

February 2017

# 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,

A friend of mine wrote a blog recently to her congregation. A snippet of it said: "Uncle. (We need you). Here is what I can do: I can preach, tend worship life, provide pastoral care, do most bar events and continue to help listen for God on behalf of the community. That's about it. That's the limit—and most weeks, even that list is well beyond a part time role." They were wise words from a pastor wiser than I.

I am blessed to have the advantage of being a full time pastor, so I can do a bit more. I have the blessing of being a single person, so I can do even a bit more. I have the blessing and challenge of not yet having children of my own, but that means that I get to spend my time teaching yours, spending time with yours, learning from yours.

But I can't do it all. Nor do I want to. Or maybe, if I am being honest, I wish I could do more than I am able, but am learning that I can't! I need you and I want to partner WITH you. We are stronger together than we are apart. We are on this road together. We are on this journey of growing and learning and becoming deeper disciples together. So I am echoing the words of wise Pastor Jodi and saying "uncle...we need you".

How is God asking you to step up at Saint Matthew's in the days ahead? Is he calling you to be the next Vice President? The next Ministry Coordinator? Is God calling you to help current programming carry on? Start something new? Is God calling you to do something Saint Matthew's has never even thought of? Is God calling you to lead a small group? To teach? To learn? To grow? To change?

In the days and weeks ahead, we will be listening for God's leading, and working together to follow God's lead. How can you help make that happen? What is your answer to God calling you?

Dear ones...I can preach, teach, tend worship life, provide pastoral care, help with youth events, and be a visible pastoral presence in this community. But I need YOU to make the rest happen.

Looking forward to another year of ministry together. Can't wait to see where the Lord leads us next!

*Pastor Amy*

# LYO-Youth Group

**Youth Group Students** – LYO will meet on February 8th & 22nd. We hope everyone is enjoying the LYO students participating in Sunday service the 3rd Sunday of every month.

Our kids are doing a fabulous job and hopefully everyone in the congregation enjoys seeing them be active in Sunday service. We will be serving Soup for the March 8th Soup Supper. We would ask that all of our LYO attendees bring a kettle or crock pot of soup on that evening to share with the congregation before Lenten service.



## Education



We had an unexpected scheduling change in January, so our DIGG class had to be postponed. **DIGG in February will be held on Sunday, Feb 26 at 9:00 am.**

Jakelle Cornell, from the synod office will be here with us, sharing her experiences from her visit this past year to the Central African Republic, our sister synod.

### February Worship Assistants

Adam & Jen Bohlman Family	Dan & Sue Hovet
JoEllen & Rob McGauvran	Darin & Angie Praska Family
Tom & Dawn Stoe Family	Troy & Sheila Wilson Family
Elmer & Margaret Robinson	

## Happy Birthday in February!

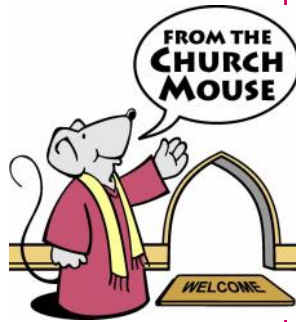
- 2 Summer Pearson
- 4 Logan Bischoff
- 6 Wendy Ackerman
- 9 Nora Berberich
- 10 Tim Hegg
- 13 Rachel Suckut  
Zachary Suckut
- 15 Carmen Bohlman, Andy Naas
- 18 Mitchell Heimark
- 19 Cathy Buettner-Haugen  
Don Mayers  
Heidi Tweten
- 21 Brian Tweten
- 22 Chris Naas,  
Alexander Starcevic,  
Kennedy Stevens
- 25 Steve Evanson,  
Linda Schumacher
- 28 Jordyn Fossum

# Ongoing Ministries

Thank you to everyone who is a part of the ministry at Saint Matthew's! Here are a few folks we would like to say a special thank you to this month! We apologize if we miss anyone!

The church mouse would like to thank:

- Sue S for organizing the funeral luncheon
  - Cheryl W, Trinity B, and John S for helping us get through the end of the year
  - Paul and Sonia G, Mary W, Sharon G, Sandy O, Doris C, Dena H, Lucy S, and Cheryl W for helping with the funeral set up and luncheon
  - All the quilting ladies for delivering more than 20 quilts to local places in need! Wow!
  - The Krogfoss family for providing the Christmas tree and taking it back out again!
  - All who purchased Christmas poinsettias
- Thanks to all who help with the ministry of Saint Matthew's! We appreciate you!



**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. 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. This group spends time in responsive prayer, and then enjoys a cup of coffee as well. They are 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 on Feb 28 at 6:30 pm at L'Bistro in Grand Forks. 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. Currently they are working through the book "Listening for the Voice of God: Growing in Faith Everyday." WELCA Bible Study will meet Monday February 20 at Kay Lindell's House. For a copy of the book they are studying, contact the church office at 599-2081.

**SISTERS OF STRENGTH** This group of ladies meets the last Wednesday of the month to share stories, bible study and support each other. They will be gathering February 22 at noon at Panera. Come and join this group of encouragers and give yourself a boost!

Pastor Amy's Office Hours for January:

Monday: 11:00 am-1:00 pm

Tuesday: Office Hours by Appointment

Wednesday 7:30-9:30 am,  
6:00-8:00 pm

Thursday Pastor's Day Off

Friday: 10:00 am-Noon at Bully Brew South (Old Dunn Brothers near Choice Fitness)



The Outreach Team had six people go to the Northland Rescue Mission in January and filled 580 backpacks to be delivered to students in the GF school system on Thursday. The backpacks are given to low income students every weekend. We are contemplating doing this at least once a quarter. Talk to Sharon Gustafson if you are interested in helping.





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

## Welcome to worship

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School at 9 a.m.

Address service requested

### ST. MATTHEW'S LEADERSHIP thru Jan 29, 2017 New leadership to be elected on Jan 29, 2017

<b>Amy Eisenmann</b> stmattspastoramy@gmail.com	<b>Pastor</b>
<b>Jamie Bischoff</b> bischoffjamie@gmail.com	<b>Bookkeeper</b>
<b>Kevin Cooper</b> kevin.j.cooper@outlook.com	<b>Council President</b>
<b>John Schumacher</b> jschumacher@invisimax.com	<b>Council Vice President</b>
<b>Kristie Adams</b> kmadams4@rocketmail.com	<b>Council Secretary</b>
<b>Dianne Lundgren</b> dlundgren44@hotmail.com	<b>Council Treasurer</b>
<b>Sharon Gustafson</b> rogerssharongustafson@gmail.com	<b>Outreach Team Lead</b>
<b>Duane Naas</b> dnaas@sterlingcaropetone.com	<b>Properties Team Lead</b>
<b>Alicia Schumacher</b> Alicia.schumacher@gfcounty.org	<b>Education Team Lead</b>
<b>Paul Strande</b> pstrande59@gmail.com	<b>Youth Team Lead</b>
<b>Val Uhlir</b> valuhlir@yahoo.com	<b>Worship Team Lead</b>
<b>Ruth Waller</b> ruthfcnh@yahoo.com	<b>Fellowship Team Lead</b>

**Our Annual Meeting will be held on January 29th after worship.** There will also be a potluck that day. In case of inclement weather, we will meet on February 5th.

