually eat pizza (bring \$5), play games and talk, and have a devotional time.

DOC: Sunday, Jan. 6, 12:15-2:00 p.m.

KFC: Sunday, Jan. 13, 12:15-2:00 p.m.

These groups are led by Donna Gardner Manke and Pastor Chris Manke. Come and join us! It is helpful to sign up by calling the church office, 774-0441, or email office@stmattslutheran.org so that we have an idea of how many are coming.

Repairers of the Breach is always in need of:

Men's and Women's Gloves & Scarves

Hand warmers

Disposable razors, lip balm, mini-Kleenex packs

Tooth brushes, travel size toothpaste

Travel size deodorant, lotion and Vaseline

Canned soups

Instant Oatmeal (Plain)

Coffee, hot chocolate, powdered coffee cream, Splenda

Paper Towels/napkins

These items are being collected in a box outside the church office. The need continues, as ROTB ministers to the homeless all year round.

Ongoing Collection for Guest House:

We have updated the list of ongoing needs for the Guest House. Please consider picking up one or two of these items when you're shopping and drop them off in the box outside the church office. Thanks for your support of this important ministry.

Spray deodorant	Shampoo
Body Wash	Foot Powder
Cologne	Aftershave
Laundry Bags	
Men's watches	Men's wallets

**An Opportunity
for A Special Event:
Sunday, January 20 –
Join us for**

“A Murder Is Announced”

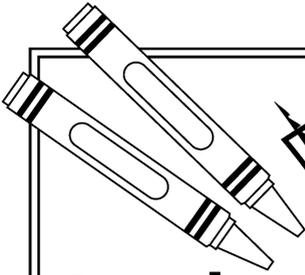
2 p.m. play at the Sunset Playhouse

We will meet at the Sunset Playhouse for this production of the Agatha Christie mystery, “A Murder Is Announced.” Our very own Annette Olson will be playing the lead character! Sign up at the Welcome Center for group rate tickets of \$17 each.

Following is a synopsis of the play:

An announcement in the local paper states the time and place of a murder to occur in Miss Blacklock's Victorian house. The victim is not one of the home's several occupants, but an unexpected and unknown visitor. What follows is a classic Christie puzzle of mixed motives, concealed identities, a second death, a determined Inspector grimly following the twists and turns, and Miss Marple on hand to provide the solution, at some risk to herself in a dramatic confrontation just before the final curtain.

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. Contact Julia Murphy through the church office or email julia@stmattslutheran.org if you have any questions or concerns.



PUZZLE

Light OF THE World

In a world full of sin and darkness, how can we find our way?
Discover Jesus' answer in John 8:12, NIV.

*Directions: Use the key to fill in the missing vowels.
Then read the completed Bible verse.*

KEY:



A



E



I



O

" _ _ M TH _ L _ GHT _ F

TH _ W _ RLD. WH _ _ V _ R

F _ LL _ WS M _ W _ LL N _ V _ R

W _ LK _ N D _ RKN _ SS."

J _ H N 8:12, NIV

Answer: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness." John 8:12, NIV

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

³Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their
nurses' arms.

⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be
brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14**SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-12**

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least

of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of
Judah;

for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.

Cover: *Advent Starry Night 4* by Virginia Wieringa. Copyright © Virginia Wieringa. All rights reserved. Used by permission of the artist.

Readings are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States. Revised Common Lectionary copyright © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts (CCT), admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Please visit our Web site at www.augsburgfortress.org.

Copyright © 2018 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Printed in U.S.A.



St. Matthew's Weekly Sign-Up Panel January 6, 2019

If you are interested in any of the following activities/events, please check the appropriate box and place this sheet in the offering plate, or turn it in to the church office. This is your opportunity to be involved in some of St. Matthew's ministries.

- Yes, I'm interested in being part of the **planning for a Men's Retreat** for spring 2019.
- YES! I want to give blood on Monday, January 21** at St. Matthew's. Please send me the link to the schedule so I can choose a convenient time.
- My 1st-2nd-3rd grader will attend **KFC on Sunday, January 13** from 12:15-2:00 pm
Number Attending _____
- I am interested in **joining St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church**. Please send me the mailing with the information on how to do this. (Include address below)
- I am interested in going to the **Sunset Playhouse production of "A Murder is Announced"** with our own Annette Olson in the lead role, January 20 (if tickets are still available - number of tickets needed____)
- I haven't yet accessed my Portal in **ServantKeeper**. Please send another email to my primary email address. (*please list this below.*)
- Please add my email address to the list of people receiving the **Friday "Bulletin Update,"** a preview of the announcements in the upcoming Sunday's bulletin.

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

For more information on any of these opportunities, please call or email the church office,
414-774-0441 or office@stmattslutheran.org.



St. Matthew's

Ev. Lutheran Church ✝ ELCA

Vision Statement: Guided by God's Spirit and Grace, we are a community of disciples growing in faith, hope and love in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *(What we want to become)*

Mission Statement: Called to fulfill the Great Commission, St. Matthew's welcomes all to faith in Jesus Christ, nurtures our faith journey, equips us to serve others, and sends us into the world to make a difference in Jesus' name. *(What we are going to do)*

Values: We want to be people who grow in our Spiritual fruitfulness, which is shown through the Fruit of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-control. *(Who we want to be)*

Ministers	The People of St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church
Lead Pastor	The Rev. Christopher J.P. Manke
Associate Pastor	The Rev. Matthew Schlake-Kruse
Associate Pastor	The Rev. Ann Williams
Music Minister/Organist/New Generation & Adult Handbell Choirs	John R. Paradowski
Director of Youth Ministries & Children's Education Coordinator	Gretchen Haugse
Volunteer Ministries/Small Groups/Adult Education	Sue Swing
Director of Older Adult Ministries	Julia Murphy
Children's Ministry Coordinator	Donna Gardner Manke
Sunday School Support	Jennifer Dugan
Technology Coordinator	Brian Smith
Library Coordinator (Volunteer)	Linda Wunderlich
Senior Choir Director	David Mohr
Youth Handbell Choirs	Jeffrey Reeves
New Creation Choir	Jeffrey Reeves and John Paradowski; Heide Hughes, accompanist
Praise Kids! Directors (Jr. K-2 grades)	Jeff Reeves and Amy Dankwardt
Financial Bookkeeper & Administrator	Al Van Lith
Office Assistant	Jill Due
Communications Secretary	Sonja Mohr
Custodian	Marsha Olson
Janitor	Robert Gardner
Janitor	Dave Fagerberg
Pastor Emeritus	The Rev. Gary Erickson