

# 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*

*"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:4-7.*

Dear Friends,

We've had quite a remarkable two years together with a pandemic and some tumultuous social challenges. We seem to be nearing the end of this unprecedented time in our lives. I can sense the renewal within the congregation that is showing in various ways through renewed worship and increased team activities.

I came to St. Matthew's as an interim pastor at the beginning of 2020. Words fail to express just how much your welcome and ministry reenergized me at a time when I wasn't even sure what my call to ministry looked like. You affirmed my call to pastoral ministry, supported me through a difficult season of grief and loss, and you helped me find my voice as a leader.

Through my interactions with you, I can sense that I was able to do the same for you too. There are so many great things happening here and the Holy Spirit is working on something amazing.

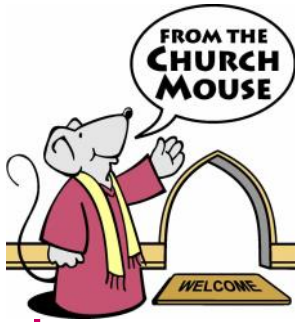
I write this letter as a testimony to that movement of the Spirit that is happening here. Last year, I discerned God's call for me to a new congregation. While that meant me leaving you, it also meant that God was opening up space for a new pastoral leader for this congregation who would fully embrace you as a community and help guide the work that you are already doing.

This letter serves as a notice of my resignation as Pastor of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. My official responsibilities will end on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022. I will be transitioning to a new call in Grand Forks at Sharon Lutheran Church.

Bethany and I are so grateful for your welcome and support. Doing ministry with you was fulfilling and I wish you only the best in the years to come. You have something great going on here.

Blessings,

Pastor Tawanda Murinda



Thank you to everyone who is a part of the ministry at St. 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:

- John S, Bill W, Gary W for leading worship January 2
- Paul S and Sarah K for leading worship and Kids Talk during Pastor's surgery recovery
- "Two members would like to thank Duane N for God sending his angel wings to help them."

Thanks to all who participate in the ministry of St. Matthew's! We appreciate you!



The Thompson Food Pantry is open on Tuesday, February 8 from 11am-1pm and Tuesday, February 22 from 6-8pm. The pantry serves the communities of Thompson, Buxton, and Reynolds. For

more information on the pantry, call Mary Mitchell at 599-2870 or Paul Galegher at 741-1375.

## Happy Birthday in February!

- 1 Charlee Johnson, Summer Pearson
- 3 Samuel Riewer
- 4 Logan Bischoff, Blake Schultz, Alex Zammert
- 6 Wendy Ackerman
- 7 Boone Guetter
- 8 Chase Bring
- 9 Nora Berberich, Mike Uhlir
- 10 Tim Hegg
- 15 Carmen Bohlman, Andy Naas
- 17 Lyla Schumacher
- 19 Cathy Buettner-Haugen  
Dave Lopez, Chris Naas,
- 22 Alexander Starcevic,  
Kennedy Stevens
- 25 Isaac Riewer,  
Linda Schumacher
- 28 Jordyn Fossum

# Ongoing Ministries

## MEN IN MISSION

St. Matthew's men gather each Sunday morning at 9 am for a chance to chat, drink coffee and learn together. Their topics of discussion vary. New folks are always welcome to join them.

## WELCA BIBLE STUDY

This group meets for Bible Study the third Monday of the month in the Rosendal Room. Their next gathering is **Monday, February 17 at 1:00 pm**. Please note the time change. All are welcome!

# Education

We are excited to be back in the swing of things for Sunday school for the New Year! The students have begun their studies on the heroes of the Old Testament and they were given another copy of their memory work for the year on their first day back in January. If you did not receive a copy, please let us know and we will get one to you. It is our goal to have the students proficient in their memory work by May. They will work on their memory work during class time but time spent on it at home is helpful too!

We are focusing again on our Outreach program. Each class has chosen an animal to work towards earning to give as a living gift in the spring. The students are able to earn Outreach points as detailed below. During Sunday school opening we are learning fun facts about the animals each class is working towards and how those animals benefit the lives of the people they are gifted too.

Attendance: 40 Points  
Bible: 20 Point  
Good Behavior: 20 Points

Dates to remember -  
No Sunday school February 20th.  
Monthly 'Donuts for Ducks' Day February 27th

In His Grace,  
The Education Team



# Worship



## February

Dylan & Sara Anderson Family  
Mark & Kristie Adams & Bryn  
Joshua & Tessa Clemetson Family  
Ashley Breidenbach/Brock Vaagene Family  
Melissa Berger Family

## March

Barry & Cheryl Arntz  
John & Robyn Bohlman  
Kenny Dobmeier Family  
Scott & Jill Kuster & Katlyn  
Sue Simon  
James & Suzy Thorson  
Megan Bohlman



## **St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church**

### **Council Meeting**

**Date:** January 23, 2022

**In Attendance:** Paul Strande, Ryan Welsh, Scott Kuster, Sarah Krogfoss, Sara Munson, Val Uhlir, Duane Naas, Robyn Bohlman

**Absent:** Brook Fretheim, Steve Hancock, Pastor Tawanda

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by President Strande at 11:29. President Strande led opening prayer

**Agenda Approval:** Change new business – wording on the account for Sabbatical Fund. Val Uhlir moved, Ryan Welsh seconded to approve the agenda with change. MPU

**Minutes Approval:** Sara Munson moved, Scott Kuster seconded to approve the minutes. MPU

**Financial Reports:** General Giving income for December was \$18,819.55. As of December 31st, the General Giving checking account balance is \$17164.14. Special Giving checking is \$37242.19. Our line of credit is \$0. Our YTD income is \$-2666.04

Sarah questioned why a VBS payment was taken out of special funds. Scott Kuster will check into this.

