



LIVING FAITH

ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2011

email address: stmatthews@stmatthews.us

www.stmatthews.us

STEWARDSHIP



**THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd**

7:30 P.M.

Please bring a food offering with you.

Our stewardship emphasis for 2012 "Saints Alive! Living Generously" speaks to our life in God, our engagement with the world and the confidence, hope and trust by which we live as Christians.

In our Stewardship theme text, St. Paul is reminding the Corinthians about their offering for the relief of the poor in Jerusalem. He encourages each member to provide an appropriate offering so he can care for others on their behalf.

We are blessed to remember God's abundance in our lives and how that abundance has encouraged our growth in generosity as individuals and as a congregation of God's people.

Our faithfulness in giving and the sharing of our talents support the worship, learning, nurturing and service that make a difference in our lives and in our community.

Your stewardship packet will contain our proposed ministry and program budget for 2012, the Time and Talent form, the pattern of giving that currently provides our ministry, a growth in giving chart and a commitment card.

Commitment Sunday
Sunday, November 20, 2011

**ADVENT POTLUCK DINNER
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27 5:30 P.M.**

Congregational potluck dinner to begin the Advent Season; be sure to sign up on the poster in the narthex.

**A voice cries in the wilderness:
"Prepare the way of the Lord, make
straight in the desert a highway for our
God."**



In preparation for the ADVENT SEASON, enclosed with this newsletter is an **ADVENT FRIENDS FORM!**

Please fill out and return by Sunday, Nov. 20 if your family wishes to participate. This will facilitate our assigning names and get the information to you before the first Sunday in Advent, November 27. Thank you.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 2-Bob Wilcox
Jillian Muschler
Wendell Tignor | Sarah Tamai
John Rigot
8-Pat Hartline
Robert Gusberti
Paul Laird | Pat Reynolds
Cindy Schmitt
22-Yuliya Occhiuzzo |
| 3-Claire Carr
Hal Lambert
Jack Shelkin | 9- Deborah Hempel
11-Lesley Reifsnnyder
Jodi Kline
Sam Shelkin | 23-Angela Luedke
Kim Lervold
Susan Phillips |
| 4-Frank Brown
Sue Wolf
Chloe Ouellette | 12-Adam Mouw
13-Vince Amato
Jennifer Stuever | 24-Sally Cotner
Kelsey Laster
Larry Wiprud |
| 5-Lauren Goldschmidt
Brett Parker
Tara Wuchenich | 14-Matthew Bouchery
Matthew Clark
Aaron Kanefsky | 25-Kyle Pallansch
26-Lynette Gates
Roger Kinneberg
Janelle Jampole
Jodi Norman |
| 6-Amanda Krauss
Ariana Patton
Emily Carr
Emilie Deadman | 15-Julia Ward
Brenda Johnson
16-Kate Strand
Shanna Rosario | 27-Keith Cotner
Pierce Schreiber
Jane Tamai |
| 7-Ryan Mouw | 17-Connie Clark
Karen Moonan Wolf
18-Sue Ann Cartwright
Erik Knudson | 28-Steve Debban
Courtney Cresap |
| | 20-Allison Williams
21-Susan Kuhn
Pam Orr | 29-Mark Kuhn
30-Frank Henry |

ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 6-Jon & Kathleen Hinkofer | 9-Charlie & Susan Phillips |
| 8-George & Pam Orr | 19-David & Kathleen Parrish |
| 8-Richard & Lynn Schreiber | 21-Lisa & Bruce Truesdell |
| | 26-Don & Jackie Anderson |
| | 26-Al & Gail Galvan |



CHOIR NEWS: All choirs will soon begin to learn special Christmas music. This is a good time to add your voice to the group! There's always room for more! **Cherub/Youth, Teen & Senior choirs** will be singing at the **Thanksgiving Eve Service, Weds., Nov. 23, 7:30 p.m.** **NOTE: Change in rehearsal schedules. Cherub, Youth & Teen Choirs** will rehearse **Weds., Nov. 23, 6:45-7:15 p.m.**, **Senior Choir** will warm-up **Weds., Nov. 23, 7:15 p.m.** The **Sr. Choir** will practice **Weds., Nov. 23**, following the service, **8:30-9:30 p.m.** There will be no rehearsals on Thurs., Nov. 24th.

Ongoing Ministries

ACTS Thrift Store volunteers, Tuesdays, November 1 and December 6, 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. at the store in Woodbridge. Sort clothes, stock shelves, price merchandise, hang donations, and generally assist store staff and customers during the noon rush hour. Our efforts provide a lunch break for other volunteers and staff. Contact Susan Kuhn for more information, 703-491-2898.

