



Advent Season Schedule

Advent, the season of preparation which precedes Christmas and begins the new Church Year, started on November 28. Once again, this Advent Season we will be offering brief Midweek Advent worship services on Wednesday nights in the St. Matthew chapel. Each brief devotional service will be preceded by a potluck dinner. The potlucks will be held at 6 pm with the devotional worship service to follow at 7 pm.

The focus of this year's Midweek Advent worship will be *My Soul Magnifies the Lord*, based on the Magnificat, the song of Mary in response to the angel Gabriel's announcement that she was to become the mother of the Messiah (Luke 1:46-55).

These Midweek Advent events will happen on December 1, 8, 15, and 22. Coffee, pop, and water will be provided. For your convenience, and to ensure that we do not all bring the same dishes to the potlucks, please use the following suggestions:

December 1

If your last name begins with the letters **A through J**, please bring a **salad**.

If your last name begins with the letters **K through P**, please bring a **main casserole dish**.

If your last name begins with the letters **R through W**, please bring a **dessert**.

December 8

If your last name begins with the letters **A through J**, please bring a **dessert**.

If your last name begins with the letters **K through P**, please bring a **salad**.

If your last name begins with the letters **R through W**, please bring a **main casserole dish**.

December 15

If your last name begins with the letters **A through J**, please bring a **main casserole dish**.

If your last name begins with the letters **K through P**, please bring a **dessert**.

If your last name begins with the letters **R through W**, please bring a **salad**.

December 22

If your last name begins with the letters **A through J**, please bring a **salad**.

If your last name begins with the letters **K through P**, please bring a **main casserole dish**.

If your last name begins with the letters **R through W**, please bring a **dessert**.



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9:15 am Sunday School
10:15 am Worship Service

Our worship service is broadcast weekly on
98.3 FM in Logan, Ohio.



Operation Christmas Child A Success!

We thank God for the 46 Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes that He enabled the people of St. Matthew to contribute in November! Those gift boxes will help spread the Good News of the God who so loves the world that Jesus went to the cross to open God's kingdom to all who repent and believe in Him. Thanks for taking Jesus' great commission to make disciples as part of your mission in life!

What Are The "Giants" In Your Life?

Giants are all those things that hang us up and threaten to destroy the life God intends for us. Maybe your giant is a sense of being rejected or ignored by others. It could be the people in your life who try to control you, shame over your past sins, people who cause you grief and give rise to thoughts of even small acts of revenge, the easy road of personal selfishness, grief, or anxiety. It might be forgetting to seek God's direction for your life and, instead, making the mistake of relying on your own wisdom. It could be those temptations to sin that you personally find most enticing and the most difficult to ignore.

Whatever your giant, you'll enjoy and profit from reading ***Facing Your Giants: A David and Goliath Story for Everyday People*** by Christian pastor and author, Max Lucado. It will be the subject of our next book discussion group/Bible study starting on January 10, 2011. The group will meet from 7 – 8:30 pm on Monday nights.

If you need a copy of the book, please see Pastor Mark, who will soon have a supply of books on hand. The cost per book is \$11.50. If you choose to write a check, please make it payable to St. Matthew Lutheran Church and write "Giants" on the memo line.

Thank You from WELCA

"Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you for your generosity in supporting the women's group outreach project for Lutheran World Relief. With your donations of towels, washcloths, toothbrushes, combs, fingernail files, band-aids, and money we were able to put together and donate 92 health kits. There were 91 extra bars of soap that we packaged and delivered. A special thank you goes to a group of "Good Samaritans" who surprised us by wrapping and tying the health kits. It was greatly appreciated. The health kits and soap will be distributed by Lutheran World Relief all over the world wherever disaster strikes. Once again, thank you for helping to spread God's love.

Helen Rauber, *Outreach Chairperson* & Margaret Mosure, *Helper*"

Helpers for December

Acolytes

December 5	Kayla Dunkle
December 12	Klaryssa Mullinax
December 19	Laikyn Lovas
December 24	Megan Gwinn
December 26	Grace Libben

Altar Flowers

December 5	David & Karrie Bias
December 12	<i>Open</i>
December 19	Betty Scaparrotti
December 26	<i>Open</i>

Altar Guild

December 5	Bonnie St. Clair & Beth Morgan
December 24	Howard & Mary Frances Sigler

Communion Assistants

December 5	Jim Vorhees
December 19	Nancy Magargal
December 24	Dee McLain

Lay Reader

Cory Inboden





A Special Thank You from Gwen Harmon

"The turnout for Wes' benefit dinner far outreached any expectations I could ever have imagined!!!!!! I'm not sure of the exact total - but I think it was around \$6000. That is absolutely unbelievable!!!!!! I cannot even put into words my gratitude for everyone who assisted, donated and attended. I tried my best to get around and speak with everyone, but I know I missed SO MANY PEOPLE. There were quite a few people from other congregations who I recognized, but did not know their names. It is still so overwhelming, and I must admit, it still brings tears to my eyes to think of how packed the Fellowship Hall was.

Wes was so happy to attend, too. Even though it exhausted him, he was happy to see so many people he had not seen in a while. He has been in such a good mood today, too.

I have been working on thank you notes most of the day. I am only about 1/3 of the way completed. I know there are so many people I will miss because so many paid with cash and many did not sign the register notebook. In a few days, if you want to send out an email to thank those I might have forgotten - I would appreciate it.

