

ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Proclaiming the Love of God for All People

THE MESSENGER

Mission Statement:
Living in Christ through faith.
Living for neighbor through love.

Serving the southwest Fort Worth area since 1953

NOVEMBER 2022

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, organized in 1953, is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

Sunday Worship
8:15 am & 11:00 am
Christian Education
9:30 am

Church Staff:

Lesley M. Radius

Pastor

Adam Frame

Director of Music Ministries

John Wolf

Organist / Pianist

Shirley Johnson

*Director of the Sounds of Exaltation
Handbell Choir*

Kelly Riddle

*Community Engagement
Coordinator*

Mary Nedde

Administrative Coordinator

Jocelyne Angeles, Valerie Dyke

Nursery Attendants

Council Members:

President: Faye Youngblood

Vice-President: Charlie Schmidt

Secretary: Marcia Boggs

Treasurer: Aaron Droemer

Financial Sec.: Gary Christensen

Christian Ed.: Cindy Kohn

Fellowship: Lisa Reed

Outreach: Phil Beckman

Property: K.C. Iversen

Stewardship: Open position

Worship: Karin Dunker

Youth: Adrienne Frame

Youth Rep.: Katie Beckman

CONGREGATION MEETING NOVEMBER 6

After 11:00 Worship

Potluck Meal

Please bring:

A-K Sandwiches or Pasta Dish

L-R Salad or Fruit

S-Z Cookies, Brownies or other Dessert Item

The Agenda will include:

2023 Budget Ministry Reports

Staff Reports



ADVENT BEGINS NOVEMBER 27

*O Come, O Come,
Emmanuel*



Sundays in Advent - Worship 6:00 pm

Nov. 27, Dec. 4, 11 and 18

Wednesdays in Advent

Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14 and 21

5:30 pm - Simple Supper

6:30 pm - Holden Evening Prayer

*7:00 pm - Prayer Practices, led by Pr. Lesley
and Rev. Paula*

7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

5709 Wedgwood Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76133

817-292-1338 | office@stmatthews-elca.org | www.stmatthews-elca.org

We are Reconciling in Christ; welcoming to all!

Wedgwood Arts Presents:
Eternal Light

A Requiem by Howard Goodall



Sunday,
 November 13th
 4:00 p.m.

A Memorial
Concert



**CPR Class for St. Matthew's and
 St. Christopher's Members**



One never knows when they might need to perform CPR to save someone's life!!
 Come join us for the November CPR class in St. Matthew's Fellowship Hall.
 This class is designed specifically for lay people; cost is \$55 per person

Tuesday, November 15th at 10 am

If you are interested please contact St. Matthew's office:
 817-292-1338 or office@stmatthews-elca.org

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK(TOP)

Does Communal Worship matter? That was a question asked of me recently. My internal response was of course worship matters, and I heard in my mind the words of King David *"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!"* Psalm 122:1

Communal Worship is where together we give thanks and praise to our loving God. It is a time where we are reminded that we are ONE Body, no matter how scattered we are during the week, on Sunday, we come together as One Body united in Christ. Worship is where we hear God's story and see where our story intersects. It is a place of instruction for life as a follower of Christ. Communal worship is a place where we are fed and then sent out to be God's witnesses in the world, showing God's love, mercy, and grace. Individual and Communal worship is vital to our faith journey and the list of why it matters can go on and on. **Yes, communal worship does matter.**

However, as the conversation continued about how we show that worship matters, I began to wonder. Have some of the practices we needed to use for safety during the pandemic lessened the message that communal **worship does matter**? Does using plastic individual cups for communion send a message, perhaps even subliminal, that it can be a throw away practice of gathering to receive Christ's body and blood? By not using the pouring chalice are we failing to remind us that just as the wine for all is poured from one chalice, we are all connected to Christ and to one another as the Body of Christ in this Holy Sacrament and in our lives as Christians? Do we remember why those serving at God's altar wear an Alb? What is the significance of this garment?

These are all good questions that invited the Worship Commission to return to some of the practices of the past so that we are indeed reminded that individual and communal worship does matter, all worship matters.

So, on Sundays, there will be individual glass cups as we are good stewards of God's creation and seek to minimize our footprint on this earth. We also use glass cups to set the table the best way we can for this Holy sacrament happening in our midst. I think about how as a kid, my family always used the best tableware for a celebration. Communion is indeed not a throw away sacrament, instead it is a celebration of the feast to come, and we set the table with our best.

