

August 2019

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 as we are getting ready to enjoy these last few weeks of summer you have found some time to get away with your family or get away on your own, and find some rest and renewal. If you haven't, let me encourage you to do so. Soon we will be kicking off fall events and activities, and life will once again settle into its busy rhythm of school-year things. Please take care of yourselves and take some time to rest in God's grace and enjoy God's creation. Sabbath time was made for us dear friends, because God loves us so much. Not because God needed sabbath, but because we did. So take some time and enjoy and a break from the busy and stressful world around you.

Some of you have heard about my adventures to Michigan and meeting some of my biological family for the first time. It was an amazing experience in God yet again knowing what is best in our lives. I was very glad to meet my biological family and spend time with them, but also came home with renewed appreciation for how God puts us in the places where we need to be at just the times we need to be there. We don't always realize how God is at work in our lives in the moment, but often we can look back and see how God was at work in and through us. I happened to get a visit with my honorary grandma Florence while on this trip, and she has since passed away. She was 99.

Life is so very short friends, so let me encourage you in these summer days that we have left to take some time to reflect on the blessings that God has given you. Take some time to reflect on the challenges that God has brought you through. Take some time to reflect on how God has been active in the world around you. And once you have taken some time to do that reflecting, and maybe even some journaling about how God has been working through you and around you, find a quiet space and take some time to thank God for how God has been at work, and to listen for where God might be leading you next.

Is God encouraging you to step into something new? Is God encouraging you to slow down and spend more time with your family? Is God challenging you to spend more time with Him and deepen your faith? What is God saying these days when He speaks to you? Are you taking the time to listen?

In these remaining summer days dear ones, enjoy your time with our awesome creator. And know that we cannot wait to see you again here at Saint Matthew's...to hear about your experiences and to see how God has been and continues to be at work through you!

As always, thank you for the privilege of walking this journey with you. God is so good friends. Let us give thanks to Him together!

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 Duane at 701-215-1809. Thank you for your help in keeping our church property looking great!



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 18th 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. 4th 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 Fellowship Hall 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 Blue Moose in East Grand Forks on August 13 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 dessert, coffee and Bible Study. They meet from September thru May.

PASTOR AMY'S AUGUST OFFICE HOURS

MONDAYS—10AM-12:00PM

TUESDAYS—10AM-12:00PM

WEDNESDAYS—7:30-10:30 AM

THURSDAYS—Pastor's Day Off

FRIDAYS—10AM-12:00PM at Panera

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



Faith Formation

Dates to remember!

- ⇒ Blessing of the Backpacks – August 18
- ⇒ Sunday School & Confirmation Teacher Orientation – August 28 @ 7:00 pm
- ⇒ Rally Sunday – September 8
- ⇒ Confirmation Orientation – September 11

What? Vacation Bible School

Where? St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

When? Mon, Aug 5—Wed, Aug 7

What time? 9:00 AM—3:00 PM

Who? 4-year olds thru those going into 6th grade

If you haven't registered, contact Bre Berberich 701.740.3207 ASAP!

\$30 per student—Financial Assistance Available

Like us on Facebook & watch for updates.



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

Where did Vione travel to this summer? Tell us that and what animal besides fish Pastor Amy has more than 3 of in her office for a prize!

Calling All Confirmands and Parents!

Confirmation will begin with our annual **Parent and Student meeting on Wednesday, Sept 11 at 7:00 pm.**

All parents and students are expected to attend. **Classes will begin on Sept 18 at 7:00 pm.**





July Council Meeting-Held July 9, 2019 @ 6:30 PM

Present: James Thorson, Scott Kuster, Tracie Ivesdal, Duane Naas, Sarah Krogfoss, Bre Berberich, Pastor Amy Eisenmann

Absent: Chelsea Lupien, Angie Muhs, Deb DeMoe, Paul Strande

Meeting called to order at 6:33 PM.

Pastor Amy led us in Devotions, and we shared God sightings-places where we have seen God at work lately.

Meeting agenda shared. Bre moved to approve the agenda as amended. Scott seconded, MPU.

Minutes from May 8, 2019 Council meeting shared. Tracie moved to approve the minutes with one typo corrected (6 members on Ed Team, not 16), Duane seconded, MPU.

Financial Report:

As of May 31, our General Fund held \$399.32, and Special Fund held \$28,107.10. We had borrowed \$2000 on the line of credit. Our net income was -\$3662.42. As of June 30, our General Fund was -\$424.24 our Special Fund held \$27,988.55 and we had borrowed \$5000 on our line of credit. Our Net Income for June 30 is -\$3943.10.

