

St. Matthew's  
**Weekly** *Bulletin Update*

**Welcome to Worship at St. Matthew's  
August 18, 2019**



**Welcome.** We invite you to lay before God all cares and concerns and enter into worship, trusting him for all you need today. On this summer day, we come to praise God and receive his word for us, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Introduction for the Day:** *The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today, in the assembly, we are surrounded by "so great a cloud of witnesses." In the word and in the holy communion we are invited*

*yet again to look to Jesus, "the pioneer and perfecter of our faith."*

**Communion:** All baptized Christians who celebrate the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine are invited to the Lord's Table at the 11:00 service. Gluten-free wafers are available if you ask your communion server. Those who desire juice instead of regular wine, please tell this to the communion assistant. Due to the weight of the communion trays, you may be asked to take your glass of wine from the tray as it is presented to you.

**Two Library Books** are given by Mary Ellen & Don Ralfs in memory of sisters Lauren Laabs and Cassandra Laabs on the occasion of their first anniversary in heaven.

**Healing Service Schedule: 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.

**Sunday, August 25 -After the 10:15 service**

**Sunday, Sept. 15 - After the 8:30 service**

**Did you know how easy it is to Give Online?** Go to this website link: <https://www.stmattslutheran.org/give/> You can designate your donation by choosing one of the options, or filling in the open choice.

**NEW!! Square Card Reader Kiosk** Look for the cart and the green signs in the Upper Commons. Make a payment, or give an offering; follow the directions at the kiosk.

Questions can be directed to Al Van Lith, financial administrator.

# St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

## Bulletin Announcements - August 18, 2019



### **St. Matthew's Men's Softball Team finishes season with two games this week:**

Final regular season game on Tuesday, August 20 at 8:30 pm at Whitman Middle School against rival Mt. Carmel. Then our team has been invited to play in a tournament, and that will be held on Wednesday, August 21 at 9:30 pm at Hart Park.

Come on out and cheer on our guys! They've had a great season.

### **It's not too late to attend the Cross Picnic on August 18th 11:30 - 2:00 Sunday afternoon**

As a part of the celebration of Cross' Community Block Party and Picnic, you are encouraged to be a part of the day by helping to serve desserts in the community outreach fair.

If you are able to help set-up, serve, and clean up, we'll have shifts from 11:30-12:30 and 12:30-2. Talk with Pastor Matt if you are able to help.

This is a great way to get to know some of our partners, as well as to help them enjoy this annual event. It's always a fun event.

Thanks for your support of our partnership!  
Pastor Matt

### **Summer Sunday Conversation Continues August 18th! starts at 6:30pm -- "Anxious to Talk About It: Helping White Christians Talk Faithfully about Racism"**

Join us for hard but necessary conversations about the way white people think about race, how our identity is formed, and feelings of anxiety we have when addressing racism. Carolyn Helsel's book will be a helpful guide as we wade into these deep, and necessary waters of conversation. Please join us, and bring a snack to share if you desire!

### **Confirmation 2.1 continues this fall!**

Beginning in October, deepen your own faith and your understanding of what it means to be Lutheran as we explore the Small Catechism and the basics of Lutheran Theology. We'll be using a helpful guidebook, David Lose's *Making Sense of the Christian Faith*. Copies are available through St. Matthew's for \$13.00, or purchase your own through Amazon. A full fall schedule will be released soon.

## Coming up this week:

Pr. Chris & Gretchen Haugse in El Salvador

### Monday, August 19

6:30, Monday Morn. Men's Bible St.  
10:15, Staff Meeting  
11:00, Program Staff Meeting  
12:30, Stephen Leader Meeting  
6:00, Property Committee

### Tuesday:

8:30, Men's Softball - Whitman

### Wednesday:

11:30, Saints Event - Intergenerational  
"Let's Talk Trash!"  
9:30, Softball Tournament Game, Hart Pk.

