

January 2019

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,

Happy New Year! As we prepare to begin another year of ministry together, I wanted to pause and say thank you. Thank you for all that you have done to be part of the ministry happenings at Saint Matthew's this last year. Thank you for your support and encouragement, and thank you for your dedication to all that is happening here!

As we look to the New Year, I can't help but be thinking of New Year's Resolutions. New Year's Resolutions are often pie crust promises...meaning that they are easily made and easily broken. Some studies say that more than 80% of New Year's Resolutions fail by the second week of February. Has that held true for you? That you begin your resolutions with gusto, but sooner than later, you just take one day off and that one day becomes one week, and pretty soon you have thrown in the towel and given up all together?

I am wondering this year if we, your church, might be able to partner with you to help you keep your New Year's Resolutions going strong. So here are some resolutions and some options:

Exercise More Often-This is a big one. We have good intentions to do this but often fall short. In January I will be moving my office hours to Choice Health and Fitness. If you have a membership, you can join me and we can go walk around the track and chat (if you can't walk right now, you can also just chat with me at one of the tables). If you don't have a membership to Choice, you can also always text and we can meet at the mall at a different time to walk and chat for free!

Eat Healthier/Drink More Water-How often do we sabotage ourselves with this one? Or we sabotage each other by offering treats we don't really need? Come and join us at Coffee Klatch in January and we will have some healthy snacks (alongside the normal treats for those who aren't resolving to eat healthier!). Want to drink more water and need a reminder? We are going to be ordering Saint Matthew's water bottles for those who are interested in having a new reminder that God goes with you everywhere, and wants you to be your healthiest you!

Save More Money-After the holidays we often find ourselves strapped for cash as we overspent and over indulged. We will be offering Financial Peace University again this January to help you get back on track and find a way to budget what works for you and your family. Others who have taken this class have said that it is truly life changing.

Manage Stress-Finally this is a huge area that we all probably need. Sign up to receive a morning text message that will give you some scripture to focus on during the day. Or sign up to be a part of the "Bible in a Year" reading program where together we will work through reading the entire Bible in a year. For more info on either of these programs, call the church office at 599-2081.

However you begin your New Year friends, I pray that it is filled with the joy and peace and hope that our awesome God provides! May God bless you and keep you today and always!

Grace and peace, *Pastor Amy*

LYO-Youth Group

Youth Group – Happy New Year from the Youth Team. We had a wonderful Christmas party in which of course we ate food, had a White Elephant gift exchange and played a few games. These young members of our congregation and community are so AWESOME!! We will have two LYO nights in January, on the 9th and 23rd. We sincerely appreciate all the support from the congregation to keep the youth involved in the church and look forward to more in 2019!!!



Giving Thanks

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:

- Cheryl W for cleaning up all of the chaos of the mechanical room
- Gary W for keeping our parking lot clear of snow!
- One and Done Crew for installing the new ovens

Thanks to all who are making a difference! We appreciate you!

Blessings to everyone who contributed to this year's Angel Tree Project! You are indeed the hands and feet of Christ! Several area families were gifted by your generosity. There were many smiles, tears and hugs of gratitude that are passed along to all of you.

God bless, Rita West,
and Julie Brorby



*Thank
you*

Thank you to all who have donated financially to St. Matthew's this past year.

Your giving is greatly appreciated. God's blessings to you all!

Thank you all for your cards and gifts on my birthday and through the Christmas season. I truly am humbled by your generosity, encouragement and support, and thank God for all of you! May you be blessed, for surely you have been a blessing to me!

Peace, Pastor Amy



Donut Making Day will be on Saturday, February 23. If you are able to help or if you have any questions please contact Sandy Olson 891-9975 or Amy Bergeron 741-3923.



COUNCIL MINUTES

November 26, 2018

IN ATTENDANCE: Pastor Amy, Darwin Potter, James Thorson, Paul Strande, Beth Kurz, Deb DeMoe, Tracie Ivesdal, Roy Olson, Alicia Schumacher

ABSENT: Sarah Krogfoss, Sara Munson

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Darwin at 6:32 p.m.

