



## St. Matthew's Lutheran Church Newsletter

### What's New? Was gibt's Neues?

*Jesus said: "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me."*  
 Matthew 10:42 from the Gospel of the 5th Sunday after Pentecost

### From the Vacancy Minister

Dear St. Matthew's community,



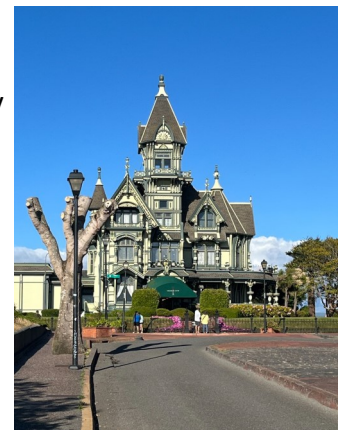
Summer officially started on June 21. While much of the country suffers from heatwaves and seasonal storms, summer seems to be having a

hard time showing up in our Bay Area. The temperatures up until now have been well below average for this time of year. Perhaps there is more to summer than the weather. I noticed that more people are taking some time away and starting to travel again – both locally, around the country, and even internationally. US airlines are seeing full planes as people look to connect with loved ones and explore new destinations. I just returned from a short trip to far Northern California, and I am always amazed at how beautiful the giant redwoods are. Visiting this part of our state never gets old for me.

Summer offers us unique opportunities to experience God's presence in many



ways: through travel and the wonders of nature, letting go of the day-to-day grind, and (re-)connecting with family and friends. Even for those who prefer to stay closer to home, there is so much to see and do in our Bay Area. When was the last time you traveled and spent a few days away from home?



After Pentecost and Trinity Sundays, the church entered the long 'green season' – the Sundays after Pentecost. On those Sundays, we have heard of Jesus sending the disciples on a journey. He sent them out two by two to spread the Good News of God's reign. I wonder how the disciples' travels went? What did they notice? How were they treated when they shared the gospel of God's love with others?

It's a good thing Jesus never sends us out alone. He always comes with us! That's why he can say that anyone who welcomes us welcomes him. What a wonderful gift to be able to bring to the people we meet: the opportunity to meet Jesus

himself! Jesus is with us when we travel, when we experience amazing hospitality, and even when we feel like we are all alone. Jesus is there for the people we meet along the way, and Jesus is here for us.

No matter where your journey is taking you this summer, there is always a place for you at St. Matthews, where God welcomes you with open arms. May this summer be a time of spiritual growth and renewal as we embark on the journey of encountering God in the beauty of the season, in our worship, in community with others, and beyond.

Summer Blessings,

*Amelia +*



**Outing at Schroeder's German Restaurant in downtown S.F. on April 20<sup>th</sup>.** Schroeder was originally founded in 1893 and longstanding history, friendly atmosphere and convenient location has made the Bavarian inspired beer hall a favorite of San Francisco residents for the past 120 years. The original structure was destroyed by the 1906 earthquake and fire before being reopened at its current location of 240 Front Street by Henry Schroeder, who was actively involved in downtown San Francisco's reconstruction. Schroeder's offers a wide selection of beers and a modern German menu.





**BAPTISM OF BABY IDA AND BABY NINA  
MARCH 19, 2023**



**CONFIRMATION OF SARAH AND MIA  
MAY 28, 2023**

Sarah and Mia championed a new way of confirmation ministry. In six months they studied diligently the Old and New Testaments, Church History and the story of Martin Luther. They also completed Worship Observation sheets and participated in leading parts of the liturgy. They were confirmed on Pentecost Sunday. Congratulations and blessings on their journey of faith!





**SIERRA PACIFIC SYNOD, Women of the ELCA Conference 5 Event  
June 24, 2023 at St. Mary & St. Martha Lutheran Church**



**Keynote Speaker Malia Cohen,  
California State Controller (stood in  
in absence of Dolores Huerta**



**Left: Sue Hertless, President of  
Sierra Pacific Synod Women of the ELCA.  
Right: Pastor Rebekah Davis from  
St. Marks's in Pleasant Hill called to  
work with refugees in Cairo, Egypt.**



**Speaker Paul Johnson, St. Francis Lutheran Church,  
on recent trip to El Salvador**



**Pastor Monique Ortiz  
St. Mary St. Martha Lutheran Church**



**Pastor Monique Ortiz & Anita Bairogh**



**St. Matthew's Church Council** came together for their annual retreat at Juergen Fehr's home in Oakland. Besides the business of the church, the council had lunch together and participated in reviewing the history of the congregation. The council identified key themes of St. Matthew's ministry and mission which are vital for the church's future especially when engaging in a call process next year. The retreat concluded with "camp style" communion.



## Greetings from Zion Lutheran Church in Hamilton, Ohio!



Thank you for sharing your recipe(s) for our congregation's cookbook.

The title of the book is "A Dash of Thyme: Zion Lutheran Church's 180th Anniversary Cookbook". It is in e-book format and is currently available on 4 book sites. The links are as follows:

Barnes & Noble: [A Dash of Thyme: Zion Lutheran Church 180th Anniversary Cookbook.](#)

Lulu.com: [A Dash of Thyme \(lulu.com\).](#)

Rakuten Kobo: [A Dash of Thyme eBook by - EPUB | Rakuten Kobo 9781312663329.](#)

Scribd.com: [A Dash of Thyme by Lulu.com - Ebook | Scribd.](#)

There is no cost for downloading. The best devices for reading it would be a tablet, Kindle, or other mobile device, though it can also be viewed on your PC.