We will return to the pouring chalice. When you receive your wine, I invite you to remember that you are part of all of God's world, united in Christ's sacrifice of his body and blood. You are a member in the Body of Christ.

When you see those serving at the altar, think about the alb's (robe) symbolism. It symbolizes the purity and light of the baptized Christian. It reminds us all that in baptism we become a new creation in Christ.

"Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!" Psalm 95:2

See you in worship, because indeed it does matter. Peace and prayers, *Paster Lesley*

A NOTE FROM REV. PAULA

October 20, 2022

Dear Pastor Lesley—

As you and St. Matthew's Lutheran Church undertake longer-range planning, all who gather for this meaningful work are in my prayers.

St. Christopher Episcopal Church called me to serve on August 1, 2022. The people and staff of St. Matt's welcomed me as deeply as St. Chris' people. Over the past 3 months, I've been thinking about who St. Matt's is...to me, to our parish, and to the Wedgwood community. Here's what I have noticed:

1. A week ago, a young person (maybe 6th grade age) approached me in the parking lot of St. Matt's. I was wearing a collar and decked out in the familiar black shirt and black pants. The young person's mother was sitting in a pickup truck and watching the interaction carefully. The child wondered if we were the people who offered tutoring? Yes, I told her, there were tutors inside helping students. The child had received tutoring several years ago at St. Matt's. Now she was in an upper-level grade where science was kicking her butt. She needed help. And she returned to the place where she remembered receiving the help she needed.
2. On my first Sunday with St. Christopher, my parish was planning a reception for their new priest (featuring a fine array of brownies). One of my folks was entering St. Matt's with her arms filled with supplies. A homeless person approached her and asked for food. She brought him into the church, walked with him to the pantry, and helped him put together a bag of food that would last him for a week. 10 days later, my parishioner was at her office (1-1/2 miles south of St. Matt's) breaking down cardboard boxes for the recycle bin. A homeless man approached and asked if he could help her? "No," she said, "I've got this." Then the homeless man asked, "Aren't you the kind lady who helped me get food at that church last week?" Yes, it was Margaret. The experience made a real difference in both lives.
3. The people of St. Christopher know a thing or two about loss. Some of our parishioners have lost 4 worship homes over the past 13 years. For these people, choosing to "Respect the dignity of every human being" has been costly. The remains of their loved ones are in churchyards where they are not welcome; the stuff that makes worship feel familiar to them (vestments, frontals, torches, organs, pianos, and on and on) was taken away. The welcome offered to St. Christopher means something different to each person. For all of us, it is an immeasurable act of Christian love. We are healing in the space - and the embrace - St. Matt's has provided for us.

The character of St. Matt's that I see most clearly is the virtue of generosity. As you discern your vision for the future, know that who you are in this moment is rather wonderful. May God awaken your hearts and stir you to find God's vision for you.

Peace,
Rev. Paula

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2023

Offering envelopes for 2023 will be available for you to pick up at church beginning in November. The envelopes are “generic” without your giving number on them. Your offerings, however, will continue to be counted under your current giving number. Please put your giving number on the envelope or on your check, and fill out the information requested on the envelope. If you would like envelopes mailed to you, please let the church office know: 817-292-1338 or office@stmatthews-elca.org

Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity in giving to St. Matthew’s as we live out our faith and love with our neighbor. *Stewardship Commission*

PRESIDENT’S PONDERINGS

Thank you to all who participated in our Visioning Retreat on 10/22. It was a fantastic time with much conversation and sharing of prayer-filled thoughts. At the end of the retreat, the Council, Mutual Ministry and Facilitators were tasked with taking the information gathered and creating a framework for moving forward. The “Task Force” will be meeting Thursday 11/2 at 6:30 pm to start our work. Stay tuned for the next retreat that will once again invite congregation participation. I can’t wait to see what God has in store for us.

On another note, **thank you to those who have already responded to the President’s Challenge.** Thank you to those that are prayerfully considering my challenge. I have been thinking about the deficit. Perhaps, when you read the need for our offerings to be \$37,000 per month, you looked at it and felt compelled to give generously. However, others might have seen that amount and felt that it is impossible to be met and therefore not responded. **Here is another way to look at the challenge.** If every giving unit would give one extra month of giving in 2022, we would come very close to covering our deficit. So, if you normally give \$20 a month which is \$240 per year, can you give an extra \$20 which would be \$260 for this year (one extra month of giving)? This would help greatly.