### Thursday:

9:00, Stephen Ministry

### Friday:

2:00, Office Closes

### Summer Office Hours now in effect:

We close earlier on Fridays, at 2 p.m.  
Monday through Thursday, the office is open 8:30am to 4:30 pm.

### St. Matthew's live streams worship

**services:** Did you miss a church service that you didn't want to miss? Check out St. Matthew's Live Stream of Worship Services on Sunday mornings. Go to our website, and click on the "Live Feed" link on the home page, just above the four boxes toward the bottom of the page. ([www.stmattslutheran.org](http://www.stmattslutheran.org)) You can also watch most Adult Education classes.

**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 May 5 - September 1 and is available on-line. If you would like to become part of the Sunday morning volunteer ministry please contact Al Van Lith; [al@stmattslutheran.org](mailto:al@stmattslutheran.org) or 414-774-0441.

**Current Volunteers! Please submit any "can't serve" dates between September 8-December 29 now!!**

### \$8000 Match Offered to Cover Costs of Food Shipment to El Salvador!

A generous family at St. Matthew's has offered a match donation to help keep shipments of food going to El Salvador. All donations will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$8,000.00, the cost of one shipment. St. Matthew's goal is to send two shipments per year.

The current shipment should arrive in early August for distribution to communities served by the Salvadoran Lutheran Church – communities where hunger is a constant concern. In addition to the day-to-day struggles of poverty, residents of those communities are disproportionately affected by natural disasters, such as floods, hurricanes, droughts, and volcanic eruptions. All donations are greatly appreciated and will have double the impact. Please make checks to St. Matthew's with "El Salvador Food" in the memo line. (Donations can also be made on St. Matthew's website by selecting El Salvador Meals at the Donate Online link).

### Summer Worship Schedule is:

**7:30am, 8:30am and 10:15am**  
through Labor Day weekend.

### Fall Worship Schedule begins September

**8**, with worship services at 7:30, 8:30 and 11:00 and Sunday School/Education Hour running from 9:45-10:45am.

**Sunday School Teacher Meeting, August 29th** There will be a meeting for all Sunday School teachers, shepherds, and assistants on Thursday, August 29th at 7:00. We will go over the schedule and other details for the upcoming Sunday School year. If you are one of our great Sunday School volunteers, please plan on attending!

**Outreach for Hope  
Family Bike Ride –  
Sept. 7, 2019 –  
Ride for a Cause!  
*Can You Believe  
it's August Already?***

You are running out of time to register for the 2019 Outreach for Hope Family Bike Ride! Register at [Ofhbikeride.com](http://Ofhbikeride.com). Riders will get a t-shirt if they sign up by Sunday, August 18. Online registration will still be available until Sept. 4th. Because registration fees defray (but don't completely cover) our event expenses, please consider making your own gift when you register.

**The Bike Ride Needs Volunteers!**

We need 20 or more volunteers for jobs such as checking in our riders, serving lunch, cheering and directing bike traffic. Volunteering is free and you will receive a t-shirt, but first you need to register at [ofhbikeride.com](http://ofhbikeride.com) (and register by Aug. 18 to be guaranteed a t-shirt.

**Wednesday Bible Study  
Returns In September**

"I've never realized there's so much in the Bible that helps me to understand what it's saying."

"This group is vital to my life, not just because we read the bible together, but are community."

"I didn't know Bible Study could be FUN"

These are just a few things shared with Wednesday Bible Study Participants with Pastor Matt. We'll resume our study of the Gospel of Mark on Wednesday, September 4th at 10:00 a.m. Coffee and snacks are a part of our routine, too!

Any and all are welcome! We look forward to hanging out together and reading God's Word. Bring your own bible--any translation you like!

