



St. Mary's Lutheran Church 2001 80th St. Kenosha, WI 53143
(262)658-3555 www.stmaryslutheran.org

WEEKEND WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 17 & 18, 2026

Welcome to Worship! We are glad you are here!

- * Turn off phones or silence them.
- * St. Mary's Lutheran Church celebrates Holy Communion for ALL! Christ is present and you are welcome! Young children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing. We offer gluten-free & regular wafers, grape juice and wine options. If you are unable to come forward, please remain seated and tell the ushers you'd like communion in your seat and it will be brought to you. The ushers will direct all during communion.
- * Feel like you're ready to join us? If you are interested in more information about membership or joining St. Mary's Lutheran Church, please call the church office and Beth will set up an appointment with Pr. Jordan!

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Pastor Jordan will be out of town from Friday-Tuesday. Pastor Debbie is available for any pastoral emergencies (262-599-5795).

Church office will be OPEN on Monday, January 19th, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

*Don't forget—would you please fill out a **2026 Communion Card** and give to usher?
Thank you!*



2025 YEAR END GIVING

Your 2025 Giving Statements will be available in the east narthex starting the weekend of January 24 through the month of February.



If you have any questions or need your statement mailed to you, please feel free to contact me.

Cari Richter, Financial Secretary, 262-853-2359

Envelopes for your financial contribution are in a box in the east narthex with packets of 12 envelopes now. **Thank you for your generosity!**

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ALWAYS CHECK THE WEBSITE/CHURCH CALENDAR FOR REAL-TIME UPDATES! [HTTPS://STMARYSLUTHERAN.ORG/NEWS](https://STMARYSLUTHERAN.ORG/NEWS)



THE SPIRIT NEWSLETTER WILL BE A COMBINATION JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2026 ISSUE.

The deadline for that Spirit's articles and pictures is **January 19, 2026**. Thank you for your understanding.

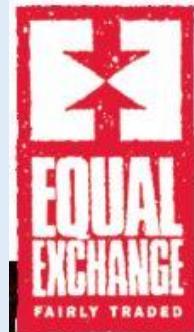
Exercises with Gonne

Come Thursday, January 22nd at 4:30pm in the Gym. No Experience Necessary. A monetary donation is encouraged.



The altar flowers this weekend are given in loving memory of our sister, Carol Schaufel, on her birthday by Sue & Bob Van Bendegom.

CHURCH IN SOCIETY is selling coffee, chocolates, tea & olive oil from Equal Exchange Fair Trade! Check out the stock in Fellowship Hall!



SUNDAY SCHOOL MEETS SUNDAY DURING THE 9:00AM WORSHIP

SERVICE. Come on up for a Kids Connection, then have a lesson & some singing, plus returning for holy communion! You do not need to be a member of St. Mary's to be in Sunday School! Talk to Joan Oehlberg for details!

2025 TAX FILING

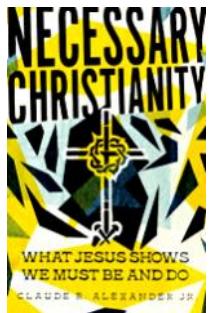
St. Mary's Lutheran church will once again be the

location for one of the area's AARP Tax Aide sites! Beginning on Tuesday, February 3—March 31, 2026. Appointments are necessary.

Online appointment link is www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp_taxaide/ or call (262)671-8461



In a culture of instant gratification, one in which "freedom of choice" and "my rights" are repeated mantras, it's sobering to learn that for followers of Jesus, certain things are not optional, but necessary. The Book Study group, led by Dick Sjoerdsma, will resume on Sunday, Feb. 1, 10:15 a.m., in the Chapel/Lounge to examine and discuss a book by Claude Alexander, **Necessary Christianity. What Jesus Shows We**



Must Be and Do (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2022). The text offers a trove of provocative topics for lively discussion. All are invited to attend. Please purchase your copy of the book in advance of the first class.

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*January Council Connection is  
Sandy Bear  
[sandymbear@outlook.com](mailto:sandymbear@outlook.com) or  
496-4370.*

Worship Attendance: 1/10 &  
1/11: 155



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Coffee is sharing the love of Christ by welcoming the stranger!
Please contact the office to host.
Groups! Buddies! Ministries!

OPPORTUNITY

ELCA Social Statement on Faith and Civic Life Study Series – Free Event

Starting Tuesday, January 13th (six-week course, can start even after week 1) Zoom only at 10:30 am - noon or 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

Join Bishop Paul Erickson and Dr. Joyce Caldwell for a six-week study of the recently adopted ELCA Social Statement on Faith and Civic Life. This social statement sets forth the ELCA's teaching about how disciples and this church may faithfully speak and act in civic life. While existing ELCA social statements and messages address specialized elements of social life, this statement addresses the broad responsibility for seeking the good of all through civic participation.

Learn more and register at: <https://milwaukeesynod.org/series/faith-and-civic-life-social-statement-study-series/>

TOGETHER IN MISSION \$25 INCLUDES LUNCH SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH FROM 8AM - 3PM ST. MATTHEW'S, WAUWATOSA

This year, our synod's annual *Together In Mission* event is filled with numerous learning opportunities and time for building relationships across our synod! It will be fun, collaborative and engaging! This event is open to all! A few of the things you will have a chance to:

- + Collaborate on creating a synod mural with Tia Richardson
- + Experience lunch church – a meal-centered worship experience

[cont'd]

+ Tools to answer the question "Are you wondering what might be next for your church?"

+ Learn a "simple process to craft a 1,3,5 and/or 10-year vision for a congregation."

+ Engage with people from across the synod on a variety of topics!

Learn more and register at: <https://milwaukeesynod.org/event/together-in-mission-2/>

Sign Up Today



LENTEN TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE

As we enter the season of Lent, we have the opportunity to experience a Lenten Taizé service being held at the Siena Retreat Center in Racine!

Taizé prayer is a form of worship that originated in an ecumenical community in Taizé, France. Founded in 1940, this monastic community, comprised of brothers from both Protestant and Catholic traditions, has been welcoming people of all ages into their community to experience the simple, quiet, contemplative prayer service that we commonly refer to as Taizé.

You are invited for a reflective, ecumenical prayer service including meditative music (We have Taizé chants in our hymnal!), scripture reading, and silent reflection. No registration is required; free-will offering will be accepted. All are welcome! Hope to see you there!

SISTERS' CHAPEL AT THE SIENA RETREAT CENTER IN RACINE

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2026
6:30PM-7:15PM**