

Et Cetera

The Latest from Adoration Lutheran Church

October 2021

Why be generous? God's generous to us!

"Building A Culture of Generosity" is this year's Stewardship Focus

Building a Culture of Generosity is the theme of our fall stewardship appeal. This theme points us to the generosity that we have witnessed around our church over the last year, but also points us to know that we can grow into this in even more profound ways.

Our grateful response in generosity helps to demonstrate to us and to the world around us that in fact God has provided us everything and we have enough, even enough to share.



You will be receiving a giving intent/pledge form the week of October 18th. We invite you to prayerfully consider and return your pledge on Consecration Sunday, October 31st. Weekly bulletin inserts, e-mails, and generosity moments will be a part of worship each week in October.

*Many thanks to the leaders of our Stewardship Program this year:
Wendy and Jim Haas; Dan & Cheryl Stefanski; Bob Yersin; Kathy Wakefield*

From the Pastor's Pen...

We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia: ²for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. —2 Corinthians 8:1-2

Dear friends~ Where did you learn about generosity? Who has helped teach you and shape your practices on how to be generous?

I'm not sure I ever had a "values chat" with my parents where they taught me, "Be generous, Matthew." I'm positive I never had a generosity question on my quizzes in confirmation. I'm guessing that I picked up the value of generosity by watching, passively noticing the financial generosity of my grandparents and the generosity of time from volunteers in my community.

Yet it wasn't until I was in high school, where I found my life transformed by my stint in the Minnesota All-State Lutheran Choir, where I understood the impact of generous hearts and the blessings that one's financial gifts could make. The choir was the first place I experienced personal and authentic Christian community; it was part of my call story in becoming a pastor. It was a safe space as I navigated the challenges of adolescence and learning who I truly was. And each night, in the midst of our concerts, our leaders would share about how this program didn't just create good music, but transformed lives.

And my life was being transformed. My life had been altered by the generosity of the people who came before me.

It was a no-brainer, when I brought home my first high-school paychecks, that I would give to support the ministry of the choir. If I could help support others being shaken and changed by God's love and acceptance, the way I received the Spirit's help. I don't remember what amount I gave, but it was more than I expected I would. Experiencing grace and transformation made me generous for the sake of creating space for that to happen to more people like me.

This month, we enter a season of stewardship focused on "Building a Culture of Generosity." I encourage you to reflect on the experiences of your life that have nurtured your own generous hearts, and to consider how the transformation and grace you have encountered at Adoration are important to sustain into God's future for our congregation! May your generosity be stirred up in this season, that the ministry of Adoration be sustained and deepened!

God's peace, Pastor Matt

***Pastor Matt's Installation will be held on Sunday October 17th.
We will worship outside (weather permitting) (bring lawn chairs) together
with St. Paul's! Pr. Kristin Nielsen from the Synod will preside at the
Installation!***

We give our Thanks and Praise

Thanks to Dan & Cheryl Stefanski, Sandy Eigner, Judy Goodwin, Jennifer Anderson and her nephew, Bill Anderson, Prs. Matt & Delaney, Jessica Hodgson, & Dan Bice for donating a total of 26.5 hours of labor for ERAS senior clients on Sept. 18th. They did yard work, pruning, tree trimming, shed clean-out, and other work, in addition to building relationships and offering a companion for the hours of help!

Thanks to Connie Yersin, Jim and Wendy Haas, Gloria Becker, and Mardy Lazaris for helping with bulleting folding and other office tasks as our search for a new office administrator continues!

Special thanks to Barb and Rich Regent and Sandy Ringwall for leading our Tanzanian worship during our partnership prayer service!

Generosity Abounds! Adoration filled 56 school bags, plus extra supplies, for Lutheran World Relief School Supply Kits! Extras were shared with Elm Dale School and Katie Schmidt's school through MPS!

Generosity Abounds Again! Proceeds from the sale of leftover books and rummage totaling near \$100 were shared with our Mulala partners and the We Love Our Church funds!

"On behalf of the Cantare Chorale, we are grateful for the space Adoration shares to host our music library! We look forward to resuming our season in 2022." -Jim Toth, Choir President

Thanks to Tim and Alexandra Schmidt for replacing and installing new memorial bricks in Adoration's entryway!

We love God and serve neighbor!

- *Connor and Alexandra Schmidt are selling Wreaths and Popcorn on behalf of Scouts. If you would like to purchase and support them, contact Katie, their mom to make an order. Payment can be made at a later date. They will also arrange for a church service drop-off in November!*

- **Make a Difference: Adopt-a-Highway Day Sat. October 23rd**

9-11 a.m.

Forest Home (Edgerton to Hwy 100)

Adoration is committed to regularly picking up highway trash along Hwy 24. Ideally, we'd have 8-10 helpers for this event!

