

St. Matthew's Weekly Bulletin Update

Welcome to Worship at St. Matthew's September 29, 2019



Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome to Worship! We praise you, Mighty God, for your voice in rustling leaves and your handiwork in nature's changing colors.

Introduction for the Day: *The archangel Michael is pictured as a prince and a general of the heavenly army, defeating the dragon (the ancient serpent, the devil, Satan). It is important, though, to see in Revelation 12:11 that God's victory ultimately comes by Jesus' death and the testimony of his followers. The power of God's truth gives us confidence in the face of evil on earth, even in the face of our own death.*

Child for Baptism (11:00 service) **Sloane Kaye Leto**, child of Molly & Damon Leto, Wauwatosa, was born February 16, 2019. Sponsors are Joe & Kelley Lorbert. Lona and Mark Crego of our congregation are grandparents to Sloane.

A Library book is given to the church library by Leslie & Pat Gardner in honor of the birthdays of their grandchildren Owen, Lucas and Mackenzie High.

Flowers at the altar are given by Bob & Carol Steinkraus in honor of their 69th wedding anniversary and their 90th birthdays.

Flowers at the altar are given by Leslie & Pat Gardner in honor of the birthdays of three of their grandchildren, Owen, Lucas and Mackenzie High.

Today we celebrate the Feast of Michael and All Angels. What does this mean?

Historically, in the centuries before Christ, Jews wrote about four archangels--Gabriel, Michael, Raphael, and Uriel--who are closest to the throne of God. Today's reading from Revelation includes the story of the archangel Michael, the protector of God's people, Israel. Tradition says Michael defeated Lucifer in the battle over heaven. Romans began honoring Michael in around 450 CE. We continue to speak of angels (messengers) as God's arms of might and mercy present in the world; many look to Michael to continue God's battle against evil and as a source of protection for believers in the midst of dangers. (From Gail Ramshaw, *More Days for Praise*)

Join us for Holy Communion: All are invited to the Table of our Lord Jesus Christ to receive the real presence of Christ in bread and wine at the 7:30 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.

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

Bulletin Announcements - September 29, 2019

Family Movie Night: Friday, October 4th Join us for Family Movie Night on October 4 at 6:30 pm when we watch Lego Movie 2. Join us as we follow the citizens of Bricksburg as they face a dangerous new threat when LEGO DUPLO invaders from outer space start to wreck everything in their path.

We'll be serving Papa Murphy's pizza, movie treats, freshly popped popcorn, and a variety of beverages. Everyone is welcome to wear pajamas and bring pillows and sleeping bags. Suggested donation is \$5 per person/\$20 per family. Contact Jennifer Wills at 262-483-1848 or jenniferwills1@me.com for more information. Sign up through the church office today!



A Baptism Class will be held on Thursday, October 3 from 7:00-8:00 in the Upper Room with Pastor Chris. If your family is planning a baptism in the next 2-4 months, it would be great to come to this. Babies are welcome. Letters will be sent to those who have recently had or scheduled a baptism. If you have already attended a class you don't need to attend again. Please let the office staff know of your plans to attend.

New Member Classes begin September 29! God has given us the gift of Christian community. 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 September and October.

Classes will be held on Sunday mornings from 9:45-10:45. Dates are September 29, October 6, and October 13. New Members will be received on Sunday, October 20th 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. You are welcome to attend even if you didn't sign up in advance.

Thank you for your food for Cross this past week! 258 people were fed at Wednesday's meal. Your donations of homemade salads and delicious desserts, as well as fruit and jello, were much appreciated! Thank you very much!

AIDS Walk Wisconsin & 5K run is Saturday, October 5. Join in raising crucial funds to support the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin. AIDS Walk Wisconsin serves the entire state with life-saving medical, dental and mental health care, as well as social service programs like food pantries and housing assistance for people living with HIV/AIDS. People with HIV in Wisconsin live longer than in any other state in the nation because of organizations like ARCW. Register online at aidswalkwis.org It will be a fun day!

Coming up this week:

Adult Mission Trip to Houston all week

Monday, Sept. 30

- 6:30, Men's Morning Bible Study
- 10:15, Staff Meeting
- 11:00, Program Staff Meeting
- 1:00, Fallen Angels
- 7:00, 100th Anniversary Steering Comm.