LITURGY:

Pastor Amy led the Church Council in devotion prior to the meeting.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Darwin added an item, “Annual Meeting Team Reports”, as item #2 under New Business. “Council Meeting Dates” was shifted to item #3. Roy added a forth item, “Storage Room”, under New Business.

Motion: Deb moved approve the agenda as amended. Paul seconded. Motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVAL

No modifications were made to the October 28th Church Council meeting minutes.

Motion: Roy motioned to approve the October 28th Church Council meeting minutes. Paul seconded. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Tracie summarized a few new financial reports that she compiled. One report details where we are at with our line of credit. We are currently using about \$10,000 from our \$20,000 line of credit. The other report shows where our income and expenses are at as of October 2018 when compared to October 2017. The biggest difference is that the general giving has been less this year when compared to 2017.

Tracie summarized the financial reports for October. General Giving income was \$8905.71. Net income was negative \$4,025.25. As of October 31, the General Giving checking account balance was at negative \$1,541.18. Special Giving net income was \$578.67. The Special Giving checking account balance as of October 31 was \$39,291.92. Total combined assets are at \$37,750.74.

Motion: James moved to approve the Financial Reports. Alicia seconded. Motion carried.

CALENDAR REVIEW

Darwin mentioned that we have not yet locked in a date for the Annual Meeting. It is usually the last weekend in January. If we have the Annual Meeting on January 27th, we should have the Council Meeting the prior weekend (January 20th at 11:30 a.m.) The backup date for the Annual Meeting is February 3rd. Deb mentioned that on December 2nd they are going to have a Pastor celebration/ birthday celebration after church. No additional changes were made to the calendar.

PASTOR'S REPORT

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

Men's Club: Nothing new to report.

WELCA: They held the Festival of Tables. Special thanks to Sarah Krogfoss' brother for cooking!

TEAM REPORTS

Executive: Darwin Potter – The Exec Team is meeting tomorrow night to conduct Pastor Amy's evaluation and to discuss the proposed language to modify the President's term. They will also be discussing the Pastor's salary. The Exec Team will also be meeting to discuss the staff evaluations.

Education: Alicia Schumacher – The Advent event will be December 15th and the kids will sing in church on December 16th.

Fellowship: Sara Munson – Absent.

Outreach: Sarah Krogfoss – The angel tree is up. They are beginning work on the Frozen Fest which is a fellowship/outreach combo.

Food Pantry: Sarah Krogfoss – Darwin reported on Sarah's behalf. In July, 450 pounds of food were provided to 8 families; in August, 318 pounds of food was provided to 7 families; in September, 406 pounds of food was provided to 9 families; and in October, 319 pounds of food was provided to 8 families.

The first food pantry board meeting went well. All the representatives were present. Also, there are 9 new volunteers that have signed up to help with the food pantry.

Properties: Roy Olson – Tomorrow and the rest of the week they'll be installing the double oven. Once it's installed, there will be 4 ovens total. He called Excel energy about the parking lot lights. There is a light out near the dumpsters that needs to be fixed. There is also a light out near the kitchen door, but they aren't sure if the wire is broken. There is also a light pole to the east that hasn't worked for a very long time. Paul mentioned that he has worked with someone that helped install LED lights out at the park. Roy wasn't sure that we want to spend the money to hire someone at this point. Darwin asked if Roy could ask Gary to trim off the sound cabinet.

Worship: Deb DeMoe – The December worship services are coming up. There are 2 services on

Christmas Eve – the earlier service which is more kid-friendly and the later service which is more adult oriented.

Youth: Paul Strande – They did their Bingo event in November and had about 40 kids. They are having a movie night on November 28. On December 12 they will have a Christmas party where they will make ornaments and maybe do a white elephant gift exchange. They are having a tough time trying to get the kids to read during Sunday service.

OLD BUSINESS

Sound System

HB Sound and Light came out and didn't find anything wrong with the sound equipment. They looked at Pastor's microphone and found that it wasn't communicating with the sound system. They replaced her microphone and it has been working fine now. Otherwise, everything was set up fine – they made a few tweaks and rewired a few things (like the amps), but no major changes were needed. Paul asked if the speaker in the kitchen is done. Roy is going to check on it. We still need to label things or create a sheet that shows where the controls are for everything. The bill for HB Sound and Light came to about \$240. Darwin didn't that was right, so he's going to check on it.