Please remember this money is used to do God’s mission and ministry. Yes, it might seem at times that it goes to pay salaries, pay utilities, etc. Let me offer a way to look at what those utilities and salaries, etc. allow us to accomplish toward God’s mission. Each Sunday children are learning the stories of God’s love, which will change their world and therefore impact the greater world. Each Wednesday, youth are learning about their faith in confirmation. Each Tuesday, children come to St. Matthew’s and find adults willing to sit with them one on one and help them not only with their homework but mentor them and help them learn how to solve problems and succeed. The list of how our gifts of thanksgiving to God in response to all God has given us helps us to participate in God’s mission and ministry is many. Look at Kelly Riddle’s, Community Engagement Coordinator’s article (next page) and the reflection from Rev. Paula of how God’s work with our hands is being done here at St. Matthew’s. I pray you will feel encouraged and energized by the work and share your God-given time, talents, and treasure to continue this work.

Sending prayers and love, Faye Youngblood, Council President

***FROM OUR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR,
KELLY RIDDLE***

“No hands but yours, no feet but yours, yours are the eyes through which Christ’s compassion for the world is to look out. Yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good, and yours are the hands with which He is to bless us now.” – St. Teresa of Avila

Covid took a lot from us, there is no doubt that it did. Our community, our church, our country, our whole world will be reeling in many ways from the pandemic in years to come. I like to see myself as a glass half full kind of a girl (although like many I don’t fulfill this optimism every day, but I try my best!). So as heartbreaking as Covid has been in a way it is giving us the opportunity for a “new start” a “clean slate” shall we say, a chance to refocus, reassess what and how we want to be as church? How do we REALLY want to serve our community, our neighbors in need, the children that live in our community, the most vulnerable in our city? None of us have all the answers but I do feel like we have a few great ideas to start with! At the end of August, I was blessed to be moved into a new role at SMLC- Community Engagement Coordinator. This is not only a new and first-time role for me but also a brand-new position on staff for SMLC. I am honored to fill and develop this new position and I humbly ask for prayers of guidance and support in the coming months.

Some might be asking, “What is the role of a Community Engagement Coordinator exactly?” Simply put it is the face of SMLC in our community-the connection between the church building and its congregants to our community at large. It is working with other local leaders and engagers to identify and help solve some of the issues our neighbors and most vulnerable in our community are facing.

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you all the exciting things that we have been up to under the “umbrella” of Community Outreach-some new, some old but ALL important and thriving to make a real difference in the Wedgwood neighborhood and beyond.

In August a new relationship and community partnership was formed with DRC Ft. Worth - Community Solutions to End Homelessness. This is an important non-profit in the city of FW. The DRC was established about 25 years ago to put systems in place to help transition the non-homed into permanent housing.

On September 11th ELCA’s National Day of Service a group of volunteers from SMLC completely refurbished 12 raised garden beds including planting vegetables for the residents of the Palm Tree Apartments-an apartment complex run by the DRC for the newly homed. We also had many more volunteers participate in ELCA Day of Service by picking up trash across from the church, assembling goody bags for our Go Center students and reorganizing and cleaning the SMLC food pantry.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, continued

We have partnered with our brothers and sisters in Christ, St. Christopher to help them continue their long-time outreach “Laundry Love.” Laundry Love is a non-profit helping economically disadvantaged families pay to have their clothes washed at a local laundromat once a month. When families and individuals must choose between rent, food or clean clothes, clothes will always be at the bottom of the list.

SMLC Ready, Set, Go Tutoring and Mentoring Center kicked off on September 13th operating since 2015 beginning its 7th year. Although our attendance numbers are not what we had pre-covid we have a handful of faithful elementary student attendees some of which have been with us for many years now. We continue to be blessed with dedicated and faithful tutors every Tuesday.

I have partnered with Adam Frame SMLC Director of Music Ministries in getting our Community Children’s Choir back up and running. This is a ministry that we look forward to growing exponentially in years to come. All of our Go Center students have been attending Community Choir every week.

