

The St. Matthew Lutheran Church Voice



Volume 63 Issue 4

*Welcome to our
new church website*
www.stmatts.com



We are excited to announce the release of our new church website! Here visitors, as well as church members, will be able to find information about our ministries, listen to recent Bible messages and stay up to date with current church events.

This new site is also the first step in a greater initiative to grow our church's online presence. More and more people in our community are online and we want to move forward in making connections with those around us so that we might reach them with the gospel.



In addition to informational information our site includes the following News Links:

- [Calendar](#)
- [Weekly E-News](#)
- [Weekly Messenger Newsletter](#)
- [Voice Quarterly Newsletter](#)
- [School Weekly News](#)

November 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Cool Monthly Item
Tuna

- 3 - Fall Festival Bazaar (9am-3pm)
- 10 - Charlie Brown Thanksgiving 4pm
- 16 - Youth Night Out
- 18 - Voters' Assembly Meeting Noon
- 21 - Thanksgiving Eve Worship 7pm
- 22 - Thanksgiving Worship 10am
- Annual Thanksgiving Dinner 11am

December 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Cool Monthly Item
Side Dishes

- 1 - Decorate Church for Christmas 8am
- 2 - New Member Welcome
- 9 - New Adult Discipleship begins
- 5,12,19 - Advent Mid Week Worship 7pm
(Mid week Advent Dinners at 5:30pm)
- 7 - "It's A Wonderful Life"
- 8 - Breakfast with Santa 9-11am
- 9 - Cookie Walk
- 15 - Charlie Brown Christmas 4pm
- 16 - Sunday School Christmas Program
- 24 - Christmas Eve Worship (2, 4, 6 & 11pm)
- 25 - Christmas Day Worship 10am
- 31 - New Year's Eve Worship 5:30pm

January 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Cool Monthly Item
Peanut Butter

Jan 27- Feb 2 Lutheran Schools Week



Anna Grever

Born : March 7, 1925
Entered Eternal Rest: July 23, 2018

Helen Heist

Born : May 29, 1932
Entered Eternal Rest: July 22, 2018

Alan Perley

Born : March 12, 1960
Entered Eternal Rest: July 27, 2018

Helene Kochendorfer

Born : September 18, 1938
Entered Eternal Rest: August 1, 2018

Ryan P. Fisher

Born : February 21, 1996
Entered Eternal Rest: September 16, 2018



July 29 - *Ronan Ronald Lemmerrmann*
Son of Bruce & Natasha Affrunti

July 29 - *Cayden Tyler Lichter*
Son of Carl & Courtney Lichter

August 26 - *Jace Parker Novak*
Son of Brandon & Danielle Novak

June 10 - *Maximilian James Acosta*
Son of Samantha & Job Acosta

September 16 - *Thea Gwen Schuett*
Daughter of Erik & Ellissa Schuett

September 23 - *Logan Daniel Vogt*
Son of Erik & Lori Vogt

September 29 - *Camden Ethan Heckenbach*
Son of Brian & Betsy Heckenbach

October 14 - *Graham Neil Cooper*
Son of Jason & Jennifer Cooper

October 14 - *Aniston Lynn Owen*
Daughter of Matthew & Lisa Owen

MILITARY PRAYER LIST

Please pray for St. Matthew's own and all those currently serving around the world.

- Charles Moneyham
- Elise Neilson
- Steve & Ice Sandy
- Adam Imaoka
- Tyler Sawusch



LINDSAY ELKINS AND TED RAY
were united in marriage at St. Matthew
on Saturday, September 1, 2018

BEN JOHNSON AND CHEYENE MEYERSY
were united in marriage at St. Matthew
on Saturday, September 8, 2018

ZACHARY KHOSHBIN AND CHRISTINE FRISCH
were united in marriage at St. Matthew
on Saturday, September 29, 2018

ZACHARY BOZEMAN AND CHRYSTINA HOESSRICH
were united in marriage at St. Matthew
on Saturday, October 12, 2018



To order altar flowers in honor of an occasion or in memory of a loved one, please contact the church office at 847-438-7709. The cost is \$45.00 for a standard, one-sided altar arrangement or a centerpiece.



PLEASE inform the Pastoral staff when a call or visit is desired – the hospitals and rehabilitation centers do not contact us. If you or a loved one is receiving medical treatment, please make contact with the:

- Church Office (847) 438-7709
- Pastor Kinne (224) 360-2629
- Pastor Blonski (909) 373-7936

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Jim Moehling

301 N. Bay Court
Lake Barrington, IL 60010
847-353-1713 (c) 847-381-7574 (h)
jimmoehling@gmail.com

**A Message from our Senior Pastor
... Pastor Timothy Kinne**

Jesus said, “For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Mark 10:45



The theme for ministry this year (2018-2019) at St. Matthew Lutheran Church & School is **SHARING IN THE MISSION OF CHRIST: LEARNING, CONNECTING & SERVING**—with the emphasis on **SERVING**. This theme is based on the words of Jesus from the Gospel of St. Mark 10:45 **“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to SERVE, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”**

In the first words of the passage from St. Mark Jesus said, **“For even the Son of Man CAME...”** That is what the Advent, Christmas and Epiphany Seasons are about. The very Word of God, that brought into being all of creation, **‘CAME’** into His own creation in the person of Jesus to do for His creation what the creation could not do for itself – and in that was His **ser-vice**—particularly in the giving of His life so that you and I might be saved.

This time of year gives us the opportunity to live our lives in the pattern of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ—that is a pattern of **Service**. Still, our **Service** is not to earn our Salvation, for Jesus has accomplished that for us. Our **Service** is because we have received the Salvation of our souls through faith in our Lord as our Savior from sin.

Until the day you and I are called to our eternal home in heaven, we are to live lives of **Service**, to our Lord by **Serving** the needs of others—and **Serve** as if we are **Serving** the Lord Himself.

ALL SAINTS DAY & COMMEMORATION WORSHIP

On the weekend of **November 3 & 4, 2018** St. Matthew will celebrate **All Saints Day** with the **Commemoration of the Faithful Departed**. This is the Service in which the names are read of the Faithful who have departed this life since the last All Saints Day Worship and who now live eternally in heaven. Eternal life belongs to each believer because of what Christ has done.

It is in the spirit of **SHARING IN THE MISSION OF CHRIST: LEARNING CONNECTING & SERVING** that there are several items to share with you and to ask for your participation.

MEETING OF THE VOTERS’ ASSEMBLY

Sunday, November 18, 2018 immediately following the 10:45 a.m. Worship Service (12:00 Noon). It is at this meeting of the Voters’ Assembly that elections will be held for officers of the Congregation as well as members of each Board and reports will be given from every entity.

Also to be included will be other items of business.

THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION

Special Thanksgiving Services are planned.
Thanksgiving Eve
 (With the Sacrament of the Altar)
 Wednesday, November 21, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
Thanksgiving Day
 (With the Sacrament of the Altar)
 Thursday, November 22, 2018 – 10:00 a.m.

A Message from our Senior Pastor (continued from page 3)

Then following the Thanksgiving Day Service is **THE ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DINNER** offered in Krueger Hall. **EVERYONE** is welcome—it is made available to provide an opportunity to spend time with others. Appetizers and Social hour will be available right **after the 10:00 Service**, and a full traditional Thanksgiving dinner buffet with all the fixings and desserts will be served. Come and invite your friends.

The members of the congregation are also being asked for assistance in acts of **Service** for set up, serving and clean up.



ADVENT / CHRISTMAS SEASON

The New Church Year begins with the Season of Advent on the weekend of **December 1 & 2, 2018**. The Sanctuary needs to be prepared for the Advent and Christmas season. The decoration of the Sanctuary for Advent and Christmas will be **Saturday, December 1 from 8:00 a.m. until we are finished**.