Church Check Up (General Comments)

Darwin mentioned that we'll compile the responses from the Church Check Up meetings and have the information available in December for review. There was a lot of good feedback. After reviewing the comments and input, we'll decide what is attainable and/or feasible in the near term and make a list of what can be addressed.

Visual Monitors Computer

Computer and Software Purchase

The equipment that was purchased will be paid for from the money that we set aside from the building fund (\$1000). James mentioned that we'll need to think about storage for the computer to run the system and where we are going to put the piano. Darwin reminded the Council that we now need to think about purchasing a computer to run the system. If we get an all-in-one computer, they are a little more expensive. We can purchase a desktop for about \$400. Darwin asked if we want to try and get donations from teams (such as Men in Mission or WELCA). There was some discussion about purchasing a desktop versus a laptop. Darwin is afraid about the mobility of a laptop and that it will get used for other purposes. Paul suggested that we can store it in a locked case/box. Pastor Amy mentioned that some money has already been donated for the computer. Darwin informed the group that there is some thought about assembling an AV team to help with running the equipment, so we might want to wait and see what the AV team wants to do. Pastor Amy would prefer a laptop so they could bring it into the office to work on presentations (and it could be stored in the office). Pastor Amy would like to purchase Pro-Presenter, a presentation package that was designed specifically for worship services. It is the most recommended and highly used software for this purpose. It would cost \$399 and is a onetime purchase (no annual renewal fee). Darwin suggested we revisit this in December once all the bills have been paid, or that we pre-approve a certain dollar amount and once that money is in the account, the purchase will already be pre-authorized.

Motion: Paul motioned to preapprove up to \$1500 to purchase a computer and the Pro-Presenter software once the money is available in the account. Deb seconded. There was some discussion about this. James stated that we could probably find a computer for less. Darwin and James will work on identifying the costs for a suitable laptop. Motion carried.

AV Team

There has been some discussion about establishing an AV team. Darwin thought if we could get some high school kids to volunteer, it would be a good way to get them involved. There may also be some adults that are interested as well. Darwin suggested that we personally invite some kids that we think might be interested. Pastor would like an adult to be involved to help direct the youth.

Bookkeeper

Jamie has purchased a laptop and a locking briefcase. She still has to install the QuickBooks software. She contacted the audit team to set up a meeting in December prior to the Annual Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Team Budgets

Darwin would like all the team budgets by December 16th, but the earlier the better. Budgets should include what the team leads think will be sufficient to perform their planned activities for the year. He asked that the team leads be reasonable, but also realistic, about estimating their budgetary needs. Roy stated that the properties budget can stay the same.

Annual Meeting Team Reports

Team leads should provide an end-of-the-year summary to Vione before the next Council Meeting.

Council Meeting Dates

December Meeting: Sunday, December 16th at 11:30 a.m.

January Meeting: Sunday, January 20th at 11:30 a.m.

Storage Room

Roy asked how much the coat room next to Pastor Amy's office gets used. Pastor Amy replied that it gets used a lot, especially by Sunday school kids. That space is probably not available for storage.

Motion: Beth motioned to adjourn the meeting. Tracie seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting closed at 7:55 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth Kurz

Worship

It's been a wonderful year of worship at St. Matthew's. Thanks to all who served as worship assistants throughout the year and a special thanks to our LYO members for helping out the third Sunday of each month. It is greatly appreciated! Thank you to Vione and Pastor Amy for all the work they do. You are appreciated. Thank you to all who ordered poinsettias in honor/memory of someone in their lives.



Please continue to check the Worship Duty Assistant List to see if you can help out in any way. If you would like to read, usher, or assist with communion, please sign up on the

bulletin board by the front door entrance of the church, or call or text me (Deb DeMoe (701) 740-4957) and I can add your name to the list! Also, if you or a family member is willing to provide special music during worship, please let me know. We'd love to have you share your talents!!



If reading in church, ushering or assisting with communion isn't "your thing", we would welcome a few dozen cookies or a pan of bars to share during fellowship after the service.

