

St. Matthew's Lutheran

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

766 West Wabasha Street, Winona MN 55987

Church and School Phone: 507.454.3083

www.stmatthewswinona.org

www.facebook.com/stmatthewswinona



*Seek the things
that are above,
where Christ is.*

COLOSSIANS 3:1, ESV

Pastor Winfried Schroeder

1.605.281.0155

winfriedj6@gmail.com

Pastor Jason Threlkeld

Vacancy pastor

1.414.943.4461

pastorthrelkeld@gmail.com

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

August 2 & 3, 2025

Closer to Jesus, Closer Together

Welcome to our Guests.

Thanks for joining us! We are gathered here to be strengthened in the faith through the Word of Jesus, the Son of God who has come to save us. If there is anything that we can do to serve you, please let us know.

BIBLE BASICS!

What is the Bible all about? What does a WELS church teach that is different from other churches? What do I/or a friend need to know to be a member of St. Matthew's? If you or someone you know has these questions we have the answer. We are having a Bible Study on the basics of God's Word Tuesdays at 6:30pm at Trinity Lutheran Church in Wilson MN, led by Pastor Jason Threlkeld. The class will be an hour long and will be once a week. We will start this class August 5th. Come and bring a Friend! This is a great way to review and to bring Jesus to friends and family!

There is a new mini **outreach group** that you may contact if there is someone you are wanting to invite to church or would like to give a bible presentation to. These men are willing to meet with you and that person at a place of your choosing to talk with, listen to and share with them.

Shannon Bohme- 651-324-4218; **Dean Rupprecht**- 507-730-8854; **Jeff Sell**- 801-895-9910

OUR MISSION

The mission of every Christian and this congregation is to serve all people in God's world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ on the basis of the Holy Scriptures.

OUR FACILITIES

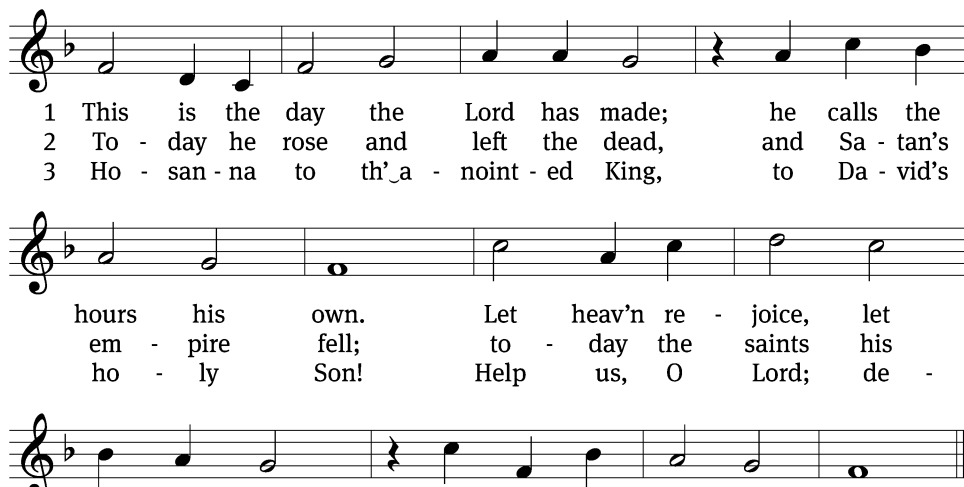
A restroom is located in the Mother's Room at the back of church and also in the church basement. There is also a handicapped accessible restroom in the back of church. Ask an usher for help and directions. The members of St. Matthew's believe that families should be allowed to worship together. If the need arises, we have an audio-equipped children's room just outside of the church doors to your left. If you need anything during the service, please feel free to ask an usher.

Out of courtesy for your fellow worshipers, please silence all electronic devices.

