



Holiday Worship Schedule



Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 27.....6:30 pm

Midweek Advent Worship

Wednesday, December 4

Midday Service.....11:00 am
 Light Lunch after Midday Service.....12:00 pm
 Light Supper before Evening Service.....5:15 pm
 Evening Prayer Service.....6:30 pm

Wednesday, December 11

Midday Service.....11:00 am
 Light Lunch after Midday Service.....12:00 pm
 Light Supper before Evening Service.....5:15 pm
 Evening Prayer Service.....6:30 pm

Wednesday, December 18

Midday Service.....11:00 am
 Light Lunch after Midday Service.....12:00 pm
 Light Supper before Evening Service.....5:15 pm
 Evening Prayer Service.....6:30 pm

Christmas Services

Children's Christmas Program Practice....December during Sunday School

Sunday, December 15 Children's Christmas Program.....4:00 pm

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.....6:00 pm

Wednesday, December 25

Christmas Day Divine Service (Communion).....10:00 am

Tuesday, December 31

New Year's Eve Worship6:00 pm

St. Matthew Lutheran church
 115 West 12th Avenue, Milan IL 61264
 Phone (309) 787-4295 Fax (309) 787-4312
 Email: stmatthewmilan@gmail.com
 Web: www.stmatthewmilan.org

The Rev. Kurt Larson Mr. Gregory Mueller, DCE
 Mr. Joel Chapman, RN, Parish Nurse

Twenty Sixth Sunday after Pentecost November 16 & 17, 2024



ST. MATTHEW NEWS

A NOTE TO OUR GUESTS AND VISITORS: Greetings in Christ!
Thank you for visiting with us today. We encourage you to continue to come back in the weeks to come! If there's anything we can do for you, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. If you would like to join the St. Matthew Family please contact Pastor Larson or the Church Office. Our church website is at www.stmatthewmilan.org and our phone number at the church is (309) 787-4295. Thanks for joining us for worship!

PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD

To those who are unable to listen to services online, we now offer the option to listen via a new toll free telephone number. St. Matthew's toll free number is (844) 700-9449. Give us a listen! The worship service will be recorded and available via this phone by late Sunday afternoon.

PASTOR IS AVAILABLE to bring you communion in your homes or in small groups at the church. Please call (309-787-4295) if you'd like to arrange a visit or wish to come to the church to receive.

If you need a large print bulletin or would like to use a hearing impaired device, please speak with an Usher or Lay Assistant.

BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST

Wearing a mask is optional for church activities at this present time. The chairs will remain set up on each side of the sanctuary. We will continue to broadcast the service to the parking lot on FM 89.7 for those of you who prefer to not enter the sanctuary at this time. We will continue to bring communion to all in the parking lot. In addition, the worship service will be available as a livestream on our Facebook page. As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact one of the members of our Board of Lay Assistants.

ADVENT MEALS

The birth of our Savior is fast approaching. We will once again have noon lunches and fellowship after the 11:00 Advent services.

I am happy to say people have stepped forward to set up, cook, serve, and clean up after the 3 lunches.

December 4 Vicki Lude & Cindy Leonard - Lunch & Supper

December 11 Chapman's & Joan Aldrian - Lunch

December 11 Holdsworth, Lindley, McGimpsey - Supper

December 18 Janet Meeks & Janice Siebke - Lunch

December 18 Need someone for Supper

Please come for the good food and fellowship and let celebrate the Birth of our Savior.



The stations that air the Lutheran Hour in your area are as follows:

<u>Station</u>	<u>City, State</u>	<u>Freq</u>	<u>Band</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>
WMT	Cedar Rapids, IA	600	AM	Sun	6:30 AM
WGN	Chicago, IL	720	AM	Sun	6:00 AM
WKEI	Kewanee, IL	104.3	FM	Sun	9:00 AM
WKEI	Kewanee, IL	1450	AM	Sun	9:00 AM

Also, you can listen to the Lutheran Hour on our website: www.lhm.org (click on "Listen to the Lutheran Hour Now.") You can listen to the sermons 24/7.

REMINDER—DECEMBER 31, 2023

As we approach the end of 2024, you may consider extra donations to St. Matthew for tax purposes. All monies for 2024 must be in the office by **December 27, 2024**. After that date it will be counted for 2025. Any questions, call the church office.

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to help beautify the altar with flowers, the sign up sheets are on bulletin board A. **Because of the increase in flower cost, the cost this year is \$20.00.**



Please put your payment with your name on it in the offering plate and note that it is for flowers on your envelope. Contact Vicki Lude if you have any questions.

2023-2024 SNOW SHOVELING

It's that time of year again. If you can help with the snow removal for the Church sidewalks, please sign the sheet on the St. Matthew bulletin board. You would be responsible for a week period from Monday thru Sunday. The more people who sign up, the less times each person will have to shovel. You will be shoveling the sidewalks in front and back of church. There is a sign up sheet on bulletin C. If you have any questions, please call Norm Mandle at 309-235-2395 or Joel Chapman at 309-948-4652.



