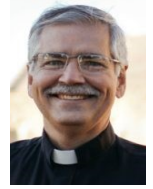


April  
2025



St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
Sundays at 9:00am  
WOW Wednesdays at  
5:30 pm (Sept—April)  
stmatthewmonticello@gmail.com

Pastor Dave Raemisch  
Cell Phone (319) 975-0512  
Office Phone (319) 465-3262



**JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN!**



**AND YOU WERE SAVED  
FOR A REASON!**

## **A Message From Pastor Dave...**

Easter Sunday is on April 20th this year. Although the date of Easter changes every year, the good news that “He Is Risen!” never gets old and never goes out of style for those who long for life, and love, and immortality in Christ. After all, Easter is all about immortality, that is... life in Christ.

Therefore, I'd like to share with you two things: First, a quote from C.S. Lewis from his book, “The Weight of Glory,” and then, a personal remembrance about my dad.

### **The Weight of Glory, C.S. Lewis**

It is with awe and circumspection that we should conduct all our dealings with one another, all friendships, all loves, all play, even all politics. After all, there are no ordinary people. You have never talked to a mere mortal. Nations, cultures, and civilizations - these are mortal, and their life is to ours as the life of a gnat. But it is immortals whom we joke with, work with, marry, snub and exploit - immortal souls destined for either eternal torment or eternal bliss. This does not mean that we are to be perpetually solemn. We must play. But our merriment must be of that kind which exists between people who have, from the outset, taken each other seriously - no flippancy, no superiority, no presumption, no condescension, for we are all immortal.

### **In Memoriam: Remembering Dad**

Twenty-four years ago, on March 15th 2001, my father died after a long and dreadful illness while I was in prison in Tennessee. I said good-bye to my dad, as he lay in a nursing home bed, on the morning I was sentenced to 20 years in prison. I never saw him again. Several months before my incarceration my dad lost both legs, just below the knee, to diabetes and he also suffered from debilitating arthritis. My dad saw me fall hard and go to prison, but he never got to see me serving as a pastor. Because of my incarceration, I was unable to attend his funeral so on Sunday March 2nd 2025, I dedicated our Holy Communion service to my dad, Ronald Dean Raemisch.

Rest in Peace, Dad.

Pastor David Ronald Raemisch

Faith, Hope, Love...

Pastor Dave

# Lent



## Lenten Worship Services

	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Meal</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Classes</u>
Ash Wednesday	Mar. 5	5:00 pm	6:00 pm	Until 7pm
Lent & WOW	Mar. 12	5:00 pm	6:00 pm	Until 7pm
Lent*	Mar. 19	5:00 pm	6:00 pm	no classes
Lent & WOW	Mar. 26	5:00 pm	6:00 pm	Until 7 pm
Lent & WOW	Apr. 2	5:00 pm	6:00 pm	Until 7 pm
Lent & WOW**	Apr. 9	5:00 pm	6:00 pm	no classes
Palm Sunday	Apr. 13		9:00 am	
Maundy Thurs.	Apr. 17		6:00 pm	
Easter Sunday	April 20		9:00 am	

### Lenten Soup Suppers

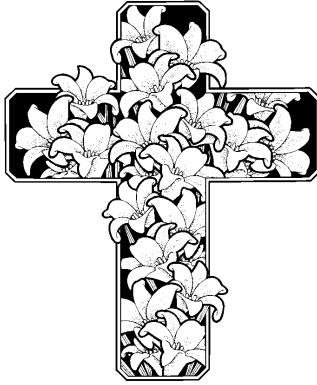
Lenten soup supper served every Wed. evening Mar. 5th to April 2nd.

\*Lenten soup supper and worship will be held on Mar. 19th, but there won't be any WOW classes after worship due to Spring Break.

### Last WOW of the Year Pizza Party April 9th

\*\*Pizza Party at 5:00 pm then Worship at WOW at 6:00 pm.

# Easter Lily Memorials



The Easter Season is drawing near, so we're inviting you to help enhance the beauty of our church by providing an Easter Lily for display.

Names of those remembered by purchasing an Easter Lily will be listed in the Easter Worship Bulletin and the May Echoes Newsletter

The cost per Easter lily is \$10.00.

Please fill in the following form and return it with your money to the church office by April 14th.

Those who purchase Easter lilies may take them home with them after the Easter Sunday worship service.

Thanks for your help!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Memory/Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Number of plants \_\_\_\_\_

# OUR NEW CHURCH COUNCIL

## **President**

DaLana Rigby

## **Vice President**

Jeff Hinrichs

## **Secretary**

Vacant

## **Treasurer**

Nancy Gerdes

## **Board of Elders**

Carolyn Dirks  
Greg Wink

## **Board of Deacons**

Carolyn Tonn  
DaLana Rigby

Church  
Council



## **Board of Trustees**

Jeff Hinrichs  
Stuart Gerdes

## **Board of Education**

Vacant

## **Memorial Board**

Regina Busch  
Sandy Hinrichs

Thank you so very much to those who have generously agreed to serve on our church council. As you can see above, there are a couple of vacancies on council at this time. If you're willing to serve on our church council, please contact Pastor Dave or DaLana. Our church council only meets every other month for about 40 minutes right after worship on the 2nd Sunday of the month.

## **April & May Ushers & Communion Assistants**

**April Ushers:** Jim & Jackie Reuter, Stuart Gerdes, Dale Jo Yousse

**April Communion Assistant:** Stuart Gerdes

**April Altar Guild:** Pam Kray

**May Ushers:** Jeff & Sandy Hinrichs, Steve Goode

**May Communion Assistant:** Pam Kray

**May Altar Guild:** Pam Thompson

## WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

WEEK OF:	SUNDAY	WOW	TOTAL for WEEK
February 23	47	35	82
March 2	61	Cancelled	61
March 9	52	53	105
March 16	58	48	106

February	St. Matthew Ministry	Building
Income	\$10,439.21	\$ 845.00
Expenses	\$10,098.74	
January 1 Balance	\$37,798.76	
January 31 Balance	\$40,899.92	
Year-to-Date		
Income	\$23,529.46	\$ 3,894.00
Expenses	\$20,428.30	

**Please remember our members with a prayer, a card, or a visit.**

### Monticello Care Center

500 Pinehaven, Monticello, IA 52310

♦ Mary Tschantz 208 Dorothy Norton 207 David Griffith 209

### Pennington Square

502 Pinehaven, Monticello, IA 52310

### Individual Addresses:

Sycamore Gardens, 107 E. 9th St., Monticello, IA 52310:

Ann McNamara #118

- ♦ Darlene Gottleber, 327 N. Gill, Monticello, IA 52310
- ♦ Dan Ulferts, 1701 Meadow Ridge Dr., Apt. 37, Anamosa, IA 52205
- ♦ Bonnie Chappell 316 S. Sycamore, Monticello, IA 52310
- ♦ Kim Stadtmueller, 2005 49th St., Marion, IA 52302
- ♦ Donna Joslin, River Bend Retirement Community, 813 Tyler St., NE, Cascade, IA 52033
- ♦ Deb Johnson, 104 Wilson Ct., Apt. #14, Anamosa, IA 52205
- ♦ Irene Behrends, The Views of Marion, 720 Oakbrook Dr., #C109, Marion, IA 52302
- ♦ Sharon Kromminga, 4501 Victory Blvd., Apt. 1210, Yorktown, VA 23693

## Church Council Meeting March 9, 2025

**Attendance:** Stu Gerdes, Pastor Dave, Nancy Gerdes, Carol Dirks, Greg Wink, Carolyn Tonn, DaLana Rigby, and Jeff Hinrichs.

**Election of a new Church Council President:** DaLana Rigby was nominated and approved by unanimous vote. Thank you for serving, DaLana!

**Election of a Church Council Vice President:** Jeff Hinrichs was nominated and approved by unanimous vote. Thank you for serving, Jeff!

**New Church Council Member:** Greg Wink was nominated to serve as an Elder and approved by unanimous vote. Welcome to the church council, Greg!

**Pastor's Report:** We have only had two funerals at St. Matthew in the last 14 months (Don Monk & Mary Tschantz). Our Ash Wednesday service was cancelled due to weather (rescheduled for the following Wednesday). Jim Reuter and DaLana Rigby will lead worship on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Jim Reuter and Jeff Hinrichs will lead worship on Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>. New Members, Harold & Pat Knutsen recently joined St. Matthew. Welcome, we're glad you're here!

**Treasurer's Report:** Thanks be to God, offerings for the first two months of 2025 exceeded expenses by \$3,101.16. We have \$54,898.68 in a Certificate of Deposit (4.35% interest) due to mature on November 7, 2025.

**Building Treasurer's Report:** The church insurance bill increased by \$2,809.00 this year. It now costs the church \$12,735.00 a year for insurance!

**Education Board:** Pam Kray has completed her term of service; Thank You, Pam! We currently have no one serving on the Education Board.

**Youth & Family Ministry:** Vacation Bible School will be held in June. So far, we have been unable to find anyone interested in serving as the leader of our Youth & Family Ministry Program. At least for now, we hope to continue holding a worship service on Wednesday evenings next year, whether or not we find a new Youth Leader. A decision will be made later. WOW has declined over the last few years as Wednesday evening sports and dance programs in the area have expanded.

**Trustees:** St. Matthew has been consulted regarding renovation going on at Karde's Gas Station next to the church.

**Deacons:** Nothing new to report. **Elders:** We're currently serving home-bound communion to twelve households. It's going well.

**Lenten Soup Suppers:** Special thanks to the women of WELCA for preparing and serving delicious Lenten soup suppers!

**Outreach:** A suggestion was made to build a Lil' Library and place it outside the church. DaLana & Jeff will follow-up.

**Motion to Adjourn:** By Stu, seconded by Jeff. Concluded with Lord's Prayer. Amen.

**St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
226 N. Cedar  
Monticello, Iowa 52310**

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