**It's so easy.... to give online:  
Link to give online: <https://www.stmattslutheran.org/give/>**

**Benedict Center's Women and Justice Luncheon and Morning Conference** will be held on Thursday, September 19 at the Italian Community Center. St. Matthew's will have a table at this event, so please mark your calendar if you'd like to attend. Sign-up will begin in mid-August.

**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. Next meeting: August 26

## **Change for Change! Donate your spare change to help St. Matthew's!**

How many of you carry actual cash with you in the same way you did in the past? And even if you do get coin change, and even save up that coin change as you may have in the past, most banks are no longer accepting coin currency. You have to find another location to take your change to, and have it converted to paper. St. Matthew's would like to help you with this problem, and at the same time do ministry with your donation. Just bring in your change and place it in the large coin jar in the Upper Commons. We'll do the heavy lifting, and get the coin converted, so that it can support our mutual ministry. That's what you call that a win - win!

## **Centennial Celebration - Volunteers**

**Needed** St. Matthew's will be celebrating two 100th anniversaries in the next two years. Our congregation was organized in 1920 and the first church was opened in 1921. So, we have a lot of planning to do for us to celebrate in style. We are looking for volunteers to serve on the **Steering Committee** and five subcommittees: **Historical** - including updating the 75th Anniversary Book and developing and producing several videos; **Visioning** - developing our congregational goals; **Fund Raising** - to finance upgrades in the Sanctuary; **Events** - including a co-celebration with Cross Lutheran (they are celebrating 125 years) and a St. Matt's celebration; and finally **Guest Speakers** - including adult education, guest preachers, inspirational speakers and interfaith relationships. If you are interested, contact Pr. Chris or Darla Hium or sign up on the bulletin insert.

## **SAINTS Next Meeting - Children & Youth Invited, too! Wednesday, August 21, 2019 at 11:30am**

**Title: "Let's Talk Trash!"**

**Speakers: Bill Lewis & Angie Karpfingher from Advanced Disposal**

Bill Lewis and Angie Karpfingher from Advanced Disposal, the company that picks up and processes St. Matthew's recycling, will give us the dirt on all things plastic, glass, aluminum, paper, and cardboard. Right recycling means "clean" recycling. Find out what is acceptable, what is unacceptable, and the common mistakes to avoid. We will also learn exactly how recycled materials are separated and ultimately re-used. Understanding the separation process and the machines used to separate the material sheds new light onto how, why, and what to recycle. Let's make our recycling decisions flawless – know before you throw! School age children and teens are invited to join us for the presentation and lunch. Children and teens may attend with an adult or be paired with members of the SAINTS when they arrive. There will be activities and prizes for the children. Registration before the event, either at the Welcome Center or through the church office, is required.

### **Program:**

- 11:15am – Children and teens should arrive at St. Matthew's, check in, and get a name tag**
- 11:30am – Presentation begins**
- 12:30 – Lunch**
- 1:00pm – Pick-up time for children and teens**

Please consider joining us for this intergenerational event!

## Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton among faith leaders speaking out against Christian Nationalism.

Last week, many faith leaders across denominations, traditions, and practices endorsed a public statement denouncing the values of Christian Nationalism and claiming one's Christian identity as being separate from one's national identity. Part of the statement notes, "As Christians, our faith teaches us everyone is created in God's image and commands us to love one another. As Americans, we value our system of government and the good that can be accomplished in our constitutional democracy. Today, we are concerned about a persistent threat to both our religious communities and our democracy — Christian nationalism."

**REV. ELIZABETH EATON, Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA), wrote the following:** "Christian nationalism identifies a human government with God's will and seeks privilege for Christians from the state. Lutherans teach that government should be held accountable to God but not ever identified with God's will. The ELCA is committed to strengthening public space as a just place for all regardless of religion or worldview and will defend the full participation of all in our religiously diverse society. This common statement is an important witness on these matters."

To sign the statement as a Christian, to learn more, and to read the full statement, visit [ChristiansagainstChristiannationalism.org](http://ChristiansagainstChristiannationalism.org)

## 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

We don't know your need unless you let us know!