HANGING OF THE GREENS

On Sunday, December 1, 2024 right after Church there will be the Hanging of the Greens. Everyone is welcome to stay to help beautify the Church for the Christmas season. Many hands makes the job go quicker.



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

You can attend our weekly Bible study in two ways:

- ◆ Sunday mornings—8:45am in the Gathering Room
 - ◆ We are recording the Sunday Adult Bible Study and you can watch it on Face book live , or go to the webpage stmatthewmilan.org. to get the link.
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GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

The Grief support Group will be meeting **Tuesday, December 3**, at 10:30 a.m. in the Gathering Room. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Larson.

THE MEN'S NETWORK

Our next Men's Bible Breakfast will be **December 14** at 8:00am.

SATURDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Join us for a women's Bible study on the 3rd Saturday of every month. Our next Study will be on **December 21**. We are watching The Chosen. ALL LADIES, ALL AGES ARE WELCOME. We meet from 9-11am in the Fellowship Room. Childcare and snacks will be provided. Any questions or concerns, please contact Angi Lindley.

INK CARTRIDGES AND TONER

**We no longer collect ink cartridges or toner to recycle.
Please do not bring them to church to be recycled.**

MILAN CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY CHRISTMAS MEAL GIVEAWAY

Thank you St. Matthew! We have now collected all 200 cans of corn that the Milan Christian Food Pantry needs for Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets. Thanks be to God! Your generosity is overwhelming!

Flowers	The Nordstroms	
Lay Assistant	5:30 p.m. Dennis Ziegler	10:00 a.m. Nick Bull
Altar	Deb DeGrauwe and Vicki Lude and Sue Witmer	

ATTENDANCE			
Last Weeks Attendance	5:30 p.m.	34	Outside
Last Weeks Attendance	10:00 a.m.	129	2 Outside
Adult Bible Study	33	Sunday School	24 Children

THIS WEEK THE LORD WILLING

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday 7:00am — 2:00pm, Friday 7:00am—11:00pm

Saturday, November 16	8:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m.	Women’s Bible Study Worship
Sunday, November 17 <i>26th Sunday after Pentecost</i>	8:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Sunday School Adult Bible Study Worship
Monday, November 18	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Future Planning Meeting Senior Youth
Tuesday, November 19	6:15 p.m.	Choir
Wednesday, November 20	5:30 p.m.	Confirmation
Thursday, November 21	9:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Crafty Ladies Council
Friday November 22	9:00 a.m.	Bulletin Assembled
Saturday, November 23	8:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m.	Women’s Bible Study Worship
Sunday, November 24 <i>Last Sunday in the Church Year</i>	8:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Sunday School Adult Bible Study Worship

JUST FOR FUN

A craft and conversation morning has been planned for **Thursday, November 21 beginning at 9:30.** We thought it would be fun and motivational to work on projects together, visiting while our hands are busy.

You may bring your very own project to work on ---or you may work on one of the projects prepped for you. Some of the prepped projects are earmarked for donation to the December Cookie Walk/Bazaar sale. There will be a few quilts (for Orphan Grain Train) ready to finish (tie), and a few fleece blankets to tie. Not feeling crafty that day? Well, just come and join in the fellowship! The more the merrier.

We hope to see you there on Thursday, November 21.

VOTERS MEETING

We are having a voters meeting after each service on the weekend of **November 23 & 24.** We will be voting on the 2025 Budget and Officers. Copies of the budget are on the counter in the hallway if you would like to pick one up to review.

REPORTS AVAILABLE

Copies of the monthly Congregational Financial reports as well as the recorded minutes from the Church Council meetings are available by request and may be obtained by contacting Karen in the church office (787-4295, or e-mail stmattkarenb@gmail.com).

PHOTOS

The Directory Committee is having one last photo session on Saturday and Sunday, November 23rd and 24th. Please have your photo taken then, if you haven’t already; we want everyone included! Also, if you would like your photo to keep, please call the church office or email Karen and she can email you your photo for free. You then are allowed to take it anywhere you would like to have it printed. A huge shout of **THANKS** from the committee goes out to Ken Gorski, Sarah McGimpsey and Hollyne Wagner for taking all of the photos. *Thanks Susan Witmer*



***Protecting Albino Children -
Tanzania Children's Home
Evangelical Lutheran Church
of Tanzania, Africa***



In Tanzania, Africa, albinos (absence of skin pigment) represent one in every 1429 births, a much higher rate than in any other nation. Such children are persecuted because witch doctors promote a belief in the magical and superstitious properties of albinos' body parts. These children are seen as bad omens and treated as unwanted or even have body parts amputated and sold to witch doctors.

Parents of albino children will protect their children by sending them to an orphanage offering them more security. The Ev. Lutheran Church of Tanzania has a training center for Mwadui church leaders. This campus also contains a Lutheran Boarding School.

In 2021, an orphanage was built to provide a home and school for albino children. Since the orphanage is located next to the Lutheran boarding school and training center, the albino children are integrated into a more normal life and are not isolated. There they are cared for, body and soul, and reared knowing Christ's love and His gift of salvation.

