



**For once you were darkness,
but now in the Lord you are light.
LIVE AS CHILDREN OF LIGHT.**

Ephesians 5:8, NRSV

Welcome to St. Matthew's!

VISITING TODAY?

Welcome to worship! We are very glad you are here, and we pray that you enjoy your visit here with us today. I hope that you will be encouraged in trusting Jesus, better equipped to serve him, and more aware of his grace in your life every day. We're glad you're here!

Pastor Silas Schmitzer



Theme of Today's Service:

“Christ is the light that we may see him and live.”

Prayer Upon Entering Worship:

Lord Jesus, I thank you for bringing the light of your saving gospel into our sin-darkened world so that I may see you and live. Teach me to rejoice in your light and faithfully live in it for you. Fill the eyes of my heart today with reminders of your love for me that surround me in sights and sounds here in church as I worship you. Pour out your rich blessing on this place that all who worship here may be built up in faith and encouraged to continue our daily fight against sin and Satan's temptations. Amen.

God's Word for This Week:

The difference between walking in faith and walking in unbelief is like the difference between light and darkness. We were born in spiritual darkness, in our blindness unable to guide ourselves on the way to heaven. But Christ has shined his light into our lives, and our faith makes us sighted spiritually. Now we can see clearly the path that we are to follow, and we can be the agents to guide others to the true light that gives life to every man.

Pastor Silas Schmitzer

Office: (608) 457-2711

Home: (608) 457-2714

Cell: (608) 304-9265

Email: pastor.schmitzer@gmail.com

Principal James Otto

Office: (608) 457-2700

Email: jotto@stmatthews-wels.com

Church Council President: Perry Kilmer

Phone: (608) 797-0836

Please visit us as: www.stmatthews-wels.com

At our website you'll find audio sermons, daily devotions, our church calendar, and more information about our church, our teachings and our Christian Day School.

OUR THANKS

We thank the following people for serving us in worship today:
Worship Accompanist Sue Wrobel
Greeter: Larry Wrobel
Ushers: Ken Abraham, Mary Abraham, Jan Protsman, Kristie Protsman
Audio/Video: Dan Wiese, Carl Piper

Announcements

Church Announcements

Church Service Recording

Our Sunday worship services are regularly video recorded and posted online. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Pastor.

Sunday School and Bible Study

We will be having bible study this week in the Adult Education Room. All children, age 4-10 are invited and encouraged to attend Sunday School.

Principal Call

We have a call meeting today at 11:30 to call a new Principal. The meeting is scheduled for 11:30 so parents can return from after their kids sing at St. Peter's.

Church Announcements

Have an announcement that you want to see in the bulletin? Have some information to spread on the pre-service PowerPoint? Need an activity added to the church calendar? Send an email with your important information to secretary@stmatthews-wels.com or place your announcement in Carl Piper's box in the fellowship hall.

Want to give a gift?

All donations & offerings designated "150th Anniversary Gift" will go towards fresh landscaping on the church property.

Member Family Pictures

Did you see your picture scrolling on our new display screen in the fellowship hall? Was your picture a little bit outdated? Not your favorite shot of your family? If you'd like to update your family picture, simply email a new one to Carl at secretary@stmatthews-wels.com, or ask Karen Fischer if she would be willing to snap a new one for your family. You can help make sure that those photos are an accurate and up-to-date representation of our congregation. Thank You!

Bible Study - Concerning Spiritual Gifts (6 Lessons)

Many Christians shy away from the topic of spiritual gifts because some of them seem so extraordinary and strange. Perhaps you are unsure of what to do or say about speaking in tongues, prophesying, teaching, comforting, leading, being generous and serving others. This course takes seriously what the Bible says about the gifts of the Spirit. Making the time to study this important topic will help you find and rejoice in your niche among God's people as we all work together to glorify Christ, our Head.