The Advent theme this year at St. Matthew will be: **STIR UP YOUR POWER**. A list of all the services and other events may be found on page 7 of this edition of the Voice.

ADVENT DEVOTIONS

Advent Devotions for 2018 is provided by Lutheran Hour Ministries. What God has done for the world is most intimately expressed in the life of His Son Jesus. In ***THE COMING KING***, explore God's marvelous work through the lives of those who were on the scene at the time of the Savior's birth.



The coming Savior's birth was foretold by the prophets of old and later experienced by many who were on hand as He came into this world. Mary and Joseph, Zechariah and Elizabeth, Simeon, shepherds, wise men from the east, a legion of angels, and even King Herod—all play their parts in the Gospel narratives that speak of the Savior's incarnation. Explore the many ways their lives were touched as God became one of us, for each of us, in ***THE COMING KING***.

exploreGod™

EXPLORE GOD - CHICAGO

During the Season of Epiphany (January 13 – February 24) St. Matthew will be participating in **Explore God Chicago 2019**. This a Community Outreach Initiative led by a committee of local pastors and business and ministry leaders. We all have questions about God, faith, and purpose. **Explore God** is a unique effort to come together to look at these questions in an open, authentic way. Join us and invite a friend to come with you as together we **Explore The 7 Big Questions**. See more on page 14 of this edition of the Voice.

NEXT ADULT DISCIPLESHIP CLASS

You are invited to the next **Adult Discipleship Class** that will be held **Sunday** mornings December 9 & 16, then January 6 – March 3 at 9:20 a.m. The eleven (11), one hour sessions of this course are offered for both those who desire to become members of the congregation and for those who would like to review the basics of Biblical Christian teaching from the Lutheran perspective. All are welcome!

May the Lord continue to bless us as we are
**SHARING IN THE MISSION OF CHRIST:
 LEARNING, CONNECTING & SERVING**
 Rev. Timothy L. Kinne, Sr. Pastor

A Message from our Associate Pastor Pastor Ed Blonski

This is my favorite time of year. I've been saying that to you for years and nothing has change. I still feel that way.

I love walking the Lake County Forest Preserves year-round, but this time of year is the best. The colors are at their peak and the air is crisp and cool.

But what I love best about this time of year is that the Thanksgiving-Advent-Christmas season is upon us!

Here's an incomplete list of what I like about this time of year:

- **The aromas** – dried leaves, scented candles, wood smoke, pies baking, turkey's basting, and the scent of a newly cut pine tree.
- **The sights** – leaves bright red, orange, and yellow. Houses decorated with multi-colored lights and displays of the season in the front yard, churches decorated with vivid reminders of the "reason for the season."
- **The sounds** – the songs of the season – hymns that I sang since boyhood and that my great-great-grandparents also sang, new music that captures the feelings of family, Thanksgiving, and Christmas, and the sound of my family gathering, laughing, and talking.

All of these things – and more – serve to remind me of our great God. He created this beautiful world and I'm reminded of the variety and uniqueness of this beauty every time I walk in it!

Hearing the music and taking in the aromas, I'm also reminded of the majesty of God and how his word says, "Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!" (Psalm 34:8).

This is the time of year that God reminds me – through his creation and through the holidays – that he loves me and saves me from myself, from sin & death, and from the devil. He did this by sending Jesus who was born humbly in Bethlehem.

As the songwriter puts it:
*Through the years you've made it clear,
 That the time of Christ was near,
 Though the people couldn't see
 What Messiah ought to be.
 Though your word contained the plan,
 They just could not understand
Your most awesome work was done
Through the frailty of your son.*

I'm looking forward to celebrating this with you this season. I hope that you'll join me in worship as I share stories such as:

“**Arriving On Time**” about waiting for a loved one to return home for Thanksgiving;

“**You Are What You Eat**” which will be about the Thanksgiving dinner ... and more;

“**Pine Sunday**” a play on the Gospel reading for the first Sunday in Advent which recounts Palm Sunday;

“**It's All in the Name**” and “**The Ancient Decree.**” - two different Christmas Eve messages.



Yes, I love this time of year and I'm glad to be able to share it with you!



JOIN US FOR

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES:

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

“It’s All in the Name”

*2:00pm - Classic Candlelight Service **

*4:00pm - Contemporary Candlelight Service **

*6:00pm - Classic Candlelight Service **

*11:00pm - Classic Candlelight Service **

Handbell music performed at 10:30pm

“The Ancient Decree”

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25 @10:00AM *

“Stir Up the Power of Promises Kept”

** with communion*



OPPORTUNITIES TO WORSHIP THE LORD AT ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

First Weekend in Advent

Saturday, December 1
5:30 PM – Classic
Sunday, December 2
8:00 AM - Classic w/comm
10:45 AM – Contemporary w/comm

Advent Mid-Week I

"STIR UP THE POWER OF HOPE"
Wednesday, December 5 -7:00 PM
Advent Dinner will be served at 5:30pm

Second Weekend in Advent

"PREPARE THE WAY"
Saturday, December 8
5:30 PM – Casual
Sunday, December 9
8:00 AM – Classic
10:45 AM - Contemporary

Advent Mid-Week II

"STIR UP THE POWER OF PREPARATION"
Wednesday, December 12-7:00 PM
Advent Dinner will be served at 5:30pm

Third Weekend in Advent

"AWAY IN A MANGER"
Saturday, December 15
5:30 PM – Casual
Sunday, December 16
8:00 AM - Classic w/comm
**10:45 AM - Sunday School
Christmas Program**

Advent Mid-Week III

"STIR UP THE POWER OF LOVE"
Wednesday, December 19
Advent Dinner will be served at 5:30pm

Fourth Weekend in Advent

"SEVEN JOYS—LESSONS & CAROLS"
Saturday, December 22
5:30 PM – Classic
Sunday, December 23
8:00 AM – Classic
10:45 AM - Classic

New Year's Eve

Sunday, December 31
5:30 PM
**Service of Remembrance with the
Sacrament of the Altar**

**At this service we remember those
who were baptized, confirmed, married and entered eternal life, in 2018.**



A message from our Chair - Mr. Keith Kalodimos

We continue to move forward as time waits for no man - so time to get busy sharing the Gospel.

Here are some of the ways we are reaching out through the development of new programs and staying current to the times without changing our message which is timeless.

Contemporary Worship Service at the 10:45 Sunday Service
 Sharing the Joy
 Youth Director (Kristin Gierke)
 Lay Lector Reader Program
 Suggestion Box
 Transition from St. Matthew/Exit Committee (DiAnn Behrens)

I hope you have had the opportunity to attend the new Contemporary Worship Service. We look forward to your suggestions to improve this service. If you are a contemporary worship enthusiast please invite your friends and neighbors to join you on Sunday. We are also looking for a couple more members young or old to learn the pro-presenter program. If you are interested please contact Pastor Blonski (pastorblonski@stmattsonline.com) or call 847-438-7709

Sharing the Joy is a program for moms and their children. If you want to know more contact Cheri Selimos who is waiting for your call 847-438-7709 or email selimos@stmattsonline.com

Our new Youth Director, Kristin Gierke has scheduled a Youth Night Out on Friday, November 16 from 7:00-9:00pm at Brunswick Zone Deer Park Lanes in Lake Zurich. Registration is on the church office counter. The fee is \$5.00 and includes two hours of bowling, shoes, food and drink -- such a deal! A great opportunity to fellowship with each other and meet our new Director of Youth. Maybe share some of your ideas as well.