January

Donny & Wendy Ackerman Family

Mike & Julie Brorby

Raeann Burger

Earl & Cathy Haugen Family

David & Sarah Krogfoss Family

Scott & Danean Landa Family

Lonnie & Gretchen Peterson

Darwin Potter Family

Linda Schumacher

Julie Shirek

February

Dylan & Sara Anderson Family

Mark & Kristie Adams Family

Tony & Paula Amborn Family

Joshua & Tessa Clemetson Family

Tim & Dena Hegg Family

Jon & Junelle Hjelmstad Family

Jeremy & Beth Hughes

Trent & Tracie Ivesdal Family

Brian & Joey Overby Family

Brock & Ashley Vaagene Family

Congratulations to Heather and Cody Wilson on the baptism of their daughter Greta Ella Marie. Greta was baptized on December 2nd. Her sponsors are Kris Marcotte and Jamiee Gaddie.

Welcome into our family Greta!





Proposed Bylaw change for Annual Meeting to be held on January 27, 2019 (or snow date February 3, 2019)

C11.02.01 POSITIONS AND TERMS OF OFFICE

e. President-One (1) year term

2. It is encouraged that the President, having served his/her first one-year term will submit his/her name for nomination for a second one-year term.

f. Vice President-Two (2) year term, ~~for a term of one (1) year, which shall be immediately followed by a one (1) year term as President.~~

g. Secretary-Two (2) year term.

h. Treasurer-Two (2) year term.

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. 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 January 8 at 6:30 pm at L'Bistro in the Canad Inns, 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 January 21 at Sharon Gustafson's House** For a copy of the book they are studying, contact the church office at 599-2081.

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
Choice Health and Fitness



Saint Matthew's Lutheran Church

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

ST. MATTHEW'S LEADERSHIP

Amy Eisenmann	Pastor stmattpastoramy@gmail.com
Vione Jordheim	Admin. Assistant stmattsvione@gmail.com
Jamie Bischoff	Bookkeeper bischoffjamie@gmail.com
Darwin Potter	Council President darpotter14@gmail.com
James Thorson	Council Vice President thorsonja@yahoo.com
Beth Kurz	Council Secretary bkurz@undeerc.org
Tracie Ivesdal	Council Treasurer tivesdal@msn.com
Sarah Krogfoss	Outreach Team Lead smartin@polarcomm.com
Sara Munson	Fellowship Team Lead saramunson@rocketmail.com
Roy Olson	Properties Team Lead royandsandyolson@live.com
Alicia Schumacher	Education Team Lead Alcia.schumacher@gfcounty.org
Paul Strande	Youth Team Lead pstrande59@gmail.com
Deb DeMoe	Worship Team Lead deb.demoe@tps-k12.org

Financial Peace University classes are coming back to Saint Matthew's!

Beginning on January 20,
Saint Matthew's will once
again be hosting Financial
Peace. For more info and
to register for the class,
check out our church
website at:

www.stmatthewslutheranchurch.org



Happy Birthday in January!

- 1 Cheryl Widman
- 2 Barry Arntz, Halley Deitz
- 3 Angela Muhs
- 4 Garnet Bischoff
- 5 Averie Geatz
- 6 Kristie Adams, Brandy George
- 7 Samantha Johnson
- 9 Ellie Schumacher
- 11 Jaxon Clemetson
- 12 Arvin Brorby, Halie Fossum,
Jesse Hegg
- 13 Cornelius Everett
- 14 Zach Ackerman, McKenna DeMoe,
Collin Hancock
- 16 Noah Novak
- 17 Claudia PromSchmidt,
- 18 Layla Manzke
- 19 Jailin Avdem
- 20 Marcus Hughes, Mistie Manzke
- 21 Joey Overby
- 23 Kevin Cooper
- 25 Adrienne Jarvis, Daman Pearson
- 26 Brook Fretheim, Richard Staveteig
- 28 Christina Johnson
- 29 Lauren Plautz

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



Annual Birthday Bash - January 13

Frozen Fest - February 24

Family Bunco - March 24

Our Annual Meeting will be held on January 27th after worship. There will also be a potluck that day. In case of inclement weather, we will meet on February 3rd.

