

**Sunday, February 4th**

9 a.m. Worship

**Tuesday, February 6th**

11:30 a.m. AAA - Seniors go to lunch at Omega Restaurant on 27th & Morgan.

All are welcome! See Joyce Weinert...

**Wednesday, February 7th**

9:30 a.m. Bible Study (Mark 9:2-9)

6:15 p.m. Worship

**Wednesday, February 14th – Ash**

**Wednesday**

9:30 a.m. Bible Study (Matt 6:1-6 and 16-21)

6:15 p.m. Worship

**Sunday, February 18th \*Pastor's**

**Matt's Last Sunday at Adoration**

9 a.m. Worship

**Monday, February 19th \*Pastor**

**Matt's Last Day in Office**

5 p.m.-8 p.m. Culver's Night

**Thursday, March 28th – Maundy**

**Thursday**

**Wednesday, March 27th**

**NO Evening Worship**

**Friday, March 29th – Good Friday**



## ADORATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

### ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 4, 2024

#### AAA News

**Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 11:30 a.m.**

Seniors go to lunch at Omega Restaurant on 27th & Morgan.

*All are welcome!*

See Joyce Weinert...

Join us on Monday, February 19th from 5 p.m.-8 p.m. for Culver's Night in Greenfield. Be sure to tell the cashier you want your order to benefit Adoration Lutheran Church.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Ash Wednesday begins the Season of Lent on Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. We'll have worship with the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion at 6:15 that evening.

Lent is often a time of self-reflection, spiritual discipline, commitment, and community. Congregations gather to sing the minor harmonies of the way of Jesus on the road toward the cross. This Lent with Church Anew, however, we are going to look at a kaleidoscope of stories from the Book of Acts. We'll see the ways the Spirit alters our perspective, transforms our communities, and consistently blazes a trail ahead of us. We'll catch up with the work of the Holy Spirit, finding ourselves altered. Because the Spirit is alive in, with, and under our ordinary lives, always calling us forward into transformation, nudging us into wholeness, and beckoning us forth into an alternative way.

Wednesdays in Lent, come for worship, renewal, and a reflection from the Book of Acts:

Altered in Witness (Ash Wednesday) (Acts 1: 6-11)

Altered Through God's Creativity (Acts 2:1-13)

Altered on the Edge of Belonging (Acts 8:26-40)

Altered Alongside Our Enemies (Acts 9:1-22)

Altered by Disruption (Acts 10: 1-16, 34-35, 44-47)

Altered through Stories We Don't Trust (Acts 12:6-17)

#### Volunteer Opp's

- Divine Intervention Homeless Shelter needs paper towel, toilet paper and warm hats...See Judy Goodwin
- ERAS Senior Network needs drivers for appointments...See brochure in Narthex.

The 2024 altar flower chart is on the front bulletin board. Honor a birthday or a special occasion or praise the Lord with flowers. The price this year is \$35. Using a flower envelope from the bulletin board, place the money in the offering plate marked FLOWERS and your name.

Happy New Year!

A special thank you to our members who have participated in the "Secret Pals" outreach!

All are welcome to participate. If you would like to participate, please call me.

Any of our Stay-At-Home Friends, or anyone over age 80, can receive cards from a Secret Pal.

Anyone can be a sender.

If you are not already in our "Pals Outreach" group, and want to join, please call me at: 414.421.0848.

Please follow-up with your 2023 Secret Pal until you get your new Secret Pal in February via a letter from me.

Thank you,

Mardy Lazaris

**Chancel Choir** - We are looking for some more voices to join us. All are welcome; but we especially need more sopranos. See Barb Regent if you have any questions!

**COFFEE MUGS** - In the kitchen cupboard, closest to the telephone, there are MANY coffee mugs. IF ONE BELONGS TO YOU, please take it home. If any are left by *February 15th*, they will be donated to Goodwill.

**We pray for those in need:**

Craig Beyler, recovering from foot surgery;  
 Dori Timmerman, recovering from foot surgery;  
 Brandi who lost her valiant battle with cancer and her family and friends (Bednar's) who are grieving;  
 Cathy Hanke, friend of the Regents, who was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer;  
 Kayla is currently, daughter of Athena Minto, who is being tested for autoimmune illnesses;  
 Betty Wing, recovering from surgery;  
 Karen, sister of Sandy Ringwall;  
 John Imp;  
 Donna Babilus;  
 Cheryl Hagfors;  
 Goldie McMahan,  
 Ray, friend of Jan Rinderle;  
 Scott Kaczor, cousin of Sandy Witt, who is having prostate cancer surgery;  
 Ethel Bach, sister of Jeanette Nowakowski, with white lung disease;  
 Deborah Bach, sister of Jeanette Nowakowski, with neck cancer;  
 Earlann Wilson, sister of Jeanette Nowakowski, with cancer;  
 Anne, friend of Sandy Young;  
 Individuals in recovery from addiction;  
 Victoria, with cancer (Deanna Posig);  
 Joyce, with cancer (Jan Rinderle);  
 The Nelson/Hartman family;  
 Felicia Bruyette, sister-in-law of Kelly (Jeff) Faltersack;  
 Cecilia, friend of Jill Lindberg, who is battling aggressive breast cancer;  
 Mary, Sandy Young's sister;  
 Jerry, Bruce Crueger's brother;  
 Karen, Sandy Ringwall's sister;  
 Joy Braun (friend of Sue Clark);  
 Amy & Family (friends of Kathy Wakefield)