Tuesday, October 1

- 9:30, The EmBELLishments
- 6:30, Confirmation 2.1
- 6:30, Stewardship Committee
- 7:00, Righteous Ringers

Wednesday, October 2

- 10:00, Wednesday Bible Study
- 5:30, Dinner Before Confirmation
- 6:00, Godsbells
- 6:00, New Generation Choir
- 7:00, New Creation Choir
- 7:00, 9th grade Confirmation
- 7:00, 7th & 8th Grade Conf. Big Group
- 7:00, Women's Book Study

Thursday, October 3

- 9:00, A Cabella Ringers
- 4:00, Praise Kids!
- 6:15, Bells Angels
- 7:30, Senior Choir Rehearsal

Friday, October 4

- 6:30, Family Movie Night
- 7:00, First Friday Book Group Disc.

Need help with home repairs, maintenance or pre-sale preparation?

St. Matthew's member John Kuhlmann is owner of FOCUS Handyman Services, and is looking forward to making your project his top priority. Please call John at 414-617-1471, or email focushandymanervices@gmail.com.

Deborah Circle will meet on Tuesday, October 8 at 12:30pm in the Upper Room.

Adult Education Classes Every Sunday 9:45-10:45am

Sunday, September 29

Feast of St. Michael and all Angels *Dipping a Toe into the Waters of Life in Revelation*

Today, we'll hear about St. Michael and all angels, including the story of Michael, God's messenger, from the book of Revelation. Join Pr. Matt as we read and explore how we as Lutherans can find truth, hope, and simply figure out what's going on amid the vivid and grand imagery of Revelation, and how we might read it in our current age.

Sunday October 6: PerSISTERS Who?

PerSISTERS is a group of citizens engaged in democratic action.

What? When?

We meet weekly and write and call our elected officials. We contact them to voice our opinions on a range of issues.

We write letters to support or oppose policies at the local, state and national level.

Why?

We believe it is the responsibility of citizens in a democracy to be active in the political process. In our weekly gatherings, we find hope, support and resolve! Hear more about this exciting grassroots group which is organized by St. Matthew's member Lisa Williams.

Sad News Shared from Reformation

It is with sadness that we share the news of the death of Curly Stallings, husband of Thaurra Stallings at Reformation Lutheran Church. Our thoughts and prayers surround our partner and friend Thaurra (T) and her family as they grieve Curly's death. Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced this week.

Photo Scavenger Hunt Event - Join Us on October 19

Join us on Saturday, October 19 at 5:00 for some good-natured competition and creativity. We'll meet at church and separate into teams to "collect" photos from around the Village and neighborhood. When time's up, return to church to show off your creativity while enjoying snacks and treat. Bring your energy, a smart phone or digital camera and a snack to share. Sign-up coming soon. Contact Heather Deaton at 414.704.0247 or hdeaton@wi.rr.com for more info.

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.

Look for the 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. Be sure to give your name during the transaction.

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

Cross Lutheran Bridges Tutoring Program needs you! Make a meal or build a tutoring relationship with a young student.

As the Bridges Tutoring Program prepares to start a new school year, you are invited to consider serving as a partner and relationship builder with a young person at Cross Lutheran. Tutoring Sessions are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Dinner is served at 6:00 p.m. and tutoring follows until 8 p.m.. It is possible to tutor one night or both. The responsibility of tutors is to help students learn, review content, and explain how to problem solve and check completed work. You can be a positive influence on helping students develop study skills and organization techniques to help improve their academic performance.

The program begins in earnest on September 12th--it's not too late to meet with Coordinator Isabelle Barry and learn about the goals for this year's program. Please contact vicarisabelle@crosslutheranmke.org or call her at 414.349.2716

We also are **committed to make meals for the 2nd Tuesday and Thursday** of each month beginning in October. **If you'd like to make a meal for 20 to share, contact Pastor Matt.**

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.

Wednesday Bible Study with Pr. Matt meets each week at 10am in the Upper Room. 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!

Could you help by donating blankets?

Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge is an organization that serves Milwaukee's homeless population. Its headquarters are in Cedarburg, and it is run by Bob Burmeister. They are very much in need of blankets and sleeping bags right now. Hannah Kramer of our congregation will be collecting these items. If you have some extra blankets or sleeping bags that you don't use or need, please consider passing them along to an organization that is doing good in our community. Bring your items to the church office.

To Access St. Matthew's wi-fi, find the network "St. Matthew's Wifi" and use the password **Welcome!**

Looking for a house sitter this Winter?

