

ST. MATTHEW

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

January
2023

THE ACTS...of God's People



1725 South 60th Street
Omaha, NE 68106
(402) 556-7030
office@smlutheran.com
www.smlutheran.com

HICKORY STREET HOUSE SALE – *Update #2*

~ by *Scott Albright* ~

The Congregation Council has elected to move the proceeds from the sale of the Hickory Street property out of the General Fund. The sale proceeds, \$240,000 created an unrealistic impression of funds available to the budget of Saint Matthew. It is important that the General Fund be reflective of the giving and stewardship of the Congregation. Also, the General Fund account earns no interest.

In early December, the sum of \$240,000 was transferred to Dundee Bank into designated accounts. The funds were invested in this manner: \$100,000 to a seven-month certificate-of-deposit, and \$140,000 directly to an interest-bearing money-market account. The Council is requiring that a minimum of \$50,000 remain in the money market-account. With Council approval, up to \$90,000 may be invested in stocks or bonds, in a manner generally comparable to the Endowment Fund. A number of Saint Matthew members have been advising the Council in this movement of funds.

The Council is intending to keep these funds intact, unless the Congregation should meet some profound emergency. We wish to have the full funds on hand through the call of our next Pastor. The council desires to have the vision and input of our next called Pastor prior to altering from from this stated position. The use of these funds may be subject to change in the future. The Congregation Treasurer, Financial Secretary, and full Council maintain the same oversight of the Hickory House funds as they do for any other Congregational funds.

Please contact any Congregation Council member with your questions and/or comments.

Scott Albright
Congregation Council President

ATTENTION

ORGANIZATION CHAIRS!

Your information is requested for inclusion into the
2022 Annual Report of the Congregation

It's time to say good-bye to 2022! Of course, that means all Saint Matthew organization chairpersons should be compiling their 2022 reports for our upcoming Annual Meeting.

Every ministry, committee and organizations of the church should please include a clear statement of purpose of your organization in the introduction to your report, and along with your brief summary of your work this past year please also provide any pertinent organizational financial reports.

Please submit your reports electronically to the church office as soon as possible, as this will allow Lena to most efficiently compile your information for distribution.

The Congregation Council has chosen to postpone designating a specific date for the Annual Meeting until an interim pastor has been chosen and has joined us. Thank you one and all for your patience during this time of transition.





IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE?

“Call Jack!”



Jack Wiese continues to serve Saint Matthew as our church's building Custodian. He requests your ongoing assistance in identifying areas of need in keeping our church property clean.

Contact Lena in the church office, leave a note—or better yet—use the back of your yellow worship registration sheet (Sure, make it a prayer request!).

* VERY IMPORTANT *

Jack is also, now, more than ever, serving as our “gate-keeper.” Until our pastoral vacancy is filled there may be more hours in any given week during which staff may not be present in our building. Please, **“Call Jack”** at 402-739-1938 to unlock doors to enter our building if you do not have a key, and to report any issues that may need to be addressed. Thank you everyone!

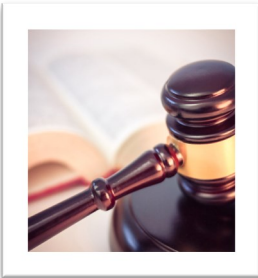
WORSHIP SERVANTS NEEDED

Worship Servants help our worship gatherings function efficiently & effectively, so that we all can experience the Word of Grace in all its fullness.



- ◆ **Ushers:** Aid worshippers by providing direction before and during the worship, making sure that worshippers have bulletins and other supplies needed for the Sunday morning service. Ushers are the first line of hospitality.
- ◆ **Communion Assistants:** Assist with serving the Holy Communion elements during Sunday worship services. Special training is provided, and assistants are scheduled in rotation depending on need.
- ◆ **The Altar Guild:** Assists in preparation for worship and communion before services and returns unused items back where they belong afterwards. They check supply inventory, prepare font for baptisms, and wash and care for acolyte and communion assistant robes when needed. Altar Guild members work in teams of two, and are assigned two months of the year.
- ◆ **Scripture Readers (Lectors):** The Scriptures are His voice, and when Scriptures are read aloud, we hear God's words to his people. Lectors read aloud pre-selected passages from the bible during our worship service.
- ◆ **AND...**

COUNCIL MEMBERS



Saint Matthew is also looking for more faithful servants to fill vacancies on the Congregation Council. We need your input and care in the direction of Saint Matthew. The times are challenging, yet, the rewards are great. You may offer yourself, or suggest another person whom you would entrust.

