

YOUTH MINISTRY (Grades 6-12)

Jr. and Sr. Youth – check with Greg on future events. The Youth and Ed Committee would like your input.

Evening Lenten Suppers

We have begun our evening Lenten Suppers serving from 6:00 to 6:45. If you would like to provide a main dish, donate money or provide any other items please let Greg Mueller-DCE know.

Mark Your Calendars:

Wednesday, March 8, 15, 22, 29 5:00 p.m. Lenten Supper
Sunday, March 12 2:00 p.m. Circuit Bible Bowl at St Matthew
Sunday, March 19 3:00 p.m. Serve a meal at Christian Care in Rock Island

Fund Raiser: Dining Coupon Books-Ending now-

Be sure you have turned in any unsold Dining Books. If you still have any let Greg know THIS WEEK.

SPRING FORWARD NEXT WEEKEND

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 12 at 2:00 a.m. Be sure to move your clocks forward one hour before coming to church that Sunday.

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY

All are invited to join us Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. for our current study topic **“One Christ: Many Creeds,”** in which we explore the teachings of various Christian denominations. This Sunday we continue examining **Presbyterian** and other Calvinist church bodies.

PASTOR’S TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

All are invited to join us on Tuesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. as we explore the topic **“Heaven and Hell.”** In this study our goal is to uncover misunderstandings people have about life after death and explore the biblical truth about heaven and hell.

This Tuesday we will examine **That Other Place.** By the power of the Holy Spirit working through God’s Word, participants will understand the reality and horror of hell and be motivated to better appreciate God’s gift of heaven through Christ.

“LUTHERANISM 101”

“Lutheranism 101... It’s Not a Class... It’s Life with Jesus.” This is the title of Pastor’s adult study exploring God’s Word and our teachings and beliefs as Lutheran Christians. **This season we are meeting Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m.**

We explore the main teachings of the Bible and how they form the basis of our Lutheran doctrine. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Michel (309-269-4295, pastorgmichel@yahoo.com).

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

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First Sunday In Lent March 4 & 5, 2017

WELCOME TO THE LORD’S HOUSE

We pray that you are blessed through God’s service today. We invite everyone to sign the Record of Fellowship in each pew. Our guests are also invited to sign the guest book on the Welcome Table in the entryway.

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD’S SUPPER

At St. Matthew we believe that the Lord’s Supper (Holy Communion) is a ministry of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and an expression of our unity in belief and teaching. Therefore, in Christian love we extend this ministry to baptized Christians who...

- ◆ Have been properly instructed and confess the teachings of the Bible as taught in The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS);
- ◆ Acknowledge their sins and repent of their sins;
- ◆ Confess Jesus Christ alone as Savior from all sin;
- ◆ Believe with us that Christ’s body and blood are truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine;
- ◆ Intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to amend their sinful lives and forgive others as Christ has forgiven them.

Guests who do not hold membership in a congregation of the LCMS are respectfully asked to visit with the pastor before or after the worship service regarding their desire to commune.

Martin Luther’s “Christian Questions with Their Answers” on pages 329-330 in Lutheran Service Book is a good resource to use to prepare oneself to receive the Lord’s Supper.

NOTES FOR COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

- ◆ Receive the bread—the body of Christ—in your hand.
- ◆ You may receive the wine—the blood of Christ—with either the individual cup or the common cup. Please assist with the common cup.
- ◆ The individual cups in the center of the tray contain reduced alcohol wine for those that need to receive Christ’s blood this way.
- ◆ Those not receiving the Sacrament but wish to receive a blessing (including non-confirmed children) are asked to take a wooden cross from the basket next to the baptismal font. Hold the cross in front of you as the communion elements are distributed. As you then return to your pew, please place the cross in the basket next to the collection tray for individual cups.

