

Connections



St. Matthew Lutheran Church – Connecting Faith With Life!

CALENDAR of EVENTS

Please note: There will not be any Connections next weekend.

Keep this edition for upcoming events & dates to know!

SAT., AUGUST 12

10am-12pm Concord Room
Reserved/Al-Anon Mtg.
5:00 pm Worship

SUN., AUGUST 13

9:30 am Worship
10:45 am Coffee Fellowship

MON., AUGUST 14

8:30 am Morning Prayer Group 
9:00 am Pastors' Text Study

TUES., AUGUST 15

10:00 am Men's Coffee at Lincoln Square 
7:00 pm Worship Committee Meeting
7:00 pm Boy Scouts

WED., AUGUST 16

6:00 pm Adult Bible Study
*Gayla out of the office through Friday, August 18th
Office will close at noon today & tomorrow*

FRI., AUGUST 18

Office Closed Today

SAT., AUGUST 19

10am-12pm Concord Room
Reserved/Al-Anon Mtg.
5:00 pm Worship

SUN., AUGUST 20

9:30 am Worship
10:45 am Coffee Fellowship

MON., AUGUST 21

8:30 am Morning Prayer Group 
9:00 am Pastors' Text Study

TUES., AUGUST 22

7:00 pm Boy Scouts

WED., AUGUST 23

 Happy Birthday
Pastor Bob!

FRI., AUGUST 25

9:00 am September Insight Newsletter Deadline
6:30 pm Remember Your Baptism Water Night 

SAT., AUGUST 26

10am-12pm Concord Room
Reserved/Al-Anon Mtg.
5:00 pm Worship

SUN. AUGUST 13

BACKPACK BLESSING

9:30 am Worship
10:45 am Coffee Fellowship



I grew up in a large church with a seating capacity in the sanctuary for at least 800 people. An impressive balcony wraps around the sanctuary and helps draw your eye to the stained glass window on the west wall. In that window there is an image of a life-size Jesus standing beside a boat and on top of water. His hands are stretched out to a man with a white beard who is waist deep in the water.

As a young child, I would look at that window and wonder what that white-hair, fully-clothed man was doing in the water. As I got older, I learned the story of Peter attempting to walk on water, but losing the faith in Jesus to sustain the walk, he sinks and is rescued by Jesus.

Poor Peter. On the one hand, his bold and confident attitude is refreshing. Or is it foolish? One minute he seems like a saint who has the ability to confess his faith in Jesus, but then he puts his foot in his mouth. He is able to jump out on the water, only to doubt with the first gust of wind. At least, he knows to turn to Jesus in his hour of need and pray, "Lord, save me."

When a dripping wet Peter and Jesus get back into the boat, the winds cease. The disciples in the boat are filled with awe and worship Jesus. In one day, these disciples witness Jesus feeding of thousands, walking on water, and stilling the storm. What more might Jesus have in store?

Prayer

Lord, we join Peter's prayer and cry, "Lord, save me." Amen.

Prayer Requests



Msgr. Greg Ketchum, friend of Vickie Hart
Andrew Rogers, friend of Jill Quisenberry
Laurie Padjen, friend of the Deck family
Specialist Sean Splittstoesser,
grandson of Ruby & Dan Splittstoesser
Brody Welshofer, friend of Danielle Deck
Amy Cole and Liam Snow,
daughter & grandson
of Susan & Claude Cole

Julie, colleague of Sarah Loftus
Nic Brandon and family,
friends of the Daly family
Donna Gehrt, aunt of Jill Daly
Chris Galvin, friend of Morgan Johnson
Macy Slade Tester,

friend of Mel & Liz Schwartz
Rita, sister of Diane Durbin
Terry Green & family,
friends of John & Peg Warriner
Michael & Cheryl, friends of Chris Bedford
Vickie Fitzsimmons,
sister-in-law of Shirley Shaw

Bernie & Sara Donahue,
friends of Dorothy Graham
Meghan, friend of Chris Bedford

Sharon Hedrick
Isabella Gonzalez
Rita Vanier
Suzanne Ross
Danielle Deck
Bruce Carroll
Betty Everence
Mason Minnes

Remember our shut-ins:

Vivian Larson
Leona Saathoff

John Gantz
Muryl Ohms
Mandi Gilliland
Carolyn Adams
Ted Sandwell
Hervin Buhr
Gerald Smith

Elaine Ebeling

In loving memory of ~

*Fern Deck
and*

*Walter Splittstoesser,
friend of Mason & Connie Minnes*

Please include their family & friends
in your special thoughts & prayers.

