

July 30, 2020

What's New? Was gibt's Neues?

A Bi-Weekly Update about What's Going on at and around
St. Matthew's during the Pandemic

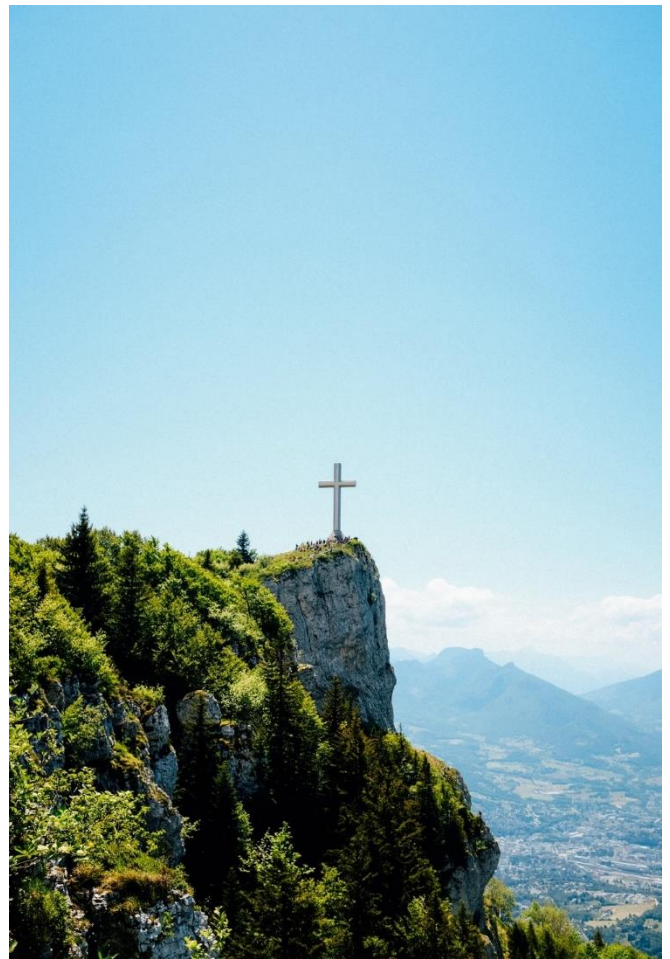
Dear Members and Friends of St. Matthew's,

We are well into the 5th month of the COVID-19 pandemic – and there is no end in sight here in the U.S. Case numbers have been going up, and we are at least 5 months away from a vaccine that's readily available. We have no idea when we can safely meet in person again and have to continue to be patient.

As you know, I try to keep in touch with St. Matthew's members. But I encourage all of you to pick up the phone once in a while (as some of you already do) and call someone you maybe haven't talked to in a while. Please also let me know of any news or concerns I may not have heard yet.

You can always call me with if you wish to talk to me; my cell phone number is 925-330-2289. Please leave a message if I don't pick up the phone, and I will call you back. Or you may send me an email (pastorweidmann@stmatthews-sf.org). Stay well! May God bless us all!

Pr. Kerstin Weidmann



Word of the Week (as chosen by the Moravian Brethren – Herrnhuter Brüder): So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God. *Ephesians 2:19, NRSV*

So seid ihr nun nicht mehr Gäste und Fremdlinge, sondern Mitbürger der Heiligen und Gottes Hausgenossen. *Epheser 2, 19*

Update: In-Person Worship Services and Events at St. Matthew's

The City and County of San Francisco currently doesn't allow any indoor meetings, and there is no projection when such meetings will be allowed once more. At St. Matthew's, we will comply with all City, County and State ordinances. We also have the welfare of our church community and the community at large in mind.

Until further notice all indoor meetings and events at St. Matthew's continue to be suspended.

All in-person worship services are suspended until AT LEAST the end of August.

Sunday Online Worship Services

Since the shelter-in-place order was instituted, St. Matthew's has offered recorded worship services which have been made available every Sunday by 10 a.m. on our website (www.stmatthews-sf.org) and our Facebook page (Matthew Lutheran). We will continue to offer these worship service until further notice.

If you'd like to receive a direct link to these worship services in your email inbox every Sunday, please let us know by sending a request to office@stmatthews-sf.org.

Watching our Sunday Worship Services on TV

If you don't have Internet access but would like to watch St. Matthew's worship services on your TV via a DVD player, we can send you a disk for every Sunday. And if you have don't have a DVD player, we can loan you one so that you can watch the beautifully-done broadcast. If interested, please call Juergen Fehr at 510-451-5384 and he will be glad to discuss the technical details with you. It is really easy to hook up a DVD player and insert a disk.

Irregular Office Hours

We continue to offer irregular office hours. Our office administrator, Angie Holt, usually is in the office on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Pastor's Time in Germany 8/7-8/28

As you may have heard, Pr. Weidmann's mother has been dealing with cancer this spring and summer. Pr. Weidmann will visit Germany and spend time with her mother from 8/7 through 8/28. She will continue to fulfill her duties while in Germany. You will be able to contact her via email (pastorweidmann@stmatthews-sf.org) or her cell phone (925-330-2289). Please take into consideration that she will be in a different time zone (9 hours AHEAD – e.g., 10 a.m. in San Francisco is 7 p.m. in Bremen, Germany). Should any need for in-person pastoral care arise, Pr. Weidmann will arrange for a colleague in the San Francisco Bay Area to be available.

Worship Services over the Phone on Thursdays at 10 a.m.

Pr. Weidmann has started to offer 'Over-the-Phone' Worship Services on Thursdays at 10 a.m. This roughly half an hour of prayer, discerning the 'Bible Verse of the Day' and Communion for those who desire to receive it in this manner.

If you are interested in participating, please let Pr. Weidmann know (pastorweidmann@stmatthews-sf.org or 925-330-2289), and *she will call you* on Thursday at 10 a.m.

Continued Financial Support of St. Matthew's Ministries

We want to thank everyone who has supported St. Matthew's financially during the past months. Please continue to send in your contributions!

Looking Ahead: Singing at Dolores Park?

Pastor Kerstin is thinking about different ways to keep the St. Matthew's community connected. She would like to offer a 'hymn sing' at Dolores Park near the MUNI station off Church Street (with proper distancing and face masks!) starting in September – day of the week to be determined. If you are interested in participating, contact her.

If YOU have any ideas what to do to stay connected during the pandemic, please let Pr. Kerstin know, and we will figure out how to do it!

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