An important and deepening partnership with Woodway Elementary has continued. Many, many students are behind in reading partially due to on-line learning during Covid. A group of SMLC volunteers will be working weekly with the 2nd grade teachers at Woodway on campus as “Reading Buddies” as part of Woodway’s “Woodway Reads” program. Our goal is to help get all 2nd graders reading at grade level by the end of this school year.

“Coffee and Community” will continue with vigor as we bring in individuals from non-profits to speak during “coffee hour” on Sunday mornings. This will give our congregants a chance to learn more firsthand knowledge of the non-profits in our area, what they are all about and how we can help them. Bruce Frankel the CEO and President of the DRC will be speaking on Sunday November 6th @9:00 a.m. Representatives from “Texas Refugee Services” will be with us for January Coffee and Community.

A meeting with Catholic Charities to sponsor an Angel Tree in the narthex of the church happened very recently. This is an important engagement to have as the holidays approach. (See next page.)

SMLC has so many opportunities to serve, we are also open to new opportunities as well. I am happy to report that I am fully moved into my new office and would love anyone and everyone to stop by to discuss outreach, what it means to SMLC and what it means to YOU... please stop by also to just say HI anytime. My door will always be open!

Kelly Riddle
Community Engagement Coordinator



GOSPEL - ALIVE

BE A CATHOLIC CHARITIES CHRISTMAS ANGEL

Our Christmas angels provide Christmas gifts for the children of the clients of Catholic Charities. Help us bring the joy of Christmas to the families served by Catholic Charities.



Pick an angel off the Angel Tree in the narthex. Sponsor a child with a \$25 or \$50 Walmart Gift Card and a small gift.

Bring your card(s) and unwrapped gift to the church on Sundays, or to the office in the afternoons during the week.

Deadline is Sunday, December 4

SAVE THE DATES!

Wed., Nov. 2 - Chili Cookoff Fundraiser for Wedgwood Arts and spring Choir Trip; 5:30 pm

Sun., Nov. 6 - **Congregation Meeting after 11:00 worship**

Sat., Nov. 12 - "Quiet Day" for the women of St. Christopher and St. Matthew's
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Sun., Nov. 13 - Combined Choir Presentation of Howard Goodall's Eternal Light Requiem;
4:00 pm

Sun., Nov. 27 - Joint youth/family gingerbread decorating after 11:00 worship
- Advent Taizé Worship; 6:00 pm

Wed., Nov. 30 - Beginning at 5:30 pm: Advent Simple Supper; Holden Evening Prayer;
Prayer Practices Study and Chancel Choir

Wednesdays in Advent (Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14 & 21):

5:45 pm: Simple Dinner

6:30 pm: Holden Evening Prayer led by St. Matthew's

7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal

Prayer Practices Study led by Pr. Lesley and Rev. Paula

AARP DRIVER SAFETY COURSE

Hosted by St. Christopher at St. Matthew's
Monday, November 14 at 12:30 pm

\$20 for AARP members; \$25 for non-members

Reservations are required.

Please call St. Christopher at 817-926-8277 or email office@stchrisfw.org



Gingerbread House Decorating Party Hosted by St. Christopher's Jr. Daughters of the King

On Sunday, November 27, our youth and some adults will decorate Gingerbread Houses after church services at 11:00 am. There will be a Pizza and Punch lunch provided for participants and spectators to fortify them for the work ahead of them. Youth from St. Matthew's and St. Christopher's are encouraged to sign-up to participate. Very young children will need an adult to assist them. Most of the decorated houses will be given to shut-ins in both congregations.

Donations of money for pizzas, gingerbread houses, and other supplies are welcomed and encouraged. Monetary donations may be given to St. Christopher's and marked for Gingerbread Houses and should be submitted by November 22. Decorating donations may be brought to the church and placed in a basket at the entry for use by our decorators. Here is a partial list* of suggested donations:

Spice Drops and Dots	Plain M&Ms	Mini cookies
Holiday Hershey's Kisses & Hugs	Small Candy Canes	Mini Pretzels
Small Chocolate Candies	Peppermints	Sprinkles
Small Christmas Candies	Froot Loops	Frosted Mini Wheats
Life Savers	Hot Tamales Candy	Red Hots Candies
Small Gingerbread Men	Fruit by the Foot	Small Hard Candy
Swedish Fish	Yogurt covered Pretzels	Small Rainbow Lollipops
	Small Colorful Candies	

**Other decorations are welcomed...use your imagination.
Please avoid nut items.*

Please contact Marti Fagley (mfagley@aol.com/) or Cynthia Eichenberger (cceichenberger@gmail.com) if you have questions or need more information.



WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH at 2:00 PM in St. Matthew's Fellowship Hall

Each December, the women of St. Matthew's come together for:

Fun and Fellowship

Food

White Elephant Gift Exchange

Revealing of this year's Secret Prayer Partners



We will also draw new prayer partners for the upcoming year - we all need prayers and special thoughts! For the white elephant exchange bring a wrapped inexpensive Christmas decoration/ornament to exchange during our time together. This year, **the women of St. Christopher will be joining us** and they will be introduced to their own secret prayer partner program for the new year.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS - OCTOBER 2022

PASTOR'S REPORT – *(Pr. Lesley Radius, written report submitted.)*

All Council/All Member visioning retreat to be held Sat. Oct. 22, 2022 led by Pastor Irma Banales, NT/NL Synod.

Invitation Letter sent to congregation with details. Personal letters sent. Phone calls made by President. Lunch provided by Mutual Ministry. Childcare provided.

Joint blessing of the pets with St. Christopher was held Oct. 1st

Trunk or Treat on October 29.

Approximately 20 people involved in God's Work, Our Hands on Sunday, 9/11/22.

Performed wedding for Nicholas Kammer and C.J. Waiters on 9/25/22.

Work continues with Clayton After School program, Go! Center, and Woodway Elementary reading program.

Approached by Augustine Fellowship to provide space for 12-step program. More information needed before agreement.

Confirmation has begun with 2 students; 3 others have been invited.

Director of Music, Adam Frame, was asked by Wedgwood Concert Series to be able to use St. Matthew's sanctuary space for concerts 4 times/year on Sunday evenings. (Currently at Unity Church on Woodway.) Group would pay St. Matthew's \$200 per concert. Adam would coordinate.

Motion 10.13.4 *It was moved (Karin Dunker) and seconded (Gary Christensen) to allow the Wedgwood Concert Series to use our sanctuary space and piano 4 times/year with the \$200 payment to go into our Wedgwood Art Series budget. **Motion passed.***

PRESIDENT'S REPORT *(Faye Youngblood, written report submitted.)*

St. Christopher's Vestry has approved a rental increase to \$1,500 per month for 2023.

Hopewallah fundraiser/dinner for leper colony in India sponsored by SCEC to be held on October 15.

Thanks expressed to Daryl Hadfield and Stewardship Committee for preparing 2023 budget.

Congregational Visioning Workshop - - October 22, 2022. Personal phone calls; letters sent; information in Messenger. Hopefully good attendance.

President's Challenge Letter sent October 13, 2022 to congregation.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT *(Charlie Schmidt, written report submitted.)*

Mutual Ministry

Implementation of the staff goals presented last month has been reviewed. The absence of office coverage for morning hours may need to be revisited.

Final recommendation: SCEC will begin worship at 9:15 a.m. with AV set-up to be done while 8:15 early service is still underway.

TREASURER'S REPORT *(Aaron Droemer; written report submitted)*

Total cash balance at end of September, 2022 was \$163,938.

Total adjusted income for September, 2022 year-to-date was \$225,193. Total adjusted expenses of \$257,537 resulted in a deficit: expenses over income of **(\$32,343.)**

Envelope offerings continue to be source of deficit (short by \$10,709.90 against budget.)

Final draft of proposed 2023 Mission and Ministry Budget presented to council.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS - OCTOBER 2022, Continued

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT (*Gary Christensen; written report submitted*)

September was a low giving month. October will hopefully be better with 5 Sundays.
President's challenge letter should help close the year strong.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Christian Education (*Cindy Kohn, written report submitted*)

"Noah" was told in Godly Play presentation to congregation on October 2nd.
No Sunday School on Christmas Day and New Year's Day

Fellowship (*Lisa Reed*)

Chili Cook-off to be held November 2nd.

Outreach (*Phil Beckman*)

Good turnout for Ballet Folklorico Azteca on September 25th.
"God's Work Our Hands" Sunday, 9/11/22 was productive.
Hymn Fest to be held October 16th at 4:00 p.m.