If you're looking for a house sitter while you stay in your Winter home, I'm your person! I've been an active member of St. Matthew's since 2008 and house sitter since 2017. I'd be happy to stay in your home, bring in the mail and handle other tasks for as long as you need. References available upon request. Contact Jennifer Wills at jenniferwills1@me.com or 262-483-1848.

El Salvador Visit Planned for January Information Meeting September 29th

The next congregational visit to El Salvador is planned for early January, 2020 and is open to adults and college-aged youth. This trip will include new experiences and connections as well as service at our partner ministry, Casa Esperanza, which continues to serve those who are overlooked or forgotten. If you would like to be part of this eye-opening, heart-opening, and perspective-expanding experience, please talk to Gretchen Haugse or Pastor Chris.

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>

Did you know there are over 194,000 caregivers of people with dementia in Wisconsin alone? The Wauwatosa Health Department and the Alzheimer's Association of Greater Wisconsin are working together to provide education to the community. Please join us at **Wauwatosa City Hall** in the Lower Civic Center to learn more.

Wednesday, October 16, 7:00-8:00pm; Healthy Tips for Your Brain and Body: Tips from the Latest Research. All are Welcome.

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.

Sunday Morning Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed in these three areas:

- **Communion Preparers** - Work in teams of 3 to prepare communion and clean up after.
- **Coffee Hosts** - Prepare coffee and set out treats in between 8:30 & 11:00 services.
- **Ushers (11:00)** - Greet worshipers and help with collecting the offering

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.

Stephen Ministry

We all need a concerned, caring person at difficult times in our lives but during those times it seems that everyone has advice. Most often, it isn't advice we need -- it's just someone who will listen and help us sort things out.

Our congregation has 14 trained lay people, Stephen Ministers, who offer a ministry of Christian caring here at St. Matthew's. They are prepared to provide care simply by listening instead of telling you what to do. The conversations are completely confidential. Being heard can bring a great sense of relief and clarity to a situation or relationship.

To ask a few questions and learn more talk with a Stephen Leader, Pastor Ann or visit the Stephen Ministry Center and talk with a Stephen Minister from 9:45-10:45 any Sunday. Or, write your question and contact info on a blue prayer card or on the Stephen Ministry card located in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate.



Children's and Youth Ministry

Children's Ministry Groups are BACK!
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.

KFC: Sunday, Oct. 6, 12:15-2:00 p.m.
DOC: Sunday, Oct. 20, 12:15-2:00 p.m.
These groups are led by Donna Gardner Manke. Come and join us! It is helpful to sign up by calling the church office, 774-0441, so that we have an idea of how many are coming.

7th & 8th Grade Confirmation meets weekly. Confirmation class meets most Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30pm with Pastor Chris Manke and adult small group leaders. See Pr Chris if you have any questions.
October 2 - Big Group (Of Tents & Kings)
October 9 - Big Group (Psalms & Wisdom)
Oct. 16 - BigGroup (Prophets)
Oct. 23 - Servant Night (Food Collection)

9th Grade Confirmation Classes
Confirmation for 9th graders is now underway and continues each Wednesday from 7:00 – 8:30 through November 6th. In these nine short sessions – led by Gretchen Hauge and Pastor Matt - we will explore, through various activities and discussions, what it means to live out your faith.

2019 Youth Mission Trip

“So, where are we going next year?”

That's a great question! To learn the answer, ***come to the information meeting on Sunday, October 6th at 12:15.*** The trip will take place next June and is open to all high school youth. Plan on attending this meeting to learn all the details! Come to the info meeting to find out about next summer's experience!

Youth Drama Workshop, October 13th

If you are a middle or high school student who loves drama, then our Youth Drama Group is a great place for you! We will begin our year with a workshop on Sunday, October 13th from 12:15 – 2:30. We'll start with lunch and then move on to improvisation activities, drama games, and, finally a preview of dramas that will be presented in worship during the year.

Dinner Available at church on Wednesdays for Confirmation Kids - See Dates Below

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.

If you have any questions, talk to Gretchen Hauge.