Opening Hymn

922 This Is the Day the Lord Has Made

CW 922 sts. 1–3



1 This is the day the Lord has made; he calls the
2 To - day he rose and left the dead, and Sa - tan's
3 Ho - san - na to th'_a - noint - ed King, to Da - vid's

hours his own. Let heav'n re - joice, let
em - pire fell; to - day the saints his
ho - ly Son! Help us, O Lord; de -

earth be glad and praise sur - round the throne.
tri - umphs spread and all his won - ders tell.
scend and bring sal - va - tion from the throne.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But

Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

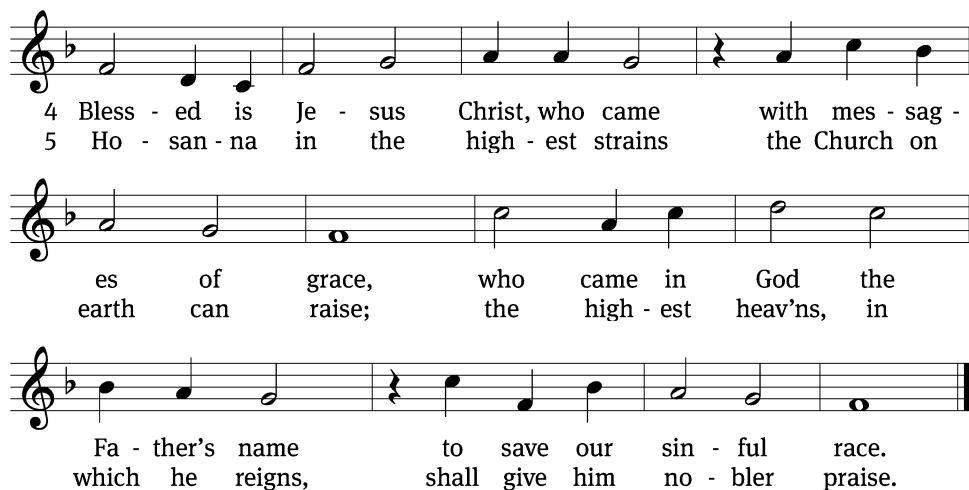
Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise our Lord.

922 This Is the Day the Lord Has Made

CW 922 sts. 4-5



4 Bless - ed is Je - sus Christ, who came with mes - sag -
5 Ho - san - na in the high - est strains the Church on

es of grace, who came in God the
earth can raise; the high - est heav'ns, in

Fa - ther's name to save our sin - ful race.
which he reigns, shall give him no - bler praise.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

Text and tune: Public domain

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O Lord, grant us wisdom to recognize the treasures you have stored up for us in heaven that we may never despair but always rejoice and be thankful for the riches of your grace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Ecclesiastes 1:1-2,12-14; 2:18-26

¹The words of the Teacher, son of David, king in Jerusalem:

²“Meaningless! Meaningless!”

says the Teacher.

“Utterly meaningless!

Everything is meaningless.”

¹²I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³I applied my mind to study and to explore by wisdom all that is done under the heavens. What a heavy burden God has laid on mankind! ¹⁴I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

¹⁸I hated all the things I had toiled for under the sun, because I must leave them to the one who comes after me. ¹⁹And who knows whether that person will be wise or foolish? Yet they will have control over all the fruit of my toil into which I have poured my effort and skill under the sun. This too is meaningless. ²⁰So my heart began to despair over all my toilsome labor under the sun. ²¹For a person may labor with wisdom, knowledge and skill, and then they must leave all they own to another who has not toiled for it. This too is

meaningless and a great misfortune. ²²What do people get for all the toil and anxious striving with which they labor under the sun? ²³All their days their work is grief and pain; even at night their minds do not rest. This too is meaningless.

