



From the Pastor's Desk...

*Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,
whose trust is the Lord.
They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.
It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought, it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.* Jeremiah 1:7-8



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Trust in the Lord is easy when things are going smoothly and life flows by effortlessly. Trust in the Lord becomes difficult when crisis or tragedy disrupts life's tranquility and averts our attention from trusting God. Often, one goes into autopilot and all signs of trust in the Lord are discarded, or are they? I believe faithful trust in God is a matter of the heart and not the head. Faithful trust is not something necessarily seen, but is a gift derived from the deep roots of our relationship with God, which extend out to maintain some sort of peace in life. I believe this because it has been my experience and I believe that it is scripturally supported.

The above verse from Jeremiah tells us that trust in the Lord is strength or the power to keep going, where we seek out support that will feed the soul and keep our withering at bay. When all else seems to fail, Romans 8:26 speaks to the heart, "*Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.*" These last few weeks, God and I have had an interesting relationship where just when I think (head) I can't keep it going, the Spirit (heart) intercedes.

Many of you already know that my 90-year-old mother has been seriously ill and that I am her primary "care-taker." It has been an exhausting grueling time of endless loads of laundry, sleep deprivation, advocating for Mom and trying to find a balance to, "*Do ministry,*" as my coach Ron Hovick says. Faithful trust in the Lord has come through the Spirit in so many ways. I found quiet time was not necessarily spent on my knees in prayer, pleading for Mom's healing. Quiet time was spent drafting the next day's "to do list" or planning another errand on her behalf. In the meantime, the Spirit was busy rallying those who faithfully lifted both of us up in prayer each day. The Spirit had our friends and family surround us with love in many ways. For all of this, we are eternally grateful and know that we will continue to be supported through her continued recovery.

Being part of a community committed to sharing the story of Jesus, I am humbled, grateful and blessed to be your pastor. The Spirit has used you well to be part of this incredible journey of healing. Thank you so much for being with me to, "Trust in the Lord."

Peace & Prayers,

Pastor Christine

Letter from the Council President:



"We are called to proclaim God's grace by sharing the story of Jesus to bring light, hope and healing to the world."

February 2019 - A letter to the congregation of St. Matthews

St. Matthews Church Council met on Tuesday January 15th. The Council Meeting Agenda and meeting minutes are posted on the board in the Hallway. Please contact any council member if you have any questions.

Church Council members signed up to serve in 2019 for Hospitality and for dates to update the church sign. Council members are continuing to work on updating our church constitution to align with changes made at Synod and to revise our Bylaws to reflect the changes we have made during redevelopment. We are in the process of switching out "simply giving" (automatic donations) from Vanco to Tithe.ly. Tracy Dewey is setting up the new account and will provide information on how you can make the change to those who are currently using Vanco. The plan is to have this implemented by February 14th. Council reviewed and updated our Building use Policy. Erich reported on the sprinkler repairs, which are complete, however the hole will not be filled in until spring so that the system can be tested before covering everything up.

Pastor Christine presented a new request she received from Granger Community Church to help with their day of service for MLKing Jr. Outreach Project. They needed purses and hygiene products for the Women's Shelter in SLC. It was a last minute request and council members were asked to help. The request was also posted on our Facebook Page. As always the people of St. Matthews responded and Pastor Christine delivered our donations to Pastor Vinnetta. What a great cause and wonderful opportunity to partner with other congregations in our community to serve the Lord! Thank you to all who helped and to Pastor Christine for "volunteering" our help and delivering our gifts. God's Work, Our Hands!

Peace,
We are Christ Church, Better Together!

Mary Kay Arnold

"Happy are those who keep his decrees, who seek him with their whole heart." Psalm 119:2

St. Matthew's Information:

- **Announcements** – if you have an announcement that isn't listed on the insert, please refer to the volunteer sign-up sheet to notify the correct contact for the week. If you would like Amanda Ventura to include in the bulletin please email office@stmatthewsut.org or put it in her box.
- **Hospitality Hour** – we would like to encourage anyone able to help, please sign up on the sign-up sheet. Your help and donation is much appreciated. Please contact Mike Stoker to sign up.
- **Our Food Pantry** – is located in the Narthex. If you or anyone you know is in need of food items, please take items from our food pantry. Food donations are always appreciated to help others in times of need.
- **Recycling Bin** – we are in danger of losing our paper recycling bin. Please support by bringing your newspaper, card board, magazines, junk mail, and other "clean" paper.