Wednesday Dinner Dates, 2019 - 2020

September 11 & 18

October 2, 9, & 16

November 6, 13 & 20

December 11

January 8

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

Clothes

Infant/Toddler to size 8 clothes;
underwear and for all ages;
Winter coats, snowsuits, snow pants

Baby/Toddler

Strollers, toys, swings

Linens

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

Home Goods

Lamps, wall & alarm clocks, decorative
pillows, waste baskets, curtains and
drapes, shower curtains/liners/rings

Accessories

Jewelry and Purses, men's belts and
Sports caps, wallets

Kitchenware

Pots & pans, kitchen utensils and
towels, silverware

Small Appliances

Coffeemakers (including Keurigs),
microwaves, blenders, electric frypans,
irons, deep and air fryers, toasters,
large crockpots, flat screen TVs, etc.

Hospitality Supplies

Coffee, Keurig K-Cups, creamer, sugar

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: Many thanks to the Youth Group
for organizing volunteers to serve dinner on
September 8: Jennifer Wills, Ben Wehrley, and
the Andreas Family (Jennifer, Shad, and Rowan).
We greatly appreciated Pastor Chris joining
us to share his talents with the kitchen and the
camera! 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
December 8 dinner. Please contact Carl Johnson
by phone or text message at 414-771-1023, or by
emailing johnsoncr@cdmsmith.com to sign-up.

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 around
10 a.m. and serve beginning at about 11:00 and
returning to St. Matt's at about 1:00. **Next Meal:**
Wednesday, October 23, 2019. Pick up a card
in worship on the Sunday prior to the meal to
donate food.

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: October 13.

Just One More: Volunteers assemble packaged
meals to be picked up by area churches and
programs **each weekday morning at 9:00 a.m.**
Call the JOMM office at 414-292-5112. They
are moving and may be adjusting their usual
schedule.

Lutheran Disaster Response:

The path of Hurricane Dorian has caused severe damage, unpredictable wind speeds and impact, and continues to impact the lives of many, especially those grieving the loss of loved ones and homes.

Lutheran Disaster Response is working to provide relief and recovery to survivors of recent hurricanes, and stands ready for other storms the season may bring. Your gifts designated for "Hurricane Response" will be used entirely (100 percent) for direct response until it is complete.

Together, we can help provide immediate and long-lasting support for those whose lives have been impacted by hurricanes. What you can do:

Pray

Please pray for people who have been affected by hurricanes. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need.

Give

Your gifts designated for "Hurricane Response" will be used entirely (100 percent) for direct response until it is complete. Together, we can help provide immediate and long-lasting support for those whose lives have been impacted by hurricanes. Checks to "St. Matthew's"

Connect:

To learn more about the situation and the ELCA's response:

Sign up to receive Lutheran Disaster Response alerts.

Check the Lutheran Disaster Response blog.

Like Lutheran Disaster Response on Facebook and follow @ELCALDR on Twitter.

Have you lost a loved one? New grief group forming in October Join us for a special program presented jointly by UNITY Lutheran Church and Holy Cross Lutheran Church. How do we get through that loss? Who can help us as we go through the tough times? Together we can explore our own grief and hear about others' experiences as well. It will be held on four Tuesdays, from 7:00-8:00pm, October 1, 8, 15, and 22 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, W156N8131 Pilgrim Rd in Menomonee Falls. To register contact Debbie Riederer at debbie@unitybrookfield.org or 414-587-2625 or Deacon Ellie Schmidtke at cedellie@yahoo.com or 262-251-2740.

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: October 14 & 28

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 AI in the church office with questions.

St. Matt's Blood Drive is coming up on Monday, October 28:

If you've given blood before, you know how much it is needed, for patients of all types. What takes an hour of your time can help three patients have a chance to recover. If you haven't given blood before, it's an easy process and the staff working the drive (from Versiti) are very knowledgeable and patient with taking you through the process. And you'll probably see someone you know giving blood at the same time, because there will be many St. Matthew's people there. Our congregation gives one of the best responses; let's keep it up.

Sign up at this address: bit.ly/SM1028 or call 1-877-232-4376

Cross Youth Choir 50th Anniversary Celebration, Saturday, October 19, 2019 Cross Lutheran Church at 6:30 pm

This concert will include selections from the current Cross Youth Praise Team, an Alumni Choir made up of former singers from the original group, as well as special guests. We will be honoring Mrs. Gloria Wright, founding director, and look forward to having a great time in the Lord! We would be delighted if you could join us for this occasion. A 50th Anniversary only comes around once in a lifetime! Cross Lutheran Church is located at 1821 N. 16th St., Milwaukee.

