

March 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,

I hope this March newsletter finds you enjoying the end of a great basketball season and the hope of spring that is right around the corner.

We realized that we haven't done a newsletter with frequently asked questions about how things work at Saint Matthew's lately, so this March newsletter will hopefully answer some of your questions.

Inside this newsletter, you can find answers to questions like:

- \*How do I become more involved in Saint Matthew's? (and some ways to get started)
- \*What are worship groups (the folks who help in worship) and am I in one?
- \*What do I need to know if I want to help...usher, read, assist with communion, etc.
- \*What are the different teams at St Matt's and what do they do?

There is also an article about where your dollars go once they enter the offering plate or are mailed to church, and some suggestions for you if you are interested in growing your giving.

We have had a few families asking about a New Member Sunday. It looks like that will hopefully be happening on Sunday, April 7. If you and your family would like to join the Saint Matthew's family, we invite you to fill out a New Member Form and return it to the church office. The form can be found on the church website.

Another way you can ensure that you stay up to date with church happenings is to make sure that we have your correct email address. If you haven't received an email from the church in the last couple weeks, please talk to the church office at (701) 599-2081 and make sure that we have the correct email for you. You can also get up to the minute updates by liking St Matthew's Lutheran Church of Thompson on Facebook or [stmatthstompson](#) on Instagram. That would also be the way to know if we would have to cancel worship or activities because of inclement weather.

As we enter into Lent, I wanted to invite you to join us for worship on Wednesdays. This year our theme will be "At the Crossroads". Each Wednesday will bring a dialogue with a different person who is on the way to the cross (Pontius Pilate, John, etc). Come and hear their story, and how it intersects with your story. Ash Wednesday will be March 6 with worship at 7 pm, and will have the first of our characters in King David. Midweek soup suppers will begin March 13 and be served from 5:30-6:45 each Wednesday of Lent (except Ash Wednesday), Midweek worship will be each Wednesday night at 7pm.

However you choose to participate with us, we hope your time is blessed and your spirit renewed! Thank you for being part of our church family!

Grace and peace, *Pastor Amy*

# LYO-Youth Group

**Youth Group News** – Due to Lenten season we will not have a regular LYO night in March. We had a Bunco night and ate pizza at our last LYO night courtesy of the St. Matthew's Men's Club. Thank you to them for feeding us. We will be serving soup supper on March 27<sup>th</sup>. We are trying to find a night for our group to serve a meal at the Northlands Rescue Mission. We think this will be a great experience for the kids to see something they don't see in our community. Look for more information upcoming. Thank you to the congregation for their continued support of our youth at St. Matthew's.



## Fellowship

Greetings! I am excited to serve as the fellowship lead and would like to get an idea of what you'd like to see for fellowship opportunities as I begin planning the year. Please email or call me with ideas you have and take a look at the list of ideas below. All ideas are welcome and your input is greatly appreciated!

\*\*\*Book Study (Women's, Mom's, couples, Men's, teens, etc.)

\*\*\*Local Missions Support (Feed My Starving Children, Northlands Rescue Mission, CVIC, Food Drive for our food pantry, other local charities)

\*\*\* Faithfully Fit (fitness night) \*\*\* Family Game Night \*\*\* A MOPS group \*\*\*

Easter Egg Hunt \*\*\* Christmas Gift Wrapping \*\*\* Ugly Sweater Event \*\*\* Spring Tea Party \*\*\*

A Craft Night/Afternoon \*\*\* A BBQ or BBQ contest \*\*\* A Back to School Freezer Meal Workshop

Thank you,

Chelsea Lupien [Chelsea.lupien@und.edu](mailto:Chelsea.lupien@und.edu) 701-520-9903



Congratulations to Samantha & Adam Johnson on the baptism of Charlee. Charlee Catherine Johnson was born February 1, 2018 and baptized on February 3, 2019.

Her sponsors are Zack & Alyssa Brorby.

Congratulations Johnson Family! Welcome Charlee!