Collators dates: Fridays, November 18 and December 9. Meet at 10:00 a.m. We prepare congregational mailings - newsletters, stewardship letters, Day School information, etc.

Daytime Drivers transport area seniors, especially residents of Lake Ridge Fellowship House to medical appointments nearby on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Thursdays 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Drivers average one trip a month. Call Susan Kuhn (703-491-2898) to volunteer.

SENIOR CITIZEN THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON SATURDAY, NOV. 19 NOON

Please check the sign-up poster in the narthex to help provide food items, to help serve or to help drive. All food items need to be at church by 10:30 a.m. on the 19th.



thanksgiving

Thank you!

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

During this season of thanksgiving this prayer reminds us of our call to share the blessings we have received from God.

Dear God,

You have called us to be the people, places, and occasions for sharing the good news of your abundant love. Help us to be generous with your gifts.

Amen+

WHOSE BIRTHDAY IS IT ANYWAY?

It's that time of year when our thoughts turn to others. The Social Ministry Committee is pleased to announce the upcoming Adopted Families Project which provides Christmas Gifts and a meal to low-income families in the area. Watch for poster in the narthex and sign up early to provide clothing for adults (1 line per adult) and clothing/toys for children (2 lines each per child). Each line has a minimum value of \$20. To supplement our gifts, the Day School will be donating gently-used tween and teen items and gently-used toy items for younger children. Finally, this year, families in the congregation can sign up to provide a complete meal for one of the families to supplement the items provided through the Sunday School. Please see the sign up sheet for items included in our meal. Thank you for spreading the joy of Christ's birth with those in our community.

CHECK OUT BOOK GROUP

Sign up to participate in discussion of Heaven Lake by John Dalton. Book Group will meet at 2:30 PM, on Sunday, November 13, at Sue Orndorff's home (3556 Eskew Court).

Americans didn't invent youthful naiveté, of course, but they patented it quickly...[O]ur canon is dominated by stories of young men striding into the world, only to find it a more complicated and compromising place than they'd anticipated. John Dalton's thoughtful debut novel, Heaven Lake, is a worthy descendent of that tradition....This is a story as sensitive to the complexities and beauties of China as to the territory of the human heart."
Ron Charles, The Christian Science Monitor

Author John Dalton is the winner of the Barnes and Noble 2004 Discover Award in fiction and the Sue Kaufman Prize from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He is a graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop and is currently a member of the English faculty at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, where he teaches in their MFA Writing Program. John lives with his wife and two daughters in St. Louis.



CHURCH WOMEN'S NEWS

Church Women have set aside the evening of **Tuesday, November 8, beginning at 7:30 PM, to fill Christmas stockings for Prince William County children in foster care.**

All Women are invited to sign up to **provide** stocking stuffers for the children and join the fun as we **sort, distribute and stuff.** See the poster on the bulletin board for ideas and age groups.

We will share a story of the season and spend some time reflecting on our preparations.

At this meeting we will be electing officers for 2012.

Women's Evening Study Join us at 7:30 PM, on Monday, November 14, at Linda Mazzucchi's home (13393 Gandall Court). We will discuss Chapter Two of Timothy Keller's Counterfeit Gods, "Love Is Not All You Need". The material focuses on the story of Jacob and Leah in Genesis 29.

**Sr. High Youth
Congregational Dinner
Pajama Party
Breakfast Food Served
Pancakes, Sausage, Bacon
Sunday, November 20, 5:30 p.m.**

**Come support the Sr. High Youth
attend the National Youth Gathering.
Freewill offering.**

**Sign Up on the Poster on the Narthex
Bulletin Board to indicate
your participation.**



YOUTH GROUP

Sr. HIGH YOUTH NEWS

Sunday, Nov. 6 – 6:30-8:30 p.m. meeting

Sunday, Nov. 20- 5:30 p.m. Congregational Dinner

Sunday, Nov. 27 - Advent Dinner; service project for youth/basement

Sunday, Dec. 4 – 6:30-8:30 meeting

Saturday, December 10 – Holiday Helpers

Saturday, December 17 – Holiday Party

Wednesday, Dec. 28 – Ice Skating

**7TH & 8TH GRADE YOUTH NEWS
MARK YOUR CALENDARS...**

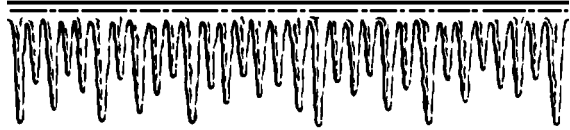
Friday – Sunday, Nov. 4-6 Confirmation Retreat