***"Love one another -- as I have loved you."*** John 13:34:b



# Children's and Youth Ministry

## **Sunday School Starts September 8th**

Sunday School for 3-Year-Olds through 8th grade begins on Sunday, September 8th during the education hour from 9:45 – 10:45. There will be a special celebration for Sunday School children at the 8:30 service on that day.

Letters will be sent to preschool and Kindergarten classes the first week of September with class assignments. If your child attended Sunday School last year, or if you are a member, your child will automatically be registered for Sunday School.

## **7th & 8th Grade Confirmation begins September 4th**

Attention 7th and 8th graders and parents! It's time to plan for fall activities, and we want to make sure that you know about Confirmation class at St. Matthew's. Confirmation class meets most Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30pm beginning September 4 with Pastor Chris Manke and adult small group leaders.

## **9th Grade Confirmation Classes Begin September 11th**

Confirmation for 9th graders begins this fall on Wednesday, September 11th and continues each Wednesday from 7:00 – 8:30 through November 6th. In these nine short sessions – led by Gretchen Haugse and Pastor Matt - we will explore, through various activities and discussions, what it means to live out your faith. *The first session on September 11th will begin with a short meeting for parents and 9th graders from 7:00 – 7:20 to go over the detailed schedule and expectations.*

## **Debt Reduction**

### **3-year Pledge period ends**

Thank you for the many people who gave to the Debt Reduction Fund each month. We are close to paying off that fund, sometime this year. Many of you are continuing to give to the Debt reduction fund through Simply Giving as you have been. Thank you. Please remember that your Simply Giving contributions are typically set up not to end. In order to stop or adjust a contribution, you will need to either contact the office (414-774-0441 or members@stmatt-slutheran.org) or go into your Vanco account and adjust the contribution. The Debt Reduction contributions will not stop unless you ask for the payments to end.

## **Lutheran Disaster Response**

It seems like each year as summer occurs, the need for Disaster Response Funding rises. Thanks to generous, undesignated gifts, Lutheran Disaster Response, through Lutheran Social Services of Southern California, is already accompanying communities impacted by the earthquake with immediate relief needs.

You are invited to give prayerfully to support LDR and its work, by giving through St. Matthew's. Mark Disaster Response on your check or envelope, or give through the Kiosk. Learn more and be a part of the response by visiting online: <https://community.elca.org/lutherandisasterresponse>

## Reformation Lutheran Church's Neighborhood Store and Coffee Shop "Most Wanted List"

### **Clothes**

Infant/Toddler to size 6 clothes;  
underwear and swimwear for all ages

### **Baby/Toddler**

Strollers, toys, swings, large plastic  
outdoor toys

### **Linens**

Bath/hand towels, washcloths, beach  
towels, sheets, comforters, bed  
pillows

### **Home Goods**

Lamps, wall & alarm clocks,  
decorative pillows, waste baskets

### **Accessories**

Jewelry and Purses, men's belts and  
caps

### **Outdoor**

Small grills, swimsuits for all ages

### **Kitchenware**

Pots & pans, kitchen utensils and  
towels, silverware

### **Small Appliances**

Fans, coffeemakers, microwaves,  
blenders, electric frypans, irons, deep  
fryers, toasters, large crockpots, flat  
screen TVs, radios, etc.

If you have any of these items,  
please bring them to the Education  
entrance, the metal shelves marked  
"For Reformation Lutheran Church,"  
and they will be delivered to  
Reformation's store.

## The St. Matthew's Meal Outreach Ministry

**Guest House:** Thanking Laura Barker, Kelly Mathwick and friends from Hays Companies for preparing and serving the August summer cook-out dinner and best ever ice cream sundae bar at the Guest House. Two or three volunteers are needed on the second Sunday of each month to serve dinner to 85 men at the Guest House, a homeless shelter in Milwaukee. Seeking volunteers for the October 13 dinner. Please contact Carl Johnson by phone or text message at 414-771-1023, or by emailing johnsoncr@cdmsmith.com to sign-up.