Please consider a free will donation for Zion's Food Pantry. Checks should be written to "Zion Lutheran" with reference to Social Concerns, or an offering can be made on the church website marked under "other". The link is as follows:

[Offering — Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hamilton, OH \(zionhamilton.org\).](#)

### Summer Adult Classes: "Our Neighbor's Faith"

**Sunday, August 6-September 3 | 12:15 p.m.**

Join our summer adult class and learn more about different Christian and world faith traditions on five Sundays in August & September from 12:15-1:15 pm. Explore diverse traditions, deepen your understanding, and foster interfaith dialogue. All are welcome!

**August 6: The Roman Catholic Church**

**August 13: The Pentecostals**

**August 20: Islam**

**August 27: Latter-Day-Saints (Mormons)**

**September 3: TBD**



### Kirchlicher Sommerkurs: „Der Glaube unserer Nachbarn“

**Sonntag, 6. August – 3. September | 12:15 Uhr**

Nehmen Sie an unserem Sommerkurs teil und erfahren Sie mehr über verschiedene christliche und weltweite Glaubenstraditionen an fünf Sonntagen im August und September von 12:15 bis 13:15 Uhr. Entdecken Sie verschiedene Traditionen, vertiefen Sie Ihr Verständnis und fördern Sie den interreligiösen Dialog. Alle sind herzlich willkommen!

**6. August: Die römisch-katholische Kirche**

**13. August: Die Pfingstgemeinde**

**20. August: Islam**

**27. August: Heilige der Letzten Tage (Mormonen)**

**3. September: Nach Absprache**





### **Radhaus Summer Outing | Thursday, August 15**

Enjoy a summer outing at the Radhaus SF (<https://radhausf.com>)! Join friends and members of St. Matthew's on **Thursday, August 15 at 6:30 pm** for a fun evening filled with authentic German cuisine, refreshing beer, and good company. Experience the flavors of Germany in a vibrant atmosphere by the Marina. Reserve your spot today and email Vacancy Minister Christian Jennert at [jennert@stmatthews-sf.org](mailto:jennert@stmatthews-sf.org)

### **Upcoming Recorded Services**

St. Matthew's Staff and Virtual Worship Team will continue to offer a Recorded Service to connect with friends and members who are unable to join in person and to reach out to those who live too far away and enjoy a bilingual German-English worship service.

Here are the dates for the monthly Recorded Service in July, August and September.

**July 23**

**August 27**

**September 17**

Previous services can be viewed in the archives on St. Matthew's website: <https://www.stmatthews-sf.org/worship-services/on-line-videos/>

### **Virtuelle Gottesdienste im Sommer**

Das virtuelle Gottesdienst Team der Matthäuskirche wird weiterhin einen monatlichen aufgezeichneten Gottesdienst anbieten, um mit Freunden und Mitgliedern in Kontakt zu bleiben, die nicht am sonntäglichen Gottesdienst teilnehmen können, und um diejenigen zu erreichen, die zu weit entfernt wohnen und einen zweisprachigen deutsch-englischen Gottesdienst feiern möchten.

Hier sind die Termine für die Virtuellen Gottesdienste im Sommer:

**23. Juli**

**27. August**

**17. September**

Frühere Gottesdienste können auf der Website von St. Matthew abgerufen werden:

<https://www.stmatthews-sf.org/worship-services/on-line-videos/>

### **Synod Assembly with Bishop elections in Burlingame | September 15-17, 2023**

This year's Assembly will gather around the theme "Broken, yet Whole," drawing on 2 Corinthians 13:11. This theme names our brokenness, while also lifting up the work of shared healing, ministry and restoration. As we hear in Paul's letter to the Corinthians going through conflict, "Finally, siblings, rejoice. Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you."

The focus of the 35th Synod Assembly will be the election of a new bishop. The discernment process for the next bishop will begin this spring at Conference Gatherings and will conclude on Sunday, September 17th, with the final ballot for the election of a bishop. The Bishop's Election Committee will release the full election process in an announcement coming this April.

Additionally, this year's Synod Assembly will include resolutions and memorials, a budget proposal, elections for two Synod Council positions, a keynote, workshops, a banquet and much more. We will invite the Holy Spirit to be present with us in our discernment, laments, conversations, worship and celebrations.

*If you have any questions or wish to attend the Synod Assembly in Burlingame please contact Vacancy Minister Christian Jennert or talk to one of the council members.*

**Christian Jennert available for prayer, spiritual care, and conversation**

St. Matthew's Vacancy Minister Christian Jennert is available for prayer, spiritual care and conversation. The best to contact him is via email at [jennert@stmatthews-sf.org](mailto:jennert@stmatthews-sf.org). or by calling the church office at 415. 863.6371.

**Christian Jennert steht für Gebet, Seelsorge und Gespräche zur Verfügung**

Der Vakanzseelsorger der evangelischen Matthäusgemeinde, Christian Jennert, steht für Gebet, geistliche Begleitung und Gespräche zur Verfügung. Am besten erreichen Sie ihn per E-Mail unter [jennert@stmatthews-sf.org](mailto:jennert@stmatthews-sf.org) oder telefonisch im Kirchenbüro unter 415.863.6371.

**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!

**St. Matthew's Lutheran Church**

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