Sunday, November 27- Advent Dinner; service project for youth in basement

Wednesday, December 28- Ice Skating

**CONFIRMATION MEALS FOR
NOVEMBER**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>MEAL</u>	<u>COOKS</u>
2	Pizza	Cindy Campbell Charlene Laird Robin Kanefsky
9	Hoagies	Cindy Schmitt Kelly Hill Chris Skelley
16	Holiday Turkey	Tina Occhiuzzo Jan Fosness Barb McDaniel
23	NO CONFIRMATION	
30	Chicken Nuggets	Rick Ouellette Laurie Brady Jan Fosness



INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

With the return of cold weather you need to be prepared for an occasional change of plans.

When county schools are closed on a particular day, there is NO Wednesday morning Bible Study, NO confirmation. Sometimes bad weather develops late in the afternoon--affecting activities such as church women's programs and choirs. When it's necessary to cancel an activity for church women, we'll call the names on the sign-up sheet; choirs will call through their phone chains. If you're not signed up for church women, call before you set out, either the church office 703-494-3090 or Susan Kuhn 703-491-2898. Questions about choirs? Call Mrs. Lundgren, 703-494-9100.

Gifts of Hope

Gifts of Hope is a well loved part of Christmas in many Lutheran congregations in the Washington metro area. One hundred percent (100%) of the cost of the gift goes directly to the agency providing the gift

BIBLE STUDIES

Women's Bible Study
Wednesdays

10 a.m.

Pr. Tarja Stevenson

Weekday Bible Study
Thursdays

10:00 a.m.

Pr. David Bohannon

Women's Evening Study
3rd Monday of the month
7:30 p.m.

Men's Bible Study
Sundays
7 p.m.

Pr. David Bohannon



Extra-Ordinary Sunday Prayer

The prayer below was written by the 3rd grade Sunday Church School class for Extra-Ordinary Sunday. The theme for the day was God's love is a seed in me.

Dear God,

You planted the seed of love in my heart.

Nourish me so the love grows.

Help me to share your love with others.

Amen+

ACTS Food Pantry Closed Until November 1

The ACTS Food Pantry has had to close due to lack of food. The following items are needed, monetary donations are also welcome.

Donations may be brought to the church office.

Most Needed Items:

Peanut Butter & Jelly

Tuna

Spaghetti-O's

Spaghetti Sauce

Canned Vegetables

Cereal

Mac & Cheese

Spaghetti

Canned Fruit

Canned Soup

Refrigerator Items:

Milk

Eggs

Meat

Non-Food Items:

Diapers

Deodorant, Soap

Shampoo

Toothbrushes

Toothpaste

Toilet Paper

Thank you for your support!

Financial Secretary & Treasurer's Report, September 2011

September Giving by Category

Current	\$ 56,766
Benevolence	7,983
Building	12,631
Memorial	120
Pass Through	675
Total	\$ 78,175

Year to Date \$ 761,325

To date we have given \$119,277 toward our congregation's benevolence commitments. \$16,763 has been given through our Samaritan Fund towards emergency assistance for utilities, rent, gas, food, car insurance and prescriptions.

Thank you for your faithfulness in giving to our parish ministries and community outreach.

Pat Hartline, Financial Secretary
Hugh Miller, Treasurer

Thrivent Presentation Choice Dollars Sunday, November 13

Marty Cox, Thrivent representative, will be here Sunday, November 13 following the 11 a.m. service to give a presentation on the Thrivent Choice Dollars program and to discuss upcoming Bull Run Chapter events. Thrivent for Lutherans provides matching funds for many of our service projects, providing additional funds to support those in need in our community.

BOY SCOUT TROOP & VENTURE CREW 1396 ANNOUNCE THEIR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE SALES



St. Matthew's Lutheran Church
Parking Lot / Picnic Area

Starting Saturday, November 26th, we will offer beautiful Fraser Fir trees and wreaths for sale. If you intend to buy a live tree this Christmas Season, please consider buying from Troop 1396.

Some very good reasons:

- Support the Boy Scouts (St. Matthew's sponsored troop).
- Our prices are very competitive.
- Sales lot is right here at St Matthew's.
- Your purchase will help fund wholesome activities for young men and women in our community.
- With each purchase, our Scouts will give the butt of your tree a fresh cut, professionally wrap it for transport, and mount it atop your vehicle.
- Buy your tree early and take your pick from the best on the lot. These are very good quality trees.
- ALSO: Consider purchasing a tree for an organization or family in need. Troop 1396 will provide free delivery to your favorite charity.