²⁴A person can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in their own toil. This too, I see, is from the hand of God, ²⁵for without him, who can eat or find enjoyment? ²⁶To the person who pleases him, God gives wisdom, knowledge and happiness, but to the sinner he gives the task of gathering and storing up wealth to hand it over to the one who pleases God. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Colossians 3:1–11

¹Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. ⁹Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. ¹¹Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

John 20:31

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel

Luke 12:13–21

¹³Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

¹⁴Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” ¹⁵Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

¹⁶And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’”

¹⁸“Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. ¹⁹And I’ll say to myself, ‘You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.’”

²⁰“But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

²¹“This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

776 With the Lord Begin Your Task

CW 776



1 With the Lord be - gin your task; Je - sus will di - rect it.
2 Let each day be - gin with prayer, praise and ad - o - ra - tion.
3 With your Sav - ior at your side foes need not a - larm you;
4 If your task is thus be - gun with the Sav - ior's bless - ing,



For his aid and coun - sel ask; Je - sus will per - fect it.
On the Lord cast ev - 'ry care; he is your sal - va - tion.
in his prom - is - es con - fide and no ill can harm you.
safe - ly then your course will run, naught your soul dis - tress - ing.



Ev - 'ry morn with Je - sus rise, and, when day is end - ed,
Morn - ing, eve - ning, and at night Je - sus will be near you,
All your trust and hope re - pose in the might - y Mas - ter,
Good will fol - low ev - 'ry - where while you here must wan - der;



in his name then close your eyes; be to him com - mend - ed.
save you from the tempt - er's might, with his pres - ence cheer you.
who in wis - dom tru - ly knows how to stem dis - as - ter.
you at last the joy will share in the man - sions yon - der.

Text: Morgen- und Abend-segen, Waldenburg, 1734, abr.; tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890–1950, alt.

Tune: Peter Frank, 1616–1675

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 715394

Tune: Public domain

Sermon

Ecclesiastes 2: 17-26

Is Your Life Meaningless or Meaningful?

I. In and of itself, life is meaningless.

II. In God, life is meaningful.

Stand

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be seated

Thank Offering

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to give an offering.

Our offerings will be collected today at the church entrance and brought forward during the offering hymn. To give by phone send a text message to 844-703-3129 with the amount you would like to contribute and you will be sent further instructions.

695 Take My Life and Let It Be

CW 695 sts. 4, 6



4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with-hold;
6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its trea - sure store;



take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.
take my - self, and I will be ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879
Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870
Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Church

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, [*especially . . . here name the person and the cause of the petition*]. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors, [especially . . . here name the person]. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.
Amen.

717 What Is the World to Me

CW 717



1 What is the world to me with all its vaunt-ed plea - sure
2 The world seeks af - ter wealth and all that mon - ey of - fers,
3 The world is like a cloud and like a va - por fleet - ing,
4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my trea - sure,



when you and you a - lone, Lord Je - sus, are my trea - sure!
yet nev - er is con - tent though gold should fill its cof - fers.
a shad - ow that de - clines, swift to its end re - treat - ing.
my life, my health, my wealth, my friend, my love, my plea - sure,



You on - ly, dear - est Lord, my soul's de - light shall be;
I have a high - er good, con - tent with it I'll be;
My Je - sus shall re - main, though all things fade and flee,
my joy, my crown, my all, my bliss e - ter - nal - ly.



you are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!
my Je - sus is my wealth. What is the world to me!
my ev - er - last - ing rock. What is the world to me!
Once more then I de - clare: What is the world to me!

Text: Georg M. Pfefferkorn, 1645–1732, abr.; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and T give you peace.

Amen.

Video Presentation

Today's Bulletin is sponsored by the Nelsestuens to honor their granddaughter, Makenzie Kenyon's birthday, born August 5th, 2001

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Liturgical and musical settings of Scripture based on text from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.

Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.

