

Sermon Notes

ST. MATTHEW

August 21 & 22, 2021



Reset Refresh Renew

Greetings Friends,

Anthony DeMello was a Jesuit priest and author who tells a story about an ashram cat. He writes,

“When the guru sat down to worship each evening, the ashram cat would get in the way and distract the worshipers. So he ordered that the cat be tied during evening worship. After the guru died the cat continued to be tied during evening worship. And when the cat died, another cat was brought to the ashram so that it could be duly tied during evening worship. Centuries later learned treatises were written by the guru’s disciples on the religious and liturgical significance of tying up a cat while worship is performed.”

Most Christians, and certainly Lutherans, have our own ashram cats. We have a lot of traditions. Some of them are really helpful. Some not so much. Traditions, designed to help us draw close to God, can sometimes do just the opposite. We will dig into that today.

Grace and Peace and alleluia!

Pastor Bill Hugo

WORSHIP NOTES: Our thanks to Karrie Kikeh for sharing her keyboard talents with us, and to all other worship assistants for their leadership throughout the weekend. To God be the glory!

Prayers for the Week of August 22

Polly Roux is hospitalized.

GIVING TO THE LORD

Weekly Worship Attendance: 72
August Tithes & Offerings to date: \$16,456
August Budgeted Offerings: \$36,106

Bill Hugo, Pastor † Carol Blase, Coordinator of Music
Brenda Hugo, Coordinator of Children’s Ministries † Faustina Allen, Director of Teen Ministries
Kathy Rosenberg, Parish Nurse † Sarai Kretschman, Pastoral Care Assistant † Martin Cornes, Vicar
Julie Allen, Office Manager † Julie Sventek, Director - DCLC - 763-789-4030

4101 Washington Street NE † Columbia Heights, MN 55421 †
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WEEKLY CALENDAR

Tuesday, August 24

7:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY ONLINE

Wednesday, August 25

9:00 PM TEEN MINISTRY

Saturday, August 28

5:30 PM WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, August 29

8:30 AM ADULT BIBLE CLASS **IN PERSON** & on ZOOM

9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL - CHILDREN/YOUTH

10:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE **IN PERSON & ONLINE**

12:00 PM "REVEAL" PARTY PICNIC

TAKE HOME DETAILS AVAILABLE IN NARTHEX

Pick one up today!



Children's Ministries: (contact: brenda.hugo@stmatthew-ch.org)

Summer Sunday School

Through Aug. 29, 9:00-9:45 am; "The Non-Avengers: Bible Heroes Who Forgave"

The Non-Avenger we learned about today? [Stephen \(Acts 7:54-60\)](#)

"REVEAL" PARTY PICNIC! You are cordially invited to attend a picnic at Huset Park, 3965 Jefferson St. NE, on Sunday, Aug. 29th, beginning at noon, sponsored by St. Matthew Community Theater. We will be "revealing" the title of our 2022 spring show at this free event. Hog dogs, lemonade and water, and all tableware will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. RSVP to Carol Blase (763-788-9427 or carolblase@juno.com) by Aug. 25th.

INTERESTED IN IMPROVING YOUR FINANCIAL WELLNESS? We are seeking six individuals and households to complete the Ramsey Solutions video and workbook course Financial Peace University (FPU). This is an in-person course and includes brief readings, workbook questions, video courses (viewed with the group), and discussion. FPU helps you and your household with budgeting, spending, saving, and eliminating debt. The course is free and previous attendees are welcomed to join in the fun as well! You will even have the chance to cut-up your credit cards during the class! Please express interest by calling or texting Doug Rosenberg @ 612-206-2983 or email douglasrosenberg@comcast.net. This invitation is to the Saint Matthew and Gloria Dei Congregations. FPU dates, times, and locations to-be-determined once we hear from YOU! Call soon so we can get going (after September 1)!

KICK-OFF SERVICE for our new ministry year is Sunday, Sept. 12, 10:00 a.m. in the church parking lot. Lunch will be provided. Make plans to attend!

Thank you to the DCLC Staff for all their hard work on last week's Preschool Graduation! Please check out the pictures boards in the Fellowship Hall.

SHORT TERM VOLUNTEER NEEDED The Property and Facilities Committee is seeking a short term volunteer to coordinate this year's Fall Outdoor Clean-up. We're seeking one volunteer or household to help coordinate the event this fall - select a date, rain date, recruit other volunteers, assign tasks, etc. You would be assisting our property management company MICRO Community Development. If you are interested, please contact Committee Co-Chair Doug Rosenberg @ 612-206-2983 (call or text) or email douglasrosenberg@comcast.net. Thank you for your consideration!

BACKPACK EVENT! Columbia Heights Police Department is again sponsoring a school backpack event in the parking lot behind Murzyn Hall on Thursday, Sept. 2nd. Could you help out by donating school supplies to put inside the backpacks? Please donate by Sunday, Aug. 29th, placing your items in the box in the church narthex.