

## Welcome to Worship at St. Matthew's

November 27, 2022



**Welcome** to the promise of Advent: Amid barren trees, Isaiah announces spring growth — a “shoot” representing new life in Jesus (11:1). In worship, Christian education, fellowship and service, we continue to look toward the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Holy Communion:** All are welcome to come forward at the time of communion to receive God's gift of grace. Gluten free wafers as well as juice are available for those with specific dietary needs. Speak to an usher if you need assistance coming forward.

*Advent Begins November 27:* We enter with anticipation this beautiful season of light and dark, of hope, peace, joy and love, leading up to the birth of Christ. Look for devotional items at the Advent table in the Upper Commons, including *new this year*, reverse Advent calendars, one for adults, and one just for kids, to help you mark the days until Christmas.

**Flowers at the altar** are given by Leslie and Pat Gardner in thanksgiving for the St. Matthew's family.

**Child for Baptism:** (11:00) **Charlotte June Baumann**, who was born July 1, 2022, to Elizabeth & Andrew Baumann, Wauwatosa. Sponsors are Erin Ott and Nicole Baumann-Blackmore.

**Thanksgiving Food Collection for Cross & Tosa Cares** – The response to the Food Drive has been heartwarming, and will help to alleviate food insecurity for many people in our community. Thank you for your generosity!

### **What is a Reverse Advent Calendar?** *NEW for Advent this year*

Typically, advent calendars are filled with candy, and you open one each day ending on Christmas Day. A reverse Advent calendar focuses on giving something instead of receiving – a Christ centered idea indeed – since Christmas is all about God giving himself to us as a baby. This simple Advent idea encourages us to think of others as we wait to celebrate Jesus' birthday. Generosity enables you to live in the joy of a “life that is truly life.”

Pick up the Adult and/or Children's version of our Reverse Advent Calendar at the Advent Table in the Upper commons to use in your home this season.

### **Deck the Church with Boughs of Holly...**

On Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, beautiful holiday décor will transform St. Matt's for the waiting of Advent and the joy of Christmas. Volunteers are needed to help with this project, including men to put up the big trees and wreaths. Come join the fun in preparing for this joyous season at 9:00 a.m. on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. With many hands making a large task a smaller one, we should be finished in about two hours. Thank you in advance for your participation and time! Contact Diane DuBois (414-988-9901) with any questions.

## Bulletin Announcement Insert – November 27, 2022

**Beginning this week! Midweek Advent videos to be shared each Wednesday during Advent beginning Nov. 30** Enter into the beautiful season of anticipation and waiting, with a spirit of generosity, by watching the Advent video services especially prepared for the people of St. Matthew's. Watch for special participants in each week's service, which will be sent out in the Wednesday emails, as well as listed on our Youtube page: [youtube.com/StMattsTosa](https://youtube.com/StMattsTosa)



**Men's Breakfast Coming Soon!** Gather with the guys on **Saturday, December 3rd from 8:00-9:30 am** for breakfast and a speaker. We welcome Community Warehouse-Partners in Hope to our table and hope you can join us! Sign up at the Welcome Center in the Commons or contact Conor Williams for more info: [conorw1@me.com](mailto:conorw1@me.com) Volunteers needed for set up, food purchase & preparation and clean up. All are welcome!

**Book Group:** You decide which books you wish to read for the discussions you wish to participate in. Discussions begin at 7pm on the dates listed, held at St. Matthew's. Friday, December 2 *The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot: A Novel* by Marianne Cronin, 352 pages. Full List on our website and also available at church.

**The Giving Tree is Now Up** in the Upper Commons. Our Giving Tree recipients:  
**Cross Lutheran Church, Milwaukee**

They reach out to the community and the people who live in it.

**Reformation Lutheran Church, Milwaukee**

Toys will go to youth in Reformation's neighborhood

**Allies for Teens in Foster Care** Allies supplements the educational and social needs for teens living in group foster homes in the Milwaukee area.

**Eras Senior Network** Seniors and adults with disabilities are supported by volunteers of all ages to help them maintain their independence.



**All gifts are needed no later than Sunday, December 4th** to reach our partners in time for their giving events. Gift cards and stamps should be delivered to the office. Other gifts may be placed by the tree outside the sanctuary. Thank you for your love and generosity to others. *Here's the Link for purchasing online. How convenient! Have the item sent to church, and you're all done! Deadline: December 4<sup>th</sup>* <https://signup.com/go/oJXLFaD>

**Lutheran A Cappella Choir of Milwaukee Christmas Concert: An Annual Tradition**

The Lutheran A Cappella Choir of Milwaukee invites you to "A Fantasia on Christmas Carols," on **Friday, December 2nd at 7pm at Mount Carmel Lutheran Church, and Sunday, December 4th at 3pm at St. Luke's Lutheran Church**. The concert will include a thematic program of carols including the Ralph Vaughan Williams "Fantasia on Christmas Carols," led by Thomas Ajack, Artistic Director. Tickets are \$15 (students are free with ID) and can be purchased ahead of time at [lutheranacappella.org](https://lutheranacappella.org) or at the door.