The Lay Lector Reader Program has been ongoing for a few months now. The Lay Readers love to read and share God's word. If this is something you enjoy doing we are looking for a few more members to join this program. You choose the service you want to read at. The pastor emails you the bible passage so you can practice ahead of time. When you arrive at church for the service you are reading at just check in with the pastor.

A Suggestion Box (Locked) will be placed in Luther Hall by November 15 for anyone who would like to provide input such as recommendations, constructive criticism, accolades, etc. You may sign your name to the item or you may remain anonymous. You will not be contacted unless you request a follow-up phone call. If you wish follow up please put your name and telephone number on the suggestion. The suggestion box will be managed by St. Matthew Administrator Doug Duval. The contents of the suggestion box will be emptied and reviewed at the beginning of each month. Mr. Duval will provide a report to Church Council where recommendations will be made. So, if you have an opinion, please voice it. Don't be shy. Everyone has the right to express themselves as Christians and members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church and School. We're Listening!

The Transition from St. Matthew/Exit Committee chaired by DiAnn Behrens is a friendly way to say goodbye and keep our records current. Check in with her if you are considering leaving, or if you have already made the decision to leave. She would like to know if you want to continue being a long distance member, are transferring to another church or if you want to just cut ties. In addition to checking if you want to continue getting mail at your address or not, or if you have a new address, feedback on your experiences at St. Matthew are welcomed. If you are leaving or considering leaving us please contact DiAnn Behrens so she can help with the transition and assist with keeping our member list updated: 847-612-7725 cell or email behrensbox@comcast.net.

Lastly, join us for the Voters Assembly Meeting November 18, 2018 at Noon in Luther Hall. Double check the information board in the Narthex in case there is a date change.

Blessings to you all.

Welcome Our New Youth Director - Kristin Gierke!



After an extensive search, we are delighted to announce that Kristin Gierke was hired as Youth Director at St. Matthew. She began her new assignment on October 1, 2018. Here is a short bio of Kristin! Help welcome her to our St. Matthew staff!

My name is Kristin Gierke and I am truly excited to begin my new adventure here at St. Matthew's as your youth director. I look forward to meeting all of you and getting to know you. I am very excited to be working and helping the youth and congregation to grow in their faith and understanding of God's language and grace.

I was born and raised in Mount Prospect Illinois and now reside in Arlington Heights, Illinois. I have been attending the Lutheran Church my whole life and was very involved in their programs growing up. I attended Rolling Meadows High School and graduated from Carthage College in 2012 with a degree in sociology. During the past six years I was employed by Bright Horizons Family Solutions as their Lead Kindergarten Prep teacher. These six years taught me so much and it was a great pathway into my new journey here at St. Matthew's.

I love spending time with my family and friends and also enjoy active recreation. Some of the activities I enjoy include swimming, rollerblading and any outdoor activity that gives me the opportunity to experience God's great creations.

My faith has always been at the front and center of my life, and I apply it to each aspect of my day. In my prayers each morning I ask that the Holy Spirit might lead and guide me on the path that he wants me to take and that he would provide me opportunities to share my faith with others. I truly feel that this opportunity to serve God as your Youth Director at St. Matthew's is the answer to those prayers. I ask for your prayers as I joyfully begin to serve you and work with the youth.

I have many invigorating ideas for how we can teach the word of our Lord through compelling activities. I will be having a kickoff event with our middle school and high school students on November 16th, we will be going bowling at Brunswick and enjoying a night out with church friends and community friends. I will also be hosting the Charlie Brown Thanksgiving event in November. In December we have many exciting events! On December 8th the children are invited to have breakfast with Santa, followed by the Charlie Brown Christmas event on December 15th. During the month of December I will be inviting the middle and high school aged students to an Ugly sweater Christmas party, here they will also be donating canned and dry goods to help those at a local food pantry. Another event that is being worked on for the Month of January is a Family Fest to kick off 2019, this will be for the full church and will include music, snacks, arts and crafts and games. During my time as your youth director I am also looking to begin a Mom and Tots class during the education hour and a bible study for our high school aged students.

God has paved such an exciting path for me and I look forward to all the exiting times to come as a church family. Thank you for all of the wonderful welcomes you have blessed me with, I feel so lucky to be joining this amazing faith filled community.

Your Sister in Christ,
Kristin Gierke

Sharing the Joy Ministry

The Sharing the Joy Ministry of St. Matthew has continued to show the love of Jesus Christ by sharing



We have continued our push with Meal Train. This is a great opportunity for families that may need help with meals for a short period of time. The families/individuals that have received meals have been so grateful. Please keep Meal Train in mind if you or someone you know is going in for surgery, having a baby, or just needs some support. Sharing the Joy will be happy to assist in making meals. Please contact the church office if you have a need.

In September, we gave a "Children's Bible" to each St. Matthew Preschool family. These Bibles were given to the families during the EHC Open House on September 20th. The Bible was placed in a St. Matthew bag. The children of the Sharing The Joy group members made cards that were also included in the bag. We gave little stuffed lambs to all of the children that were blessed during the Cradle Roll weekend. We will also be giving these little lambs to the children that are baptized here at St. Matthew.



Our October event was one to remember. On a Tuesday evening our group and 13 children got together and decorated over

100 cookies. The children, ages 7-15, all worked together and decorated and packaged these cookies. These cookies were taken to Saddlebrook in Grayslake and passed out to residents during their October 21st Trick Or Treat event. Sharing The Joy members & their children went to different locations inside Saddlebrook and passed out the cookies to the homes that were participating in the event. The residents that received the cookies were so thankful and could not believe that they were being given something. We received a thank



you note from one of the residents stating: *"What a surprise as I handed out candy on Sunday for our Trick Or Treat here at Saddlebrook. I've never been given something in return! What yummy sugar cookies and wonderful message from your church. What a great project for you youth. May God bless your ministry."*



In November we will be kicking off the St. Matthew Giving Tree. We will be collecting bedding items for children in Lake County. This program is a continuation from our blanket project we started in June. The mission will help the Love Inc. organization Southwest region of Lake County. All items will need to be under the tree no later than December 9. Please watch for more details.

Sharing the Joy is excited to announce these upcoming events:

- Collection of food for the Fremont Center Township Food Pantry
- Volunteer opportunities at PADS, St. Mary's, Senior Lunch,
- Alpine Special Needs Program and an Easter Event

If you would like to join Sharing The Joy, please contact Cheri or Linda in the church office.





Greetings from your Board of Deacons
and may God's Spirit be with you
ALWAYS.



As Deacons, our purpose is to serve God's Kingdom and the Congregation of St. Matthew. All of the Deacons here, are **your** Deacons. We have a Deacon team assigned to every service.

We are here to help with any questions you may have, or help you may need. Always feel free to ask for our help, we are here to serve.

We would like to take this opportunity to share with you some of the recent highlights around the Church and share some opportunities where you too, can be part of the support team for God's Kingdom as we spread the words of Jesus here at St. Matthew, heading into the Christmas Season.

- **One exciting recent happening at St. Matthew Hawthorn Woods, has been the hiring of a dynamic and talented, new Youth leader, Kristin Gierke.** Kristin as born and raised Lutheran, here in the northwest suburbs of Chicago, and is currently taking the adult confirmation classes at St. Matthew for her membership. She has a background full of community & youth service, and has worked in the childcare field since her graduation from Carthage College with a degree in Sociology. Kristin has a radiant, faith based personality, and has 'hit-the-ground-running' here at St. Matthew. She is already heading up many youth based activities and has a host of excellent future ideas! Her desk is located in the school office and you can usually find her attending the 10:45 service. Stop by and say Hi!
- You can get much more information on youth happenings and all things "St. Matthew", on our **newly revamped website**, (www.stmatts.net/youth-ministry.html), or in the Church office.
- **Our new regular Contemporary service at 10:45 on Sundays**, has started off very well indeed. Under the band leadership Jim Kuehm, you can find an excellent opportunity for true Lutheran worship, in an upbeat, modern music environment. As we make adjustments and improvements to the service. Please let us know if you may have any talents that may help others in Worship.
- If you haven't already done so, please take the time this year to attend one of the many **excellent Bible-Study opportunities** you your family have here at St. Matthew. Various options are available to you throughout the week. Visit our office or the new: stmatts.net for more information.
- **November marks a season of 'thanks'**. Please take the time to share your gratitude with others around you. From a lonely or needy neighbor, all the way up to our Pastors. Please open your heart letting them know your appreciation and show and share your Christian fellowship.