Announcements

August 2 & 3, 2025

Worship Leader – Oliver Lindholm

Organist – Carol Schroeder



Councilmen on Duty this Weekend

Saturday 5PM – Dean Rupprecht

Sunday 9AM – Shannon Bohme

Ushers on Duty this Weekend

Saturday 5PM – Dean Rupprecht

Sunday 9AM – Steve Erickson group

Altar Committee – Sue Gannaway & Rose Drazkowski

Last Week Attendance: Saturday – 54; Sunday – 102

This Week – August 3-10

Sunday	9:00 AM	Worship
	10:15 AM	Bible Class
	11:00 AM	Worship Service Radio KAGE 1380AM or 101.5FM
Monday		Finance #1
	6:00 PM	Adult & Youth Discipleship and Outreach Committee
Tuesday		
Wednesday	12:00 PM	Circle 8
	2:30 PM	Lake Winona Manor Service
	7:00 PM	Worship Service broadcasted on HBC Channel 20
Thursday	11:30 AM	Women's Bible Study @ Beno's
	6:00 PM	Building & Grounds
	6:45 PM	Board of Elders
Friday		
Next Saturday	5:00 PM	Worship/Communion
Next Sunday	9:00 AM	Worship/Communion
	10:15 AM	Bible Class
	11:00 AM	Worship Service Radio KAGE 1380AM or 101.5FM

Financial News

Weekly Budget for Envelope Offerings: \$8,173.08

Offerings received July 26 & 27: \$4,101.00

Boiler Fund Goal: \$722,225

Boiler Fund Total Received: \$621,718 (up \$4,270 over last two weeks)

Boiler Fund Pledges Outstanding: \$10,740

Boiler Payment #2: \$275,153 paid this week Boiler Payment #3: \$67,972 due end of Aug

Boiler Payment final: \$25,000 due Dec 1

Boiler Fund Contributions: Please either write separate checks for the boiler fund or clearly mark on your envelope how much is to be contributed to the Boiler Fund.

Church Announcements:

Pastoral Call: We have called Rev. Andrew G. Ewald who is currently serving at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Mosinee WI. Please keep Rev. Ewald and his family in your prayers. His contact information: pastor.andrew.ewald@gmail.com 715-693-2910 (work number)

Heating System Project Update / Challenge / Celebration

We're grateful to share that our Heating System Project is nearing completion, bringing renewed comfort and care to our church home.

Through the grace of God and the generosity of an anonymous donor, we have received a \$15,000 matching grant to support this effort. We invite members to prayerfully consider making a contribution between August 2nd and September 7th. Every gift given during this period will be matched, allowing your generosity to go twice as far in meeting this important need.

Though the system will soon be in place, we will continue to welcome donations to help retire the loans that made this project possible. We thank you for your faithful support and stewardship.



Please join us for a Celebration Service on Sunday, September 14th, as we rejoice together in the completion of this work and the blessings it brings to our congregation.

Lunch & Cards: We will be playing cards on Sunday, August 17. We are in need of someone to serve the meal and 3 to bring deserts. The sign-up sheet will be on the table in the back of church. We decided that there should be at least 7 signed up to play. We'll eat at about 11:45 and follow with the card games. Hope you can make it.

Women's Bible Study meets on Thursdays at Beno's at 11:30am. All are welcome!

Ways to Serve

Altar committee is in need of volunteers Due to some volunteers leaving, the Altar Committee is searching for people to fill their spots. Volunteers are paired up to serve for 2 weeks in a row and just 2 times in a 6-month period. If you are interested in serving, please call Andrea Frick at (507)459-4349 or talk to her after church. She will gladly answer any questions or concerns. The altar committee is a great way to serve the church and our Lord. We hope to hear from you!

If you would like to sponsor a Radio broadcast, similar to a bulletin sponsorship, the cost is \$100.00. Please contact Lindsey by email: smoffice@stmatthewswinona.org or by phone: 507-454-3083. If you would like to donate to the Radio Broadcast fund, please use your designated offering envelope.