Thank you for your support and prayers,
Gwen"

"Electronic" Beacon

Please contact Lori Lovas (385-7250 or lorilovas@hotmail.com) if you would like to receive your copy of *The Lutheran Beacon* by e-mail. Sending an electronic newsletter will help save on printing and postage costs.

Remember In Prayer...

Ed Anderson, Wilma Bainter, Zachery Baron, Dorothy Beougher, James Braglin, Greg Byrd, Dianne Campbell, Joseph Michael Campbell, Clayton Cordle, Martha Culbertson, Pam Dotson, Bill Evans, Jerry & Myrna Gabriel, Steven Garavuso, Ralph Griffith, Wes Harmon, Diane Hillyer, Greg Huston, Karolyn Hutchinson, Leota Hutchinson, Glenn Karshner, Donald Kriza, George Mara, Mike McGonagle, Susan Mehr, Dale Meyers, Donna Maarehouse, Betty Mowery, Dorothy Mowery, Helen & Dick Mowrey, Shirley Redd, Andrea Ruff, Marty Smith, Carolyn Stallman, Sarah Starner, Elinor Stowe, Nancy Thomas, Rose Tucker, Wil Wallace, and Shelley Zeisler.

Also, Remember those in the Service: MG Mike Scaparrotti, Lt. Luke High, Airman Jeremy Landers, Capt. Annie Rudick Funk, Epl. Kyle Campbell, Chief Petty Officer Dustin Garner, and Major Andy Duus.

A Note of Thanks

"Thank you for your prayers and support these past couple of years. Not a day goes by that I don't think about you.

Sincerely,
Philip Daniels"



- 1 Bonnie Moore
Chad Moore
- 5 Bonnie St. Clair
- 6 Halle Riddlebarger
- 10 Susie Hall
- 12 Jim Helber
Sarah Hall
Abby Kerns
- 18 Pete Hartley
Nathan Johnson
- 19 Rev. Janice Winters
Richard Johnson
Erica Johnson
Kylan Harmon
- 21 Nancy Thomas
Nick Stewart
- 22 Isaac Dunkle
- 24 Butch Myers
- 26 Nancy Johnson
- 29 Dale Meyers
- 30 Tammy Wray
Angie McAfee
Jacob Holdren
- 31 Michael Scaparrotti



30-Hour Famine

On February 25 and 26, 2011 the youth of St. Matthew will be involved in the 30-Hour Famine. These St. Matthew teens will go without food for 30 hours in order to raise money and awareness regarding world hunger. They will be “locked in” the St. Matthew building, will have lots of fun, pray, and learn. Before the “famine,” they will be taking pledges of support which, on their successful completion of the famine, will go to world hunger relief efforts. Please start to pray now that God will use that weekend for His purposes!

Church Council

Remember that St. Matthew’s Church Council members are always available to hear your ideas on how to help our congregation to better do its job of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with others and how to do that better. The Church Council includes the following St. Matthew members:

President	Dave Libben
Vice President	Jim Kalklosch
Secretary	Debbie Klinebriel
Treasurer	Susan Rauber
Elders	Jim Vorhees Dee McLain Nancy Magargal
Deacons	Mark Morgan Cory Inboden Tony Funk Fran Funk
Trustees	David Rauber Bret Lovas Richard (Pink) Johnson
WELCA Rep	Lorie Ellinger
Youth Reps	Jacob Gwinn Stephen Starner



As an extension of the St. Matthew Church Council’s ongoing and longstanding commitment to getting information to the congregation, several new procedures were agreed to at the November council meeting: (1) Twenty copies of the regular council minutes will be available in the fellowship hall; (2) Twenty copies will also be available in the back of the sanctuary; (3) Copies of the minutes will be sent to the shut-ins; (4) A link to the minutes will also appear on the church website. The same procedures will be followed on the monthly treasurer’s report.

NATIVITY SCENE POTS

Celebrate the joy of Christmas — and remember Jesus’ birth — by making this craft to decorate your home or to give as a gift.

What you need:

- 3 terra cotta pots (any size)
- Acrylic paints (including one for skin color)
- Paintbrush
- Craft glue (or a glue gun, with an adult to help)
- Brown yarn
- Material swatches
- Straw-colored raffia

What you do:

1. Decide which pot will be Joseph, Mary and baby Jesus. Turn each pot upside-down and paint a face on each one.
2. Decorate the pots by painting hair and clothes or by using yarn and material as hair and head coverings.
3. For baby Jesus, glue raffia along the bottom to look like straw in a manger.



St. Matthew Lutheran Church

December 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 12 pm WELCA Luncheon at the Old Dutch Restaurant 6 pm Advent Supper 7 pm Advent Service			
5 Monthly Luncheon 2 - 4 pm Mohler Baby Shower			8 6 pm Advent Supper 7 pm Advent Service			
		7 pm Church Council Meeting	6 pm Advent Supper 7 pm Advent Service		10 am Music & Worship Committee	9 am – 2:30 pm Catechism Class
Children's Christmas Program		Newsletter submissions due (Please submit to Lori Lovas)	6 pm Advent Supper 7 pm Advent Service		11 pm Christmas Eve Service	
CHAP Donations						