

Welcome to Worship at St. Matthew's

February 27, 2022



In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we welcome you to worship, that together we may be wrapped in God's Word, love and grace. May your soul be nourished, your faith be strengthened and your life be touched by God in a special way while you're here.

Holy Communion: All are welcome to come forward at the time of communion to receive God's gift of grace at the 8:30 service. Let an usher know if you'd like to have communion brought to you because of mobility challenges.

Today Adult Education at 9:45 a.m. in the Upper Room:

- **Feb. 27: Planning a Good Funeral** with Pastor Karen Natterstad; we'll discuss what might be involved in leaving your loved ones some of your wishes for your 'celebration of life.'

Our Church Council Members are being installed today at both services. We give thanks for the strong council we have serving during this transitional time in our 102-year history.

President: **Tara Laatsch**
Vice-President: **Diane DuBois**
Secretary: **Carly Crave**

New to council this year are: **Allan Land**, serving a one-year term and **Fred Heim, Carl Johnson and Michael Wolaver**, serving three-year terms. **Pam Stokke-Ceci**, past president, has been elected to serve another three-year term. **Anne DeWitt and Beth Schulz** have two years remaining on their terms. **Laura Hyland and Don Heinz** each have one year of service remaining.

Rob Wedel, St. Matthew's long-time treasurer, serves as a non-voting council officer.

Child for Baptism: (11:00 service) **Gifford John Collins**, who was born March 2, 2020, is the child of Gifford & Sarah Collins, Milwaukee. Sponsors are Raymond Migas and Julia Collins. Gifford's older siblings are Julian, age 6, and Naomi, age 3.

Ash Wednesday worship will be held on March 2 at 10:30am and 7:15 pm. Plan to join us as we enter into the reflective season of Lent. There will be the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion will be offered, followed by Healing Services for those desiring special healing prayer on this day. Read about Lenten Wednesday plans beginning on Wednesday March 9th on the bulletin insert.

Bulletin Announcement Insert – February 27, 2022

Youth Forum to Meet in Lent, beginning March 6

After a “COVID hiatus,” youth forum for high school students will begin meeting in-person again starting on the first Sunday in Lent, March 6th, during the education hour (9:45-10:45). This is a chance for teens to get together to talk about what’s going on in their worlds, play games, reflect on short videos, explore current events and trends, and do occasional service projects. It’s a great way to connect with other teens at St. Matthew’s! If you have questions, contact Gretchen Hauge.

Quilt Ministry Blitz planned for Saturday, March 12. The time is 9:00 – 1:30 pm. Please plan to attend, even if you haven’t come in the past. Many projects have been completed and the March gathering will allow us to assess the quilts to be blessed on Mother’s Day in May.

Help us complete:

- Simple tasks of pinning, ironing, cutting fabric and organizing quilts/blankets to be blessed on Mother’s Day
- Completing drawstring bags to be used at Christmas for gifts to be distributed to Allies for Teens in Foster Care
- Replenishing blankets for congregation baptisms during the spring and summer months

Feel free to bring a bag lunch and beverage for our lunch break and please wear a mask. Any questions, please contact Bev Etzelmueller at bevetz@sbcglobal.net or 262-250-3969.

Undie Sunday underwear collection runs February 13 - March 13

Benefits clients of Guest House & Benedict Center’s Sisters Project

This collection is sponsored by the Social Ministry Committee. Here’s what we’re collecting:

Men’s briefs or boxer briefs (Sizes S, M, L, 2X and 3X)

Men’s Socks, size 6-12

Women’s panties, sizes 4-24

Women’s Bras, sizes 34A - 42C

Women’s Socks

Women’s pajamas and long underwear, sizes up to 2X

If you’d like to contribute to this donation, there is a collection box outside the church office. Thank you for sharing of your resources to benefit those in our community worthy of some additional help. *Handy Tip: You could place an Amazon order for these items and have them shipped to church!*

Contribution statements for 2021 have been sent out by mail and email. If you did not receive one, please contact Al in the church office, 414.774.0441 or al@stmattslutheran.org

“Making Room: Renewing Our Practice of Christian Hospitality”