YTD Financial Results as of:	09/22/19
General Fund Receipts	\$695,236
Hunger Basket Receipts	\$8,689
Benevolence Disbursements	\$201,766
Mortgage Note Balance	\$138,418

**Women's Book Discussion
Wednesday Nights -
7:00-8:00 PM**

October 2 - November 6

PRAYER

**Does It Make Any Difference?
by Philip Yancey**

Philip Yancey probes the very heartbeat of our relationship with God: prayer. What is prayer? Does it change God's mind or ours or both? This book is an invitation to communicate with God who invites us into an eternal partnership through prayer. Polls reveal that 90 percent of people pray. Yet prayer, which should be the most nourishing and uplifting time of the believer's day, can also be frustrating, confusing, and fraught with mystery.

Is God listening?

Why should God care about me?

If God knows everything, what's the point of prayer?

Why do answers to prayer seem so inconsistent?

Why does God sometimes seem close and sometimes seem far away?

How can I make prayer more satisfying?

Sign up today at the Welcome Center or contact Sue Swing; sueswing@sbcglobal.net The book is available for purchase in the church office for \$17.

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 *Thursdays 7:30-9:00pm*

Bells Angels *Thursdays, 6:15-7:25pm*

New Creation Choir [3-6 grades]
Wednesdays at 7:00

Godsbells [4-6 grades]
Wednesdays at 6:00

The EmBELLishments *Tuesdays at 9:30*

Righteous Ringers [7-12 grades]
Tuesdays at 7:00

New Generation Choir [7-12 grades]
Wednesdays at 6:00

Praise Kids! [4/5 year olds/1-2 grades]
Thursdays at 4:00

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. We started last week, but it's not too late to join now.** 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 JRP-muzik@yahoo.com

Praise Kids! New Season has begun, Thursdays from 4:00 to 5:00 Our youngest members of our church can join in singing praises to our Lord. Praise Kids! offers all children who are age 4 [Jr. Kindergarten] through 2nd grade a chance in being part of the children's ministry of the church. This group helps to teach our youngest about God, the Church and Family through musical games, activities, learning time and singing. **Praise Kids! is held on Thursday afternoons, from 4:00 to 5:00.** Jeff Reeves and Amy Dankwardt lead our singers in age appropriate music education activities and singing.

WHY PRAISE KIDS? Praise Kids nurtures

- ♪ musical growth
- ♪ spiritual growth
- ♪ understanding of self and others
- ♪ a relationship with God
- ♪ ...and Praise Kids is just plain fun!

The group will sing for worship once a month through Christmas, and then break until Mid-January. For more information please contact Jeff Reeves at the church.

**Blessing Sunday at Reformation
October 6, 10:00am**

**The address is 3806 W. Lisbon
Ave., Milw**

Being in partnership with Reformation Lutheran Church enriches and inspires us in many ways. One way in particular is the “blessing” language that permeates their ministry and relationships. They are always mindful, even in the midst of brokenness, of blessings in their lives and as a congregation.

One blessing that we share with them is the blessing of partnership, a blessing that Reformation proclaims and celebrates each fall on Blessing Sunday by inviting partners to share worship and a celebration with them. This year’s festivities are on Sunday, October 6th at 10:00 AM and include worship and a reception. We hope to have a big group from St. Matthew’s attend this special event. If you are interested, please let the office know. If you have questions, please contact Gretchen Hauge.

**Women: You’re invited to attend
the 32nd Annual Convention of
the Greater Milwaukee Synodical
Women’s Organization,**

“Choose to Make a Difference” on Saturday October 12 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, W156N8131 Pilgrim Road Menomonee Falls. Registration begins at 7:30am; Opening Worship begins at 8:30am.

Special offer for First Time Attenders: Registration fee is \$35. Others will pay \$60. There are no registration refunds, but you can transfer your registration to another person.

To sign up, pick up a form at the Welcome Center (or the table outside the church office), fill it out and send it to Karen Hoffman as directed on the form. Child care will be available but you need to let them know ahead of time the ages of your children.

1 in 4 people age 65 and over has a fall each year. Don’t be one of them!

Take control of your life to remain independent in your home by enrolling in a Stepping On workshop. You’ll learn strength and balance exercises to reduce your chance of falling. Learn from experts about how medication and vision impact your risk of falls. Also learn about mobility in your community, how to do a home safety assessment, safe footwear and improving your sleep.

