

St. Matthew's
Weekly *Bulletin Update*

Welcome to Worship at St. Matthew's
August 25, 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: *Remember the Sabbath day. Call the Sabbath a delight. This is the Lord's day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help us and heal us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing.*

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 8:30 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.

Flowers at the altar are given by Chris Weber Sponnick and Jim Sponnick in honor of their 46th wedding anniversary.

Today at 11:15 - Healing Service: 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. **The next Healing Service is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 15 - After the 8:30 service**

Prayer Cards are collected by the pastors at the time of the Hymn of the Day (after the sermon). If you want 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.

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.

St Matthew's Music Ministry

When Do the Choirs Start?

Come Join Us in the Music!

Making music benefits us in ways we do not completely understand. 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.

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

Bells Angels [Adults]

Thursdays starting 9/5 at 6:15

New Creation Choir [3-6 grades]

Wednesdays starting 9/18 at 7:00

Godsbells [4-6 grades]

Wednesdays starting 9/18 at 6:00

The EmBELLishments

Tuesdays starting 9/24 at 9:30

Righteous Ringers [7-12 grades]

Tuesdays starting 9/24 at 7:00

New Generation Choir [7-12 grades]

Wednesdays starting 9/25 at 6:00

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

Thursdays starting 9/26 at 4:00

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 to RING!

You've seen them in action and are thinking, "I want to try that." We have the chance for you to give it a ring. The Tuesday morning handbell choir, The EmBELLishments, is always looking for new ringers to join the handbell fun. Have you ever wanted to give it a try? See what this handbell stuff is all about? This is your chance. This handbell choir meets **every Tuesday at 9:30-10:15, starting September 24**. No experience needed! We have fun as we learn new music and the techniques of handbell ringing. If you have any questions or would like a private lesson in ringing handbells to find out what it is all about, please talk with John Paradowski at the church. 414-774-0441 or JRPmuzik@yahoo.com

ELCA Advocacy Invites You to Advocate for Hunger

Partner leader Linda Radder, Cross Lutheran's Parish nurse, has shared with St. Matthew's the ELCA's call for faithful members to participate in government by sharing opposition to proposed USDA cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)(Food Stamps/FoodShare funding).

The USDA is proposing elimination of 3.1 million children, families, disabled adults and older adults from SNAP benefit access. Currently, SNAP serves 36 million people, most of whom are children or non-independent adults. With this proposal, people in serious need of healthy, life-sustaining food are qualifying for SNAP benefits, yet would be denied access with limits proposed on eligibility requirements.



ELCA Social teachings urge all Lutherans to engage in service and advocacy for our neighbor in need of daily bread. The federal comment period ends on September 23rd. Your voice is essential now!

Share based on the following talking points:

- *The proposed rule is harmful because it increases hunger for families, including the most vulnerable in our communities.
- *The proposal ignores the will of Congress, who addressed SNAP funding in the 2018 Farm Bill.
- *This proposal will harm grocery retailers and agricultural producers by reducing SNAP dollars available to support local economies.
- *This proposal threatens positive health outcomes and learning potential for children.

You can submit comments to the USDA Food Nutrition Service by Sept. 23rd. You can sign up to receive ELCA Advocacy Action Alerts at ELCA.org/advocacy/signup.

You can also write your legislators or reach them at town hall meetings to share your opinions and how your faith impacts your beliefs.

Your help is needed to Advocate for Hunger! Deadline for comments is September 23.

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

Bulletin Announcements - August 25, 2019



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!

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

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. For more information contact Jeff Roznowski at jroznowski@wi.rr.com or 414-803-9500.

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.

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 or 414-774-0441.

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

Coming up this week:

Monday, August 26

6:30, Monday Morn. Men's Bible St.

10:15, Staff Meeting

11:00, Program Staff Meeting

1:00, Caregivers Support Group

7:00, 100th Anniv. Steering Comm.

Tuesday:

12:00, Youth Drama Workshop

1:00, Harwood Place Service

7:00, Lutheran A Cappella Rehearsal

7:00, Stephen Ministry

Wednesday:

10:00, Cross Lunch group loads/ leaves

6:00, Social Ministry Comm. Mtg.
at Bowen Home

Thursday:

7:00, Sunday School Teacher Meeting

7:30, Senior Choir Rehearsal

Friday:

2:00, Office Closes

Wednesday Bible Study

Returns on September 4

"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!

