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St. Matthew's Church Mission Statement

St. Matthew's, an historic church rooted in the Episcopal tradition, shares the love of Christ, putting faith into action through worship, prayer and outreach in the downtown community and beyond.

Worship Schedule:

Sunday	7:30 AM	Holy Eucharist
	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist
Wednesday	9:00 AM	Healing Service with Holy Eucharist
Saturday	5:00 PM	Evening Prayer with Holy Eucharist

The Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The Rt. Rev. Steven A. Miller, Bishop of Milwaukee

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

The Very Rev. Matthew L. Buterbaugh, Rector & Dean of Racine/Kenosha Convocation

The Rev. Robert Bagley, Deacon

Treasurer

Rick Stoddard

Wardens

Debi Rengers, Senior Warden

Ken Specht, Junior Warden

Vestry

Jenny Cobb

Kirsten McVey

Don Gosse

Amy Parrish

Geoff Greeley

Jim Singer

Jennifer McCombe

B. J. VanKammen

Staff

Kay Sutton, Organist/Choir Director

Abigail Wincek, Office Manager

Mary Weiser, Parish Secretary

Jeff Tyree, Facilities Manager

Lynn Heller, RN, Parish Nurse

Franklin Gail, Verger

Leigh Travanty, Sexton

Together in the Spirit...

Dear Friends,

We are approaching that time of year again. This is the time when the weather gets cooler and people come back from vacations. It's the time of year that the life of the church picks back up from the summer. We will soon have our parish picnic and celebrate St. Matthew's Day. We will have plenty of activities and events coming up between now and Advent.

There will be new things happening for the church. The St. Matthew's Eldergarten - the community garden on the ECHO property - is continuing planning and fundraising. The Vestry and Buildings and Grounds Committee are continuing to explore some ways to update and make the best use of our facilities. The choir will be singing again soon. The church will host concerts and special services. Our Koinonía Groups (formerly Small Groups) will be launching soon, as will our children's education programs. Additionally, we will soon begin talking stewardship.

These are typical things that happen in the church this time of year. Things ramp up and take off as people trickle back in from summer vacation.

I have been thinking quite a bit lately about what it means to be the Church. As I often like to point out, when I say "Church," I don't mean "church." This is not a question of what it means to be a member of St. Matthew's or the Episcopal Church. This is what it means to be part of the Body of Christ.

Faith is done in community. We worship together. We build friendships together. We hold one another in prayer as sisters and brothers in Christ. None of these activities can be done alone. Being a Christian is never a solo act. It is something we do as one of many parts of the Body.

There is also a temptation to see the Church as just an outreach group or a social service. We are very blessed to have a phenomenal outreach program at St. Matthew's. Between the tithe that we give to the community and the services we provide, we are likely the envy of many other churches. That said, we are not the Lion's Club or Rotary. We do outreach as a community, but we are not an outreach community.

The Church is more than social, and the Church is more than what it does for the world. These are things that give us focus and help us to see God's work in action, but they are not the heart of what we do. What makes the Church unique is that we worship together. We gather on a regular basis to be fed by the Word and Sacraments. As Christ reminds us in Matthew 18:20: "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." When we pray as a body, it strengthens us and invites Christ to be a part of our prayers.

And yet, this is not the sum total of what the Church does, either. As James 2:26 reminds us: "For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead." The Church does do. The Church does much to care for one another both in and out. The Church lets its light shine before others. And just as the body needs all parts to work, so does Christ's Body. If one organ shuts down, the body suffers. This is where we are reminded that each one of our contributions to the Body is important.

To keep Christ's Body healthy, all parts must function. We are all called to participate in regular worship. We are all called to contribute to the church. We are all called to practice our faith outside of the church. We are all called to support and uphold one another in prayer and deed. This is what it means to be a part of Christ's Body. This is what it means to be the Church. This fall, let us keep striving to make this Body even healthier and more robust. Let us be the Church!

Blessings and Peace, Fr. Matthew+



Choir News

Adult Choir is returning on September 18th! Welcome back choir members to a new season with new music. The first rehearsal is September 11th at 9:30 a.m. in the choir room. Sunday, September 18th they will warmup at 10:00 a.m. and sing in church and then rehearse afterward until 1:00 p.m. New members are welcome as are all voice parts.

Talk to Kay Sutton after Sunday services and join the choir!

Fall Highlights

Something for Everyone



Ongoing: Sundays: Holy Eucharist at 7:30 and 10:30 a.m.

First Sunday: Birthday & Anniversary Blessings
Senior Lunch

Second Sunday: Sacramental Healing
Sending out Eucharistic Visitors

Third Sunday: Soup Kitchen 3:30 p.m.
Every Sunday: Senior Dance 6:00 p.m.

Tuesdays: Stretch Classes 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Wednesdays: Eucharist & Healing 9:00 a.m.

Saturdays: Evening Service 5:00 p.m.

Annual Church Picnic: Sunday, September 11th

Christian Formation: Students & parents will meet at 9:00 a.m.
beginning on Sunday, October 9th

Koinonia: Presentations to the congregation September 25th and
October 2nd prior to sign-up

Women's Book Club: Meets every other month

All Hallows' Eve: Service & Music on Sat., October 29th at 5:00 p.m.

Commitment Sunday: November 6, 2016

Greetings, St. Matthew's Members and Friends,

It's that time again for the St. Matthew's annual picnic. This year the picnic will be held on Sunday, September 11th in the street between the church and Guild Hall. The picnic will begin after the 10:30 am service. We will be blocking off the street, so there will be no parking on 7th avenue that day.

The church will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, brats and water. Please feel free to bring your own beverages.