JOIN US:

Hart Park Senior Center

Fridays, October 4 through November 15, 11:30am-1:30pm

Cost: FREE (Optional \$20 to purchase ankle weight)

To register or receive more information call 414-471-8495

What Does Sanctuary Church mean for the ELCA

Since the ELCA's Churchwide Assembly enacted a memorial declaring the ELCA a "Sanctuary" church body, there have been questions and concerns raised across the ELCA and at St. Matthew's as to what this means. We include Bishop Erickson's response to this issue in this week's bulletin. If you desire to have further conversation on what this means, please reach out to any of the pastors.



A Pastoral Message on Becoming a Sanctuary Church Body

(excerpted) One of the more controversial decisions of last week's ELCA Churchwide Assembly, held here in Milwaukee, was the decision to "declare the ELCA a sanctuary church body."

The topic of immigration is certainly a controversial one in today's political climate, one that seems to divide us into increasingly polarized camps, and there are those who believe that these recent actions have placed us firmly into one of these partisan camps.

My deepest hope is that we can remember that our most fundamental call as followers of the risen Christ is to love our neighbors. As I wrote [previously in a letter on immigration], "our call as the Church is simple: we are to love our neighbors. All of them. We are to make that love concrete, risking our own security and privilege to stand with all who are in need. We are to be the Church, reminding one another that we are never alone."

That's what I believe this declaration of being a sanctuary church body is all about. Making our love of neighbor concrete and specific. Some congregations may be in a position to offer physical sanctuary to those seeking refuge from a broken and capricious system; some may be in a position to offer support to those congregations; others may only be in a position to advocate for changes in our immigration laws and policies.

The action by the Churchwide Assembly does not and cannot mandate any synod or congregation to engage in any specific action; it does, however, call us to make our love of neighbor real.

Additional information on Sanctuary Congregations is available from Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services at <https://www.lirs.org/united-sanctuaries-america/>.

I encourage us all to step back from the rhetoric and partial truths that populate social media and the cable news networks to ask this basic question: What does love look like? It cannot simply be an emotional or intellectual response; Jesus invites us to risk concrete, specific acts of love. My prayer is that this question will guide us all as we explore together what it means to be a church clear about our purpose in this conflicted and challenging world.

Bishop Paul Erickson

FIRST READING: Daniel 10:10-14; 12:1-3

A hand touched me and roused me to my hands and knees. ¹¹He said to me, "Daniel, greatly beloved, pay attention to the words that I am going to speak to you. Stand on your feet, for I have now been sent to you." So while he was speaking this word to me, I stood up trembling. ¹²He said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words. ¹³But the prince of the kingdom of Persia opposed me twenty-one days. So Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, and I left him there with the prince of the kingdom of Persia, ¹⁴and have come to help you understand what is to happen to your people at the end of days. For there is a further vision for those days."

^{12:14}"At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. ²Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

Psalm 103:1-5, 20-22**SECOND READING: Revelation 12:7-12**

War broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, ⁸but they were

defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. ⁹The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

¹⁰Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming,

"Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah,

for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.

¹¹But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.

¹²Rejoice then, you heavens and those who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, for the devil has come down to you with great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!"

GOSPEL: Luke 10:17-20

The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!"

¹⁸He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

Next Sunday's Readings: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; Psalm 37:1-9; 2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10.

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St. Matthew's Weekly Sign-Up Panel September 29, 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/We plan to attend the **baptism class** on Thursday, October 3.
- Yes, we plan to attend **Family Movie Night on October 4.**
Number of children _____ Number of Adults _____
- I'd like to attend **Blessing Sunday at Reformation Lutheran Church** on October 6 at their 10 a.m. service. *(There may be opportunities for carpooling.)*
- We'd like to sign up for **KFC on October 6, 12:15-2pm** Number of people _____
We'd like to sign up for **DOC on October 20, 12:15-2pm** Number attending _____
- I'm interested in helping to serve on Sunday mornings in the following area:
_____ **Communion Preparer (11:00)** _____ **Coffee Hosts**
_____ **Ushers at 11:00 am service**
- A **large print order of service bulletin** would be very helpful to me on Sunday mornings. Service I attend: _____7:30 _____8:30 _____11:00
- I am a college-age student or an adult interested in participating in the **El Salvador mission trip** in early January 2020.
- 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 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