Discussion was had about needing to watch our bottom line. Council was asked to be sure that spending is in check and that expenses are needed. Jamie has offered to sit down with any team member to discuss budget and expenditures. Discussion about offering during the summer months.

Bre moved to approve the financials. Scott seconded. MPU

Calendar Review:

Calendar was presented, but was not updated version. Updated Calendar is now available online.

Next council meeting Weds Aug 19 @ 6:30 pm

Tentative September Council Meeting will be Sept 15 at 11:30 am.

Pastor report:

Pastor Amy thanked council for her time away, and reported that she will be attending the Addiction and Faith Conference September 20-22. Her full written report is available in the binder in the church office.

Team Reports:

Exec-Nothing to report at this time.

Education- VBS is happening in August. Pastor and Bre have been working on Education Calendar. VBS registration forms are out. Most grades have teachers for Sunday School and Confirmation.

Current teachers are:

Jill Kuster-6th

Deb DeMoe-7th

Sarah Krogfoss-Preschool

Jamie Bischoff-Kindergarten

Jessica Haugen and Trinity Bohlman-1st and 2nd Grade Combined Class

Grace Cooper and Kjersten Lopez-3rd Grade

Steph Broyles-4th Grade

Derek Plautz-5th Grade

Current substitute list includes Megan Bohlman and Ellie Schumacher. Education Team is talking about some new options for memory work and curriculum. Host homes are needed for VBS leaders August 5-7.

Fellowship- Goat Yoga was awesome. Great turn out...over 60+ folks attended! People enjoyed themselves and enjoyed having Trail Head & Co Food Truck Present.

Outreach-Pop on over will not be happening this year due to lack of volunteers. Teacher luncheon will be held on August 19.

Welca will be having a donut themed float in Thompson Days parade.

Food Pantry- Will be meeting this next week. Discussion about Jamie providing a financial report for meetings.

Property- Lights are up in the parking lot. Strata has donated recycled/crushed concrete for the parking lot project. Talk about re-striping parking lot. Exploring options and pondering waiting until next year due to finances.

Worship- No report

Youth- No report

Men-Nothing to report...other than no meeting this coming Sunday due to Thompson Days.

Old Business:

Building security: Building security has stepped up this summer. Lights in parking lot and new side door lock are a good improvement. Costs to congregation have been relatively low. Thanks to Food Pantry for paying for lock on side door.

New Business:

Overflow Parking-Will be happening in the additional lot after Thompson Days. Piping will be added for water drainage. Gary Welsh is project manager for this project, see him for more information.

All Team Meeting-All Teams will gather on August 14 at 6:30 pm.

Goals of the meeting will be: 1. Calendars for Sept-May of all events. 2. Checking budgets and finances. 3. Catching teams up on what has been happening this summer and will be happening this fall.

Next Council meeting is August 19 @ 6:30 pm

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Amy

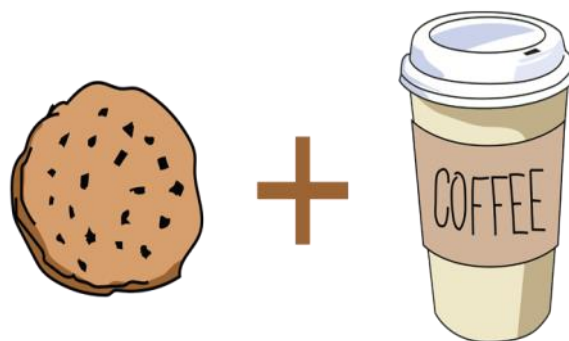


New Members Are Joining

Do you know someone interested in joining Saint Matthew's? We have a few families that will be joining this fall, and we'd love others to join too! You can fill out the form on our web page, and mark your calendars for **September 15-our next New Member Sunday** so you can join the celebration!

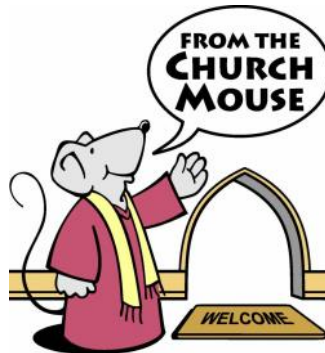
Back to School "Perks"

Come drive into the church parking lot on **Thursday, August 22nd** after you have dropped your kiddos at school and grab some free coffee and treats to celebrate back to school, parent-style! Whether you are sad to see your kiddos go back to school, or excited as they set out on a new year, we would love to offer you a perk for all you do as a parent! **Coffee will be served 7:30-9:00 am!**