\$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 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.

Save the date for AIDS Walk Wisconsin & 5K run on Saturday, October 5.

Watch the newsletter and bulletin for further information on how to join in raising crucial funds to support the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin.

**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. 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.

You can be a virtual rider and help the cause by making a donation online. Go to the website: www.ofhbikeride.com and you can use a credit card to donate to Outreach for Hope.

Our Bishop, Paul Erickson, writes: *"Let's remember that we're all in this together, whether our neighborhood is urban, suburban or rural. ... we are united in our mission, to support vibrant, life-changing ministries in communities that are confronting the many issues stemming from economic inequalities. I look forward to seeing many of you at one of the three ride locations on Sept. 7."*

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.

YTD Financial Results as of:	08/18/19
General Fund Receipts	\$604,806
Hunger Basket Receipts	\$7,884
Benevolence Disbursements	\$155,786
Mortgage Note Balance	\$151,691

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.

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.

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!

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
Luther Manor is a great place to work!

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.

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>

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

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: Sept. 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.

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) You can also watch most Adult Education classes.

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.

**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

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

Gifts of Stock are Welcome

Gifts of stock are always welcome at St. Matthew's. Our brokerage account is with Robert W. Baird here in the Milwaukee area. The contact person is Curt Brewer, 262-523-5644. He can arrange to have your gift transferred directly from your account to St. Matthew's brokerage account. Consult with your tax advisor to see if this has significant advantages for you. As always, feel free to contact Al Van Lith in the church office with questions.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:9b-14

If you remove the yoke from among you,
 the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry
 and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
 then your light shall rise in the darkness
 and your gloom be like the noonday.
¹¹The LORD will guide you continually,
 and satisfy your needs in parched places,
 and make your bones strong;
 and you shall be like a watered garden,
 like a spring of water,
 whose waters never fail.
¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
 you shall raise up the foundations of many
 generations;
 you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
 the restorer of streets to live in.
¹³If you refrain from trampling the sabbath,
 from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;
 if you call the sabbath a delight
 and the holy day of the LORD honorable;
 if you honor it, not going your own ways,
 serving your own interests, or pursuing your
 own affairs;
¹⁴then you shall take delight in the LORD,
 and I will make you ride upon the heights of the
 earth;
 I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor
 Jacob,
 for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Psalms 103:1-8

SECOND READING: Hebrews 12:18-29

You have not come to something that can be
 touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom,
 and a tempest, ¹⁹and the sound of a trumpet, and a
 voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another
 word be spoken to them. ²⁰(For they could not
 endure the order that was given, "If even an animal
 touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death."
²¹Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said,
 "I tremble with fear.") ²²But you have come to Mount
 Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly

Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gath-
 ering, ²³and to the assembly of the firstborn who are
 enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and
 to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴and
 to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the
 sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the
 blood of Abel.

²⁵See that you do not refuse the one who is speak-
 ing; for if they did not escape when they refused the
 one who warned them on earth, how much less will
 we escape if we reject the one who warns from heav-
 en! ²⁶At that time his voice shook the earth; but now
 he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not
 only the earth but also the heaven." ²⁷This phrase,
 "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is
 shaken—that is, created things—so that what can-
 not be shaken may remain. ²⁸Therefore, since we are
 receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us
 give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable
 worship with reverence and awe; ²⁹for indeed our
 God is a consuming fire.

GOSPEL: Luke 13:10-17

Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues
 on the sabbath. ¹¹And just then there appeared a
 woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eigh-
 teen years. She was bent over and was quite unable
 to stand up straight. ¹²When Jesus saw her, he called
 her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from
 your ailment." ¹³When he laid his hands on her, im-
 mediately she stood up straight and began prais-
 ing God. ¹⁴But the leader of the synagogue, indig-
 nant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept
 saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which
 work ought to be done; come on those days and be
 cured, and not on the sabbath day." ¹⁵But the Lord
 answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does
 not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his
 donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give
 it water? ¹⁶And ought not this woman, a daughter
 of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long
 years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath
 day?" ¹⁷When he said this, all his opponents were
 put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at
 all the wonderful things that he was doing.

Next Sunday's Readings: Proverbs 25:6-7 or Sirach 10:12-18; Psalm 112; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14.

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St. Matthew's Weekly Sign-Up Panel August 25, 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 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.
- I have a **question** about _____

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.



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



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