Opportunities to Serve:

- **Altar Guild** – contact Mary Wimmer for the next training date and to be added to the schedule.
- **Choir or Special Music** – the choir sings several times a year and practices for 20-30 minutes following worship most Sundays. For more information contact Leandra Ludlam.
- **Counters** – contact Karla Stoker to be trained and added to the schedule.
- **Facilities & Grounds** – upkeep of the facilities requires many hands & a variety of talents. Contact Erich Thaemert.
- **Faith Formation** – Sunday School Teachers needed for the upcoming year. We use the Spark Lectionary Series. Contact Samantha Johnson for more information.
- **Hospitality Ministry** – get together with a few others and sign-up to provide a simple meal or treats on Sunday morning following worship. Sign-up sheet is located in the Narthex area.
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry** – do you knit or crochet. Contact Henny Johnson for more information.
- **Outreach Ministry** – needs help with the Food Pantry, meals for Family Promise, special collections for organizations that St. Matthew's supports. Contact Jenny Cox.
- **Worship and Music Ministry** – Worship Assistants, Lectors, Ushers, Greeters, Cantors, Acolytes – contact Mary Kay Arnold to be trained and then added to the schedule.



February Newsletter Articles:

- **Address Change Request Forms** – *Have you moved? Has your email changed? Have you eliminated your land line and now just use a cell phone? Is your information listed incorrectly in the church directory?* If you answered yes to any of these questions, please fill out an “Address Change Request Form” found in the Narthex’s Welcome Center. Please give completed forms to anyone on the Communications Ministry Team: Brian Schuster, Mike Stoker, or Amanda Ventura.



- **Hospitality Ministry** – The 2019 list for hosting St Matthew’s Hospitality Hour (previously known as Fellowship) is located on the bulletin board in the narthex as you enter church. If you would like to sign up please check with Mike Stoker or Pastor Christine to check for available dates.

Everyone appreciates the time we get together every Sunday following worship and it is a great way to get to know each other and visitors a bit better. Moving forward you will receive a reminder card a week before the date you agreed to host the hospitality hour. Put together a team or a family. If you have several helpers, clean up takes just a few minutes. If you need ideas for something to bring, reach out to Mike Stoker and he can help with ideas. Remember to use the reusable dishes and silverware to help keep as much as possible out of the landfill and do our part to honor God’s creation.

- **Save those Coupons!** – These are collected and given to schools in our area who are in need. Please put all box tops and other coupons for education in the envelope on the sign-up bulletin board in the Narthex.



- **Spread the Word** – Check into Facebook every time you are here at St. Matthew’s. Tell folks what you are doing, post pictures, and tag your friends. Do you have an Instagram account? If so, take pictures to show your friends and family where you are and what you are doing at St. Matthew’s.

- **Stewardship Ministry** – A biblical definition of stewardship is, “Having dominion over the works of God.” The definition of stewardship can be broken down into four compartments or the Four T’s of Stewardship: time, talent, temple, and treasure. God has given us life and our time to manage as part of being God’s stewards.



Now that the Stewardship team can catch their breath and take a minute, we ask, when was the last time you did that? Take a minute and ask yourself, how are you a good steward? There are many different verses in the bible about Stewardship. Here is one I would like to share with your from 1Peter 4:10. “As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as a good stewards of God carried grace.”

Blessings,

Elizabeth Hawke
Stewardship Team Leader



- **Labyrinth Task Force** – Greetings everyone, I just wanted to send out a brief note about the Labyrinth. We will be having a meeting in February to talk about the next phase. We are so excited that this is going to happen. We look forward to getting this going. It will be something for all of us to enjoy and share with the community.

Blessings from the Labyrinth Team

- **Blessing of the Candles ‘Let Your Light Shine’** – On February 3rd, everyone is encouraged to bring candles used at home or even in the workplace for a blessing. We will place them around the altar, along with candles the church uses throughout the year. We do this as a reminder that we are to be the *‘Light of Christ’* in our everyday lives. Traditionally called the *Candlemas*, we will observe this ancient practice during worship.