Lenten Services

During Lent we have multiple opportunities to prepare our hearts for the remembrance of Jesus' death and resurrection at Easter. The victory of Jesus' resurrection is the high point of our year. These Lenten services give us a chance to savor Jesus' victory and better appreciate his sacrifice for us. This year's theme is "The Son of God Goes Forth to War." Jesus gave his life for us, but not as a helpless victim. He came as our conqueror to defeat our enemy, the Devil, and liberate us from bondage to sin. Join us for these meditation services each Wednesday 1:30 and 7:00pm.

Get Your Scrip Cards!

Buying Scrip gift cards helps support our school. You buy the gift cards for your favorite restaurants and stores at face value, and a percentage of the cost of the card is given to St. Matthew's School Script fund. Over the past 10 years, the Scrip program has raised over \$11,000 for our school. The Protsman family runs our Scrip program and they have the Scrip cards out by the door after every Sunday service. If you don't see a business that you're looking for, just ask Jan or Kristie, there are many more that they can order for you

School Announcements

School Choice Application Window Now Open!

The application window for parents to apply for a school choice voucher at St. Matthew's next school year is February 3 through April 16, 2020. After that, new applications can no longer be accepted. This program allows your child(ren) or someone you know to attend our school at no cost to the family if they fall within the income limit. Accepted applications also strengthen our school. A voucher for your child pays up to \$8,300 directly to St. Matthew's! To apply, go to our school's website > "Programs" > "Wisconsin Parental School Choice." For help contact Mr. Otto, Mr. Carl Piper (608-799-9318), or Mr. Phil Uebelher (608-483-2080).

Ladies Afternoon Tea

Ladies of all ages, please join us on **Saturday March 28th @ 3:00 PM** for gourmet treats, great company, & presenting:

Canvas Painting of Cacti, led by local artist Lori Ehlke

BYO teacup, all painting supplies will be provided.

Cost is \$20/person. Space is limited, reserve your spot by 3/21. Payment may be put in Karen Schmitzer's mailbox or presented at the door.

Questions? **RSVP to Karen Schmitzer**

608.304.7034

Prop Needs for Grades 5-8 Play

The upper grades classroom is looking for the following items to borrow for our play on May 1. Contact Mr. Otto if you might have something to lend us. Thanks!

- fake flowers, white/pink streamer
- evil lab decor (lava lamp, science-themed props)
- a custom made light-up (LED or Christmas lights) sign
- painting of an old man
- 2 bar-height stools
- stop sign

School Closing

For those who are not already aware, Governor Evers has mandated that schools be closed for a period of time in response to the outbreak of COVID-19.

The closure will begin on March 18 at 5 PM and is set to end on April 6. There are many questions and few answers at this point. When our school learns pertinent information, I will be sure to keep in contact with all of you.

Our faculty will meet after school on Monday to determine the best course of action for the next 3 weeks in terms of each child's learning. We will then communicate the plans with you and children can pick up the materials they need on Tuesday, March 17 in order to carry out learning during the hiatus as best they can.

The April 6 reopening date is still subject to change depending on any new developments in the coming weeks. If this period lengthens, our school may need to revisit our plans and plan action for a longer absence. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we navigate this unprecedented time together as a team dedicated to both the education and safety of your children.

Area Announcements

Food Pantry

Looking for a way to directly impact our community? The Stoddard Area Food Pantry located in our Church basement can use your help. To Volunteer contact Paulette Ross (Site Manager) at 608-518-6839 or email her at pross.54632@gmail.com

Recovery in Christ:

Two Opportunities: Recovery in Christ will continue to meet Sundays, 6:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Onalaska. A new session will be held at La Crosse's Coulee Recovery Center, 933 Ferry St, 1:00, Wednesdays). Call 608-567-3038 to verify schedule for either session. Recovery in Christ points to Jesus as the answer for recovery from substance abuse.