To participate, please contact Judy Goodwin at 414 281-9368.

- **ADORATION NIGHT AT CULVER'S – Oak Creek!**

Looking for an easy meal and way to support Adoration?

Tuesday, October 12, Culver's Oak Creek (Howell & Drexel) will host "Adoration Night!"

Stop in and order, mention Adoration, and a part of the proceeds of your sale will be shared with the church! Bring some friends and family and get an extra scoop!

From the Greater Milwaukee Synod



coming out
BELOVED



WORSHIP SERVICE

Bring your family & friends
lawn chairs & blankets
(outside service, weather permitting)
BYO bag lunch & drinks

**WEARING OF MASKS IS
STRONGLY ENCOURAGED**

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 9, 2021
10:30 AM**

Lake Park Lutheran Church
2647 N. Stowell Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53211

Sponsored by:
Greater Milwaukee Synod
Reconciling in Christ
Ministry Team

The Synod Council and Conference Deans are looking forward to holding gatherings this fall to reflect on our mission, vision, and direction as a synod as we begin to prepare for the bishop election in 2022. We will reflect together on our strengths over the past 2-6 years and identify areas of challenge, growth, and new opportunities. More information, including location and registration, will be coming soon. For now, please note the date for your conference gathering and mark it on your calendar! All events will begin at 7:00 p.m. South Central Conference – October 28 We look forward to this time together to reflect together on who we are as a synod and where God might be calling us. –Dr. Joyce Caldwell, Synod Vice President

Council Updates

The Church Council met for its regular meeting on September 14th. Here are some highlights from that meeting. The October Council meeting will be held on October 12th at 6:00 p.m.

- *The council reviewed the MET report and visions upon 6 months of ministry together with Pastor Matt*
- *The Council approved, per recommendation of the Partnership Committee, suspending the Book and Rummage and Christmas Rummage sales for the time being.*
- *The Council discussed updates to BIB practices and worship plans for fall*
- *The Council received financial reports and approved dates for the Stewardship Campaign*
- *A donor has offered to provide an outdoor motion-detected light outside the building to better illuminate the parking lot; work will continue to proceed.*

Annual Budget Meeting

The Church Council, at its September meeting, approved setting the Annual Budget meeting of the congregation to follow worship on Sunday, November 14th.

This message serves as formal notice per the Constitution ahead of this meeting. Please plan to attend. Details to follow.

ADORATION FELLOWSHIP OUTING: Steel Magnolias

Come join your fellow Adorationers for an EXCITING and FUN night out! STEEL MAGNOLIAS (the play) at The Milwaukee Repertory Theater in November

"In Chinquapin, Louisiana everybody who is anybody gets their hair done at Truvy's beauty shop—where the women are all sass and brass. Through clouds of hairspray and over the buzz of blow dryers, six southern spitfires gather each week to gossip and support each other through thick and thin. But those bonds are tested when the ladies face a life-changing event. Infused with heart and humor, Steel Magnolias is a hilarious story of love, loss, and enduring friendship."

A sign up sheet will be coming soon.

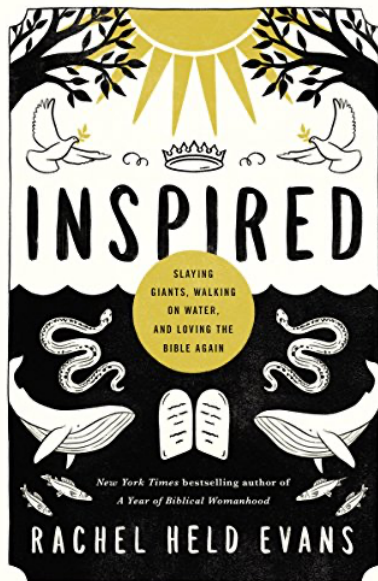
A Generosity Challenge

A generous challenge gift has been made to kick off our drive this year. \$2200 has been given as a challenge to the congregation! For 2022, Our goal is to have 22 pledgers increase their giving from last year. When we get 22 first-time or increased pledges, this generous challenge gift will be added to our total! Pledge forms will be shared in mid-October. Consecration Sunday will be held on Sunday, October 31st.

Explore the Bible This Fall

Join Pastor Matt this fall for a special Bible study aimed at exploring the themes of the bible and how we might use it to find meaning and connection with God in our lives.

Starting Sunday, October 24th from 10:15—11:15, we'll gather (in person or on Zoom) and explore the stories that define our faith, and discover how we might find ourselves captivated by the stories of scripture again! We'll use Rachel Held Evans' book, *Inspired*. You can buy a copy at your leisure. Please join us after worship and explore the book of our faith!



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