August 2018

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church 701 Broadway Street Thompson, ND 58278 (701)-599-2081 stmatthewslutheranchurch.org

The Messenger

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."-Isaiah 6:8

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I hope you had a chance to follow along with our kids' trip to the Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas. They had an amazing time hearing from powerful speakers, worshiping with 30,000 other high schoolers, meeting new people, and serving in the community.

There were lots of great moments from our time in Houston, and the kids have many stories to share. A couple of my highlights were:

*Painting at Helms Elementary School in Houston. Helms Elementary is a school where half of the students speak Spanish and half of the students speak English. The school then pairs students together so that they can help each other learn. It is an awesome idea of how to use each other's strengths to learn from each other. Our kids worked hard repainting their outside phy ed area. Even in the heat, our kids did a great job of keeping their spirits up and working right up until it was time to clean up. I was very proud of all of them.

*My other favorite memory came on the last day of our trip. Once the

gathering itself was done, we had a free afternoon, so we loaded our crew in the car and headed out to Galveston, Texas so the kids could get a chance to swim in the ocean. While our kids were out splashing in the waves, I started talking to one of the moms that was also watching her kids swim. We talked about the weather, but then I mentioned that some of our crew had never been in the ocean before, and how they were from North Dakota. This family then went into hospitality mode. They invited our kids to play beach volleyball with them, they introduced them to boudin (a creole sausage made with ground pork, rice, onion, green peppers, and Cajun spices and seasonings), and even invited them to have homemade snow cones!

As I thought about our experiences in Houston, I realized that what was most meaningful were those moments when we got to be welcomed and more deeply get to know people. The times when we got to hear their story and get to know more than just their names. The times when we were invited to be a part of who they were and what they are doing.

In a lot of ways, that is what I hope for our church as well. That when strangers walk in the door, they are welcomed as family, invited to the table, and shown how to participate and belong. That we are able to learn from each other and recognize that we are more richly blessed when we appreciate each other's gifts and celebrate each other's differences. As we look towards the start of another program year, I am thankful to be your partner on this journey, and I cannot wait to see what God has in store for us next!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Amy





Summer is nearing an end but that doesn't mean the grass is done growing!! Lawn mowers are still needed for a few months yet. Don't miss the opportunity to help out; sign up now. Sign up sheets are posted just inside the front doors at church. The lawn mower will be kept filled with gas, and youth 16 and older are allowed to help mow! If you have any questions about mowing or helping with other property projects, call Roy at 701-891-9972. Thank you for your help in keeping our church property looking areat!

BONFIRE & COOKOUT Youth

Group Students –

It's hard to believe that the school year is right around the

corner. We will have a back to school bonfire on August 19th at Southbrook Park from 7-9pm. We will play Wiffle Ball or Kickball, have Cornhole toss set up and possibly ladder golf. Hot dogs and S'mores will be provided. Our first regular night of LYO will be on Wednesday, Sept. 12th at **6:30pm**. We will have pizza that night, figure out what kind of food you would like to have when we meet and play a game of some sort. Hope to see lots of you in attendance.

Ongoing Ministries

MEN IN MISSION St. Matthew's men gather each Sunday morning at 9 am in the Rosendal Room for a chance to chat, drink coffee and learn together. Their topics of discussion vary, but new folks are always welcome to join them.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER This

gathering is open to anyone, and meets at 7:00 am on Wednesdays in the Sanctuary. They spend time in responsive prayer, and then enjoy a cup of coffee as well. This group is then off to work by 7:30. Come and join us as a great way to focus midweek!

WINE, WOMEN & THE WORD The next gathering of Wine,

Women, and the Word will be at Red Lobster on August 14 at 6:30 pm. This relaxed group of gals meets once a month for dinner, conversation, and bible study. New folks are always welcome to join us!

WELCA BIBLE STUDY This group

takes turns hosting in homes for an evening of desert, coffee and Bible Study. They meet from September thru May.

PASTOR AMY'S AUGUST OFFICE HOURS
MONDAYS—9AM-12:00PM
TUESDAYS—9AM-12:00PM
WEDNESDAYS—7:30-10:30 AM
THURSDAYS—Pastor's Day Off
FRIDAYS—10AM-12:00PM at Bull Brew South

*-Pastor Amy is also available at other times by appointment



Vacation Bible School begins on Sunday!! August 5-7

Park River Bible Camp will be here at St. Matthew's to offer a Vacation Bible School Day Camp for children Grades 1-5, cost is \$30.

Half day VBS will also be offered for Pre-K and K Children, cost is \$10.

Registration is available online on the St. Matthew's Website.

We are also in need of some volunteers to help during VBS this year. Please contact Alicia Schumacher at 701-740-6109 if you are interested in volunteering for this fun event!