# Education

5th graders should watch for a letter coming soon regarding 1st communion classes, retreat info. We are working to increase communication with parents regarding Sunday School and other education events. Like us on Facebook - stmatthewseducation

## ***March Dates to remember!***

No Sunday School – March 17

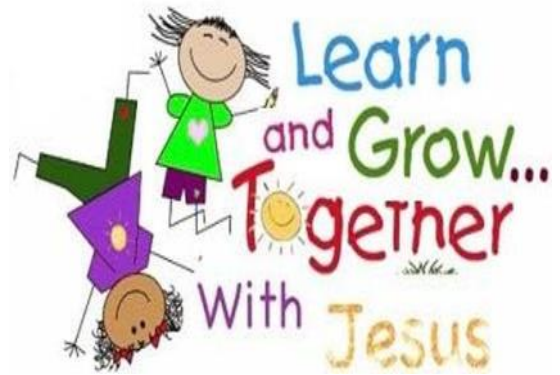
## **Mark your calendars for April**

Kids sing in church—April 14

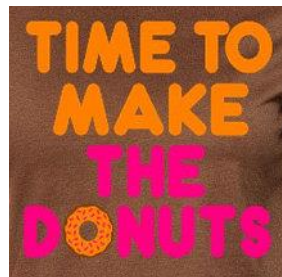
1st Communion retreat—April 14 at 3pm

1st Communion—April 18 at 7pm

No Sunday School—April 21

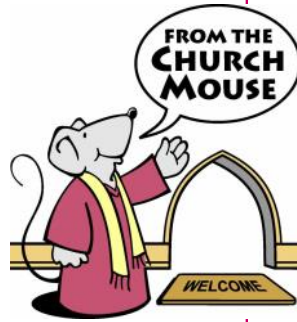


A big thank you to everyone who helped make Donut Day 2019 a huge success. Thank you to everyone who donated items, helped with the set up, and helped on Saturday. We have an awesome crew! Also thank you to everyone who helps support this WELCA project by buying the donuts. Special thank you to Amy B and Sandy O for organizing our donut ladies again this year! We appreciate you!

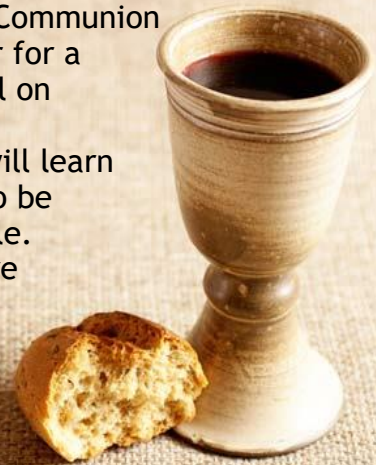


Thank you to everyone who is a part of the ministry at Saint Matthew's! Here are a few folks we would like to say a special thank you to this month! We apologize if we miss anyone!

- Darwin P, Duane N, Andy N, Chris N, Hannah, Ruth W, Scott K, for the part you played in Hope in the Heartland.
- All the ladies who helped make WELCA donuts...a special shout out to Sandy O and Amy B for organizing the donut making day!
- Roy O for shoveling out the window and letting the sunshine in.
- Sarah Krogfoss and the Outreach Team for another successful Frozen Fest
- John S and Jamie B for teaching another year of Financial Peace University



5th Graders (and older youth who have not yet received First Communion Instruction) will gather for a retreat and Seder meal on April 14th at 3:00 pm. Parents and children will learn about what it means to be welcome to God's Table. 5th Graders will receive their first communion on Maundy Thursday, April 18 at 7:00 pm.



So Many Donuts



## 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 March 12 at 6:30 pm at Red Lobster 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 "Finding Rest in a Busy World" WELCA Bible Study will meet Monday March 18 at Carmen Bohlman's House For a copy of the book they are studying, contact the church office at (701) 599-2081.

# Worship



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.

