

St. Matthew's
Ev. Lutheran Church + ELCA



Welcome to all who worship with us today! The day to celebrate has finally arrived, after a two year delay. Today we celebrate the 102-year ministry of St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church, which was prayed into being on May 26, 1920. Welcome to the many guests and returning members who have come to celebrate with us today.

Name Tag Sunday today: Let's help each other out in recognizing those celebrating with us by wearing a name tag. If you know when you joined St. Matthew's, add the year (or an estimate) to your name tag.

We welcome New Members today! On a day when we celebrate our past, we also look forward to our future, and warmly welcome those who will be in ministry with us along the way.

Special thanks to our **Brass & Percussion Players:** Nick White, Robert Hughes, Steve Winters, Sal Terrasi, Abigail Hughes, Dave Mikec, Noah Manke, Jack Dankwardt, and Brian Smith.

Our guest preacher **Pastor Emeritus Gary Erickson** spent his entire 38-year ministry at St. Matthew's, beginning in 1973 and retiring in 2011. Pastor Gary and the late Susan Erickson were a ministry team with Sue leading the children's choirs and beginning the handbell choir program. Sue Erickson died in 2007. During his years at St. Matthew's, Pastor Gary had a gift for remembering people he met on Sunday mornings and remembering their families and life events. We were blessed by his ministering to multiple generations of the same families. A historian by nature, Pastor Gary always respected the history of St. Matthew's and those who had led before him, notably the two senior pastors William Niebling and Emerson Miller. It is most unusual to have such long-tenured lead pastors in a church, and St. Matthew's was most blessed by this faithfulness and longevity. Since his retirement Pastor Gary and his wife, Suzanne, lead busy lives at their lake home, filled with travel and family activities.

We welcome back to St. Matthew's **Pastor Margaret Schoewe**, who served St. Matthew's from 2006-2015 after leaving her corporate career. She quickly became part of the team ministry with Pastors Erickson and Manke, leading in areas such as bible study, Care for Creation, women's ministry, visitation of homebound and handcrafting groups. She and her husband Tim lead an active retirement lifestyle with travel and visiting their sons and their families, including four grandchildren.

Pastor Christopher J.P. Manke was the fourth senior pastor to lead St. Matthew's in its 100-year history, being ordained here in 1996 and serving 24 years, becoming lead pastor in 2012. During his time at St. Matthew's, he helped to lead numerous youth mission trips, and led the establishment of partnership in the Meru Diocese in Tanzania as well as partnerships in El Salvador. He accepted the position of the Greater Milwaukee Synod's Outreach for Hope Executive Director in 2020. He is busy most Sundays visiting the many congregations in our Synod to share the good news about Outreach for Hope, and consequently, isn't able to be with us today.

Continued on inside back cover - Meet Our New Members Joining today at the 8:30 service

We welcome these New Members joining our congregation today.

We will share more information, and photos of new members joining in the next Voice newsletter after the class meets today at 10:00 am in the Upper Room. If we don't yet have your new member information sheets, and your names aren't listed below, please know that you are still most welcome to attend today's class.



Paul & Chris Davis, New Berlin.

Matt and Lauren Krajcik, Wauwatosa. Matt and Lauren are the parents of **Lincoln**, who will be baptized at St. Matthew's next Sunday, May 29th.

Will Robertson, Wauwatosa.

Dave and Elizabeth Segar, and children Maren and Britta, Brookfield.

An anniversary greeting from **Pastor Matthew Schlake-Kruse**: "J.S. Bach was known to sign each of his masterworks of sacred music with the initials S.D.G. Soli Deo Gloria. To God be the glory. As St. Matthew's gathers this day in celebration of 100+ years of God's faithfulness and abounding love, knowing that the Spirit's song is still being composed, I look back with fondness for the seven years we spent in ministry together, and all God did among us. For the learning, for the laughter, for the love of God -- to God be the glory! God's peace and love continue among you." Pastor Matt Schlake-Kruse now serves at Adoration Lutheran Church in Greenfield.

New Paraments in use for the first time today!

In commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of St. Matthew's, the 100th Anniversary committee commissioned Jeff Wunrow Designs of St. Louis to design and produce a new set of paraments and stoles for the Epiphany and Pentecost seasons. A special thank you to Darla Hium and John Paradowski for working to come up with design to highlight St. Matthew's world partners. The paraments contain cloth swatches from our partner congregations in El Salvador and Tanzania. We are accepting contributions toward the cost of these beautiful pieces which will be used for years to come. (Mark donations for "paraments.")

Center Staircase Art – The Spirit Among Us!



The spirit is alive and has been among us at St. Matthew's for more than 100 years. That spirit is represented in the Pentecost-themed display in the central staircase that uses flames and doves as traditional symbols of the Holy Spirit. The colorful flames were made by the people of St. Matthew's. As we celebrate 100 years of being St. Matthew's and move toward the celebration of the day of Pentecost, we give thanks for the spirit that inspires and guides us and helps us be church for the sake of the world.

Nursery Care is available this morning: Emily Chiesa is on staff in the nursery for parents who wish to attend worship or adult education while their little ones are safe in the nursery. The nursery is located on the lower level, on the southeast corner of the building. Please know that children are welcome in worship; the nursery is an option for parents who wish to use it.

