



From the Pastor's Desk...

During Lent the people of God will reflect on the meaning of their baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The sign of ashes suggests our human mortality and frailty. What seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come. Sundays and Seasons 2019



Contents:

• From the Pastor's Desk	1
• Letter from the Council President	2
• March Newsletter Articles	2
• Coming Up	4
• Outreach Ministry	4
• March Calendars	5
• March Birthday Wishes	6
• March Prayer Chain	6
• St. Matthew's Information	7
• Opportunities to Serve	7

As we now move from Epiphany into the Lenten Season, the cross of Ash is a reminder not only of our mortality, but a reminder of how we are loved unconditionally through God's tender mercies. We may return to dust, but as we live, we are called beloved by our maker. In this abundant gracefulness, how do we respond?

We are invited to "return" – to return to the God who loves us is our response through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Prayer is our connection and conversation with our Creator. It can be an intimate conversation rather than a superficial one asking for the perfect parking place. Prayer is the conduit that has the capacity to change our hearts for the good of the world, releasing our selfishness and becoming selfless.

Fasting is another spiritual practice of the season. What do we fast from? It's common for us to "give up" something that we love such as chocolate, desserts or red meat. What if we fast from judgmental thoughts about others, or fast from gossip and spreading rumors? What would it look like if we "fasted" or refrained from holding grudges? Fasting can be us turning away from behaviors that are harmful to ourselves and others. Knowing that God never turns from us, we are reminded to be more like the One who made us. To be kind and merciful.

Finally, almsgiving is an outward spiritual practice. Sharing with others from our own abundant blessing is what our loving Lord expects from us. Fearful hoarding of what we have holds us captive from growing in the spiritual practices of Lent. We have 40 Days of Giving. Consider setting aside every day something from your own abundance to share with others.

Peace,

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 February 12th. 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.

Marvin presented the 2018 budget actuals (dollars spent) to review. Council will be reviewing and comparing actuals to budget after each quarter in 2019. Volunteers were appointed to be on the Nominating Task Force for council positions. A discussion was held concerning the various issues with the office printer. Frank and Amanda will work on recording the problems we are experiencing in order to identify a possible fix. Frank will be working on obtaining additional alphabet letters for the outside church sign. Anyone who has ever updated the sign outside will appreciate this! Nothing worse than trying to post something great and not having enough letters! Sam was given council approval to begin re-keying the building. Funds for this project are in the 2019 budget.

The replacement of Vanco (Simply Giving) with Tithe.ly has taken longer than planned. There was more work to getting this project done than we had anticipated. Watch for more information soon.

Great news on funding for Redevelopment for 2019. We will receive \$12,000 from ELCA Churchwide and \$5,000 from Rocky Mountain Synod for our Redevelopment Grant. The grant money is greatly appreciated and will help us to continue with the redevelopment process.

Peace,
We are Christ Church, Better Together!

Mary Kay Arnold

"Proclaim the greatness of the Lord, worship upon God's holy hill; for the Lord our God is the Holy One." Psalm 99 verse 9

March 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** – This month's stewardship word is giving. Last month we celebrated the super bowl of caring which gives food and money to the ELCA's world hunger project and to crossroads urban center. As I was watching people put money in who they want to win the super bowl and placing food in the bins I was thinking about what it means to give and what it means to other people. I found out that I have given to so many people and

also shared my time and talents to others like volunteering to youth who are homeless and gave them breakfast and so much more I have done. But I do have a question to ask you where have you shared your time and talents with others and who have you given it to? Think about it, and you may be surprised at all of the things you have done.

Blessings,

Eric Stoker
Stewardship Team Leader

- **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, March 10th at 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm at All Saints Episcopal Church, located at 1710 S. Foothill Drive.



- **Labyrinth Task Force** – will be hosting a Dinner to raise money so that we can break ground. It will be March 16th from 4:00 pm until 6:00 pm here at St. Matthews. There will be a silent auction, and meal. It will be a great night to learn more about the Labyrinth that we will be building on the North side of the Church. This will be great for us and the community.

Blessings from the Labyrinth Team

- Why become a member of St. Matthew's in Taylorsville? Here are a few reasons our members 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.



- The book fair is from March 3rd – March 17th. A display will be in the narthex before and after service. Please see anyone from the Faith Formation Ministry for further details.

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 – 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



- **Forty Days of Giving** – begins on March 10th and ends on Palm Sunday, April 14th. Bring your spare change and put it in the container by the Baptismal Font as part of the season’s almsgiving. Proceeds go to support the ELCA World Hunger Project.

- **Bach’s Birthday Celebration** – On March 24th we will be celebrating one of the greatest composers of sacred music, Johann Sebastian Bach. Join us in learning more about Bach as we include some of his organ works during the worship service. As a Lutheran, his faith influenced his later musical works.