## Kids for Christ and Disciples of Christ are Back!!

### KFC/DOC Combined Christmas Gathering-- Sunday, Dec 4th 12-2pm

We will gather in the youth room for pizza. We will then play big group games such as Capture the Flag in the education wing. Please join us for this time of Fellowship and fun. Call the church office to sign up. (It is helpful to know numbers, so we have enough food) Friends are welcome! Cost is \$5.00



### Sunday School Christmas Program Will be Presented on December 11th!

*During the 8:30 & 11:00 Services*

The Christmas story, from Old Testament prophecies to the birth of Jesus, will be presented in word, song, and drama by our Sunday School classes at the 8:30 and 11:00 worship services on Sunday, December 11th. Children from preschool through 8th grade will all have a part in sharing the story of God's gift of love. We hope you will be there for this special celebration of the Word Made Flesh.

**A large-print bulletin** is available from an usher. If it's helpful to you or someone you are worshipping with, please take one.

### Stewardship Appeal – it's not too late for your response

Thank you to all those who have returned their Stewardship packets and make commitments for 2023. Extra packets are available at the display in the Upper Commons; it is not too late to turn in yours. We are looking forward to our future in ministry together in 2023.



**Guest House Hygiene Drive**, sponsored by Michael Baumler, student at Wisconsin Lutheran College and member of St. Matthew's. Help the clients of Guest House with necessary hygiene items. See the list below for most-needed items. Collection continues through November.

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|--|---------------------------|
| Waterproof Toiletry Bags   | Shaving Cream             |
| Men's & Women's Body Wash, shampoo, conditioner (full-size)                                      |                           |
| Hair products for men and women of color<br>(Cantu, Shea Moisture, Palmers, cocoa & shea butter) |                           |
| Disposable Razors  | Lotion                    |
| Q-tips & Cotton Balls  | Deodorant                 |
| Sunscreen  |                           |
| Oral hygiene products such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouthwash                                |                           |
| General \$10 gifts cards to Walmart, Pick n' Save, Walgreens, CVS                                |                           |
| Restaurant gifts (Subway's, McDonalds)   | Bus tickets (M-card Lite) |

**Please place items in the collection bins outside the church office. Thank you!!**

**Looking Ahead to Adult Education in December:**

**Sunday, December 4:** Advent Conversation with Pastor Karen on God’s Generosity.

**Sunday, December 11:** Exclusive Visions: The Unique Churches to Which America Gave Birth-- Why "Only in America" is a good description for four American church bodies, with Pastor David Zersen

**Sunday, December 18:** Forgotten, Misrepresented and Marginalized Figures of Early Christianity, Part 4 with Dan Bice; “Mary, mother of Jesus”

**Saints Christmas Gathering – Wednesday, December 21** beginning at 11:30 am

We will be celebrating Christmas “SAINTS Style” with music, gifts, and a special lunch.

Musical guests include John Paradowski and Linda Chadwick. Please bring a wrapped

“white elephant” gift. A “white elephant” gift is a new or like new item, often something that

you received as a gift and do not want or need. Sign up in advance at the Welcome Center

or through the church office, and let us know if you would like to have a box lunch, suggested

donation \$11.00.

<b>YTD Financial Results as of:</b>	<b>11/20/22</b>
<b>General Fund Receipts</b>	<b>\$808,407</b>
<b>General Fund Budget</b>	<b>\$892,761</b>
<b>Over/(Under) Budget</b>	<b>(\$84,354)</b>
<b>Benevolence Disbursements</b>	<b>\$147,550</b>
<b>Building Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$180,103</b>

Pastoral Staff: Karen Natterstad, Interim Lead;

Ann Williams, Associate Pastor

Volunteer Ministries/Small Groups/Adult Education: Sue Swing

Youth Ministries & Children’s Education: Gretchen Haugse, Lynne

Thomas

Children’s Minister: Donna Gardner Manke.

Music Minister: John Paradowski.

Music Staff: David Mohr, Jeff Reeves, Amy Dankwardt, Heide Hughes

Older Adults Coordinator: Julia Murphy.

Technology Coordinator: Brian Smith.

Library Coordinator (volunteer) Linda Wunderlich.

Custodial Staff: Marsha Olson, Dave Fagerberg, Bob Gardner.

Office Staff: Al Van Lith, Bridget Smith, Sonja Mohr



Link thru your smart  
phone camera to give  
to St. Matthew’s