**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; rcvetter1986@gmail.com. Next Meal: September 8

**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, August 28, 2019.** Pick up a card in worship on the Sunday prior to the meal to donate food.

**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.

**Volunteers Needed: The Benedict Center *Sisters Program* is seeking dedicated volunteers to offer their time and service in the following areas:**

Drop-In Center: Meal prep, light housekeeping, laundry

Donations: Organizing, Scheduling Pickups, Requests

Creating a Healing Space: Inside the Center and in the Center's Garden.

Join us for an Information session on August 20 from 1-4 pm at the Benedict Center, 1849 N. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive. Refreshments provided. RSVP Kathy by Monday, August 19 at kbauer@benedictcenter.org or 414.347.1774

### **Cross Bread of Healing Clinic Receives OTC medications too!**

Thanks to all who have donated unused and expired medications to be received by the pharmacy at the Bread of Healing Clinic! There is a box in the office to drop off unused or expired medications--please bring in bags and in original containers with original RX information.

In addition, the Bread of Healing Clinic is always in need of and will receive over-the-counter medications, including allergy medications (Zyrtec, Allegra, etc), pain relievers, and other OTC drugs. They have encouraged price club shoppers (Sam's/Costco) to purchase these sorts of drugs to save the most on donated OTC drugs.

Thanks also to Tom Wilke, retired pharmacist, who volunteers at the clinic and serves as a driver to safely transport things to Cross.

**Envisioning Our Senior Centers: Aging Advisory Council Seeks Your Ideas** The Milwaukee County Dept. on Aging is holding a series of Community Conversations to hear from older adults about your vision for our senior centers. Please join us for one of the following session and help spread the word.

**Friday, August 23, 9-11 am at Clinton Rose Senior Center, 3045 N. MLK Drive, Milwaukee**

**Tuesday, September 3, 12:00-2:00pm Washington Park Senior Center 4420 W. Vliet St., Milwaukee**

### **Online Survey**

If you are unable to join us at one of the Community Conversations, you can also fill out an online survey at: [county.milwaukee.gov/aging/envision](http://county.milwaukee.gov/aging/envision)

If you have questions or would like to learn more about this project, check out our website or contact us at 414-289-6546.

### **Luther Manor Hospice Volunteer Coordinator Position Available:**

The volunteer coordinator carries responsibility for the orientation, training and coordination of all volunteers, volunteer program management and development in all service areas. This is a part-time position, 20 hours per week. Job Description available from [cwenson@luthermanor.org](mailto:cwenson@luthermanor.org)

Luther Manor is a great place to work!

### **St. Matthew's live streams worship**

**services:** Did you miss a church service that you didn't want to miss? Are you out of town for the weekend? Can't come to church because it's physically too difficult? Check out St. Matthew's Live Stream of Worship Services on Sunday mornings. Go to our website, and click on the "Live Feed" link on the home page, just above the four boxes toward the bottom of the page. ([www.stmattslutheran.org](http://www.stmattslutheran.org)) You can also watch most Adult Education classes.

### **First Fridays Book Group reveals new year of books!**

First discussion begins in October  
Fred Heim and Mary Thomae have collaborated and compromised on a schedule as varied as it has ever been. The first book for discussion in October is: **The Accidental President: Harry S. Truman and the Four Months that Changed the World by A.J. Baime (448 pgs)**

Whether or not this piques your interest, at least one or two from the remaining schedule probably will. Pick up a schedule at church (Welcome Center or table across from church office) or find it on our website at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/FFBookClub2019-20>

### **Tosa Green Summit is September 7:**

The ninth annual Tosa Green Summit will be held Saturday, September 7, 2019, from 10 am to 1 pm at the Wauwatosa Civic Center, 7725 W. North Avenue. The event is a free informational open house to learn how you can make your community green and sustainable. Over 25 Exhibitors will provide awareness and education on topics ranging from home energy, conservation, water, gardening, transportation, and food. In addition, there will be opportunities to take action with the following recycling stations located in the parking lot from 8 am to 2 pm: MMSD household hazardous waste; Wauwatosa Police Crimestoppers shredding and electronic recycling; Wauwatosa Health Dept. Medicine; and DreamBikes, bicycles.