**We continue to pray for strength for:**

Michael Kruse (Pr. Matt's brother);  
 Linda and Donna, Betty Wing's sisters;  
 Joani Bettin;  
 Kathy Imp;  
 Marylee Dye;  
 Ruth Bauer;  
 Pat Koch;  
 Mary Anne Markiewicz;  
 Tom Durham (Pr. Delaney's cousin);  
 Ivy Rose Eigner, granddaughter of Sandy & Charlie;  
 Eric, Crystal's brother

**We keep in our prayers:**

Adoration amid the beginnings of the pastoral transition process;  
 Dawn (friend of Sandy and Bob Young);  
 Pat (cousin of Donna Babilus);  
 Scott and Debbie (family of Margaret Duris);  
 Keith (Sandy Eigner's brother-in-law);  
 Susan (Darlene Witkowiak's daughter);  
 Jeremy (Tom Nowakowski's nephew);  
 Caroline (Jill Lindberg's daughter);  
 Shelby (friend of Crystal) who had breast cancer reconstructive surgery;  
 Taylor Daniels and her family who continues to fight childhood cancer (friends of Crystal)



Please consider being part of our Prayer Circle. When we pray, we are drawn closer to God and other Christians. We share burdens and learn to care for others. This is obeying our Lord. Call Judy Goodwin at: 414.281.9368.

**We pray for the following with our siblings across the ELCA:**

For peace among nations, especially between Israel and Palestine, Russia and Ukraine...  
 For victims of violence in Myanmar, Iran, and all areas of conflict...  
 For ongoing protests in France...  
 For those in the path of atmospheric river storms in California...  
 For victims of abuse, harassment, and trauma...  
 For deescalation among nations, governments, and political parties...  
 For safety and compassion for refugees and all migrants...

***Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.***



**Adoration Lutheran Church**  
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A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Members and friends of Adoration Lutheran Church:

I am writing to share I will be resigning as your pastor, effective March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.  
It is with great sadness and joyful expectation that I share this news with you.

My spouse Delaney has received and accepted a new call as the Senior Pastor at the Lutheran Church of the Atonement in Florissant, Missouri. With Milo, we will be relocating to the greater St. Louis area and nearer to our family. Accounting for unused vacation, my final Sunday at Adoration will be February 18<sup>th</sup>, and my final day in the office will be Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup>.

Looking back upon the three years of ministry we shared together, I am grateful for your presence, especially in coming back from the pandemic. I fondly remember how great it was to finally meet folks outside of their cars and Zoom screens! We have shared great joys and delights; we have also been held together in the Spirit's consolation amid many tragic deaths and much grief. I am thankful for your witness to the grace and mercy we receive from Christ and the vulnerability you have shared and entrusted with me.

As I depart, I will be entering a time of transition and taking a pause from parish ministry, focusing on being Milo's at-home parent. As Adoration begins its transition, I am confident that our leaders and the Synod staff will guide you in discerning the needs of Adoration going forward.

**I want to personally invite you all to a town-hall meeting with Pastor Kristin Nielsen from the Greater Milwaukee Synod on Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:15 p.m., where she will lead a conversation: "So, Your Pastor is Leaving, Now What??"**

As I enter this next stage of my life, I will cease being your pastor; I will no longer serve in any pastoral function with you, including officiating weddings, baptisms, or funerals. These boundaries are firm, but important as you work toward welcoming new leaders into the congregation's community and life. As we begin the process of saying goodbye, I am encouraged by Paul's words in Second Corinthians 3 and 4:

<sup>12</sup>Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness...  
<sup>40</sup>**Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart.** For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

God's peace, grace, and mercy be with you all in our comings and goings.

Pastor Matthew Schlake-Kruse

Dear friends,

I've been reflecting recently on what it means to leave well. One of our members recently reflected to me, "I'm not sure I can remember a pastor leaving Adoration and things going well."

It is my hope and prayer that over the next few weeks, we can practice leaving well together.

What does "Leaving well" mean? It means acknowledging our many emotions. It means swimming deeper beneath the anxious waters at the surface level to rest in the calm of God's presence with Adoration. For me, it centers on being grateful and thankful for the many ways God has brought life and hope and promise to our relationship. It means savoring the time we have remaining together, and trusting the next things will be the next things.

One of my favorite writers, Henri Nouwen, reflects on what I hope can be at the heart of our final weeks as pastor and people. "The many unexpected events are not just disturbing interruptions...but the way in which God molds our hearts and prepares us for Christ's return. What is the promise hidden in this event?"

Leaving well,

Pastor Matt