As we head into the Christmas Season, we will all celebrate the joy of our Savior's birth as well as anticipate his glorious return. Make a special point this year, to share his Joy with others throughout the Christmas Season. Please check the Church office or our website for special services and times.

What will your **Christian** Resolution be for next year? There will there be a new way you can make a difference in God's Kingdom, you just need to find it, and fulfill the task.

Thank You All for Your Support of St. Matthew.
 May God Bless You and may God's Peace be with you always.

From the Treasurer

God's riches blessings to you. Financial statements for fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, are shown below. Total operating income was \$1,105,306 compared to the budget of \$1,182,171. The shortfall was primarily in the envelope and plate offerings. Expenses were under budget primarily due to staff which were budgeted but not hired – both in the school and church.

Fundraising revenue and expense represents the 2017 Pig Roast activity. Restricted income and transfers show capital improvement offerings of \$47,899 which was transferred to the dedicated account for Capital Improvements. \$60,000 of the operating funds were transferred for the Parking Lot project as budgeted. For school operations, \$56,000 was set aside from Fiscal Year 2017 for the school year 2017-18. \$23,000 was used and the remaining \$33,000 is budgeted for the current fiscal year.

Income exceeded expenses by \$89,635, which was transferred to dedicated funds for Reserves and Missions as we have done in the past.

The Balance Sheet reflects \$865,310 in cash and investments, of which \$647,445 are designated funds.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church and School
Statement of Income and Expense for the Year ending June 30, 2018

Income	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>FY 2017</u>
Envelope & plate offering	\$920,966	\$1,000,000	(\$79,034)	\$956,517
User fees	14,327	7,500	6,827	16,200
Gifts, Thrivent, auxiliary, other	15,393	7,700	7,693	16,034
School Tuition	126,155	139,186	(13,031)	237,188
Fundraising donations & revenue	28,465	27,785	680	25,339
Total Income	\$1,105,306	\$1,182,171	(\$76,865)	\$1,251,278
Expense				
Outreach beyond congregation	(\$35,500)	(\$35,500)	\$0	(\$35,075)
Pastoral, administration	(433,876)	(500,541)	66,665	(391,224)
School staff	(161,499)	(239,346)	77,847	(290,651)
Property	(328,633)	(348,217)	19,584	(269,486)
Fundraising expense	(19,163)	(19,000)	(163)	(17,709)
Total Expense	(\$978,671)	(\$1,142,604)	\$163,933	(\$1,004,145)
Restricted Income & Transfers				
Capital improvement envelope income	\$47,899	\$35,000	\$12,899	\$43,114
Transfer to Capital Improvement Fund	(\$47,899)	(\$35,000)	(\$12,899)	(\$43,114)
Transfer to Parking Lot Reserve	(\$60,000)	(\$60,000)	\$0	(\$1,628)
Transfer to Sign Reserve	\$0	(\$25,000)	\$25,000	\$0
Funds for School Year 2017-18	\$23,000	\$56,000	(\$33,000)	(\$56,000)
Transfer to Reserves & Missions	(\$89,635)	\$0	(\$89,635)	(\$189,505)
Total Restricted Income & Transfers	(\$126,635)	(\$29,000)	(\$97,635)	(\$247,133)
Income less Expense & Transfers	\$0	\$10,567	(\$10,567)	\$0

Balance Sheet
June 30, 2018

Assets	
Cash and Investments	\$865,310
Land and Buildings	\$5,700,000
Total Assets	<u>\$6,565,310</u>
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$7,543
Dedicated Funds	\$647,445
Total Liabilities	<u>\$654,988</u>
Equity	
Equity	\$5,729,253
Fund Balance	\$181,069
Total Liabilities and Equity	<u>\$6,565,310</u>

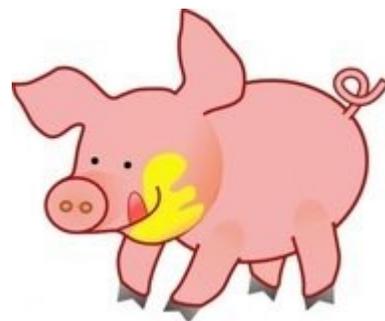
Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Blessings to all,

Bonnie McLeod; 847-438-9322; mcLeod810@comcast.net

PIG ROAST REPORT by John Kelly

The 27th annual St. Matthew Pig and Corn Roast is in the books! A beautiful day produced another well-attended and enjoyable day at St. Matthew. The day started with our third outdoor worship service. Those attending enjoyed the music of our Praise Team and the beauty of God's creation. Our menu consisted of roast pork from Beelow's, fresh-roasted sweet corn from Didier Farms and all the trimmings. The number in attendance was well over 900 and all enjoyed the food, the fellowship and the peaceful afternoon spent on our wonderful Church grounds. The Bingo Tent was very busy, as were the children's games and the other entertainment provided to those in attendance.



The Pig and Corn Roast actually starts well-before the event with the planning and purchasing of all of the supplies necessary for the afternoon. The Pig Roast Committee, Deb Kinne, Helen Burnidge, Delores Crisara, Linda Sternquist, Pilar Norenberg, Tom Anderson, Jane Peterson, Brian Elkins and John Kelly met several times to attend all of the details necessary to successfully present the Pig and Corn Roast. The Committee usually holds its first meetings in April and welcomes all interested in planning this event. Please watch the Messenger and the e-blast for notice of the first meeting. The Committee also wishes to thank Scott Haste and all the volunteers who turned out on Friday and Saturday to help with the setup, the many volunteers who assisted with cooking and serving and all who stayed around to clean up and put all of the tables, chairs, tents and equipment away after the Roast. Once again, the volunteers from Lutheran Church Charities provided invaluable assistance with putting everything away.

After all the bills were paid, the net income from the Pig and Corn Roast was \$7100.00. The Pig and Corn Roast was not quite as profitable as in other years due to the lower amount of OINK donations. The money realized from the Pig and Corn Roast will be used by the Church to further its outreach mission and as the Voters Assembly determines. So far, \$3000.00 has been donated to Lutheran Church Charities to further their work. Please mark your calendars for Sunday, August 11, 2019 as we look forward to another Pig and Corn Roast!

EVANGELISM by Pastor Blonski

This has been an exciting year of outreach events at St. Matthew. We participated in three parades – garnering 2nd Place in the Mundelein Fourth of July Parade! We have been involved in various community events and continue to look for ways to tell others about Jesus and bring them to church.

There are **two Evangelism programs** coming up that you are invited to be a part of!



EXPLORE GOD

Explore God Chicago 2019 is a Community Outreach Initiative led by a committee of local pastors and business and ministry leaders. We all have questions about God, faith, and purpose; Explore God is a unique effort to come together to look at these questions in an open, authentic way. Join us as we explore *The 7 Big Questions*.

1

Does Life Have
a Purpose?

2

Is There
a God?

3

Why Does God Allow
Pain and Suffering?