### **Repairers of the Breach Immediate**

**Needs:** If you would like to donate any of these items, bring them to the ROTB (Repairers of the Breach) collection box outside the church office. Thank you!

**Individual oatmeal variety packs**

**Sturdy Paper plates**

**Diabetic sugar (equal, sweet'n low)**

**Paper bowls**

**Assorted cereal            8 oz. paper cups**

**Plastic spoons and forks**

**Napkins/papertowels    Fresh Fruit**

**Laundry Detergent**

**Men's boxers (Large, XL, 2 XL)**

**Deodorant**

**Pine-Sol**

**Bleach**

**Air Freshener**

**Men's Jeans (waist 32-42)**

**Women's jeans (sizes 9-16)**

You can order these items through AmazonSmile. Select Amazon Smile when ordering and have your purchases sent directly to Repairers of the Breach. AmazonSmile will donate a portion of your sale back to Repairers to you are really donating twice for each purchase!

**Repairers of the Breach**

**1335 W. Vliet St. Milwaukee, WI**

**53205**

Thanks to Dick Olson for transporting donations to ROTB as well as delivery of the ROTB bag lunches twice a month.

# St Matthew's Music Ministry

## When Do the Choirs Start?

All are welcome to join in singing or ringing. Take a look at the choir schedule and join in praising our Lord.

### **Senior Choir [adults]**

*Thursdays starting 8/29 at 7:30*

### **New Generation Choir [7-12 grades]**

*Wednesdays starting 9/25 at 6:00*

### **New Creation Choir [3-6 grades]**

*Wednesdays starting 9/18 at 7:00*

### **Praise Kids! [4/5 year olds/1-2 grades]**

*Thursdays starting 9/26 at 4:00*

### **Bells Angels [Adults]**

*Thursdays starting 9/5 at 6:15*

### **The eMBELLishments**

*Tuesdays starting 9/24 at 9:30*

### **Righteous Ringers [7-12 grades]**

*Tuesdays starting 9/24 at 7:00*

### **Godsbells [4-6 grades]**

*Wednesdays starting 9/18 at 6:00*

### **Adult singers: St. Matthew's Senior Choir begins rehearsals Thursday, August 29**

*Did you know that "All God's children got a place in the choir?"*

If you count yourself as one of God's children, then we'd love to have you come and join the Senior Choir this fall! We have some beautiful and exciting new music to sing, as well as some familiar anthems from previous years. Rehearsals begin on Thursday, August 29th from 7:30-9:00. All voice parts are welcome. If you love to sing, we have a place for you in the Senior Choir! For more information, contact Dave Mohr (davemohr@me.com).

### **Come Join Us in the Music!**

Making music benefits us in ways we do not completely understand. Many writers have described the positive physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual effects of music. Singing and Ringing in a choir improves creativity, social skills, community involvement, academic skills, listening skills, team-building skills, and discipline. In addition making music with others helps to bridge social gaps, allowing us to connect with people with different backgrounds all coming together for a common goal.

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.

The SAINTS (older adults group at St. Matts) invites school aged children and teens for a presentation and lunch at our second annual *intergenerational* event.

# **“LET’S TALK TRASH!”**

**WEDNESDAY, August 21**

**11:15am Drop-off.**

**1pm Pick-up.**

**Intergenerational Learning:** 1. people of all ages learning together from each other: 2. generations working together to gain skills, values, and knowledge.