From the Church Mouse

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



- * Sonia G for cleaning the flower beds.
- * Sharon G for being our “summer worship reader”
- * Berberich family for all the ways you fill in during summer worship
- * One and Done crew for installing PA’s dryer
- * Sara and Mickey M. for all your help in making worship happen at the park!
- * Danny M for spraying at church and for all you do to keep the church weed and pest free!
- * Strata, Northern Tier, and Bill Weber for your donations towards the church parking lot expansion

**Together we can do God’s
Work with Our Hands!**

Saint Mathew’s Lutheran Church

701 Broadway St, Thompson, ND 58278 (701) 599-2081

St. Matthew’s Leadership

Pastor Amy Eisenmann stmattpastoramy@gmail.com

Vione Jordheim, Admin. Assistant stmattsvione@gmail.com

Jamie Bischoff, Bookkeeper bischoffjamie@gmail.com

James Thorson, Council President thorsonja@yahoo.com

Scott Kuster, Council Vice President scottkuster@gra.midco.net

Angie Muhs, Council Secretary bamuhs@yahoo.com

Tracie Ivesdal, Council Treasurer tivesdal@msn.com

Sarah Krogfoss, Outreach Team smartin@polarcomm.com

Chelsea Lupien, Fellowship Team chelsea.lupien@und.edu

Duane Naas, Properties Team dnaas@sterlingcarpetone.com

Bre Berberich, Education Team berberich@midco.net

Paul Strande, Youth Team pstrande59@gmail.com

Deb DeMoe, Worship Team dedem831@gmail.com

Happy Birthday in August!

- 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, Addysen Lopez, Margaret Robinson, Madison Walsh
- 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, Logan Steinbrink
- 31 Maxx Albin, Deb DeMoe



Where does my money go when I give offering?

When you donate money to Saint Matthew's, it isn't just about paying staff salaries, or providing lights and heat. Your money goes a lot of different places to help a lot of different projects.

For example, did you know that it is offering that helps make the following things possible?

*Sunday School and Confirmation for 90+ kids.

*Youth Group for 40+ High Schoolers.

*2 Monthly Bible Studies for Women, and 1 Weekly Bible Study for Men

*Outreach Projects like God's Work Our Hands, and Thompson Public School Staff Appreciation, which change the lives of hundreds of people each year.

*Providing a space that can host the local food pantry, which feeds 22+ families each year.

*Fellowship Events like Goat Yoga, Fall Frenzival, and Game Night!

*Weekly Worship on Sunday mornings, and bi-weekly worship during Lent

And so, so much more. Every little bit of offering makes a huge impact within our four walls and out into the community. **THANK YOU for giving and supporting the ministry of Saint Matthew's!**

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!

Loving Neighbors

A Big Thank you to all who packed meals for Feed My Starving Children in April.

We have received word on where our meals went:
828 boxes went to Haiti and 1116 went to Sierra Leone.

The event packed enough meals to feed 1151 children for a year!

Thank you to everyone who donated to Feed My Starving Children. St. Matthew's raised \$2511.86, enough to feed 31 children for one year.

Thank you all for serving God in this important project.

The Outreach Team



August

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

September

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

Thompson Food Pantry

The Thompson Food Pantry is open on Tuesday, August 13th from 11am-1pm, and Tuesday, August 27th from 6pm-8pm. The pantry serves the communities of Thompson, Buxton, and Reynolds. For more information on the pantry, talk to Kristie Adams at 701-741-7669.



Somewhere in this newsletter is the chance to win a prize. Read the newsletter, find the clue, and you could be a winner!

New Adult Ed Opportunities

Ladies of St. Matthews: please join us for a women's book study featuring *It's Not Supposed to Be This Way: Finding Unexpected Strength When Disappointments Leave You Shattered* by Lysa Terkeurst. This will be held on Sunday evenings from (time TBD) beginning Sunday, September 8th ending Sunday, October 20. We will kick off the event on Sunday September 8 and then meet weekly to discuss the book which is broken down into 6 sections. Spots are limited so please email or call/text Chelsea Lupien (Chelsea.lupien@und.edu or 701-520-9903) right away to reserve your book.



“What does this mean”?



Have you ever wondered what it means to be Lutheran? Or could you use a refresher course? Do you remember studying the small catechism when you were younger? Wonder what the small catechism is? Would you just like a space where you can openly discuss what our church believes and how you feel about it?

Join us on Sunday evenings this fall as we gather and think together through the small catechism. This 7-week course will be led by Pastor Amy, but will be an informal gathering where all are welcome, and discussion is open.

Class will be Sept 15, 22, 29, Oct 6, Oct 13, Oct 29, and Nov 3. Sign up on Facebook or with the church office.

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Welcome to worship

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Address service requested



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