4

Is Christianity
Too Narrow?

5

Is Jesus
Really God?

6

Is The Bible
Reliable?

7

Can I Know
God Personally?

Starting in January 2019, St. Matthew will be joining churches throughout the greater Chicago area to explore these big questions together through discussion groups and sermon series. The Men's Bible Study has already gone through the "Discussion Group" sessions. If you would like to know more or host your own group, contact Pastor Blonski.



EVERY ONE HIS WITNESS

LUTHERAN EVANGELISM™

The Gospel is simple, but the world is complex. How do we share the Good News of Jesus in today's world? Here at St. Matthew, we want to help you be equipped to be a more active and effective witness of Jesus by participating in the Every One His Witness Core Module.

You will learn the LASSIE approach to witnessing in specific witnessing contexts.

LASSIE is:

Listen

Ask

Seek

Share

Invoke

Encourage

We'll be meeting on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Library starting **November 12**. Space is limited to 10 people/couples. There will be six sessions and we'll wrap up on **December 18** – just in time for the Christmas and New Year holidays where you can begin to put into practice what you learned! Sign-up sheet is in the church office.

NEWS FROM THE COFFEE HOUR

I would like to thank everyone who has volunteered this past year to serve and greet our members and guests on Sunday morning with a fresh cup of coffee. Without your help we would not be able to provide this ministry program.

As we are heading towards the end of the year I am looking for volunteers to help out for next year. There will be a sign up sheet on the office counter beginning on October 29th for those who wish to help us out. (The coffee hour schedule runs from February thru January). This is a great ministry that can be done as an individual, a couple or as a family. The commitment is typically two Sundays a year. If you are not familiar with our ministry, we serve coffee and donuts after the 8am service. It entails making the coffee before the service and then serving it when the service is over. If you have never made coffee before, please don't let that stop you from signing up. (I speak from experience, or lack of, when I started and it really isn't that hard). It is a great way to meet people as well.

If you have any questions please feel free to give me a call at [847-549-6557](tel:847-549-6557) (home-evenings) or [847-528-6928](tel:847-528-6928) (cell) and I'll be glad to answer them.

Thanks, Pat Winter



TEAM GARDENERS

Our last gardening day will be Nov 10, 9-Noon. The front beds have been newly mulched and bedded down for the winter. There will be some dead heading to do in Nov.

Thank you to all the faithful workers who helped maintain the church grounds this year. Hope you will all continue to help next year.

Sally & Helen



UPCOMING MEETING OF THE VOTERS' ASSEMBLY



Sunday, November 18

REGULAR Meeting of the Voters' Assembly, after the 10:45 a.m. service - *Election of Officers and Board Members.*

A note from our PARISH NURSE - Deb Andersen

The holidays are fast approaching which is also meaning we will be ringing in 2019 soon. This is a time of family, sharing and the birth of our Lord. A time to celebrate but be careful of too much celebrating.

Celebrating tends to tip the scale to an undesirable number. Here are some healthy tips . . . Eat at least 8 servings of fruits and veg's per day, go caffeine free 6 hours before bedtime to reset sleep, incorporate at least 150 minutes of moderate plus 75 minutes of vigorous intensity aerobic exercise per week, aim for 10,000 steps per day plus 5,000 steps spread throughout the day, include at least 2 days or more of resistance training plus 1 day agility training per week, get 8 hours of sleep and lastly refuel 30-60minutes after strenuous exercise. These are things that we have heard many times before. It is good to hear them now and then especially this time of year. It is not wrong to enjoy that pie or cookies but remember to walk it off. Have a very Merry Christmas!!!!



BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday Morning CSI Adult Bible Study

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the north end of Krueger Hall .This Bible Study mirrors the lesson taught to the children attending Sunday School.



BIBLE STUDY OPTIONS

Adult Discipleship Class

You are invited to the next **Adult Discipleship Class** that will be held **Sunday** mornings December 9 & 16, then January 6 – March 3 at 9:20 a.m. The eleven (11), one hour sessions of this course are offered for both those who desire to become members of the congregation and for those who would like to review the basics of Biblical Christian teaching from the Lutheran perspective. All are welcome!

LADIES' BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Tuesday Evening Ladies Bible Study - The next study for my Tuesday Evening Bible class will be: Spiritual Gifts-A Bible Study. The gifts we will study are: The Gift of Administration, The Gift of Faith, The Gift of Generosity, The Gift of Mercy, The Gift of Prophecy, The Gift of Service, The Gift of Teaching and The Gift of Wisdom. All women are invited to join us starting Tuesday, October 15 at 7:00 in Luther Hall and we will continue this study for about 7 weeks. For more information or questions, contact Nancy Blonski at home at 847-847-1945 or a nblonski@truemen.org.

Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study

The Ladies of the Thursday morning Bible Study are currently studying Philippians 4:4-8 using Max Lucado's *Anxious for Nothing* series. In early November, they will be selecting a short 4-6 week study and then take a few weeks off around Christmas and New Years. In January they will be starting a longer, more in depth study yet to be determined. Please watch the church bulletin and e-news for further details regarding topics and sign ups. All women of the congregation and community are welcome to join the study which meets on Thursday mornings from 8:30-10 a.m. in Luther Hall. For further information, please contact the church office or Deb Kinne at 224-360-2015.

MENS' MINISTRY and BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Exploring God is what we do. Finding out how to be a true man of God and living God's way. We have found that when we do this, we are in a position to change the world one person at a time – usually within our own families!

This past Autumn, we used baseball to learn this. We also have been exploring seven important questions that most people have in the "Explore God" initiative that the entire congregation will be going through this January and February. Also in January, we'll begin a study of the Book of Proverbs. We dig deep into this incredible book of wisdom. It seems that foolishness is running rampant in today's world. Since foolishness is rebellion against God, fools condemn themselves to destruction. But instruction curbs the misdeeds of fools and guides the deeds of the wise.

All the men of our congregation and community are encouraged to join us on **Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. in Luther Hall**. We eat well, we have deep discussions, and we pray together. Join us at the men's Bible study!

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Junior & Senior High School Youth (6th thru 12th Grade) Bible Study

We'll soon be announcing Bible Study Opportunities for our Junior and Senior High School Youth. Keep an eye out for this special announcement!!!!

Monday - Lutheran Church Charities Bible Study - Who is Jesus? - According to Jesus!"

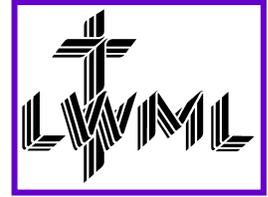
Join Tim Hetzner as he teaches live on Mondays at **St Matthew Lutheran Church in Hawthorn Woods** at 9:30AM or 7:00PM in Luther Hall.



C.O.O.L CHRISTIAN OUTREACH OF LUTHERANS

November - Tuna	<i>(Bread for Life is the 27th)</i>
December - Side Dishes	<i>(Bread for Life is the 18th)</i>
January - Peanut Butter	<i>(Bread for Life is the 29th)</i>

LWML NEWS by Nancy Blonski



Ladies in the congregation-you are automatically a member of the LWML. Free membership! How exciting! Something that is free, but yet so much fun and rewarding!

For those ladies not familiar with Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is the official women's auxiliary of the LCMS. The group has focused on affirming each woman's relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries and to support global missions. We do this by meeting quarterly, attending rallies, and other events at our church. We also can assist the other groups, Women's Guild or Ladies' Aid when needed for service projects and for funeral lunches/dinners. We serve because He first loved us and fellowship with our sisters' in Christ is the best! We welcome all of you to join us at our quarterly meetings as well as other events.

Thank you to the ladies who joined us on Sunday for our quarterly meeting. What a great meeting with our sisters in Christ. Thank you to Lindy, Ina and Darlene for hosting. God is good!