Teachers Needed! We are seeking Sunday School and Confirmation Teachers for the

2018-2019 School Year.

Please contact Alicia Schumacher at 701-740-6109 if you are interested. We are also in need of Substitute Teachers. Team/shared teaching with other individuals could also be arranged.



Please register your kids for VBS and Sunday School so that we can ensure that we have enough staff and supplies for everyone!

We hope that you will invite your friends and neighbors to join us Rally Sunday for worship! It will be a special service with the Eisenmann Puppeteers! Come and join us September 9th at 10 am!



Beyond the Offering Plate

I recently had the opportunity to read a book entitled "Beyond the Offering Plate" which is a book of essays about stewardship beyond just giving money. For the next few months, I thought I would share with you some of what I learned there. -Pastor Amy

Have you ever watched the movie "The Lion King"? In the "Circle of Life" song it says "There is more to do see than can ever be seen. More to do than can ever be done." Which is so true, right? We cannot possibly do it all, yet we find ourselves cramming our schedules full of activities for ourselves and our family members. We look at our schedules and say they are over full and we can't do one more thing. And yet, if you look again at your schedule, who is it that filled every waking minute? It wasn't God! It was us! We want to do it all and see it all and be available to all people, and in the meantime, we totally lose sight of who we are and who God is calling us to be. We find ourselves captive to the world of "juggling multiple worthwhile things, captive to the culture's relentless drive to do more and do it better." And trust



me, I get it. As your pastor, I am probably more guilty than most at cramming my schedule full of things to do, and not leaving time for sabbath rest.

What would happen if we took life more at a "savory" pace? What would happen if we were to look at our calendars and realize that our time can be as much a treasure as our finances? So this month, I want to invite you and your family to take some time to sit down and examine your schedules before you pack them full to the brim.

Talk about as a family:

- What do we give our time to? Are we setting aside time to rest? Are we setting aside time for relationships? Are we understanding that Sunday School and church are time with God and an investment in our discipleship-not just another activity among many?
- Are we minding our margins? Do we pack our calendars full or do we provide space for holy interruptions that will occur? Are we overscheduling our children? Are we allowing them time for unstructured play?
- How can you as a family set aside some intentional sabbath time? Can you challenge yourselves to go technology and screen free for a few hours? For a day? For a weekend? What happens when you just stop? How do you feel? What is one activity your family wants to do that will savor the end of summer before school starts? Scheduling time to slow down and rest is just as important as scheduling meetings and practices.

"The key is to be intentional as we can with the time we have, and to trust the everlasting grace of God, who never ends."

From the Church Mouse

Thank you to everyone for your helping hands. We apologize if we missed anyone, know that you are all appreciated!

- to Duane, Roy and Roger for mowing
- to Duane for making all the Pop Over boxes disappear
- Together we can do God's Work with Our Hands!

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Mous

WELCOME

- to Bill, Roger, and Roy for making worship bright
- to Vione J for helping put together all the pop on over bags!

Saint Mathew's Lutheran Church 701 Broadway St, Thompson, ND 58278 (701) 599-2081

St. Matthew's Leadership

Pastor: Amy Eisenmann stmattspastoramy@gmail.com Administrative Assistant: Vione Jordheim stmattsvione@gmail.com Bookkeeper: Jamie Bischoff bischoffjamie@gmail.com Council President: Darwin Potter darpotter14@gmail.com Council Vice President: James Thorson thorsonja@yahoo.com Council Secretary: Beth Kurz bkurz@undeerc.org Council Treasurer: Tracie Ivesdal tivesdal@msn.com Outreach Team Lead: Sarah Krogfoss smartin@polarcomm.com Fellowship Team Lead: Sara Munson saramunson@rocketmail.com Properties Team Lead: Roy Olson royandsandyolson@live.com Education Team Lead: Alicia Schumacher Alicia.schumacher@gfcounty.org Youth Team Lead: Paul Strande pstrande59@gmail.com



- ¹ Brynlie Jallo, Travis Manzke
- 2 Michael Benoit
- 3 Roger Gustafson, Hunter Novak, Dawn Zak
- 4 Carly Berberich
- 5 Seth Arntz
- ⁶ Trent Ivesdal, Paul Strande
- 7 Ryan Strande. Bill Widman
- 8 Bethany Kurz
- ⁹ Rick Herland
- 10 Daniel Mayers, Eli Schumacher
- 12 Lonni Peterson
- 14 Hannah Ackerman, Sam Landa
- 15 Morgan Muhs, Brian Overby, Rebekah Stoe
- 17 Acen Everett
- 18 Paula Amborn
- 20 Blake Guetter
- 21 Donna Gunderson
- 25 Stephanie Albin
- 26 Cami Stevens
- 28 Mary Loing, Angie Praska
- 31 Maxx Albin, Deb DeMoe



UNOFFICIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES - JUNE 19, 2018

IN ATTENDANCE: Pastor Amy, Darwin Potter, James Thorson, Beth Kurz, Sarah Krogfoss, Roy Olson, Paul Strande, Deb DeMoe

ABSENT: Tracie Ivesdal, Alicia Schumacher, Sara Munson

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Darwin at approximately 6:31 p.m.