Together we will learn about recycling at our church and in our homes.

Are you recycling right?  
Games, activities, and prizes for children. Light lunch to follow.



Sign Up at the Welcome Center or in the Church Office.

Contact Julia Murphy for more information.

[julia@stmattslutheran.org](mailto:julia@stmattslutheran.org)



## 2019 ELCA CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY

AUGUST 5-10, 2019 • MILWAUKEE

Our denomination, the ELCA, holds a churchwide assembly triennially - to worship, vote on matters of governance and policy, and be church together for the sake of the world. This past week's churchwide assembly was full of important votes and actions, including:

- Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton was reelected for a second six-year term on the first ballot.
- A declaration of apology to our siblings of African descent, which was received by the African Descent Lutheran Association with thanks and a call for accountability and living into the words shared.
- Approved resolution declaring the ELCA is a “sanctuary church body,” encouraging participation in the ELCA AMMPARO initiative for migrant children, discernment of care for our immigrant neighbors in our context, and the promise of forthcoming resources for this work.
- Approved support for the World Council of Church's *Thursdays in Black*, awareness movement for a world without rape and violence.
- Voted to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance, in honor and remembrance of the martyrdom of the Emanuel 9.
- Approved a declaration for inter-religious commitment, reaffirming ecumenical and interfaith partnerships.
- Approved the recommendations from a strategic taskforce which has been studying how to work toward authentic diversity in our church.
- Approved memorials: affirming but not “endorsing” the Poor People's Campaign, care for immigrants and refugees, and other statements.
- Adopted a new social statement, “Faith, Sexism, and Justice: a Lutheran Call to Action,” and its implementing resolutions.
- Deacon Sue Rothmeyer was elected Churchwide Secretary, a full-time position which acts as executive administrator and leader on all constitutional matters and interpretation.
- Constitutional change for Deacons (rostered ministers of word and service) to be ordained, from the previous practice of consecration.
- Celebrated the milestones of 50 years of women's ordination, 40 years since the first woman of color was ordained, and 10 years since full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ clergy.

Thanks to Youa Reinicker for serving as a Churchwide Voting Member and to Trudy Zauner, Randy Koeller, Mike Reinicker, Pr. Chris, and others who helped volunteer throughout the assembly in Milwaukee

**FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:23-29**

Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? <sup>24</sup>Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. <sup>25</sup>I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" <sup>26</sup>How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? <sup>27</sup>They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. <sup>28</sup>Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. <sup>29</sup>Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

**Psalm 82**

**SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:29—12:2**

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. <sup>30</sup>By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup>By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

<sup>32</sup>And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—<sup>33</sup>who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup>quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. <sup>35</sup>Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release in order to obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup>Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup>They were stoned to death, they

were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—<sup>38</sup>of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

<sup>39</sup>Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup>since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

<sup>12:1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

**GOSPEL: Luke 12:49-56**

[Jesus said:] "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! <sup>50</sup>I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup>Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup>From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup>they will be divided:

- father against son
- and son against father,
- mother against daughter
- and daughter against mother,
- mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
- and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

<sup>54</sup>He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. <sup>55</sup>And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. <sup>56</sup>'You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?'"

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Isaiah 58:9b-14; Psalm 103:1-8; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17.

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Tracks 1 and 2  
ELCA-R



## St. Matthew's Weekly Sign-Up Panel August 18, 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.

I'd like to check to see if my child is signed up for **Sunday School** beginning September 8. Name of Child and Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in being part of the **Centennial Celebration Planning**, serving on the Steering Committee or on one of the sub-committees.

I'm interested in attending the **Benedict Center "Women and Justice Luncheon"** on Thursday, September 19. Please reserve me a ticket.

Yes, I'd like to "go green" by receiving my **quarterly contribution statements via email** instead of US mail.

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](mailto: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 Hauge
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 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