On July 8, many joined us at Helen's for a summer picnic! What a great time we had with over 45 ladies! Thank you Helen for hosting such a fantastic party!

On Sunday, September 16, eleven of our members met at Bethany in Gurnee for the Fall Workshop. The focus on the workshop was on the PADS ministry and the ladies made 9 large fleece blankets. The ladies also made scripture bookmarks and 96 witness bracelets were made for the MOST ministries. Our ladies from St. Matthew contributed 37 witness bracelets, 23 witness necklaces, 61 finger puppets, 31 eye glass cases, and an abundance of trial size toiletries.

Redeemer in Waukegan will be serving the Great Lakes Naval Recruits for Thanksgiving. We will be sending pies as our contribution. If you wish to donate, please contact me. We are continuing to collect foreign stamps, Portal of Prayer Devotion Booklets, and toiletries.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- **Sunday, December 2**- Women's Guild at Dover Straits for luncheon.
- **Thursday, December 6** -Christmas lunch at Kemper Lakes. More details to come.
- **Sunday, December 9** - ALL women are invited to a Christmas Luncheon after late service at Oregano's on Gilmer Road.
- **May 5, 2019** - Spring Rally in Krueger Hall



It is an honor to serve your President of LWML. I hope that you will join us for the events noted above. I can be reached at nblonski@truemen.org.

GREETINGS from the BOARD OF EVANGELISM & PARISH SERVICES **Carol Haste - Chairperson**

Fall is here.....time for Halloween, All Saints Day, Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas!

We have been busy hosting the Senior J.O.Y. picnic. About 40 people attended, and if it were not for the drizzle, it would have been a special event. Thanks to Tony Crisara, Joanne and Del Becke for "manning" the grille, flipping burgers and brats. Thanks to Darlene Meyer, Vicki Finzel, & Joanne Becke for assisting me preparing salads. Special thanks to Lucille Thoss for remembering our seniors in her estate.



We are now setting up the "Thanksgiving Turkey" with envelopes for the \$20 Thanksgiving & Christmas dinners provided by COOL food pantry for their needy clients. Just take an envelope off the "bird" put in \$20 (cash or check made out to C.O.O.L. Food Pantry) and place envelope in the cornucopia on the church counter. We will take the proceeds to the pantry in Waukegan in plenty of time for Thanksgiving. The last day the envelopes will be available is Nov. 11th. Also, please remember the breakfast items, fruit, etc. and the loaves of bread so we can help the families who are in need.

Pastor Blonski is having the "Charlie Brown Trilogy", the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown's Thanksgiving, and the Christmas movie for our and the communities' children coming soon.

"Evangelism" sounds so scary, doesn't it? I need 2 people to fill positions (3-year) on the Board of Evangelism & Parish Services. At present, Nancy Blonski has agreed to fill the one-year position that Jennifer Ambrosi is vacating. Darlene & Joanne have fulfilled their terms (totaling 5 years each) and are letting you folks have the opportunity to help St Matthew grow! Please consider allowing us to put your name on the ballot for the November Voters' Meeting.

The Giving Tree is being placed in the Narthex by the Sharing the Joy group. Our thanks to Cheri Selimos and Linda Wollberg for heading up this new organization of young moms and their children, helping families who need temporary meals, etc. Watch for the Giving Tree.

And of course, the mid-week Advent services will be starting up December 5. Be sure and come at 5:30 PM for dinners planned by various groups of the Church, and bring your friends!

We have also welcomed Malachi Comfort Dog to our midst. He's a vibrant animal and so wants to be petted! He and Ladel greet all of our parishioners before services.

SEE YOU IN CHURCH!!!!!!!

Ladies' Aid News by Judie Johnson

Our **Fall Festival will be Saturday, November 3rd from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm in Krueger Hall.** Lunch will be served from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Please come and shop for special gifts and decorations or just browse at the handiwork of our crafters. Proceeds from our Fall Festival are used for special needs at St. Matthew Church and to provide support for various charities.

On **Thursday December 6th**, we will celebrate Jesus's birthday with a Christmas Luncheon at Kemper Lakes.

We meet the **first Thursday of the month in Krueger Hall at 12:30.** We have dessert, devotions, a short business meeting and either a program or activity. All ladies of the church are invited to join us.

January 3rd we will celebrate the birthday of the Ladies Aid. Following the installation of officers, devotions and meeting, we will play Bunco with prizes. Please bring your White Elephant gift..



WOMEN'S GUILD by Ellen Wehrs

All women of St. Matthew Lutheran Church are invited to join this wonderful women's group at its monthly meetings and activities. Come share in the fun and fellowship as we explore opportunities to enrich our lives and support the mission of our congregation.

Upcoming Activities and Events!!

Sunday, November 11, 2018
Meeting – Noon – Luther Hall

A light lunch will be served as we discuss outreach projects and plan our holiday events for the rest of the year. Come join us!

December 1 through December 25, 2018
Christmas Post Office – Saturdays and Sundays, before and after church services

Would you like to send Christmas greetings to your fellow congregation members? Drop off your cards and pick up those that are waiting for you at our Post Office. Cost per card dropped off: 25 cents.

Sunday, December 2, 2018
Christmas Luncheon – 12:45 pm – Dover Straits

The Women's Guild members' Christmas luncheon will be held at Dover Straits in Mundelein. Bring an unwrapped toy for the "Toys for Tots" collection.



Sunday, December 9, 2018
Cookie Walk – Luther Hall – 9:00 to 11:00 am (while supply lasts!)

Come one, come all to the Women's Guild annual Cookie Walk! A variety of homemade Christmas cookies and holiday goodies will be displayed for you to choose from. Cookies are priced at \$7 per pound. Other items priced as marked.

Do you enjoy baking? Consider donating your Christmas cookie creations to the Cookie Walk. Kindly drop off your baked goods in the Luther Hall kitchen on Saturday, December 8 or first thing Sunday, December 9. Bakers who donate will be included in a raffle for a gift basket, so be sure that your name and phone number are attached to your donations. Thank you!



Sunday, January 13, 2019
Meeting – Noon – Luther Hall

It's pot luck! Bring your favorite dish and join us as we create our meeting and event calendar for 2019.



THANK YOU!

The St. Matthew Women's Guild would like to thank the over 115 ladies who joined us and supported our October fellowship event – "Meet Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy." It was a wonderful afternoon gaining insight into Jackie Kennedy's life, sharing food and conversation, and congrats to those 20 lucky gift basket raffle winners!

Hope to see you at next year's event – mark your calendars for October 20, 2019!

COMFORT DOG MINISTRY

Ladel and Malachi have had a busy fall! With 15 trained handlers and two dogs, we are able to minister to more, new and different people using our Comfort Dogs as a bridge to share the love and compassion of Christ. Ladel is still teaching Malachi the ins and outs of being a good Comfort Dog. Ladel is continuing her visits at some of the senior living centers, Ela Twp. Thrive After 3 Reading Program, and Lake County Haven. In the meantime, Malachi is beginning to take over some of the senior living center responsibilities and adding new ones, visiting the local police, fire and 911 dispatch units and working alongside our handler Michael Furst with local veterans as part of the KARE-9 unit. We are still looking for St. Matthew members who would like to coordinate the preparation of small gifts to give to our senior living residents, not only at Christmas-time, but during other holidays such as Valentine's Day and Easter as well. If you are interested in helping, please contact our Top Dog*, Deb Kinne at 224-360-2015. (*Top Dog - Official title given by LCC to the person who is the main contact for each individual Comfort Dog ministry)



A NOTE FROM THE CEMETERY SEXTONS OF ST. MATTHEW:

Did you know that the Cemetery of St. Matthew Lutheran Church has been in service to the members of the church since 1864 and is now open also to non members (family and community).