LITURGY:

Pastor Amy led the Church Council in prayer prior to our meeting.

AGENDA APPROVAL

No modifications were made to the agenda.

Motion: Deb moved approve the agenda. Roy seconded. Motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Sarah requested that we remove mention of the ice cream social until she hears from Sara Munson.

Motion: Roy motioned to approve the May 30 meeting minutes. James seconded. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Darwin summarized the financial reports for May. General Giving income was \$7,766.66. Net income for May was negative \$3,592.28. As of May 31, the General Giving checking account balance was at

\$4,591.91. Special Giving net income for May was \$1,579.71. The Special Giving checking account balance as of May 31 was \$44,152.27. Total combined assets are at \$48,774.18.

Motion: Beth moved to approve the Financial Reports. Sarah seconded. Motion carried.

CALENDAR REVIEW

Sarah mentioned that Pop-on-Over is scheduled for Tuesday, July 24 at 1:00 p.m. She is looking for whatever help they can get. Pastor Amy suggested that the confirmation kids can help. Sarah also mentioned in August the Outreach Team will be serving lunch again during the teacher training. They'll figure out the exact date and then add it to the calendar. Darwin reminded everyone that our next Church Council meeting with be July 31.

No additional changes were made to the calendar.

PASTOR'S REPORT

While Pastor Amy is on vacation there will be a Pastor on call in case we need one. If you click on the calendar, it will say which Pastor is on call if we need that information.

See attached report provided prior to the meeting. The main secretary book will contain an actual attached copy of the report.

MEN'S CLUB AND WELCA REPORT

WELCA: The WELCA ladies cleaned the kitchen on June 7th.

Men's Club: No update.

TEAM REPORTS

Executive: Darwin Potter – Nothing new to report.

Education: Alicia Schumacher – Vacation bible school is coming August 5 – 7. Registration is now available on line.

<u>Fellowship</u>: Sara Munson – Darwin gave a report on behalf of Sara - Fellowship is getting ready to host the family tie-dye event.

<u>Outreach</u>: Sarah Krogfoss – On July 24th they have the Pop-On-Over event and they are recruiting volunteers. They are also planning for providing a meal for the teachers during their August training. The Outreach Team has two new members - Stacy Plautz and Lindsay George.

<u>Properties</u>: Roy Olson – They've been busy mowing. They need to update the shelving in the classrooms for DVD players, but Roy will wait to talk to Alicia about where the shelves need to go. They are going to install new LED lighting throughout the church tomorrow morning – a total of 54 lightbulbs need to be replaced. We still need to recruit families to help paint the classrooms. We are going to ask Vione to create a sign-up sheet.

Worship: Deb DeMoe – Deb has been recruiting families to assist with Worship. So far it hasn't been a problem finding people over the summer.

Youth: Paul Strande – Nothing new to report.

OLD BUSINESS

Food Panty Committee

We have 3 more people on the food pantry board and another congregation voting tonight. Eight different churches were invited to provide a person to serve on the board. Pastor Amy is hoping that we'll have at least 4 or 5 board members. We also need to determine a person to serve on the board from St. Matthews. Sarah Krogfoss volunteered to serve on the board. Roy mentioned that there was an inspector here today asking questions – Sandy Olson tried to answer his questions, but because no one knew he was coming, the appropriate person/people weren't here to meet with him. Darwin asked where we want the Food Pantry report to go because it shouldn't remain under Old Business. We are going to have an update on this in the Team Reports.

Sound System Update

Darwin visited with Bill and it sounds like everything is done with the sound system update except tidying up a few things. Darwin is going to talk to Bill about getting a Bluetooth connection so that we can play music from a phone or DVD player. Bill also reported that he found the source of the interference and got it fixed. There will be a Phase 2 of this effort to install monitors in the building.

Church Health Fall Meeting(s)

Darwin sent out an email requesting that everyone provide a couple of questions that we can ask our congregation to help stimulate conversation about ways in which St. Matthew's can improve and to inquire about the things that the congregation likes. These questions will help guide the discussion during a meeting or series of meetings that will be set up this fall.

Vione's Credit Card/Sam's Club Card

Pastor Amy is still working on getting this resolved. It's not a problem getting Vione a Sam's Club account, but adding her to the Sam's Club credit card has been more of a headache.