- **Taizé Vespers** – is a meditative, music-filled, evening liturgy with songs from Taizé, scripture reading, and time for silence and prayer. All are welcome. It will be held on Sunday, February 10th at 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm at All Saints Episcopal Church, located at 1710 S. Foothill Drive.

- Why become a member of St. Matthew’s in Taylorsville? Here are a few reasons our memebers have expressed why they are part of the Mission and Ministry here:

- *I get to be part of something larger than myself. Together we can do more than I as an individual can accomplish. (I get the) guidance to accomplish more in my personal life.*
- *I get the change to be forgiven, and to leave the church feeling spiritual, better about the week to come.*
- *Sense of family and community, friendship and love.*



Membership is making a commitment to Church and becoming active in faith as part of our calling through baptism. Membership also means discipleship. Life is always a journey of learning and growing in Christ! Membership involves participating in the life of the congregation through active worship, contributing and receiving communion.

We receive new members twice a year – in the Fall on Reformation Sunday in October and in the Spring on Easter Sunday.

For information about upcoming membership instruction and becoming a member please make an appointment to speak with Pastor Christine.



- **Our Partnership in Ministry** – Women who are escaping violence often leave everything behind. Their dignity has been stripped away. These gifts of gently used purses and personal toiletry items become part of restoration and healing of dignity. It was our honor to partner with Granger Community Church’s Martin Luther King Jr’s. Day of Service on January 19th. Pastor Vinnetta of GCC was overwhelmed with the generosity of the people of St. Matthew’s and profusely extends her thanks to us. Thank you to those who quickly responded to our short notice of the needs. It is good To be a church together!

Coming Up:

- **Imposition of Ashes** – Ash Wednesday Service will be held on March 6, 2019 at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. This brief but important time in the church calendar initiates the beginning of Lent – a time for prayerful reflection and repentance. *“The sign of the ashes suggests our human mortality and frailty. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come.”* Sundays and Seasons – Cycle C- 2019



- Palm Sunday – April 14th @ 10:00 am.
- Maunday Thursday – April 18th @ 7:00 pm.
- Good Friday – April 19th @ 7:00 pm
- Easter Vigil Saturday – April 20th @ 6:30 pm
- Easter Sunday – April 21st @ 10:00 am.

Outreach Ministry:

- **Souper Bowl of Caring** – Ends on February 3rd. Bring your financial and food donations to support the ELCA World Hunger and our Little Pantry. Thank you to everyone who donated.



Warm
Clothing
Drive



- **Warm Clothing Drive** - Gloves, hats, scarves, socks, coats, sweaters, sweatshirts, blankets are being collected between November – February. Donations will benefit VOA Youth Center, the Downtown Rescue Mission, and the Crossroads Urban Center. Please leave your donations in the bin located in the church narthex. Thank you for your generosity.

- **Dream Academy 2019** – In partnership with St. Stephen’s, we were able to provide gifts, dinner, cookie decorating and a great party for over 20 children and their families. Additionally, we had enough cash donations to fund another party for the children later in the school year. Thanks to all who donated!!



- **Thank You** – During 2018, St. Matthew’s donated over ONE THOUSAND pounds of food to Crossroads Urban Center to be distributed to underserved families in our community. This does not include any of the food items shared with community members in the Little Pantry or the numerous diapers and cans of formula that were also donated.

The Outreach Ministry would like to thank everyone in the congregation for the generous donations throughout the year. We could not do it without you!!!

The next Outreach Ministry meeting is Monday, February 11th at 6:30 pm. All are Welcome.