Our cemetery consists of both in ground gravesites for both vaults and cremains as well as a new columbarium in which cremains are placed into the individual granite crypts.

Gravesites and Columbarium sites may be purchased in advanced through the church and school administrator.

Should you be considering the purchase of a gravesite or columbarium site, Mr. Duval will provide you with all of the cemetery information, pricing and site locations. Mr. Duval can be contacted at: duval@stmatts.net or the church office: 847-438-7709. Cemetery information is also located on the Church Website.



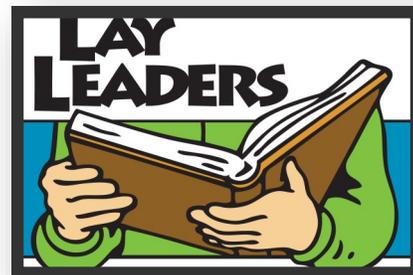
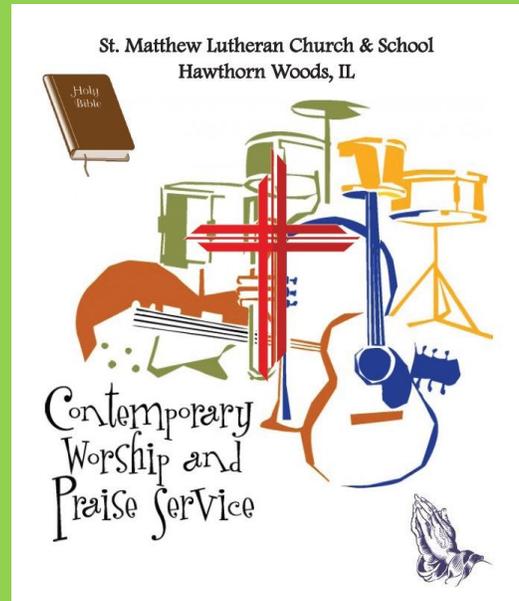
CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

every Sunday
10:45 service

Our Contemporary Service has begun with a flourish of prayer, preaching of God's word and MUSIC!!! As we progress in experience we will continue to add enriching, faith inspiring music and prayers in more original settings. We invite you to come to a service and bring your family and friends to hear God's Word in a different setting and feel uplifted and inspired.

Come, Worship and Rejoice!!!

In the next several weeks you will have an after-service opportunity to give your suggestions for improvements. As a committee we assure you our service will always be Biblically sound.



Would you like to read the Old Testament & Epistle Readings in a worship service?

Contact the Church Office to sign up for this important worship ministry!

LOOK WHAT'S COMING



It's a Wonderful Life:
A Live Radio Play
 adapted by Joe Landry
 is coming to
 St. Matthew
 on Friday, December 7!!

This beloved American holiday classic comes to captivating life as a live 1940s radio broadcast. With the help of an ensemble that brings a few dozen characters to the stage, the story of idealistic George Bailey unfolds as he considers ending his life one fateful Christmas Eve. If you are interested in performing or helping out behind the scenes with this production, sign up in the church office or talk to Pastor Blonski!



THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER

All Members of all communities are cordially invited to attend our St. Matthew's 13th Annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner on Thursday, November 22 (Thanksgiving Day)

Guests are invited to attend our Thanksgiving Day Worship Service beginning at 10:00am.

Appetizers will be served in Krueger Hall at 11:00am, followed by an excellent, custom made, traditional Thanksgiving Day Dinner. Come enjoy a day of football watching, super sale ad reading and great fellowship.

Please R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, November 20th. Seating limited to 200 guests
 Call Susan Stewart at: 847-209-2696 or email at stmattsrsvp@gmail.com.
There is no charge for this dinner. Come spend the day with us and have fun!



Saturday, December 8
9:00-11:00am
St. Matthew Lutheran School Gym

All are invited to attend this community outreach event!!!

Children can enjoy shopping for gifts at the Christmas gift shop!!!

Fall/Winter 2018/19

Preschool News

Saint Matthew Lutheran Early Childhood Center News



School Happenings

St Matthew started the school year in September with Mrs. Leonard leading the 3 & 4-year-old preschool class. We are off to a great start to the school year and are already seeing wonderful things happening in our classroom. Each week the children add an entry into their writing journal, participate in Show & Share, explore Math/Art/Science activities based on our Emergent Curriculum & Interests, and learn a new lesson in our Religious Studies. Here's a brief recap of some of our highlights: The class adopted their own comfort dog during Malachi's celebration and named him Daniel. All of the children showed their best smiles when having school portraits made. We had an afterschool field trip to the Country Bumpkin, where all of the families enjoyed fellowship, fall activities, and even brought home some pumpkins.

St Matthew would also like to welcome back Mr. & Mrs. Cooper in the Library and Mrs. Jennifer Ambrosi in the Art Room. The students enjoy their time in special classes each week and love expressing their artistic and academic sides.

Every Wednesday, the students gather in the Sanctuary for Chapel. They have a great time singing praise and worship songs and are very attentive during the lesson. Each quarter, the Chapel offerings collected will be donated to a specific cause. Our first recipient is Rebecca's Garden of Hope, an organization that offers tutoring and mentoring to children in high risk settings.

2nd Annual Golf Outing "FORE" the Kids

The 2nd annual St Matthew School golf fundraiser was held on July 29 at Renwood Golf Course in Round Lake. St Matthew Lutheran Childhood Center would like to thank everyone who donated goods and services for the raffle drawings, our individual and corporate hole sponsors, and all the golfers who joined us for a fun afternoon of fellowship and golf.



The weather was perfect and the friendly competition made for a successful event.

Thank you!

Upcoming Events and Important Dates:

- November 10 - A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving Event
- November 19-20 - No School - Parent Teacher Conferences
- November 21-23 - No School - Thanksgiving Holidays
- December 8 - Breakfast with Santa Event
- December 15 - A Charlie Brown Christmas Event
- December 19 - Christmas Lunch and early dismissal
- December 24-January 4 - No School—Christmas Break
- January 7 - School Resumes
- January 21 - No School—MLK, Jr. Holiday
- January 27-31 - Lutheran Schools Week
- January 31 - St. Matthew Early Childhood Open House

Early Registration

Priority Registration for St Matthew Lutheran Early Childhood Center will begin in January 2019 for the 2019-2020 school year. Priority Registration applies to current students, siblings, and church members. Please contact the school office for more information or to request a registration packet 847-438-6103 or via email: schooloffice@stmattsonline.com

We're on Facebook!

Have you visited our Facebook page lately? See it here:
<https://www.facebook.com/stmatlutheranpreschool/>

Follow our preschool adventures through photos, videos, and classroom activities which are updated throughout each week.





ST. MATTERS Plastic Bags for the Homeless

CROCHETERS NEEDED

Do you like to crochet? Come join the St Matters, who meet every Thursday from 10 AM to noon, in Luther Hall. If you don't crochet we still need you! There are bags to be folded and cut, strips need to be looped together to make the plarn that is used to make the mats. We especially like the colored bags that some stores use. Bring your bags to Luther Hall and put them in the corner bin. While you are there, take a look at the mat Pilar Norenberg made with the brown cross in the center of the mat. In two years we have made 71 mats that have been given to homeless people in the Milwaukee area. They help keep these people off the damp ground at night, while they are sleeping.

Now that summer has come to an end, and the days are getting shorter, why not try something new, and help make mats for the homeless. Hope to see some new faces on Thursday morning at 10 AM in Luther Hall.

Any questions or thoughts about this ministry, please, call Helen, 847.438.4644.