ACTS of Kindness Silent Auction

Saturday, November 5
6:30 p.m.

PWAR Headquarters
4545 Daisy Reid Road

Call Kathy Graydon for tickets
or information
703-441-8606 X212

NEWSLETTER

November 2011 Calendar

(See bulletin and posters on narthex bulletin board for more details)

Volunteers to ACTS	Tues., Nov. 1, 12-2 p.m.
Social Ministry Committee	Tues., Nov. 1, 8 p.m.
Women's Bible Study	Weds., Nov. 2, 10 a.m. Childcare provided
Confirmation	Weds., Nov. 2, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Sr. Choir	Weds., Nov. 2, 8 p.m.
Bible Study	Thurs., Nov. 3, 10 a.m.
Cherub/Youth Choir	Thurs., Nov. 3, 7-7:45 p.m.
Teen Choir	Thurs., Nov. 3, 8-8:45 p.m.
Finance & Stewardship Committee	Thurs., Nov. 3, 8 p.m.
Confirmation Retreat	Fri., Nov. 4 – Sun., Nov. 6
ACTS Silent Auction	Sat., Nov. 5, 6:30 p.m.
Extra-Ordinary Sunday, Grades 4, 5 & 6	Sun., Nov. 6, 9:45 a.m.
New Members Received	Sun., Nov. 6, 11 a.m. Worship Service Reception follows service
Sr. High Youth	Sun., Nov. 6, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Men's Bible Study	Sun., Nov. 6, 7 p.m.
Day School Committee	Mon., Nov. 7, 7:30 p.m.
Church Women	Tues., Nov. 8, 7:30 p.m.
Women's Bible Study	Weds., Nov. 9, 10 a.m. Childcare provided
Confirmation	Weds., Nov. 9, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Sr. Choir	Weds., Nov. 9, 8 p.m.
Bible Study	Thurs., Nov. 10, 10 a.m.
Prime Timers	Thurs., Nov. 10
Cherub/Youth Choir	Thurs., Nov. 10, 7-7:45 p.m.
Teen Choir	Thurs., Nov. 10, 8-8:45 p.m.
Evangelism Committee	Thurs., Nov. 10, 8 p.m.
Office Closed in Observance of Veterans Day	Fri., Nov. 11
Spring Timers	Sat., Nov. 12, 7 p.m.
Thrivent Presentation	Sun., Nov. 13, noon
Book Group	Sun., Nov. 13, 2:30 p.m.
Council	Sun., Nov. 13, 7 p.m.

Worship & Music Committee	Tues., Nov. 15, 7:30 p.m.
Women's Bible Study	Weds., Nov. 16, 10 a.m. Childcare provided
Confirmation	Weds., Nov. 16, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Sr. Choir	Weds., Nov. 16, 8 p.m.
Bible Study	Thurs., Nov. 17, 10 a.m.
Staff Meeting	Thurs., Nov. 17, 12:30 p.m.
Cherub/Youth Choir	Thurs., Nov. 17, 7-7:45 p.m.
Teen Choir	Thurs., Nov. 17, 8-8:45 p.m.
Fellowship Committee	Thurs., Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m.
Property Committee	Thurs., Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m.
Collating	Fri., Nov. 18, 10 a.m.
Sr. Citizen's Lunch Set up	Fri., Nov. 18, 6 p.m.
Sr. Citizen's Lunch	Sat., Nov. 19, noon
Commitment Sunday	Sun., Nov. 20 Donut & Bagel Reception follow- ing each worship service
Sr. High Youth Congregational Dinner	Sun., Nov. 20, 5:30 p.m.
Advent Friends Forms Due	Sun., Nov. 20
Women's Steering Committee	Tues., Nov. 22, 7:30 p.m.
No Women's Bible Study	Weds., Nov. 23
No Confirmation	Weds., Nov. 23
Cherub, Youth & Teen Choirs	Weds., Nov. 23, 6:45 – 7:15 p.m.
Thanksgiving Eve Service	Weds., Nov. 23, 7:30 p.m.
Sr. Choir	Weds., Nov. 23, 8:30 p.m.
Set up for Advent Dinner	Sun., Nov. 27, 2 p.m.
Advent Dinner	Sun., Nov. 27, 5:30 p.m., 7-12 grade youth Service Project
Women's Bible Study	Weds., Nov. 30, 10 a.m. Childcare provided
Confirmation	Weds., Nov. 30, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Sr. Choir	Weds., Nov. 30, 8 p.m.