FEBRUARY



2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|--|--|---------------|----------|
| | | | | | Pastor Off 1 | 2 |
| Candlemas 3 SS & Ad Forum 9a Worship 10a Souper Bowl of Caring Ends | Prayer Shawl Min. 2p Office Hrs. 3-8:30p | Utah Conference 10a at Zion Min & Council Reports W & M Min 7p | Bible Study & Bulletin Prep 10a | | Pastor Off 8 | 9 |
| SS & Ad Forum 9a Worship 10a | Outreach 6:30p Office Hrs. 3-8:30p | Breakfast Club 9a Council 7p | Bible Study & Bulletin Prep 10a | Redevelopment 7p Valentine's Day 14 | Pastor Off 15 | 16 |
| SS & Ad Forum 9a Worship 10a March Newsletter Articles Due | President's Day 18 Office Closed Communication Min | Pastor in Denver 25 Pastor in Denver 26 Breakfast Club 9a | Bible Study & Bulletin Prep 10a Hospitality 7p | 20 21 Redevelopment 7p | Pastor Off 22 | 23 |
| SS & Ad Forum 9a Worship 10a Warm Clothing Drive Ends | Pastor in Denver 25 Office Hrs. 3-8:30p | Pastor in Denver 26 Breakfast Club 9a | Bible Study & Bulletin Prep 10a Facilities Min 4:30p Faith Formation Min 7p | 27 28 | | |

ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ACTIVITIES - MINISTRIES-EVENTS

We are called to proclaim God's grace by sharing the story of Jesus to bring light, hope and healing to the world.
St. Matthew's Mission



Schedule is subject to change, check weekly bulletins.
Choir Practices immediately following worship on the 10th, 17th and 24th and at 9:30a on the 3rd.

February 2019

| 10:00 AM | Worship Assistant | Cantor | Lector | Acolyte | Childrens Message | Greeter | Usher |
|---|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 3-Feb | Mary Kay Arnold | Jack Ballard | Alex Hilse | Cash Ballard | Mary Kay Arnold | Mary W. | Brian & Ronda Schuster |
| Counters: Mary Kay & Edrie Sign: Cleaning: Hospitality: Breakfast Club Altar Guild: Karla S./Jennifer Announcements: Amanda V. | | | | | | | |
| 10-Feb | Eric Stoker | Tracy Dewey | Harlan Bengtson | Jack Ballard | Leandra Ludlam | Sandi & Craig W. | Jacki P. & Cindy B. |
| Counters: Cindy & Jacki Sign: Cleaning: Hospitality: Stewardship Ministry Altar Guild: Karla S./Jennifer Announcements: Amanda V. | | | | | | | |
| 17-Feb | Karla Stoker | Leandra Ludlam | Eric Stoker | volunteer needed | Alex Hilse | Brian & Ronda Schuster | Ventura Family |
| Counters: Cathy M. & Debbie Sign: Cleaning: Hospitality Hour: Mary Kay Arnold Altar Guild: Karla S./Jennifer Announcements: Amanda V. | | | | | | | |
| 24-Feb | Leandra Ludlam | Harmony Thaumert | | Rylan Solum | Gwen Solum | Henny Johnson | Erich T. & Frank C. |
| Counters: Kelli & Ronda Sign: Cleaning: Hospitality Hour: Redevelopment Altar Guild: Karla S./Jennifer Announcements: Amanda V. | | | | | | | |

If you are unable to serve as scheduled, please switch with someone or find someone to take your place.

Thanks, Mary Kay Arnold 801-232-7564

February Birthday Wishes:

- Kathy Schuster February 6
- HennyJohnson February 7
- Matt Solum February 13
- Edward Ellingson February 20
- Mariah Cabrera February 26



Prayer Chain:

For Healing in Mind, Body or Spirit:

Mavis Agar, Kaylee Brady, Robert Dewey, MacKienze Erickson, Callum Drake Evans, Richard Griffin, Gloria Hokr, Amanda Johnson, Elmae Johnson, Millie Lorbeck, Jennifer Peterson & Family, Tiffany Pettigrew, Kerrigan Taylor Petzold, Lorraine Ponzurick, Martin Powers, Diana Rasmusman, Jessica Ross, Pastor John & Jackie Sandstrom, Shy & Layne Schaugaard, Kathie Smith and Josh & Cami Williams.

Our Homebound:

Rosecella Beck, Vern DeGrey, Robin and Doug Ericksen, Margaret Galgerud, Dean Marty, Lynn Milsap, and Les Petzold.

Military & Other Public Servants:

1st Lt. William Clausen, US Army; Austin (Hess) Lassih, US Navy; Andrew Nguyen US Air Force, & Cadet Evan Schomaker, US Army .

The Community & World:

Our prayer partner congregation, Mt. Tabor; schools; all victims of violence and/or warfare; those who have lost homes and businesses in the fires and those recovering from addictions.