Bulletin Sponsorship Upcoming bulletins available for sponsorship: **Aug 24, 31 Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28.** The cost is \$30.00. If you would like to sponsor a bulletin, you may email the information to Tamara Koenig tkoenig@stmatthewswinona.org or contact Lindsey in the office @507-454-3083.

School News

St. Matthew's School is seeking a qualified classroom assistant to work in the 5-day Pre-K classroom for the 2025-26 school year. The hours are 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Monday – Friday. The 5-Day Pre-K classroom assistant is responsible for assisting the classroom teacher with managing the 5-Day Pre-K classroom and meeting the needs of the students.

Qualifications:

- ◆ Preferred WELS (Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod) or ELS (Evangelical Lutheran Synod) member in good standing
- ◆ Must have a minimum of a high school diploma, college degree preferred
- ◆ Must have one year of experience in the childcare field, satisfactory completion of coursework in the childcare field, or other experience or education that meets the approval of the BOCE. (Board of Christian Education)
- ◆ Must pass a background check
- ◆ Must have good oral and written communication skills

Interested individuals may contact Mrs. Joanne Dobberstein by email (jdobberstein@stmatthewswinona.org) or phone (414-539-2237). Position open until filled.



PRE-K FAMILY PLAY DAY

Wednesday, August 6, 2025

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Come and go as fits your schedule!!

St. Matthew's School Playground

If rainy → St. Matthew's School Gym

😊 A photographer will be onsite to take school year student pictures! 😊
top of each hour → in church – short family devotion presentation.

PRE-K OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, August 13, 2025

4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Come and go as fits your schedule!!

Pre – K classrooms – Come to see your room!!

K → Grade 8 – Come to see your school!!

PRE-K PARENT MEETING

Wed., August 27, 2025 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

We will meet in St. Matthew's Church.

Childcare will be available. Please make every effort to attend!!

FIRST DAYS OF PRE-K

5 Day and 2 Day Pre-K = Tues, September 2nd

3 Day Pre-K = Wed., September 3rd

Questions contact: **Mrs. Karen Rossin** – krossin@stmatthewswinona.org
Mrs. Joanne Dobberstein – jdobberstein@stmatthewswinona.org

Women's Fellowship News:

Upcoming dates to remember:

- **August 11 @ 6:30** – Planning meeting
- **October 18** – Fall Rally hosted by St. Matthew's, Winona

WELS News

To help celebrate the 175 Anniversary of your WELS synod, a special thank offering opportunity is presented in a black and gold brochure that you will find in the church entrance.



The Youth Discipleship Committee relaunched Campus Ministry and we have had great success teaming up with area congregations. Pastor Garrett from Goodview-Trinity has taken the lead on this and has hosted several Bible Class and gatherings. Again, this year, we are planning to assemble “Dorm Warming Bags” to welcome the college students back!

If you would like to help with this area of ministry, here is what we are in need of:

- **Food:** Power bars, dried fruit, mixed nuts or trail mix, gum, coffee, water bottle, beef jerky, homemade treats, peanut butter and crackers, chips and salty snacks, fruit snacks Microwaveable items such as: popcorn, oatmeal, ramen noodles, mac and cheese cups
- **Cleaning Supplies:** Laundry detergent, dryer sheets or wool dryer ball, extra hangers, antibacterial all-purpose cleaning wipes, paper towels, microfiber cloths, room freshener spray, stain remover pen
- **Personal Care Items:** Soap, shampoo, conditioner, lip balm, toothbrush, toothpaste, mouthwash, dental floss, deodorant, Q-tips
- **First Aid:** Band-Aids, hand sanitizer, cough drops, tissues, microwaveable soup, tea bags, powdered Gatorade, tweezers, thermometer

With your help, we are hoping to create 30 of these bags for our incoming students. For your convenience, there is a tote in the back of the church to drop off any donations you have. Please have your gifts to church no later than Sunday, August 10th. We thank you for your generosity towards our college students and this very important part of ministry outreach!