Please contact Scott Albright, (402) 598-4087, with your offering of service, suggestions, and questions, or you may contact any other Council member as well.

We thank you for your consideration, time, and for serving our church community in all you do.

- *Scott Albright*

January 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Jan 1, 23 New Year's Day (United States) 9:30am Sunday Worship 10:30am Coffee & Fellowship 10:45am Festival Choir	2 New Year's Day (Observed) (United States) 9:00am Tanzania Treasures (Classroom 4 & 5)	3 9:00am Sewing for Babies (Art Room)	4 6:00pm Jubilee Choir Practice (Room)
8 9:30am Sunday Worship 10:30am Coffee & Fellowship 10:45am Festival Choir Practice (Sanctuary)	9 9:00am Tanzania Treasures (Classroom 4 & 5) 6:00pm Worship Ministry Team (Zoom Meeting)	10	11 6:00pm Jubilee Choir Practice (Room)
15 9:30am Sunday Worship 10:30am Coffee & Fellowship 10:45am Festival Choir Practice (Sanctuary)	16 9:00am Tanzania Treasures (Classroom 4 & 5) 7:00pm Church Council Meeting	17 9:00am Sewing for Babies (Art Room)	18 6:00pm Jubilee Choir Practice (Room)
22 9:30am Sunday Worship 10:30am Coffee & Fellowship 10:45am Festival Choir Practice (Sanctuary)	23 9:00am Tanzania Treasures (Classroom 4 & 5)	24 1:00pm Prayer Circle	25 6:00pm Jubilee Choir Practice (Room)
29 9:30am Sunday Worship 10:30am Coffee & Fellowship 10:45am Festival Choir Practice (Sanctuary)	30 9:00am Tanzania Treasures (Classroom 4 & 5)	31	Feb 1

MATTHEW
LUTHERAN CHURCH

January 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1/1/23	1/2/23	1/3/23	1/4/23	1/5/23	1/6/23	1/7/23

February 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
2/5/23	2/6/23	2/7/23	2/8/23	2/9/23	2/10/23	2/11/23

DAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ELLston Bell choir (Bell Choir)	5	6	7 9:00am Jochebed Circle
ELLston Bell choir (Bell Choir)	12	13	14 10:30am Memorial Service - Richard & Janice Johnson (Sanctuary)
ELLston Bell choir (Bell Choir)	19 6:30am Akshaben Elmwood Neighborhood Association (Fellowship Hall)	20 9:00am Fantastic Fibers Meeting (Fellowship Hall)	21 10:00am Leaves and Fishes Food Pantry (Fellowship Hall, Lower Level classrooms)
ELLston Bell choir (Bell Choir)	26	27	28 9:30am Deborah Circle
	2	3	4

LUTHERAN WOMEN OF OMAHA

Tuesday

January 10, 2023

12:00 noon

Place: Rejoice' Lutheran Church
2550 S. 138th Street

Cost: \$3.00 (Bring your own lunch; drinks and
dessert will be provided.)

Program: "No More Empty Pots"
(Garden planting to table prep.)

FREE WILL OFFERING: No More Empty Pots
Monetary

Reservations to Mardelle Gocek—402-292-1328
by Sunday, January 8, 2023

ST. MATTHEWS FINANCIAL REPORT

NOVEMBER 2022

(Revised)

Beginning Balance:	\$ 262,272.65
Receipts:	\$ 12,839.02
Payments:	\$ 18,292.87
Transfers:	\$ 0.00
Ending Balance:	\$ 256,818.80

Benevolence Offerings

Receipts: \$ 1,240.00

Dispersed: \$ 1,334.00

Hunger Offerings

Receipts: \$ 40.00

Dispersed: \$ 40.00

Hello everyone,

Thanks to a dedicated staff and board, passionate volunteers and partnerships that continue to lift us up, we were able to support a lot of



people in need this year, and the need is rising. Sadly, food insecurity is growing among our community and most of our families come from the working poor. The church office receives 5-10 inquiries a week regarding when the pantry will be open and available to them. Our being able to provide these families with food is such a blessing, and we have you all to thank for your generosity in making that happen.