Lent 2022 at St. Matthew’s

Making Room: Hospitality with



Family
Church
Neighbor
Stranger
Enemy

For this Lent season you are invited to consider how we make room or might want to make room in our hearts and in our daily life to connect with others. As we remember and give thanks for the welcome God gives us through Jesus Christ, we share in a ministry of extending that hospitality to family, friends, neighbors, and strangers. We can learn from the past, from

scripture, from one another how this ancient Christian practice is much more than entertaining someone. We make room by being aware of those around you each day, simply taking notice of who God puts in your path. We make room by adjusting our attitudes or actions. We make room through enjoying the company of our church family gathered in worship, learning, or serving. Together we journey to the cross and make room once again for the welcome God has prepared for us.

Each week there will be a **midweek worship video** that will arrive in your email inbox, inviting you into reflection and prayer with the weekly theme.

Be part of a **small group conversation** during Lent **starting the week of March 6th.**

- **At Church: Tuesdays at 10:30 AM, Wednesdays at 10:00 AM & 6:15 PM**
- **On Zoom: Tuesdays at 7:00 PM** - Zoom Link available soon
- Start your own group - We can help you do that!

Sign up for a group in the Commons or just join us when you can!

FAMILY LENTEN TIME: March 9 – April 6, 2022

Parents and younger children, come and join us in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday nights! Join us for the midweek family time, 6:15 to 7:00 each Wednesday. There will be stories, songs, projects, prayer, and a brief worship, led by Donna Gardner Manke. Children 3rd grade and younger are encouraged to attend with their parents. Participants will learn about Bible stories addressing our Lenten theme of HOSPITALITY. It’s going to be fun! Come and join us!

Looking Ahead to Upcoming Adult Education: (9:45-10:45am)

- **March 6: A Prophetic Artist --** Artists who work with Christian themes are typically from the West, but increasingly Asian artists have been exploring the Gospel with various media. One whom many regard as the “Dean” of Asian artists is Pulidindi Solomon Raj, a true polymath who combined interests in batiks, woodblock prints, poetry, dance and drama. He died at his ashram at the age of 98 two years ago in his native city in India, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh State. And surprise, he also had a Ph.D in communication from the University of Birmingham (UK) and was a Lutheran pastor! A visual presentation of his art and Christian message will be shared at the March 6 Adult Forum Class by Dr. David Zersen who served as his representative for over a decade.

Wednesday Bible Study with Pastor Ann Williams: Will not meet on Ash Wednesday. Join us during Lent, March 9 – April 6, 10:00-11:00, for a study following our Lenten Theme of “Making Room: Renewing Our Practice of Christian Hospitality.”

First Fridays Book Discussion Group this week

Discussion begin at 7 p.m. through the use of Zoom. Those on the email list will receive a Zoom link for participation. All are welcome.

Mar. 4, 2022 The Water Keeper by Charles Martin (352 pages)

Mount Meru Coffee: It’s not just about selling coffee. The Mt. Meru Coffee Project is our connection to the Meru Diocese in Tanzania – our synod’s partner in Tanzania. The Mt. Meru Coffee Project is now buying coffee from more than 2000 peasant coffee farmers. The Coffee Project has been helping to improve the standard of living in the Meru Diocese for 22 years. As always, our standard Mt. Meru coffee available in regular or decaf at \$10 for 12 oz. Check out the coffee cart for all the choices.

Did you Miss the Communion Class on February 13th ? *Here’s how you can make it up.* . . If your child is in 2nd grade or older and you weren’t able to attend the communion class on February 13th, you can still participate in a communion celebration with your child at one of several services this spring. Please contact Gretchen Hauge for information on how you can make up the class and sign up for a service.

Call Committee Update: The first group of candidates provided by the synod office did not yield a candidate, and the committee has asked for another group of names. As soon as new names are provided, the Call Committee will determine whom to interview and move forward as quickly as possible. They feel the urgency that many have expressed to place a new lead pastor into ministry, but also feel a large responsibility to call the right person. Prayers are greatly appreciated for our Call Committee, as well as whomever may be our new lead pastor, now in discernment.