SERVANTS IN THE LORD'S HOUSE

	5:30 p.m.	8:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Lay Assistant	Jason Gorski	Dennis Ziegler	
Ushers	Jerry Donegan Mary Donegan	Tom Parchert Nathan Parchert Ryan Parchert	Don Mueller Nancy Mueller
Organist	Christine Engebrecht	Katie Cobert	Katie Cobert
Acolytes		Claire Henniges Jack Henniges	Major Chisholm Maverick Chisholm
Greeters		Regina Hoffman	Fern Tucker

Altar Guild: Eileen Leonard and Nancy Mueller

Flowers: Members of St. Matthew

THIS WEEK THE LORD WILLING

Saturday, March 4	9:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m.	<i>Pastor out of town</i> Financial Review Service of the Word
Sunday, March 5 <i>First Sunday in Lent</i>	8:00 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	<i>Pastor out of town</i> Service of the Word Sunday School Adult Bible Study Service of the Word
Monday, March 6	8:30 a.m.	Classical Conversations (Homeschool group)
Tuesday, March 7	9:00 a.m. 6:15 p.m.	Pastor's Bible Study Choir
Wednesday, March 8	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Lutheranism 101 Lenten Matins Service (lunch following) Setup for Lenten Supper Lenten Supper Lenten Vespers Service
Thursday, March 9	6:30 p.m.	Lay Assistants
Friday, March 10	8:30 a.m.	Pastor's Day Off Bulletin Assembled
Saturday, March 11	5:30 p.m.	Divine Service
Sunday, March 12 <i>Second Sunday in Lent</i>	8:00 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	Divine Service Sunday School Adult Bible Study Divine Service St. Matthew Hosts Circuit Youth Bible Bowl

LIFE THOUGHT FROM THIS WEEK'S READINGS

First Sunday in Lent – Even private choices eventually have unintended consequences (Genesis 3:16-19). Every individual's decisions inevitably involve and affect others (Romans 5:12). But failures to perform as expected or produce as requested cannot undercut anyone's preciousness (Matthew 5:3-4). Jesus Christ grants God's life to all human beings as His free gift (Romans 5:17-18). *Great Deliverer, let none among us be deceived by Satan's lies but trust in Your loving promises. Amen.*

LIFE QUOTE FOR THIS WEEK

“What do we teach our little children so that when they are older, sexual promiscuity and abortion will be unthinkable? They are very special because they are created, redeemed, and called.” *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former executive director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

OUR CHRISTIAN CALLING

Matthew 4:7 — Jesus said to him, "Again it is written. . ." Jesus defeats Satan in our place – not by using His power as God, but by His perfect obedience in His perfect humanity. Jesus defeats Satan not by miracles, but by quoting the Scriptures and living according to it. This should cause us great joy for two reasons. First, because we see Jesus win the victory for us. Second, because here Jesus shows us how to stand in that victory: on the Word of God alone.

EQUIPPING THE PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS...

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: Law & Gospel, The Means of Grace, Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, Early Church Martyrs Perpetua & Felicitas, Religious Persecution in China and more. You can listen on-demand at www.issuesetc.org and on the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN...

It's that time again to order your Lutheran Witness. The cost this year is \$15.96 (\$1.33 per issue for 11 issues, June/July are together. If you would like to renew or start receiving a copy please let the church office know by April 17. This subscription will start in June. Any questions, call the church office at 787-4295

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Sunday School— Jesus and Zacchaeus Luke 19:1-10

High School Bible Study— Book of Ezekiel

Adult Bible Study—One Christ: Many Creeds: Presbyterian church bodies

SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTES

This Sunday, the children will learn about “Jesus and Zacchaeus” in Luke 19:1–10. When Jesus went to Zacchaeus’s house, He demonstrated that God blesses and fills our hungry souls with His gifts. Consider discussing, “*How did Jesus show His care for Zacchaeus? How does He show His care for us?*”

PASTOR MICHEL RECEIVES CALL

Last weekend Pastor Michel announced that he has received a Divine Call to serve as the pastor of Peace Lutheran Church in New Berlin, Wisconsin (suburban Milwaukee). In the coming days and weeks he will be deliberating over the two calls he now has to serve as pastor, namely the call he currently has here at St. Matthew and the call he has received from Peace. Please remember Pastor, Sue, Jonathan, and Rebekah in your prayers that the Holy Spirit would lead them to a God-pleasing decision and that God’s will would be done.

