

**St. Matthew's Church & School Announcements**  
**December 8 & 9, 2018**



10:15 AM Bible Class & Sunday School  
 10:15 AM Handbells  
 10:15 AM Transform Youth

**Preacher & Presiding Minister:** Pastor Matthew Schoell

**Organist:** Tricia Bain

**Hymns:** 16, 366 v. 3, insert, 11, 4

**Altar Committee:** Cindy Bade & Sue Berg

**Councilmen on Duty:** Saturday— Bruce Volkmann

Sunday— Jeremy Church

Candlelight—Craig Smith

Wednesday— Chad Dobberstein

Next Saturday— Cory Putz

Next Sunday— Matt Cole

**Ushers:** Saturday – Allen Larson & Ken Krause

Sunday – Rich Frahm

**Greeters:** Saturday — John & Sue Meinke

Sunday— Darlene Metzler

Wednesday—Roberta Kiekbusch & Jodi Sonnenfeld

Next Saturday— Dan & Angela Bunke

Next Sunday— Jim & Lila Nelson

**Last Week**

Attendance: Saturday & Sunday—142 Midweek Advent—194

**This Week**

Sunday	9:00 AM	Worship/Communion/Children's Church
	9:00 AM	Worship Service broadcasted on HBC Channel 20
	10:15 AM	Bible Class & Sunday School
	10:15 AM	Handbells
	11:00 AM	Worship Service Radio KAGE 1380AM or 101.5FM
	11:30 AM	Club 3:16
	5:00 PM	Church Anniversary/Candlelight
Monday	7:00 PM	Worship Service broadcasted on Charter Channel 986
	1:30 PM	Women's Bible Circle
	6:00 PM	Boy & Girl Pioneers
Tuesday		Finance #2
	7:00 PM	Senior Choir
	7:00 PM	Worship Service broadcasted on Charter Channel 986
		Wednesday 7:55 AM Chapel
Thursday	4:00 PM	Public School Catechism
	6:00 PM	Advent Worship-meal to follow
	12:00 PM	Circle 1
Friday	6:00 PM	Church Council
	6:30 AM	Men's Bible Class
Next Saturday	8:30-10 AM	Children's Christmas Practice
	6:00 PM	Worship
Next Sunday	9:00 AM	Worship

**Financial News**

Weekly Budget for Envelope Offerings: \$7,500

Envelope amount received last week: \$12,503.33

**St. Matthew's Announcements**

**Prayer Partners** are wanting to serve you. Request a prayer at SMLCPP@gmail.com, by using in the gold box in the narthex, or by speaking to the pastors, Susan Gannaway, Joleen Smith, or Barb Gurgel.

**Holiday Sale** St. Matthew's Cookbooks are on sale for just \$1! Pick one up today!

**It's Time to Order Your Christmas Poinsettias!** There is a sign-up sheet in the back of church for poinsettias that will be used to decorate the front of church over the Christmas season. Plants are just \$9.50 each and are available in red, or white. Please send payment to the office. Checks should be made out to St. Matthew's Church. These can be given as memorials and can be taken home with you after the Christmas Day service. **Deadline to order is today, December 9th.**

**Transformed Youth** Transformed Youth will meet on Sunday, December 16th at 10:15am.

**A Door Offering** will be taken this weekend (Dec. 8 & 9) and next weekend (Dec. 15 & 16) to help cover the expenses of the children's Christmas bags given out after the children's service on Christmas Eve.

**Offering Envelopes For 2019** Offering envelopes for 2019 are available for pick up in the church basement. They are arranged alphabetically on the pews in the basement fellowship area.

**Babysitting Available!** Club 3:16 will be offering babysitting on December 16 from 1:00-4:00? There is no cost, but a free will donation is appreciated. The children can be dropped off and picked up in the gym. Signing up on the back of the sheet in the church is encouraged, but not mandatory.

**Club 3:16 Christmas Party** Club 3:16 will be having a Christmas party from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. on December 16. Everyone in grades 7-12 are invited. We will meet in the Club 3:16 room.

**Christmas Caroling** On Thursday, December 20 at 12:15 pm., students K-8th Grade will be singing at the Merchants Bank. At 12:30 p.m. they will be at the Watkins Manor and Sugar Loaf. They will wrap their caroling at the Winona Manor, Adith Miller, & Roger Metz resident homes. Not only will the students be singing carols, they will also share portions of the Christmas story. What a wonderful opportunity for our students to let their light shine in song and tell what Jesus has done for them! If you are in the area, stop in and join us!

**The Coulee Region OWLS** will be holding their monthly meeting on Thursday, December 13, 2018 at First Ev. Lutheran Church, 400 West Avenue South La Crosse, at 12:00 Noon with a Potluck Luncheon. Please bring a dish to pass and your own table service. Coffee will be provided. All church members -men and women age 55 or older – are welcome. The program

will be a Christmas Message and Christmas music presented by Pastor Sachs. Please come for a visit, enjoy the friends you meet, a good lunch, and an excellent program.