## March

Barry & Cheryl Arntz  
Carmen Bohlman  
Craig Bohlman  
John & Robyn Bohlman Family  
Ken Dobmeier Family  
Susan Dobmeier  
Scott & Jill Kuster Family  
Mickey & Sara Munson Family  
Sue Simon  
James & Suzy Thorson

## April

Steph Albin Family  
Adam & Jen Bohlman Family  
Trinity Bohlman Family  
Nathan & Bre Berberich Family  
Travis & Deann Dearing Family  
Deb DeMoe Family  
Blake & Gretchen Guetter Family  
Marc & Beth Kurz Family  
Leann Novak Family  
Derek & Stacy Plautz Family

Worship Assistants are needed during mid-week Lenten services and Holy Week.

Please sign up on the sheets by the front door.

## DID YOU KNOW.....

When You (or someone you love) Visits the Hospital....

None of us looks forward to time spent in a hospital bed.. Altru Health System seeks to both help with what is wrong physically and also to support patients in other ways. That includes spiritual support.

Some of you may remember the days when the local hospital would call churches to inform pastors when a parishioner had become a patient. That went away years ago. These days patient privacy is protected carefully and hospitals are inspected in terms of protecting patient information private.

So if you become a patient at Altru your information will be kept private. You will have full control of who comes to see you.

"Will my pastor know I'm in so he/she can come to see me?" you might ask. There's two ways that can happen and you, the patient, control both.

One way is for you to tell your pastor, or to have your family contact the church. Your pastor wants to know.

The second way is to ask an Altru Chaplain to contact your pastor. Altru's Chaplains want to help and believe in the ministry and support your pastor can provide. If you ask, and only if you ask, a chaplain will make that contact.

The chaplains at the hospital want to serve you and to serve the church. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pastoral Services.

Altru's Pastoral Services — 701-780-5300  
Mark Ellingson, Chaplain Manager  
mellingson@altru.org

## Pastor Amy's Office Hours for March:

Monday: Office Hours by Appointment

Tuesday: 10:00 am-Noon at Bully Brew South

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

Thursday Pastor's Day Off

Friday: Office Hours by  
Appointment (not March 8 or  
22)



Don't forget that **daylight savings time begins on**

**Sunday March 10!**

Spring forward and come  
join us for worship!

## Saint Matthew's Lutheran Church

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

### ST. MATTHEW'S LEADERSHIP

<b>Amy Eisenmann</b>	<b>Pastor</b>	stmattspastoramy@gmail.com
<b>Vione Jordheim</b>	<b>Admin. Assistant</b>	stmattsvione@gmail.com
<b>Jamie Bischoff</b>	<b>Bookkeeper</b>	bischoffjamie@gmail.com
<b>James Thorson</b>	<b>Council President</b>	thorsonja@yahoo.com
<b>Scott Kuster</b>	<b>Council Vice President</b>	scottkuster@gra.midco.net
<b>Angie Muhs</b>	<b>Council Secretary</b>	bamuhs@yahoo.com
<b>Tracie Ivesdal</b>	<b>Council Treasurer</b>	tivesdal@msn.com
<b>Sarah Krogfoss</b>	<b>Outreach Team</b>	smartin@polarcomm.com
<b>Chelsea Lupien</b>	<b>Fellowship Team</b>	chelsea.lupien@und.edu
<b>Duane Naas</b>	<b>Properties Team</b>	dnaas@sterlingcarpetone.com
<b>Bre Berberich</b>	<b>Education Team</b>	berberich@midco.net
<b>Paul Strande</b>	<b>Youth Team</b>	pstrande59@gmail.com
<b>Deb DeMoe</b>	<b>Worship Team</b>	dedem831@gmail.com

## Happy Birthday in March!

- 1 Kambra Deitz, Scott Kuster
- 4 Tom Naas, Lisa Strand
- 5 Roy Olson
- 6 Donny Ackerman
- 8 Kari Berthold, James Thorson
- 9 Alex Senger
- 12 Sonia Galegher, Jason Naas
- 13 Hannah Halvorson, Mary Reineke, Christian Widman
- 17 Sarah Fee
- 19 Kenzie Hughes, Ruth Waller
- 20 Danica Tomanek
- 21 Kay Lindell
- 24 Suzy Thorson
- 25 Becky Bohlman, Dave Fugleberg
- 26 Beth Lopez, Dianne Lundgren, Lynnea Mayer, Mike Morgan, Evie Pearson, Timmy Pearson
- 28 Josh Faul
- 30 Tony Amborn, Henry Haugen
- 31 Chance Danner

# Living Lent



This year we are once again having soup suppers before most of our Midweek Lenten Services. **Soup will be served from 5:30-6:45 or until the soup runs out.** Most of our soup suppers are covered by our confirmands and youth group.