The purpose of this \$74,500 mission grant will purchase a bus to transport children from their homes to school and assist with the funding of the children's care. To learn more and see a video on this project, visit

www.lwml.org/2023-2025-mission-grant-19.

This and other LWML mission grants are funded through monies received in LWML's mite boxes. You can help by dropping coins into a mite box and return to any Sunday's collection plate, or designate a Mite Box donation with your regular envelope offering.



ST. MATTHEW AT PRAYER



NEW/UPDATED REQUESTS THIS WEEK

Bev Klueuer, sister of Jan Siebke (cancer)
Judy Liles, sister-in-law of Janet Meekes (cancer)
Wendy Gurnwald, daughter of Janet Meeks (ALS)
Roxanne Knauss, daughter of Carole Hartley (pneumonia)
Dave Flickinger (recovering)
Tom Krahl (recovering)

Those Who Mourn

Family & Friends of Erica Fisher

Those Hospitalized

Don Timmermann, friend of Angi Lindley

Those Who Have Cancer

Jana K, friend of Susan De Loose
Kate Snyder, daughter-in-law of Deb Snyder
Shirley Teggatz, mother of Doug Teggatz
Jeff Thompson, brother-in-law of the Van Severen's
Pam Whittington

THOSE RECOVERING

Carol Appelquist
Michelle Donegan, daughter-in-law of Mary & Jerry Donegan
Kitty Dornbier
Karen Edmund
Carol Greenwood
Jojo Laureano, friend of Al & Kerry
Santee Lusfer, friend of Angi Lindley
Nancy Miller
Mary Newswander

CONTINUING REQUESTS

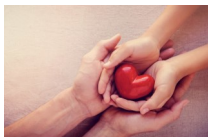
Rebecca Heick, cousin to De Loose, Lude & Leonard Family (health issues)
Chuck Pearson, brother of Jim Pearson (hospice)
Sally Vetter (hospice)

SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES—THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Lieutenant Zach Chapman (Deployed to Djibouti)
Kyle Mandle (Stationed in Norfolk, VA)
Krystin Pearson (Army National Reserves)
Lieutenant Adam Witmer (Iowa National Guard)

BUDDY BAGS

When children go into foster care they are removed from a home that has been deemed a risk. They often leave the home with no belongings. A blanket or stuffed animal can provide comfort for a child going to an unfamiliar home. It is something they can call their own. These children also often do not have the basic necessities such as a toothbrush, comb or basic hygiene items. Babies often have few or no diapers. A buddy Bag can help assist a child transition to a sometimes unfamiliar living arrangement.



NEEDS:

Sippy Cups and Baby Bottles (high need) Blanket, Stuffed Animal, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Soap, Deodorant, Diapers (all sizes), Baby Wipes, feminine products

Any questions, contact Greg Mueller, DCE or someone in Mission and Ministry. **Please put items on the table in the hallway by the library.**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS..

Plan on joining us for upcoming opportunities for food, fun, fellowship and service. Have a suggestion for future activity, contact Greg Mueller or Angie Lindley.

2024 Upcoming Events

November 17	Friendsgiving
December 1	Hanging of the Greens
Advent Meals	December 4,11,18
December 7	9:00am –12:00pm Cookie Walk

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There are sign-up sheets on the welcome desk in middle hallway for the following:

Friendsgiving—need people to set up or tear down

Advent Meal—need people to host an Advent meal. The dates are December 4th, 11th, and 18th. You have a choice to host the noon meal or evening meal or maybe both.

COOKIE WALK WITH CRAFTS IS COMING...

The Annual Cookie Walk is approaching quickly. The Walk Committee would sincerely appreciate your donation of cookies and/or craft items for this event. Please sign the donation sheet in the church entryway. We THANK YOU in advance for your goodies! !



Walk Date: December 7, 2024

Place: St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Milan, IL

Time: 9:00am-12:00 Noon for Cookies & Crafts

Proceeds are donated to the Milan Christian Food Pantry.

CALLING ALL STOCKINGS...



To all who are filling the LWML “dime” stockings for our very own seminary student, Josh Teggatz, be sure to bring them back to the church by the end of **November**. You can drop them in the BIG stocking located on the LWML table in the south entryway, give them to another LWML member, or place them in the church offering plate by December 8. Thanks to all who helped with this project. We know this will add to Josh and Rachel’s Christmas joy!

LCMS MEN & WOMEN’S BOWLING LEAGUE

Come join us for fun and fellowship with other local LCMS church members from Iowa and Illinois.

When: Monday Nights @ 6:15pm

Where: QC Family Entertainment—4401- 44 Avenue, Moline

Who: YOU All skill levels welcome

(including at home Wii professional bowlers)

Winter Season—12 weeks—Starting December 2, 2024

Questions? Contact (call or text) Michael Wagner 309-453-7206 or Jim Pearson 563-293-6456.

We look forward to seeing you there!