All Together for Summer! Begins May 29 One Worship Service at 9:30 a.m.

Worship, Fellowship and fun on Sunday mornings

We look forward to the beautiful Sundays in summer, when we will be able to gather as one faith community for worship at 9:30 am. Our worship service will be energized by consolidated attendance, coming together as a faith community each Sunday for Word, sacrament and message. Holy Communion will be celebrated each Sunday all summer. Immediately following the worship service we will enjoy fellowship time outside that will include coffee, a variety of treats, and activities for kids. There will also be outdoor seating for those wishing to stay awhile and chat. This will be a great time for all of us to reconnect with one another! There will be something for everyone, and we encourage you to make Sunday mornings at St. Matthew's part of your summer plans. Invite a friend to attend with you! Guests welcome.



Next Weekend:

Summer Worship on Memorial Day Weekend, Sunday,

May 29th, 9:30 am service: We will kick off "All Together for Summer" on Memorial Day weekend by remembering family and friends who have died while serving our country. Coffee hour with special themed treats will be held outdoors with tables and chairs for seating. Plan to linger with your friends or get to know someone new! Honor your loved one by writing a message of gratitude on our "In Memoriam" board. Fun activity for the kids is also planned! All are Welcome!



All Together for Summer on Pentecost Sunday, June 5th:

We will celebrate the Festival of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples and other followers of Christ, marking the beginning of the Christian church's mission to the world. High school seniors will be recognized as they complete their high school education and celebrate their graduation. Following the service a Wauwatosa Fire Truck will pay a visit to the Coffee time gathering, as the flames of Pentecost bring to mind those in our community who keep us safe from fire.



Summer Office Hours begin this week, when the church office closes at noon on Fridays. Office hours are 8:30-4:30 Monday through Thursday, and 8:30-12:00 on Fridays. If coming to the church office over the lunch hour, it's a good idea to call ahead, since the building may be locked if few staff are in the building.

It's Time To Sign Up to Help with VBS! VBS Volunteer Registration

Join us August 1st – August 5th from 8:45-11:45 and volunteer for a faithful and fun-filled week. Click on the link below and fill out the form no later than July 18th. An individual form needs to be submitted for each volunteer. If you have any questions, you can call the church office at 414-774-0441 or email Donna Gardner Manke at donnagm@me.com. Looking forward to having you join our team! <https://forms.gle/gxJerDDtFCCTxdUu6>

VBS Sign-up for Children entering grades K4-5th grade begins now: Registration will be open to St. Matthew's participants until June 15 and then we will open to non-members on June 16th. Registration is due no later than July 24th. We may need to keep our numbers to a manageable size, so please don't delay in signing up. Please note that you will need to fill out an electronic registration form for each child you would like to register. Click on link below to begin registration. Questions? Call the church office at 414-774-0441. <https://forms.gle/q8Y3PWzs2m3gsbN97>

Textile Recycling thru month of May: Better Earth Textile Recycling collects all sorts of used clothing and textiles and recycles them so they don't end up in landfills. We are collecting these items here during the month of May, at the west entrance. Please bring your items in plastic bags. Check this Link for acceptable items: <https://bit.ly/3vnx5f2-textiles>

Help Needed with Pan de Vida Anniversary Costs

On July 17th, Pan de Vida, our partner congregation in El Salvador, will be celebrating 36 years of presence in the community of Jayaque. It is a small, humble church that finds its calling in walking with and advocating for the poor. The church is in need of some repairs and supplies, and the congregation hopes to accomplish these improvements in time for the anniversary celebration in July. Supplies needed include paint, new interior doors, chairs for worship, and hymnals. All the work will be done by volunteers in the congregation. The total cost of the project is \$2102.00. We welcome your contributions to this gift! Donations can be made by check (made to St. Matthew's, designated for Pan de Vida Anniversary) or online. *(For online donations, select "Other" and write "Pan de Vida")*.

MT. MERU COFFEE When purchasing Mt. Meru coffee, check out our Spring Blend with unexpected subtle flavors of dark chocolate, citrus and coffee blossom blended with premium Peaberry in drip or bean priced at \$15.00 for 12 oz. Our regular Peaberry is also available. This blend is even richer than our regular coffee but less acidic. It is also priced at \$15.00 for 12 oz., drip or bean.

Call Committee Update: The Call Committee has received a second group of names and is scheduling interviews. Prayers are greatly appreciated for our Call Committee, as well as whomever may be our new lead pastor, now in discernment. Our Call Committee is made up of *Nancy Bowen, Andrew Cherney, Diane DuBois, Brian Due, Natalie Ford Sajdak, Michael Wolaver*.

St. Matthew's Men's Softball Season has begun: Our team won their first game Tuesday night. Their next game is Tuesday, May 24 at 7:30pm at Hart Park. Come down and cheer them on!

THANK YOU! Thank you to everyone who donated books for the Thrivent event for Journey House. On very short notice, you were able to donate over 250 books. I'm sure they will be loved and appreciated by every child who gets the chance to be transported by reading.