In general, our needs include:

Boxed potatoes, bottled juice, jelly, SPAM, toilet paper, paper towels, bar soap, Ritz crackers, pancake mix, canned potatoes, cream of mushroom soup, cream of chicken soup, sugar, flour, hamburger helper, tuna helper, Manwich sloppy joe sauce, boxed breakfast cereals, apple sauce, saltine crackers, toothpaste, boxed macaroni and cheese, canned vegetables, and anything else you may have seen on our lists of requests prior.

Thanks for your continued support of this very much needed ministry. We are truly grateful for all your donations, time, and support.

WORSHIP SERVANTS

Readings are usually e-mailed weekly on Mondays, however, our church office is a tad busy with the transition taking place. Please contact the church office if you need to receive a copy in advance.

Also - If you cannot make our scheduled service, please attempt to find a substitute, and notify the church office of your unavailability and replacement, ASAP.

Thank you for your faithful service!

JANUARY 2023

Date/ Time	Lector	Communion Assistants	Ushers	Camera Tech	Altar Guild
Jan. 1 9:30 am	Michael Waits	Nate Houfek, Deanna Hansen	Dennis & Margie Magnuson	Derek Copenhaver	Mary Peters, Tammy Nelson- Lovett
Jan. 8 9:30 am	Deanna Hansen	Chris Chubb	Michael Lisko Kent Ties	Derek Copenhaver	Mary Peters, Tammy Nelson- Lovett
Jan. 15 9:30 am	Nate Houfek	Susan Hollenbeck	John Hollenbeck, Rochelle Foy	Derek Copenhaver	Mary Peters, Tammy Nelson- Lovett
Jan. 22 9:30 am	Scott Albright	Marlys Hanson	Randy Cramer, Val Zentner Cramer	Derek Copenhaver	Mary Peters, Tammy Nelson- Lovett
Jan. 29 9:30 am	Linda Hill	Dennis Magnuson	Dave Sherwin, Marlys Hanson	Derek Copenhaver	Mary Peters, Tammy Nelson- Lovett

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor ~ TBD
Office Administrator ~ Lena Johnson
Music Director ~ Ric Swanson
Organist ~ Kim Hansen
JuBELLation Ringers Director ~ Ginger Britt
Custodian ~ Jack Wiese

CHURCH OFFICE INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS ~ Monday through Friday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Please call before coming to make sure we are available to assist you as needed. If no one is available, leave a message and we will call you back as soon as possible.

CALENDAR ~ All events, activities or meetings planned to be held at St. Matthew need to be placed on the church calendar. To schedule an event, activity or meeting, please call the church office and speak to Lena Johnson, our Office Administrator. She will be happy to assist you!

WEEKLY BULLETIN ~ All information for announcements need to be in the church office by Wednesday at noon.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER ~ All information for the monthly newsletter (“The Acts”) is due in the church office on the 20th of each month.

PAPER RECYCLING ~ We recycle church bulletins and other printed items once no longer needed. You may leave your Sunday bulletin in the box on the table in the narthex when the service is over.

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“Empowered by God as committed disciples, we boldly care for and serve our congregation, our community and our world.”

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

This newsletter is now available on our church website and is emailed to our members and friends. To help decrease the cost of printing and postage, please notify the church office of your current email address. Thank you!



~CONTACT INFORMATION~

Office (402) 556-7030
Email: office@smlutheran.com
Web Site: www.smlutheran.com

~WORSHIP SCHEDULE~

Sunday @ 9:30 a.m.
Holy Communion Every Week

~SUNDAY COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP~

10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall