

Church of St. Matthew - Bulletin Insert

April 14, 2024
Third Sunday of Easter

Community Dinner

April 13, 2024 at 5:30 PM
(following 4:15 PM Mass)

Church of Saint Matthew Social Hall

Father Steve's birthday is April 15. He won't be able to join us this year for a birthday party so we're going to take the party to him on his day. I bet you are wondering how we are going to do it and how you can participate.

Join us for a spaghetti dinner on Saturday evening, April 13, in the Social Hall. There will be **no charge** for the event. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Tom Kegler and John Del Vecchio will be preparing an Italian meal of salad, spaghetti, bread, and brownies. Donations will be accepted to cover the cost of the food.

During the dinner, Alan Christiansen will be making a video. You'll have a chance to record a greeting to Father Steve which will be delivered to him on his birthday. We'll set up a special area where you can send your message via video or bring a card if you wish and we'll see that it gets to him.

If you can't make it to the dinner, you have another opportunity to record a message. It's Coffee Sunday, the very next day on April 14. We will set up a special area where you can record a message. Even though he can't be with us, he will enjoy knowing that we are thinking of him on his birthday.



Quantum STEAM Academy Sunday, April 14

Crescence Nabil, the lead teacher at Quantum STEAM Academy will be at St. Matthew on Sunday, April 14 to give a short presentation about the school. Quantum STEAM Academy has been leasing the former St. Matthew school building since 2020. It is a charter school that welcomes all faiths and cultures.

E-Box Fundraiser Update

In my column this week, I wrote about our successful fundraising effort to pay for replacement of our main electric panel, the "E-Box". Here's what it looks like in graphic form:



While critical to our operations—i.e., our ministries—the E-Box is only one of many facilities projects in the past three years. That's how long I've been at St. Matt's. I know much was accomplished before my arrival. And much will need to be done in the future.

Take a look at the other side of this insert. There, I've compiled a list of projects we've completed since 2021, are working on, or are planning.

If interested in learning more—or joining the Facilities Committee—let me know. Thanks for your support.

Phil Grant, Administrator

Neighborhood House Collection

Next weekend is the monthly Neighborhood House collection. There will be a basket by the main entrance for you to place your non-perishable or monetary donation.

During the month of March 2024, St. Matthew donated **148 pounds** of food. On behalf of Neighborhood House and the people it serves, thank you for your generosity!



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St. Matthew's Facilities Work status Partial List – *not in order* April, 2024

Here's a list of facilities projects since I began here at St. Matt's in 2021. We've funded these projects with a combination of school rent revenue, financing through Catholic Finance Corporation, and Capital Needs fundraising. Thank you for your support!

I thank staff members for their work on these projects. Many thanks also to Facilities Committee members. Their advice, ideas, and hands on help have been invaluable.

The list below does not include many tasks performed by volunteers and contractors—or things I've overlooked!

Phil Grant, Administrator

Completed

- New roof, school (1928 section), 2023
- New roofs, Parish Center, 2023
- School elevator repaired after leak, 2023
- 12+ doors repaired or replaced, 2023
- School building lighting conversion to LEDs, 2022
- Bowling alley access secured, 2023
- School tower & attic cleanup and vermin mitigation, 2022 & 2023
- Third floor (school's 1902 portion) leaks plugged, 2023
- Electrical wiring upgrades, 2023
- Painting, various locations
- Ventilation fan, gym area, 2022
- Plumbing, various locations
- Exterior fence work, drain work, tree removal
- Kindergarten bumpout room roof replaced, 2021
- Office phone system replacement, 2022
- WiFi system upgrade, 2022*
- Casa sewer work, 2023

- Church lighting conversion to LEDs, 2023
- AC repair (church), 2022
- Ramp to altar area, 2022
- Parish Center access control system, 2024*
- Security Camera system, 2024*

*Funded by November *Giving Thanks* Fundraiser

In Process

- Heating system overhaul
- Boilers (completed 2016)
- Mechanical room valves; replaced in 2023
- Thermostats, 2023 –
- Radiator maintenance, 2023
- Steam traps, 2023-2024
- Main electric panel, 2024
- Solar panels, Fall 2024
- Online Mass systems
- Parish Center 2nd floor apartment carpeting

Planning Stage

- Parking lot, Summer 2024
- Tuckpointing, Summer 2024?
- 3rd floor (school) vertical roof work
- North end (school) tile & concrete work
- Exterior drainage improvement (school building to parking lot to street)
- School gymnasium ceiling work
- Church ceiling fans

Additional details for any project are available upon request.

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St. Matthew's Parish Council Are You Called to Serve?

In June, four of ten Parish Council seats will become available. We are asking members of our faith community to consider whether they are being called to help lead our parish community.

The Parish Council is made up of individuals who combine their diverse gifts, experiences, knowledge, and perspectives to form a team that supports our entire community and advances the mission of St. Matthew.

What is the role of the Parish Council at the Church of St. Matthew?

The Parish Council represents the voice of the parish community. The Council is responsible for understanding the needs, ideas, hopes, life, and activity of the parish community so it can effectively carry out the mission of the parish. As a lay-led community, the Parish Council at St. Matthew plays an active role along with the Trustees, the Finance Committee, and the Parish Administrator in leading the parish.

Over the next year, one of the Parish Council's top priorities will be to act on recommendations from the Task Force exploring the following areas of our parish life.

- **St. Matt's Leadership - Priorities and Concerns:** What will spiritual leadership look like at St. Matt's and how can we, as a parish, be active in providing input to the Archdiocese around this issue? How do we continue to model lay leadership in the Archdiocese?
- **St. Matt's Culture:** How will we continue to build on our commitment to welcome all?
- **Community Building and Outreach:** How will we expand events, activities, and programs as we continue to be "A visible expression of God's love" on the West Side of St. Paul

For More Information

If you would like to learn more about what's involved, please reach out to a Council member, or send questions to the Council at parishcouncil@st-matts.org. You are also welcome to attend a Council meeting which are open to the public.

Here's the schedule for the next two meetings:

April 25 at 6:30 pm
Parish Center, Lower Level

May 23 at 6:30 pm
Parish Center, Lower Level

Meeting agendas are available in the Sunday bulletin insert the weekend before each meeting, or you can go to the web page <https://st-matts.org/parish-pastoral-council/>.

Parish Council FAQs

How many people are on the Parish Council?

Up to nine Council members plus the Trustee and Parish Administrator. We currently have seven Council members.

How long is a Parish Council term?

It is a three-year commitment.

How often does the Parish Council meet?

The whole Council meets once per month, but only 11 times per year because we combine the meetings for November and December.

When does the Parish Council meet?

The Council currently meets from 6:30-8:00 pm on the fourth Thursday of every month, although each Council has the discretion to change meeting times and dates.

Where does the council meet?

In-person meetings are held at St. Matthew's Parish Center. The Council has the discretion to meet virtually to minimize travel during winter or for other reasons.

How can I learn more?

All Council meetings are open to the public, so a good way to learn more is to attend an upcoming meeting.

From the
Parish Council



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Our next in-person meeting is on **April 25**. Another option is to talk to one of our current Council members, who could answer your questions. You could also send an email with questions or to express your interest to the Parish Council at parishcouncil@st-matts.org.

What should I do if I want to join?

People who are considering joining are asked to attend a meeting to learn more about what the Council does and how it operates. After reflection, if they would like to join, they should inform the Council by the meeting on May 20.

Is there any training for this role? Yes! Two or more current Council members have a training session with new members. Also, experienced members (those with a year left in their term) help and mentor the new members.

How are people chosen? Four seats will become available in June. If four people want to join, they will take the vacant seats and join the Council at the June meeting. If more people are interested than there are Council positions available, names are drawn from a hat on Pentecost. Because St. Matthew's is led by and heavily dependent on lay members, there are many opportunities for people to be active and play an important role in parish life.

St. Matthew Parish Council - Jerald Dosch, Kathy Goldenstein, Maggie Lee, Anthony Minus, Tara Perron, Ellen Schneider, Katie Shetka

Prayer Requests

Due to a long list of names on our prayer list, the names are divided into groups and rotated weekly for Prayers of the Faithful. Email Angela (arakow@st-matts.org) or call the parish office (651-224-9793) with changes to keep our list up to date.

When requesting to add a loved one's name to our bulletin and Prayers of the Faithful, we kindly ask you obtain the individual's permission. Thank you!

Our parish has several ways in which we can pray for others:

1. We include names of those who need our prayers in our bulletin.
2. We include names of those who need our prayers in the Prayers of the Faithful during Mass.
3. You can include names in the Book of Intentions, found in the back of the church.

How Can
We Pray
FOR
You?

Music at St. Matthew

Interested in music ministry? Please ask Cristina Czaia for details on how you can join. Send an email to cczaia@st-matts.org.