Luther High School's Spring Musical "Hello Dolly"

Luther High School's spring musical *Hello Dolly* will be held March 13-15, 2020. Tickets are available online through the link noted below. On Thursdays from 3:00-5:00 PM you can purchase them by phone at (608) 783-5435 x1303 or in person at the box office.

To purchase tickets:

<http://lutherhigh.org/arts/box-office>. For more information about the play: <http://lutherhigh.org/student-life/special-events>.

Luther High School Calls

This evening Luther High School's Board of Control extended a Divine Call to Mr. Matthew J Moeller to serve as Principal of Luther High School. Mr. Moeller (age 46) currently serves at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School in Jackson, WI. He and his wife, Amy (nee Scharrer), have 3 children (20, 17, and 14 years old). Please pray for Mr. Moeller as he now deliberates where the Lord would have him use his gifts in the teaching ministry.

Stoddard Community Blood Drive

St. Matthew's will again host the Stoddard Community Blood Drive on March 23rd from 12:30 – 5:00 PM. Walk-ins are welcome but if you would like to schedule an appointment please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org sponsor code: "stoddard"



CYMBAL

March 2020

LUTHER HIGH SCHOOL

THE BIG KNIGHT

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2020 | THE RADISSON | LACROSSE, WI | 6:00PM

The Big Knight is an annual fundraiser supporting Luther High School. This event is a dinner auction with 100% of the proceeds benefiting the students of Luther High. All who attend get to experience a PACKED silent auction followed by an elegant dinner and an INCREDIBLE live auction.

Join us on Friday, April 24, 2020, for the annual Big Knight dinner auction at The Radisson downtown LaCrosse, WI. This event not only raises funds for tuition assistance, but is a night of exceptional auction items, great food, and fellowship with others who love Luther High School.

Doors will open at 6:00 pm with registration and the silent auction. Join us in supporting the students of Luther High School. We hope to see you there!

To purchase tickets or donate an item:
www.bidpal.net/thebigknight2020

If you have any questions, please contact:
John Byus
byusjohn@luther.k12.wi.us
608-783-5435 ext. 1132

E-PALS 2020



Luther High e-Pals is a teacher-screened program where 4th graders from our WELS elementary schools have the opportunity to practice their writing and technology skills while building relationships through e-mail correspondence with mentors at Luther High. The e-Pals correspond regularly via e-mail for 10 weeks and then the 4th graders visit Luther High School to meet their e-Pal in person, tour the school, and build memories. LHS e-pal mentors are from the sophomore English Class and volunteer to participate in the program. Luther High School is proud to present this year's e-Pal participants from your congregation!



**Mark Your
Calendar**

The office is open at Luther High School on regular school days
7:30 am - 3:30 pm.

Month of March

22 Days, 22 Ways to Pray for Your Luther High School

April 24

The Big Knight
The Radisson | 6:00PM

LAST WEEK AT ST. MATTHEW'S

	WEEKEND WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	BIBLE CLASS	SUNDAY SCHOOL	LIVE STREAM
MAR. 8	103	12	11	5
WEDNESDAY LENT	95	TOTAL BUDGETARY GIFTS		

OUR WEEK IN THE LORD

MARCH 15 - MARCH 22, 2020

Sunday

9:00 AM – Worship

10:00 AM – Children Sing @ St. Peter's Chaseburg

10:30 AM – Bible Study

11:30 AM – Call Meeting

Monday

9:30 AM – Pastor Schmitzer leads chapel at Luther

1:00 PM – CounterAct Graduation at School

Tuesday

10:00 AM – Mornings with Mommy

2:30 PM – Food Pantry Open

Wednesday

12:00 PM – Ladies Aid Meeting

1:30 PM – Lenten Worship Service

4:14 PM – Catechism Class

7:00 PM – Lenten Worship Service

Thursday

NO School

7:00 PM – Worship

Friday

NO School

Saturday

Sunday

9:00 AM – Worship