- Palm Sunday – April 14th @ 10:00 am.
- Maundy 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:

- **Stuffed Animal Drive** – will be from March-April. All stuffed animals need to be new and will benefit the First Responders who will give them out to children as needed. A box will be provided in the narthex for collection.



- **Family Promise Meal** – will be held on Tuesday, March 26th. In March we will be asking for food donations for the event. The congregation is invited to co-host with Mary Wimmer. This involves setting up the meal and helping out as needed. Arrangements will be made to pick up food at St. Matthew’s Church at 4:00pm. Thank you in advance.



March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Pastor Off 1	2
3 SS & Ad Forum 9a Worship 10a Book Fair 1 st Sun of Lent 10	4 Prayer Shawl Min. 2p Office Hrs. 3-8:30p	5 Utah Conference 10a Min & Council Reports W & M Min 7p	6 Ash Wednesday Bible Study & Bulletin Prep 10a Ash Wed Svc. 7p	7 Pastor in Calif.	8 Pastor in Calif.	9 Pastor in Calif.
11 SS & Ad Forum 9a Worship 10a Book Fair 2 nd Sun of Lent 17	11 Office Hrs. 3-8:30p Outreach 6:30p	12 Breakfast Club 9a	13 Bible Study & Bulletin Prep 10a	14	15 Pastor Off	16
18 SS & Ad Forum 9a Worship 10a Book Fair 3 rd Sun of Lent 24	18 Office Hrs. 3-8:30p Communications 7p	19 Stewardship 7p	20 Bible Study & Bulletin Prep 10a Hospitality 7p	21 Redevelopment 7p	22 Pastor Off	23
25 SS & Ad Forum 9a Worship 10a April Newsletter Articles Due 4 th Sun of Lent 31	25 Office Hrs. 3-8:30p	26 Breakfast Club 9a Family Promise @ St. Stephens 5p	27 Bible Study & Bulletin Prep 10a Facilities Min 4:30p Faith Formation Min 7p	28	29 Pastor Off	30
31 SS & Ad Forum 9a Worship 10a Bach's Birthday	31 Office Hrs. 3-8:30p					

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 3rd, 17th
and 24th and at 9:30a on the 10th and
31st.

March 2019

10:00 AM	Worship Assistant	Cantor	Lector	Acolyte	Childrens Message	Greeter	Usher
3-Mar	Alex Hilse	Morgan Ballard	Marvin May	Jack Ballard	Pam Lawrence	Mary Wimmer	Stoker Family
Counters: Mary W & Mary E Sign: Outreach Ministry Cleaning: Hospitality Hour: Widdowson Family Altar Guild: Karla S. Announcements: Frank C.							
10-Mar	Alex Hilse	Harmony Thaemert	Harlan Bengtson	Cash Ballard	Mary Kay Arnold	Henny Johnson	Debbie & Amanda V.
Counters: MK & Edrie Sign: n/a Cleaning: Hospitality Hour: Stoker Family Altar Guild: Karla S. Announcements: Frank C.							
17-Mar	Alex Hilse	Alex Hilse	Karla Stoker	Morgan Ballard	Leandra Ludlam	Sandi & Craig W.	Ronda & Brian S.
Counters: Cindy & Jacki Sign: n/a Cleaning: Hospitality Hour: Schuster Family Altar Guild: Karla S. Announcements: Frank C.							
24-Mar	Alex Hilse	Eric Stoker	Leandra Ludlam	Jack Ballard	Mary Kay Arnold	LaVon Passey	Cox Family
Counters: Cathy & Debbie Sign: n/a Cleaning: Hospitality Hour: Liz Hawke Altar Guild: Karla S. Announcements: Frank C.							
31-Mar	Alex Hilse	Jack Ballard	Rachel Petzold	Rylan Solum	Gwen Solum	Sandi & Craig W.	Erich T. & Frank C.
Counters: Kellie & Ronda Sign: n/a Cleaning: Hospitality Hour: Peercy Family Altar Guild: Karla S. Announcements: Frank C.							

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

March Birthday Wishes:

- Gracey Nosack March 4
- Debbie Ventura March 4
- Marvin May March 6
- Kaiden Crockett March 8
- Sandra Muthreich March 20
- Brian Schuster March 21
- Paul Dewey March 26
- Mary Kay Arnold March 26
- Liz Hawke March 29



Prayer Chain:

For Healing in Mind, Body or Spirit:

Mavis Agar, Kaylee Brady, MacKienze Erickson, Richard Griffin, Amanda Johnson, Elmae Johnson, Millie Lorbeck, Tiffany Pettigrew, Kerrigan Taylor Petzold, Lorraine Ponzurick, Martin Powers, Diana Rassusman, 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, Lynn Milsap, and Les Petzold.

Those Who Mourn:

Family and Friends of Pastor's Mother, Gloria Hokr; Family and Friends of Dean Marty

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.

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.