*May God welcome them
into the kingdom of heaven.*

*Please note: Names on the list for prayers will be posted for one month unless otherwise requested.
Please contact the church office with any updates or extensions. Thank you.*

STAFF OF ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

PHONE: 367-1189 www.stmatthewurbana.org

Pastor	Robert J. Rasmus
Associate Pastor	Maggie Falenschek
Office Manager	Gayla Pllum
Sunday School Superintendent	Ann Rasmus
Nursery	Ruby Splittstoesser & Emma Lacefield
Parish Nurses	Aziza Awate, Kathie Pound, and Beth Riddle

Connections Deadline: Submit announcements in writing to the church office or by e-mail to gayla.stm@stmatthewurbana.org no later than 9:00 a.m. Wednesday. Thank you!

Welcome!

*St. Matthew Lutheran Church
is a fellowship of Christian believers
called to:
grow in Christ,
share the Gospel,
serve God's people.*

Do come again to
St. Matthew Lutheran Church
where you are always welcome.

Worship Services

Saturday, 5:00 pm

A relaxed & informal worship held in the
Christ Chapel.

Sunday, 9:30 am

(May 21 through September 3, 2017)

Spirited traditional worship that focuses on par-
ticipation through the liturgy, the great hymns
of the Church.



*Free
indeed.*

CELEBRATING
500 YEARS OF
REFORMATION

STEPHEN MINISTERS: THE AFTER PEOPLE

People often ask, "What exactly is a Stephen Minister?"
One way to put it is that Stephen Ministers are the *After People*.

Stephen Ministers are there:

- ...*after* the phone call you hoped you'd never get.
- ...*after* the divorce papers are served & the bottom falls out of your life.
- ...*after* the funeral, when everyone has left & the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you.
- ...*after* the doctor says, "I'm sorry, but there's nothing more we can do."
- ...*after* the nursing home director shakes your hand & says, "Welcome to your new home."
- ...*after* the last child honks the horn, waves, & drives away—& the house suddenly seems empty.
- ...*after* the gavel goes down, the handcuffs go on, & your loved one is led away.
- ...*after* the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible.
- ...*after* you find a pink slip with your final paycheck.
- ...*after* your family & friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are the "After People." They are ready to come alongside you—or your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives —& provide comfort & support for as long *after* as needed.



ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar the weekend of August 12/13 are given by Diana Marshall in loving memory of her mother, Beatrice Harrell. May she rest in the company of the angels.

The flowers on the altar the weekend of August 19/20 are given by Jim & Kathie Pound in loving memory of their son,

Zachary. May he rest in the company of the angels.

Help make our altar beautiful! Celebrate a birthday, anniversary, someone's life or just because. The sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. There are still a few open dates in 2017.



PROSPECTIVE MEMBER CLASSES

Are you considering joining us as a member of St. Matthew? Do you know someone who is interested in joining St. Matthew? We will hold our orientation classes starting at 10:30am on Sunday, August 20th and 27th in the Augburg Room. This gathering will give you a chance to know more about the Christian faith from a Lutheran perspective, discover fellowship & ministry opportunities at St. Matthew. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Bob or Pastor Maggie.



Become a part of our church family

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

THANKS TO THOSE WHO DONATED!

The Social Ministry Team would like to thank all of you who donated to our School Supply Drive. We'll be delivering the supplies to Urbana elementary schools this week. They're very grateful and send their thanks as well!



MEN'S COFFEE THIS WEEK – JOIN US FOR A SECOND CUP

Our Men's Coffee group meets twice a month. All available STM men are invited to gather for a cup of coffee & conversation on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, August 15th at 10:00am in the Lincoln Square food court area. Men of all ages are welcome & encouraged to join our discussions.



STM GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE COLUMBARIUM

Take a walk around the STM Garden of Remembrance. It is beautiful and a great place to meditate. Consider it a place of celebration of life and important people in our lives because it is.

Memorial pavers may be ordered. The form is on the table by the coffee bar.

Niches are available for \$1200 which includes two urns and engraving. The form is available in the office.



It's Time to Make Up the Next Worship Assistant Schedule!

I will be scheduling worship assistants in early September for the **October 2017 through January 2018** services. If you are currently part of the schedule, please contact me to let me know if you are unavailable for certain weekends and/or if you have a scheduling preference.