Soup schedule of servers for this Lent is:

March 13-6th graders; March 20-8th graders; March 27-LYO; April 3-Open;  
April 10-7th graders



**Calling All Confirmands! Come and join us on Sunday, March 3 for the 5th Annual Confirmation retreat from 3:00 pm-6:00 pm.** This year we will be learning about the different parts of worship and why we worship how we worship. This is a mandatory retreat. If you are unable to attend, please let Pastor Amy know by Friday, March 1.



Join us for Friday Lenten Fish Fry!

The Men in Mission will once again be hosting the Fish Fry every other Friday during Lent. The Fridays that we will be hosting at Saint Matthew's are: **March 15, March 29, and April 12.** Food served will be: Walleye Fillet, Baked Potatoes, Coleslaw, Baked Beans, Ice Cream, and a Beverage. Grab your friends and neighbors and come join the fun!

Do you like to bake? Or shop? **We need folks to bring pies for upcoming fish fries on March 15, March 29, and April 12.** If you can help talk to Sarah Krogfoss, or sign up on the bulletin board today! Pie will also be for sale to top off your delicious fish dinner for \$2 a slice.



# Saint Matthew's 101- Frequently Asked Questions about the Min- istry of St Matthew's,



Got questions?  
Find answers  
here

## **So I am new to church, now what?**

We welcome you to begin by just worshipping with us or attending various events. All things we do are open to new folks joining, so if you see something you are interested in on the calendar, stop in and check it out! To find out more about an event, check out our website at [www.stmatthewslutheranchurch.org](http://www.stmatthewslutheranchurch.org)

**I've worshipped and feel like Saint Matthew's could be my new church home, now what?** We are so excited that you feel like Saint Matthew's is where you belong! We have a **New Member Form** for you to fill out that can be found either on our church website, by asking one of the ushers at worship, or by talking to Pastor Amy. Fill it out, return it to the church office, and we will get you scheduled to become official at our next New Member Sunday! We will be having a New Member Sunday on Sunday, April 7 so notify the church office if you want info on how you can be a part of it!

**Now I am a member, what else do I need to know?** We are so glad that you are officially a part of our church family! We like to say you will get out of church what you put into it. If you are just looking for a place to worship, and that is all right now, we understand, and will welcome you into worship. If however, you would like to become more deeply involved, we encourage you to do so. Once you are a member for a year, you will be placed into a **worship group**. Because we recognize that the vast majority of our members attend worship, we ask that one month of the year, your family helps to make worship happen. That could be by helping usher, greet at the door, help with communion, read the lessons, etc. Your worship group leader will contact your family and find out how you would like to be involved during your worship month. If you are uncomfortable with being in a worship group, please notify the church office and we will remove your name from the list.

**What if I want to help in worship but I don't know what to do?** Great question! First, know that you aren't alone feeling unsure about what to do in worship, second there are a couple of options.

1. There is a description of each worship job (ushers, communion assistants, etc) in the drawers of the table that hold the bulletin, it will tell you what needs to be done.
2. If you still have questions, talk to Deb DeMoe or Pastor Amy, they will be glad to help. Also, please know that we welcome all ages to help in worship. Whether you are 3 or 103, there is something you can do to make a difference!

3. There is a new A/V Team forming to run the slides during worship. If you would like to be a part of this team, we suggest you talk to Josh Faul or Travis Fretheim or sign up on the bulletin board outside the church offices.

