

December 22 & 23 – Announcements

This Week at St. Matthew

Sunday (12/23)

- **Underground/Sunday School**
 - *Immediately after worship*: children ages 3-12 will be excused to the front of the church for Christmas Eve practice. Afterwards they'll head to the Underground for their Christmas party.
- **Teen Bible Study**
 - No teen class today. We'll meet again on Sunday January 6th at 10:15 am.
- **Bible Study**
 - Meets at **10:30am** in room 108. Study: *The Psalms of Advent* – Psalm 85

Monday (12/24)

- **Office Closed**
- **Christmas Eve Worship**
 - Services at **4:00pm** and **9:00pm**.

Tuesday (12/25)

- **Office Closed**
 - Everyone have a **MERRY CHRISTMAS**.
- **Christmas Day Worship**
 - Service at **9:00am**.
- **Piecemakers** (Quilting and Sewing Group)
 - Does not meet this week.
 - Meets next week at **9:30am** in the church basement.

Wednesday (12/26)

- **Office Closed**
 - Open Thursday, December 27 and Friday, December 28 normal hours.
- **Confirmation**
 - Does not meet this week.
 - Meets again on January 9, at **5:30pm** in Room 108.

Thursday (12/27)

- **Thursday Bible Study**
 - Will start up again, January 3rd at **10:00am** and **6:30pm** in room 108.

Saturday (12/29)

➤ **GriefShare**

- Classes resume on **January 5** at 9:00am.
- The next session: “Guilt and Anger”
- For more information on *GriefShare* contact one of the pastors or Joyce Schroeder at joymarie48@yahoo.com.

Other St. Matthew Announcements

➤ **Church Envelopes**

- Your 2019 church offering envelopes are in your mailbox.

➤ **Dorcas Christmas Party**

- All ladies of the congregation are invited to the Dorcas Post-Christmas luncheon on Saturday, **January 12** at 12:30pm at Wilder's Bistro, 2639 S. Oneida St., Appleton.
- You may bring a \$10 wrapped Christmas present to exchange if you wish.
- Also a reminder to Dorcas members that we will be collecting for SOS and FVL Musicfest.
- Please sign up on the sheet in the hallway by **January 7** if you plan to attend. Any questions, please contact Janet Meyer at 757-5589 or janbil@new.rr.com.

➤ **Thanksgiving Gift for *Underground*, & Matching Opportunities**

- A \$500 gift in thanksgiving for Everleigh Willie has been received to purchase visual learning tools like Betty Lukens flannelgraphs, and a new DVD player.
- An additional \$500 gift has been offered as a matching gift for other special contributions to our *Underground*/Sunday School. We'd like to purchase a few tablets that would allow students and their families to access Bible learning tools on-line that they can then also access at home.
- For questions, or to learn more, contact Pastor Kuske.

➤ **Coffee House Ministry**

- Members continue to have the opportunity to support this ministry with a special gift that will be *double* matched until the donations reach \$15,000. We are getting very close – nearly at the \$12,000 mark! Handouts are available for more information, as well as envelopes for donations. Be sure to check the funds chart in back of the sanctuary as we “fill the cup.” Thank you to all of our donors!

➤ **Christmas Card Collection**

- Bring any Christmas cards you're not saving to church. The teens are collecting them for veterans. Please drop them in the collection box in back of church.

Church Community News

➤ **Camp Phillip Summer Camp**

- Summer camp registrations started on Sunday, **December 2**.
- Register online at www.campphillip.com/registration. Early bird discounts expire at 11:00pm on **December 31**.

➤ **Apple Valley Food Pantry**

- Next collection date is **January 13**.
- Items needed are Chunky soups, hamburger, tuna and chicken helpers, canned fruit, spaghetti, boxed and canned potatoes, all crackers, cookies, and personal care and household cleaning products. We are also collecting baby items for the Hope Center.
- Thank you all for your help in spreading the word for the needs of the pantry. God bless you all and enjoy a Merry Christmas.

➤ **FVL Musicfest**

- FVL Musicfest 2019 will be held **January 27** with performances beginning at noon. Doors will open at 11:30am.
- Musicfest is currently seeking items or basket donations for the Silent Auction.
- Find out more at fvhs.org/fvl-musicfest or call Megan Beyer at 560-5122. Please bring donations to the FVL School Office by **January 17**.

➤ **Pathways to Christ Retreat**

- Sisters in Christ, please consider attending the 19th *Pathways to Christ* Retreat on **March 8-10, 2019** at LaSure's Hall in Oshkosh. The 2019 theme is "*I Have Learned the Secret of Being Content.*" (Philippians 4:11-13)
- Registration forms can be downloaded from their website: pathwaystochrist.org. Early registration with discount ends **January 7**. If you don't have internet access, the church office can provide you with a brochure.

➤ **DivorceCare Offered**

- *DivorceCare* is a teaching tool to support anyone who has been hurt by the pain of divorce or separation. This program will be held at Immanuel, Greenville in the Emmaus Library on Tuesdays from 6:30pm – 8:30pm starting **January 8 – April 2**.
- This program offers short videos each week, a helpful workbook, and ample time for group discussion and support. To register visit www.divorcecare.org or call 757-5639. The cost is \$20 for the workbook.

➤ **Men of His Word Conference**

- The 10th Annual Men of His Word Conference will be held at the Best Western Premier Waterfront Convention Center in Oshkosh on Saturday, **February 9, 2019**. The theme is "*Built on the Rock.*"

- Please register online at www.menofhisword.org and get schedules. Adult registration fee is \$50 and youth is \$25. Fees increase after **January 27** to \$60 and \$30.

December Special Worship Schedule

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Monday, December 24

Christmas Eve Worship 4:00pm & 9:00pm
Candlelight Service

Tuesday, December 25

Christmas Day Worship 9:00am
Pre-service Carol Singing, 8:45am

Monday, December 31

New Year's Eve Worship 5:30pm
Holy Communion

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Please pick up several “Light in the Darkness” postcards to invite family and friends to these special services.