You Are So Very Kind With grateful thanks for your kindness.



Dear Brothers & Sisters of St. Matthew,

We are so thankful for your generosity! Your donation is such a wonderful gift and helps with the expensive cost of books, school supplies and even household bills. We feel so thankful to have such an amazing church family that supports us, loves us and prays for us. We look forward to seeing you all during our visit for Christmas! You all are in our daily prayers.

God's Peace

Adam & Beatrice Sternquist and family

Adam is a theology student of Concordia Ft. Wayne, Indiana. He and his wife, Beatrice and four children: Evelyn, Joshua, Rachael and Luke are members of St. Matthew.

Youth Room Update - Items Needed



We are reaching out to our congregation for donations to our youth/teen room in Krueger Hall.

We are in need of:

- **Bean bags**
- **Floor rug**
- **Lighting**
- **Home décor that enhances the look of the room for our youth and teens.**

If you are interested in donating please contact our youth director, Kristin.

Kids Love to Learn About Jesus!



The Sunday School year got off to a great start on Sunday, September 9th. We have had an average of 30 students each week, and they are a really sharp group of kids, asking great questions and contributing to our weekly lessons. Our students spent September learning about Joseph and the month of October learning about Moses, two men who were put into service by God to help Him take care of His people. We are learning that both men faced fear and uncertainty at the tasks ahead of them but understood that in God there is strength and steadfast love. The students will continue to learn about Moses & the Exodus into November.

Sunday School Children's Christmas Worship 2018

After singing "Have No Fear Little Flock" on Reformation Sunday, the students will focus their efforts on learning songs and speaking parts for the Children's Christmas Service on **Sunday, December 16th at the 10:45am service**. The entire congregation is invited to join us in this celebration. In addition to practices during the Sunday School hour, the children will practice on **Saturday, December 8th after St. Matthew's annual Breakfast with Santa**.

Finally, the children voted to donate the Sunday School offering to support the Lutheran Church Charities Comfort Dog ministry. With Ladel & Malachi in our congregation, the children get to see this ministry in action regularly. We will revisit a new ministry to support in the new year.

Thank you for all your prayers & support for our Sunday School thus far this year!
Jaime Davison, Co-Superintendent
Kristin Dwyer, Co-Superintendent

Sunday School
welcomes
your child from
Pre-School (age 3) thru 4th grade
each week from 9:20-10:30am.

Sunday School
Christmas
Program
Sunday
December 16
10:45am service



It's Christmas Time . . .

FAMILY FUN



WE NEED YOUR HELP
to decorate church
for Christmas!!!!

Saturday
December 1
8:00am-Noon

CHRISTMAS POST OFFICE



DECEMBER 1 - 25
SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS
BEFORE & AFTER CHURCH SERVICES

Would you like to send Christmas greetings to your fellow congregation members? Drop off your cards and pick up those that are waiting for you at our Post Office. Cost per card dropped off: 25 cents

A COUNTRY CHRISTMAS



Craft & Gift Show

St. Matthew Lutheran Church
Old McHenry Rd.,
Hawthorn Woods, Illinois
(www.stmatts.net)
Presented by St. Matthew Ladies Aid

ONE DAY ONLY
SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 3, 2018
9:00 am to 2:00 pm
(Krueger Hall)



Sponsored by the Women's Guild

**Let us do your
baking for you!!!**

Sunday, December 9, 2018
9:00-11:00am in Luther Hall
\$7.00 per lb.

Calling all St. Matthew bakers!
If you would like to provide some of your favorite homemade cookies for our Cookie Walk, please drop off your donations to the Luther Hall kitchen on either Saturday, December 8 or early on Sunday, December 9. Thank you very much for your help!

ST. MATTHEW YOUTH GROUP NEWS by Kristin Gierke



SAVE THE DATE.....

NOVEMBER

- 10 - "A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving" matinee at 4:00pm in Krueger Hall (See note below)
- 16 - Youth Night Out at Brunswick Zone Deer Park Lanes - 7:00-9:00pm (See note on next page)

DECEMBER

- 8 - Santa Breakfast 9:00am-11:00am in the gym
- 14 - Youth Christmas Party - 7:00-9:00pm in the gym (see note on next page)
- 15 - "Charlie Brown Christmas" matinee at 4:00pm in Krueger Hall (See note below)

JANUARY

- 18 - Winter Fest 2019 featuring Joe Guerra 7:00-9:00pm

FEBRUARY

- 8 - Daddy Daughter Sweetheart Ball 6:30-8:30pm

RSVP TODAY....

A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving

When: Saturday, November 10 @ 4:00pm

Where: Krueger Hall in St. Matthew Lutheran Church

Enjoy this great movie classic with crafts and snacks.

This is a free event for preschool - 4th grade students and their families.

RSVP at: gierke@stmattsonline.com



RSVP TODAY

When: Saturday, December 15 @ 4:00pm

Where; Krueger Hall in St. Matthew Lutheran Church

Enjoy this great movie classic with crafts and snacks.

This is a free event for preschool—4th grade students and their families

RSVP at gierke@stmattsonline.com

Check out what's happening!!!!

YOUTH NIGHT OUT



YOU'RE INVITED FOR A NIGHT OF BOWLING, FOOD AND FUN!

Friends are welcome!

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 16, 2018

7:00PM-9:00 PM

Brunswick Zone Deer Park Lanes

21080 N Rand Rd

Lake Zurich, IL 60047

Cost- \$5.00

(includes 2 hours of bowling, shoes, food and drinks)

Sign-Up sheet on Church Office counter or

RSVP to Kristin Gierke at

Gierke@stmattsonline.com

Please include how many will be attending

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY 2018!

Friday December 14, 2018

7:00pm-9:00pm

St. Matthew Lutheran Church & School

**Come ring in Christmas at the Youth Ugly Sweater Party!
Bring friends to enjoy Christmas music, a hot chocolate bar
and tasty snacks and a photo backdrop!**

**Ugly sweaters are not required, dress in your favorite
holiday attire!**

RSVP to Kristin @ Gierke@stmattsonline.com

Winter Fest 2019 Featuring.... Joe Guerra

Friday January 18, 2019

7:00 PM-9:00 PM

St. Matthew Lutheran Church & School

24500 N. Old McHenry Rd.

Hawthorn Woods Il. 60047

This is a free event and is open to the community.

For questions contact Kristin Gierke at

Gierke@stmattsonline.com

(847)438-6103 ex 235

Joe Guerra is a Contemporary Christian singer/songwriter.

Most recent hit: 'Reason to Breath'

Visit: www.Youtube.com/JoeGuerraMusic

Daddy Daughter Sweetheart Ball

Friday February 8, 2019 From 6:30 PM-8:30 PM

St. Matthew Lutheran Church & School
24500 N Old Mc Henry Rd, Hawthorn Woods, IL, 60047



**Dads, Uncles, Grandpas etc. are all welcome to come
dance the away with their sweetheart!**

RSVP to Kristin Gierke @ Gierke@stmattsonline.com

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & SUBSCRIBE TO OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL



St. Matthew on Facebook

You can follow us on Facebook and get updates of our events & worship services. You'll also see the Devotional Moments, Sermons and Feeding of the lambs. You can submit prayer requests, ask questions, make comments, and see pictures from our events! Click on the red box below to go to our Facebook Page.

[Click Here](#)



St. Matthew's YouTube Channel

Subscribe to our YouTube channel. Here you'll see all the Devotional Moments, Sermons, and various other recordings made at St. Matthew. Click on the red box below to go to our YouTube Channel.

[Subscribe to our YouTube Channel](#)

OH THE FUN WE HAD watching
"It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown
on Saturday, October 13