We are going to need a lot of help. We need volunteers for set-up, grilling, serving, and cleaning up. Please sign up at the back of the church on Sunday. We are also looking for donations of pasta salads, salads, fruit, and desserts. Please sign up at the back of the Church for this, also. In addition, we will need to know how many of you are planning on attending, and there is a sign-up sheet for attendance.

We are looking for canopies to put picnic tables under. So if you have one, or know of one we could borrow, it would be most appreciated.

Let's make this a great picnic! Please feel free to contact me if you have any suggestions, ideas, or if you have a line on canopies. My home phone number is 262-484-9133, my cell is 262-914-6115, and my e-mail is bjlura@gmail.com.

I look forward to seeing all of you on the 11th!

B.J. VanKammen,
Hospitality Chair



The theme of this year's stewardship campaign is "Living Generously." Stewardship is first and foremost a practice of putting God first. It is also about being grateful, responsible stewards of the gifts we receive from God. Stewardship is more than contributing money to the church. It is also about contributing time, talent and volunteering for ministry and mission.

As individuals we have many talents. Among those talents is the ability to:

- Inspire and support others so that they are strengthened in resolve and spirit.
- Give of material wealth freely.
- Meet new people and provide for their needs.
- See work that needs to be done and volunteer to do it.
- Compassionately respond to the suffering of others.
- Pray and receive clear responses from God to prayer requests.

These are just a few of the many talents we have been given.
We owe to God our thanks for the earth's abundance and the stewardship of this abundance.

Our stewardship campaign kickoff will be Sunday, October 2, 2016 and will run for six weeks. Commitment service will be on Sunday, November 6, 2016. You will be receiving a letter in the mail soon with more campaign details.

Rick Stoddard,
Stewardship Chair



Safeguarding God's Children

Safeguarding God's Children provides participants with the information they need to protect the children they know and care for in their personal lives and in the ministries they serve at St. Matthew's. This training program is now required for all persons involved in any activities where they are in contact with children and youth in our church.

Our Diocesan policy regarding misconduct prevention and best practices includes *Guidelines of Using Social Media* and updated forms for background checks on church employees (paid and volunteers).

If you are a Vestry member, serve on a church committee, or are a volunteer or employee and have not taken the course, it is necessary that you sign up now. Information is available on the Episcopal Diocese webpage. There is the possibility of having a training session here at St. Matthew's if enough interest is generated. Please contact the office (654-8642) to notify us of your intent to take this required course.

A New Note from Deacon Bob



I will be with you on Sundays! As you know, each Sunday we have included Bishop Miller in our prayers for healing as he recovers from rotator cuff surgery. Well, all the prayers have helped in his recovery and the doctor has given him the OK to start driving again. My help in driving and assisting the Bishop is no longer needed, so I will be serving at the altar with Father Matthew as scheduled.

Peace,
Deacon Bob

ALL HALLOWS' EVE

On Saturday, October 29th at 5:00 p.m. St. Matthew's will present *A Rite for All Hallows Eve*. It will include the Service of Light and Biblical readings including the Witch of Endor, The Vision of Eliphaz the Temanite, The Valley of Dry Bones, and The War in Heaven. The Service will start with a concert of Halloween music provided by Brian Schoettler and Kay Sutton, organ; Diana Iorio, violin; and the Halloween Women's Chorus. A freewill offering will be taken and a reception will follow the service.



Women's Book Club

St. Matthew's Women's Book Club will meet on Sunday, October 2, 2016 at 6:00 p.m at Sarah Rangel's home, 4108 81st St., to discuss Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker by Jennifer

Chiaverini. (Sarah's email address is: sd5350@yahoo.com and her phone is 262-652-7068). Book club members, please contact Sarah if you plan to attend or not.

Book Summary: New York Times bestselling author Jennifer Chiaverini's compelling historical novel unveils the private lives of Abraham and Mary Lincoln through the perspective of the First Lady's most trusted confidante and friend, her dressmaker, Elizabeth Keckley.

In a life that spanned nearly a century and witnessed some of the most momentous events in American history, Elizabeth Hobbs Keckley was born a slave. A gifted seamstress, she earned her freedom by the skill of her needle and won the friendship of First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln by her devotion. A sweeping historical novel, Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker illuminates the extraordinary relationship the two women shared, beginning in the hallowed halls of the White House during the trials of the Civil War and enduring almost, but not quite, to the end of Mrs. Lincoln's days.

Please read the book and join us on Oct. 2, 2016 for an interesting discussion with good food, fun and fellowship! We look forward to seeing you there. And, if you've never attended a book club before, give us a try. You might be pleasantly surprised with this group.

A Note from the Senior Warden

It's that time of year again - time to consider your pledge for 2017. St. Matthew's depends on your pledge to continue its mission. Beside the day-to-day expenses, there are many building needs from the floors in the office area of Guild Hall to the windows in the church. We recently had an energy audit done in hopes it will provide guidance on how to use the buildings more efficiently and cut utility bills. Please prayerfully consider what your pledge will be for 2017.

Along with a monetary pledge, please consider pledging your time/talent. There are many opportunities for you to be a part of the mission of St. Matthew's: reading, altar guild, Eucharistic minister, choir, senior luncheons, gardens, hosting coffee hour, vestry - just to name a few. Any amount of time you can provide is deeply appreciated.

Debi Rengers,
Senior Warden

Current information, service times, and updates can be found on either our webpage (stmatthewskenosha.net) or on our facebook page at ([facebook.com/ StMatthewsEpiscopalChurchKenosha](https://www.facebook.com/StMatthewsEpiscopalChurchKenosha))

Take a look and refer others to our sites.

To view our parish calendar go to:

<http://stmatthewskenosha.net/events/calendar/>