NOTE: Pastor and family are out of town this weekend visiting Peace Lutheran Church. Many thanks to Greg Mueller-DCE for leading services in Pastor’s absence. As such, the Lord’s Supper will not be celebrated at this weekend’s services.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL SUGGESTIONS

- Use the Lenten devotional booklet entitled *The Lord’s Supper: The Salutary Gift*, which ties in with our weekend sermon theme in Lent, and is available on the Welcome Center table. Also available on the Welcome Center table is a devotion booklet from Lutheran Indian Ministries.
- Use the devotion booklet *Portals of Prayer*.
- Lutheran Hour Ministries has Lenten devotions available online at www.lentendevotions.net where you can sign up to receive a daily Lenten devotion via e-mail. A link to this Web site is on the “Devotions” page on our church website (www.StMatthewMilan.org)
- Those who own the book *Treasury of Daily Prayer* (available for \$40 through the church office) can continue with their readings from this year-round resource. Remember to switch to the readings for the Lenten season toward the beginning of the book.
- *Today’s Light* subscribers can continue in their readings from this year-round resource. To subscribe, a link is available on the “Devotions” page on our church Web site.
- This year, most of our Gospel readings in worship come from the book of Matthew. One idea would be to read the entire book of Matthew for the Lenten season. ABOVE ALL... Use whatever works for you... the main thing is to be fed by the Word of God.

SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS

VBS is June 19-23 this year, from 9:00am—12:00pm. Please put it on your calendar. If you would like to be involved with VBS please let Greg Mueller know.

MARCH CALENDARS

The March Calendars are on the table in the hallway. Pick yours up today.

A REMINDER FROM PASTOR...

Please continue to let me know when you (or a family member) are hospitalized. I am more than glad to visit and share God's Word and pray with you. Most of the time the hospital informs us when a member is admitted. However sometimes this has not happened, and I have been completely unaware of a hospitalization. Please also let me know if you or someone you know desires for me to visit and bring the Lord's Supper. Please keep me informed of your circumstances, and I will be glad to minister to you in Christ's name. — *Pastor Michel*

EVENING LENTEN SUPPERS

We have begun our evening Lenten Suppers serving from 6:00 to 6:45. If you would like to provide a main dish, donate money or provide any other items please let Greg Mueller-DCE know.

WE NEED YOUR HELP FOR LENTEN LUNCHEONS

LWML will be providing and serving hot lunches for the Wednesday Lenten luncheons. On bulletin board 'C' are two sign up sheets to provide suppliers and prepared food. Sign today. Don't delay. Help us give you fun, nourishing fellowship. Questions? See Vicki or Kitty.

JOIN US FOR LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICES

This Wednesday and every Wednesday during the Lenten season join us as we examine our lives *“Standing At the Cross.”*

As a Lenten lead-in to the upcoming celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we will focus on portions of sermons Martin Luther actually preached during Lent, Holy Week and Easter in the parishes where he served. As we stand with Luther at the foot of the cross each week, we contemplate the ways in which we ourselves stand firm in the faith as followers of Christ during this holy season.

This Wednesday our theme is “Standing In Prayer,” based on Matthew 5:21-28. When a Canaanite woman asked Jesus to heal her daughter, Jesus did not immediately do so. But hidden beneath his “No” was the Savior's “Yes,” and the woman's daughter was healed. This week in our Lenten worship we will explore the “Yes!” imbedded in the heart of Jesus.

Please join us for Lenten midweek services this Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

FOOD PANTRY—Together We Can Do This

Because of a need and frequent requests the Milan Christian Food Pantry is going to start giving out personal care & feminine hygiene items as part of our regular grocery distribution. The following items are needed:

- Shave cream
- Disposable razors
- Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Toothpaste & brushes
- Feminine hygiene products

Thank you, St. Matthew family, for all your support of the pantry. Al & Kitty

EASTER HELP NEEDED

The Milan Christian Food Pantry will give away 75 complete Easter meal boxes this holiday. St. Matthew is being asked to donate 75 cans of 28oz Bushes Baked Beans. Please bring cans to church by Sunday, April 3. Thank you for your always generous support of the food pantry. You do make a difference.

ISSUES WITH E-MEMOS RESOLVED

The issue with our E-Memos and several Mediacom-related email addresses (i.e. those which end in “mchsi.com” and “mediacommb.net” and others) appears to be resolved. These last several weeks our weekly email message—“This Week at St. Matthew”—appears to have been delivered to all email addresses which have signed up to receive it. This weekly update is usually sent out each Sunday evening. To receive this update as well as all of our other email updates, please subscribe via the link on our church website (www.stmatthewmilan.org). If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Michel.

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEKEND

Sat. 5:30 p.m.—42

Sunday School—17

Sun. 8:00 a.m.—77

Adult Bible Study—28

Sun. 10:30 a.m.—58

Ash Wednesday 3/1 11:00 a.m.—51

7:00 p.m.—74