We can add people to any of the assisting duties and would love to see more of you helping out! If you are currently not on our schedule, please consider giving any of our assisting positions a try! *We are especially in need of people for Altar Guild, Cantor, Visitor Welcome Team, Sound Technician & Coffee Fellowship areas.* We will be happy to train anyone who is interested. We would love to have your smiling face be part of our team of worship assistants!

Please have your requests and/or preferences emailed to me at my office address (gayla.stm@stmatthewurbana.org) no later than September 7th. If you have any questions, please give me a call at the office .

Thank you! Gayla Pellum

TAKE JESUS WITH YOU AS YOU TRAVEL!

Summer is a time for many families to take vacation, meaning that many of you may be away from your church family for several weeks. Don't fear, you can take us with you!

This year, we are inviting individuals and families to take Flat Jesus with as you travel this summer (near or far!). Cut and Color flat Jesus and take a picture with him as you adventure. Send your picture to the office so we can connect with you and see where Flat Jesus as traversed!



Extra printouts of Flat Jesus are available on the bulletin board outside Pastor Maggie's office. The office will be watching for you & flat Jesus! Share your pictures on Facebook or email them to info@stmatthewurbana.org.

Safe travels! ☺



STM QUILTERS ARE TAKING A BREAK

Our work is done for the graduating High School Seniors. What a blessing it is to be able to present them with a memory quilt. We wish them good luck in their future endeavors. Now we are ready to take a break. We will return in September with new ideas and energy. See you in the Fall!



SUMMERTIME CHANGES TO OUR PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

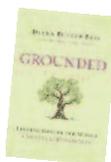
The Prayer Shawl Ministry group knits shawls that are given to those who are experiencing difficult times in their lives, or to commemorate the gift of love, friendship & caring. Our group will not meet during the summer months. Knitters and/or crocheters are encouraged to continue making shawls at home. We will be giving beautiful shawls to those in need, but we will need our fellow STM members help. If you know of someone who would be comforted by a prayer shawl, please contact Joan Peterson (384-7415), Mary Anderson (896-2061), Pastor Maggie or the church office (367-1189). See you in September



RELIT – SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!

It's true: Our Religion and Literature group is off the calendar for the summer, but no doubt everyone is still reading.

Put Friday, September 15 on your calendar for the next meeting of Religion and Literature discussion group. We'll meet for an hour, starting at 7 p.m., to discuss *Grounded: Finding God in the World...A Spiritual Revolution* by Diana Butler Bass. We'll decide what books we'll read during the 2017-2018 program year, so if you have one you would like to suggest, bring it along or send the title to Nancy.Schneider@hotmail.com.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY – “WE ARE ON SUMMER BREAK!”

Our Women's Bible Study group will not meet in June, July or August. You are welcome to pick up a copy of the *Gather* magazine Bible studies on the table across from the office to read during the summer months. We look forward to getting together in the fall. Plan to join us on September 29th for fellowship & coffee. Hope to see you then!



Thanks ladies, *Mary Anderson, Bible Study coordinator*

Remember
your
baptism
at



WATER NIGHT

We'll be playing "Kiddie-Pool Kick-Ball" on the lawn. If you haven't heard of Kiddie-Pool Kick-ball, you'll want to look it up—it's a blast! Older children are encouraged to come and help out the younger kids—we won't be having a rowdy competition but will have fun splashing around as the summer comes to a close.

**Friday,
August 25th
from
6:30-8pm**



LADIES... LET'S PLAY BUNCO

Play a fast paced game, win great prizes, and have a lot of fun. Please bring a snack to share and your drink of choice. The next BUNCO Night will be Thursday, August 31st starting at 6:30pm in the Augsburg Room. No need to sign up... everyone is welcome. We have a great time! Join the fun & bring a friend!!!



BEGINNING & GENTLER BEGINNING YOGA 5 WEEK SERIES

Mondays, 7-8:15p.m. at Wesley United Methodist Church (Green & Goodwin); \$5 a class, 10 class pass for \$50 and is good for all Daily Bread Yoga classes

Beginning Yoga – Sept. 11th – Oct. 16th (no class on Sept. 25th)

Gentler Beginning Yoga – Oct. 23rd – Nov. 20th Learn about and gain confidence in the spiritual practice of yoga.

Beginning Yoga is most appropriate for people who can get up and down from the floor with relative ease. Gentler Beginning Yoga is the same content, but poses are adapted for people who do not get up and down from the floor with ease. **Registration is requested** Questions? Register? Contact Rachel at dailybreadyoga@gmail.com