**Anniversary Celebration** Following our Sunday service next week St. Matthew's will recognize Pastor Gurgel's 50 years of ministry with brief reception. We hope you'll be able to join us in thanking God for this wonderful blessing!

**Midweek Advent Service** Our second midweek service will be on Wednesday, December 12 at 6pm. Following the service, St. Matthew's Senior Choir will be serving tater tot hotdish, assorted salads and desserts.

#### **Opportunities to Hear God's Word**

**Church Anniversary** Our Church Anniversary Candlelight Service will be tonight, Sunday, December 9th at 5:00pm. Join us for this yearly opportunity to cherish the past and prepare for the future of St. Matthew's. Women's Fellowship will be serving dinner following the service. There are signup sheets in back for bringing salad and bars. The committee thanks you for your support!

**Children's Christmas service** "Saints and Angel Hosts Rejoice" is the name of the Children's Christmas Service this year. Once again, we will offer two services at St. Matthew's. The first service will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, December 21. After the service on Friday, December 21, there will be a time for snacks and fellowship in the church basement. The Children's Christmas Service will also be presented on Sunday, December 23 for the morning worship service at 9:00 am.

#### **Ways to Serve**

**Ronald McDonald House** Again this year, instead of a gift exchange among students, the families of St. Matthew's School are encouraged to purchase Christmas presents for the Ronald McDonald House. Last year was a great success and an amazing way to show God's love to those who are suffering. If you would like to be involved in this mission, please pick up a copy of the WISH LIST (green sheet) in the back of church. These are items that are needed the most. Please note: All items must be unopened, unexpired, and unused and cannot be wrapped. This is for the safety of the patients at the house. You can bring any RMDH donations to office or leave in the basket in back of church. Please continue to save your soda can tabs for the McDonald House. They really add up!

**Poinsettias** are traditionally delivered to all our shut-ins during the Christmas season. If you are willing to help with this need on December 10, please sign up in the back of church or by calling Amanda in the church office at 452-2085. We thank you for your willingness to serve!

**St. Matthew's Wish Tree** This Christmas we ask that you give a gift of love to a child in our community by choosing a card from the St. Matthew's Wish Tree located in the main entrance of the church. Simply choose one or more cards, take a Christmas card for each child you choose, purchase an item listed on the child's wish list. Wrap it, tape the Christmas card to the gift) and place the wrapped gift under the St. Matthew's Wish Tree. Please do not spend more than \$35 on a child's gift. **Gifts are due no later than December 9.**

**Blood Drive** Due to a scheduling conflict, St. Matthew's will be hosting a Blood Drive on **December 11th from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. instead of January 8<sup>th</sup>** as listed in December's newsletter. We are looking for volunteers to help with the drive, a sign up is in the back of the church. If you want to donate blood you can visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and enter:stmatthewswinona to schedule an appointment or call 1-800-733-2767.

**Attention Altar Committee Members:** The schedule for February through July will be done in the next couple of weeks. If you would like a certain time frame, please contact the office with your request. We need at least one more person to serve on this committee. Please contact the office with any questions.

**Taking Down the Decorations** Everyone is invited to join Adult Fellowship in taking down and packing away this year's Christmas decorations on Sunday, January 6th. We will start with a potluck lunch after Bible class. **COME ONE – COME ALL.**

*Today's bulletin is given by Craig & Joleen Smith in memory of Joleen's parents*

# 'TIS THE SEASON FOR. . . CHRISTMAS SCRIP!!

Are you going to be giving Christmas gifts this year? If so, think about give Scrip gift cards. It is easy, and it will profit both St. Matthew's School and for parents & grandparents of kids in school you can earn tuition credit for your student. We average 5% profit from our Scrip sales. Not only can Scrip cards make your shopping easier, but it can also do double-duty by giving you tuition credit.

Stop in and see the Scrip ladies after church services or stop in the office during the week. Pick up the quick list of the local and more common Scrip merchants or take the bigger (yellow) copy that lists all of the merchants that participate in Scrip.

Here's just a few that can be ordered:

Amazon	Best Buy	Domino's
Buffalo Wild Wings	Cabela's	iTunes
Taco Bell	Home Depot	Maurices
Texas Roadhouse		

We can also order VISA or Discover cards in \$50, \$100, \$250 increments.

Here are a few ideas that are in-stock as stocking stuffers:

Midtown & HyVee - \$10 (as well as \$25, \$50 & \$100)

Kwik Trip - \$5 (as well as \$10, \$25, \$50 & \$100)

Pizza Hut - \$10

Papa Murphy's - \$10

Subway - \$10

Culver's - \$10

Ground Round - \$5

Arby's - \$10

Dairy Queen - \$10

Perkins - \$10

Caribou - \$10

Starbuck's - \$10

**One final special order will be made on Monday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.**

Orders will be back later that same week. Leave your order with the scrip lady or call the office. Don't forget to ask for your holiday gift wrappers. Free with a \$25