Property (*K.C. Iversen, written report submitted*)

AC unit drain problem in the office has been repaired.
Pastor's door lock repaired.
Proposal for new sound and tech corner being prepared.
Thanks to all the volunteer staff who keep the repair costs down.

Stewardship (*Position Not Filled*)

Offering counters appointed for November. (See list below.)

Worship (*Karin Dunker, written report submitted*)

Advent begins November 27th
SCEC services on Sunday evenings 6:00 p.m.
St. Matthew's Wednesday evening schedule:
Dinner at 5:30 or 5:45 Holden evening prayer at 6:30
Choir practice or Bible Study at 7:00
Christmas caroling December 18th at 4-5:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. Joint Service: St Matthew's & SCEC Family Worship
6:30 p.m. St. Matthew's service
7:30 Joint Reception
8:30 SCEC Service
10:30 p.m. Joint Service

Christmas Day

No 8:15 a.m. service. 9:30 a.m. Joint service. SCEC leading. Pastor Lesley preaching

New Year's Day

No 8:15 a.m. service. 9:30 SCEC service with St. Matthew's joining.

Youth (*Adrienne Frame*)

Book Sale fundraiser continues in library.
Joint youth group activities with SCEC on 1st & 3rd Sundays with an outing on 5th Sunday.

YOUNG ADULTS IN CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY (YACC)

It's been a while. The Klade's wish to welcome you back for the annual YACC Friendsgiving get-together. For Friendsgiving this year, **we are welcoming all young and middle-aged adults and their family/kids** to join us. We have lots of kids toys, changing table, PakNPlay, and many things you might need.

DATE: Sunday, November 27th, 2022 **TIME:** 6:30 pm

PROVIDED: Turkey and some basics; please bring side or beverage to share

CONTACT: Kristin Klade, k.r.klade@gmail.com for their address and directions - please RSVP to Kristin!

PASTOR'S MONTH AT A GLANCE



Repeating meetings:

Staff meeting - Most Mondays from Noon-2:00 pm

Clergy Pericope - Tuesdays from 11:00 am-Noon

Confirmation Class - Wednesdays 7:00-8:00 pm

Nov. 1 Breakfast Fellowship 8:00 am

Nov. 2 Metroplex West Conference Clergy 10:00 am

Participate in Chili Cookoff Fundraiser 5:30 pm

Nov. 3 Visioning "Task Force" Meeting 6:30 pm

Nov. 4 Brite Board of Visitors

Nov. 6 Congregation Meeting after 11:00 worship

Nov. 10 Council Meeting 6:45 pm

Nov. 13 Attend Wedgwood Arts Howard Goodall's *Requiem* 4:00 pm

Nov. 19 NT-NL Candidacy Committee

Nov. 24-25 Church office will be closed for Thanksgiving

Nov. 27 Advent Taizé Worship 6:00 pm

Nov. 30 Advent supper 5:30 pm; Advent Worship 6:30 pm; Prayer Practices Study 7:00 pm

Stalcup School of Theology for the Laity at Brite Divinity School

For more information and registration go to www.brite.edu/stalcup.

4-week course offerings in early 2023 (all courses are online):

Church Inside-Out: Digital, Virtual or Online

Tuesdays Feb. 21, 28, March 7, 21 7:00 - 8:30 pm \$50 for 4 classes

Presented by Monica Bradly, MDiv; Director of Admissions at Brite Divinity School

How to Make a Prophet: Justice in the Books of Amos and Proverbs

Tuesdays April 11, 18, 25, May 2 7:00 - 8:30 pm \$50 for 4 classes

Presented by Timothy J. Sandoval, PhD; Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible at Brite

The Politics of Jesus

Saturday March 25 9:30 - 11:00 am Seminar \$15

Presented by Obery Hendricks, PhD; Emeritus Professor of Biblical Interpretation at New York Theological Seminary

Book shelves and books delivered to Palm Tree Apartments



Kelly Riddle, Community Engagement Coordinator, found book shelves to donate to the community center at the Palm Tree Apartments. Palm Tree provides housing for the homeless.

Books from our book sale were also donated to start a library for the Palm Tree residents.



The refurbished raised garden beds at Palm Tree are flourishing! St. Matthew's helped with the garden beds for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday in September.