**Approval:** Sarah Krogfoss moved, Ryan Welsh seconded to approve financial. MPU

**Calendar Review:** Take morning prayer off Wednesday mornings – they are not meeting right now. WELCA bible study is going to meet at 1:00 on February 21<sup>st</sup>. Next Ruby's Pantry will be February 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Pastor's Report:** none

**Men's Club & WELCA report:** nothing from Men's club. The new WELCA executive team are Bridget Pearson, Bre Berberich, Trinity Bohlman, Angie Muhs & Beth Kurz.

### **Team Reports:**

*Executive Team:* nothing

*Education:* Sarah Krogfoss – kids sing next Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup>.

*Fellowship:* Sara Munson – New fellowship member, Angie Laxdal. 6 events planned for year.

*Outreach:* Brook Fretheim – nothing

*Food Pantry* - nothing

*Properties: Duane Naas*- would like to redo the fellowship and kitchen floors sometime this year. He talked with Dan from the school about possibly doing this. Will try to get done before Easter.

*Worship: Val Uhlir* – Discussion on the Giving Tree.

*Youth: Steve Hancock* – taking Kids to “American Underdog” this week

## **Old Business**

Altar, Pulpit and Baptismal Font – tabled

Bid from HB Sound - tabled

Child Care Center at St Matthew’s-tabled

## **New Business**

Review Proposed 2022 Budget – Pastor Sabbatical amount will be double this year to make up nothing being put on last year. 3% raise for all employees that have been with us for over a year.

Motion to create an account at the bank for the Sabbatical Fund. Account needs to be created at St Matthews (not at the bank). It is budgeted for in the General Budget – Scott made a motion to create a special account for the sabbatical and semi-annually to take the amount out and put in the special account from the general fund-Pastor Sabbatical. Val Uhlir seconded. MPU

Motion to adjourn made by Scott Kuster , seconded by Sarah Krogfoss. MPU

Closed with the Lord’s Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn Bohlman

Church  
Council



Congratulations and thank you to all incoming Church Council members. Thank you for your willingness to share your talents with St. Matthew's. New Council members are John Schumacher, Justin Bergeron and Bethany Kurz. Continuing on the Council are Ryan Welsh, Robyn Bohlman, Duane Naas, Sarah Krogfoss and Sara Munson.

As we say thank you to outgoing Church Council members, please know that your work on the Council has been greatly appreciated. Thank you Paul Strande, Scott Kuster, Valorie Uhlir, Steve Hancock, and Brook Fretheim.

God's Blessings to All!

WELCA is a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit. We commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world. WELCA is for ALL confirmed women of the Lutheran Church.



WELCA met on Sunday, January 23rd at 11am. The future of WELCA was discussed and it was decided that the group will continue for the foreseeable future with new officers. The new officers were voted in unanimously.

President: Bridget Pearson  
Vice President: Bre Berberich  
Treasurer: Trinity Bohlman  
Co-Secretary: Angie Muhs and Bethany Kurz

Thank you to Sara Munson, Heidi Strande, Liz Welsh, and Michelle Potter, for all your years of service and dedication to WELCA! We appreciate all that you have done for our church and community!

Please watch your emails, our Facebook page (St. Matthews WELCA) and future newsletters for upcoming events! If you do not currently receive WELCA emails please send us your email address to be added ([welca.stmatts@gmail.com](mailto:welca.stmatts@gmail.com)).



Pastor Tawanda welcomes visitors at the church office anytime during the day.

He is in the office all day on Mondays and Thursdays, please feel free to stop in.

Tuesdays and Wednesdays, please contact him to set up a time.

His day off is Friday.

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.

In-person and Live on our YouTube Channel

Sunday School in-person at 9 a.m.

Address service requested

## ST. MATTHEW'S LEADERSHIP

<b>Pastor Tawanda Murinda</b>	<b>Pastor</b>	<a href="mailto:pastor@stmatthewsthompson.org">pastor@stmatthewsthompson.org</a>
<b>Vione Jordheim</b>	<b>Admin Assistant</b>	<a href="mailto:stmattsvione@gmail.com">stmattsvione@gmail.com</a>
<b>Jamie Bischoff</b>	<b>Bookkeeper</b>	<a href="mailto:stmattsbookkeeper58278@gmail.com">stmattsbookkeeper58278@gmail.com</a>
<b>Sarah Krogfoss</b>	<b>Children &amp; Family Ministry Coordinator</b>	<a href="mailto:sarahkrogfoss@icloud.com">sarahkrogfoss@icloud.com</a>
<b>John Schumacher</b>	<b>Council President</b>	<a href="mailto:stmattspresident@gmail.com">stmattspresident@gmail.com</a>
<b>Ryan Welsh</b>	<b>Council Vice President</b>	<a href="mailto:rswelsh@invisimax.com">rswelsh@invisimax.com</a>
<b>Robyn Bohlman</b>	<b>Council Secretary</b>	<a href="mailto:rbohlman@invisimax.com">rbohlman@invisimax.com</a>
<b>Justin Bergeron</b>	<b>Council Treasurer</b>	<a href="mailto:jbergero@yahoo.com">jbergero@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Bethany Kurz</b>	<b>Outreach Team</b>	<a href="mailto:bkurz@undeerc.org">bkurz@undeerc.org</a>
<b>Sara Munson</b>	<b>Fellowship Team</b>	<a href="mailto:smunson190@mygfschools.org">smunson190@mygfschools.org</a>
<b>Duane Naas</b>	<b>Properties Team</b>	<a href="mailto:duanechrisnaas@gmail.com">duanechrisnaas@gmail.com</a>
	<b>Youth Team</b>	
	<b>Worship Team</b>	