<u>Copier</u>

We learned that the \$8000 worth of extra copies was for the entire year and that we are just charged once a year. They met with the representative to see if we could update our contract, but it sounds like the charges would still be the same for the overages. Pastor Amy is going to talk to someone else from the printing company to see if that information is correct because the person they spoke with is new.

Motion: Paul motioned that we should discuss the door key codes under Old Business. Deb seconded. All in favor.

Door Key Codes

Paul asked if we have decided when we are going to change the door key codes. He mentioned that he's heard from other members that things are disappearing from the church. We had a discussion about when we had originally planned on changing the door key codes. There was also some discussion about how perhaps people are just borrowing items and plan on returning them. Darwin suggested that we include mention in the Newsletter that if someone needs to borrow something from St. Matthew's, they need to inform someone. Paul stated that in some cases, such as the kitchen, people just shouldn't be borrowing things. Pastor Amy suggested that we change the codes after our next Council Meeting. Only the church employees and team leaders will have the codes, as well as the leaders of outside organizations that use the church. The codes will be changed on August 1st.

NEW BUSINESS

President and Vice President Terms

Darwin is interested in opening discussion about changing the terms of the President and President Elect (Vice President). Currently the President serves 1 term as President, and prior to that, 1 year as President Elect. Darwin feels like serving only 1 year as President doesn't allow enough time to feel comfortable in the position and to accomplish everything on their agenda. Darwin asked for the Council's opinion on changing President Elect to a 2 year term and President to a 2 year term. The President Elect would not have to be the Church President. It would be more of a typical Vice President position. James mentioned that we would probably get more people interested in the Vice President position if they didn't have to become President. Darwin isn't sure how we go about changing this if we are in agreement. James mentioned that we should talk to Scott Landa about how we change the bylaws. This would also have to be discussed and approved by the congregation at the annual meeting. There would have to be a meeting prior to the annual meeting to discuss changing the bylaws. This is going to be a process – it won't change overnight. We will continue the discussion next month and figure out what would need to happen logistically.

Mid-Year Audit

There is a list of recommendations from the last Audit Team meeting. There were 6 items total. Two of the items were addressed, two are in process and two have not yet been addressed. Tracie would like to have a mid-year audit to review where we are at since the last audit team review in January.

MOTION: Deb motioned to adjourn. Sarah seconded. Motion carried. Meeting closed at 7:40 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth Kurz

Next Meeting: July 31 at 6:30 p.m.

Loving Neighbors



Thompson Food Pantry

The Thompson Food Pantry is open on Tuesday, August 14th from 11am-1pm, and Tuesday, August 28th from 6pm-8pm. The pantry serves the communities of Thompson, Buxton, and Reynolds. For more information on the pantry, talk to Kristie Adams at 701-599-2081.





Kevin & Doris Cooper Family Brandy & Lindsay George Family Brent & Terrie Halvorson Family Dean & Barbie Larson Family Brian & Angie Muhs Family Darin & Angie Praska Family Kory & Susie Sondreal Family Derek Sondreal Family Tom & Dawn Stoe Family Gary & Mary Welsh

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Jeremy & Rachel Anderson Family
Marcus & Amy Benoit Family
Neil & Kami Danner Family
Steve & Teresa Evanson
Josh & Dara Faul Family
Jess Haugen Family
Diane Lundgren
Scott & Char Peterson Family
John & Jera Sorby Family
Paul & Heidi Strande Family
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Our chain continues to grow as we add links representing ways that God is on the move in and around us. This summer we invite you to write on the red strips the ways that YOU have seen God at work in the world around YOU. Our goal is to make it all the way around the sanctuary by Rally Sunday!!!



It has come to our attention that a few things seem to have been borrowed from the church. If you borrow anything from the church, please check with the church office before doing so, and please return them in a timely manner. Thank you for remembering that most things at church are used by multiple groups and need to stay in the church building. If you have borrowed something from church, please return it as soon as possible. Thank you.

Do you like to paint? Would you and your family like to adopt a room and get it ready for fall? We are hoping to do a painting refresh of all the Sunday School classrooms. **If you and your family would be willing to adopt a classroom and help get it painted before fall, please call the church office today!** Paint will be provided. Talk to the office for more details, or to adopt a room today by calling Vione at 599-2081. Thanks for helping get us ready for fall!



Did you know there are three different ways to financially give to Saint Matthew's?



In Person-Come to church and place your offering in the offering plate on Sunday, or in the drop box outside the secretary's door.



By Mail-You can mail your offering to 701 Broadway St. Thompson, ND 58278 if you are going to be out of town.



Automatic Bill Pay-Through your bank, you can set the church up to receive payment automatically. This helps keep the budget running even if you are away from church for an entire season.

However you choose to help support the ministry of Saint Matthew's, know that we appreciate you and are so thankful that you are a part of our church family!

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Welcome to worship

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Address service requested