**What if I want to be involved with more than worship?** Awesome! That is music to our ears! There are lots of ways to get involved. Youth can be involved in Sunday School, Confirmation, and LYO (High School Youth Group), Adults can join a team that does what they are interested in. Teams currently working at Saint Matthew's are:

**Education**-The team that organizes Sunday School, Confirmation, Adult Education, etc. This team is led by Bre Berberich.

**Youth**-The team that organizes LYO, high school youth group activities and regular gatherings. This team is led by Paul Strande.

**Property**-The team that takes care of our building and grounds. This team is led by Duane Naas

**Fellowship**-The team that plans quarterly events that help strengthen the friendships and relationships in and around St. Matthew's. This team is led by Chelsea Lupien.

**Outreach**-The team that works on making a difference in our community and in the wider world. They are also the team that works on supporting new members and reaching out to the members of our community who might not otherwise come to Saint Matthew's. This team is led by Sarah Krogfoss.

**Worship**-This team is the one that works on worship, whether that be organizing worship volunteers, new worship opportunities, special music, etc. This team is led by Deb DeMoe.

**Mutual Ministry**-This team works to keep ministry functioning in a healthy way at Saint Matthew's. They are the place folks can go with feedback, and also the place that others can come with concerns or joys about Pastor Amy. Currently serving on this team are: Alicia Schumacher and Ruth Waller.

**We welcome you to contact Team Leads and talk to them about ways that you could get involved on their team.** Every single team lead would love to have more folks involved and is always looking for new ideas. You can find contact information for our team leads on our church website under the "Who We Are: Council" tab.

**I still have questions. Now what?** We would love to try and answer them for you! Call the church office at 599-2081 or email Pastor Amy at [stmattspastoramy@gmail.com](mailto:stmattspastoramy@gmail.com). We look forward to hearing from you!



## Have you ever wondered about where your dollars go at Saint Matthew's?

When you use a giving envelope at Saint Matthew's, you have several options for where your money goes.

The different categories on your envelope are:

**Budget (General Fund)**-This fund is where most of our bills are paid from. It supports the ongoing ministry of our congregation, and pays for things like utilities, ministry expenses, and staffing.

**Elizabeth Grove (Bible Camp)**-This fund was started in memory of Elizabeth Grove to help send kids to Bible Camp. It is used each year to support those going to camp for the first time with a scholarship to help defray costs.

**Food Pantry**-This fund is specifically used by the Thompson Community Food Pantry. It is used to purchase supplies and to supplement food available when necessary for this ministry that serves the Thompson, Buxton, Reynolds area.

**World Hunger**-This fund, together with the coins and cash collected in the holy cow is sent to help feed hungry people across our world. It is organized through Lutheran World Relief, and you can find out more at [www.lwr.org](http://www.lwr.org)

**Grace Gifts**-Occasionally we get requests to help those in need on an individual basis. Someone struggling with their rent, heat bill, etc. This fund is used, along with pastoral conversation to support individuals in need in our area.

**Mission** (South Sudan, CAR, etc.)-This fund funnels money for local and international mission. You can direct your dollars to specific ministries (like South Sudan Lutheran in Fargo, CAR-our sister synod in the Central African Republic), or you can leave it undesignated, and let the council decide which local organizations will receive the money. In the past undesignated mission money has been donated to places such as CVIC (Community Violence Intervention Center), Northland Rescue Mission, and the Sunshine Foundation (Hospice ministry in the area)

**Other**-This line can be used for specific donations to things such as altar flowers at Easter and Christmas, donations to fundraisers, etc.

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

## Welcome to worship

Mid-week Lenten Worship 7:00 pm  
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School at 9 a.m.

Address service requested



**March 6- Ash Wednesday Worship at 7 pm**  
**Mar 13, 20, 27, Apr 3, 10- Soup at 5:30,**  
**Worship at 7 pm**  
**April 18- Maundy Thursday Worship at 7 pm**  
**with First Communion**  
**April 19- Good Friday Children's**  
**Worship Experience, Noon**  
**Good Friday Tenebrae Worship at 7 pm**  
**April 21- Easter Sunrise Worship at 7 am**  
**Festival Worship at 10 am**

**At the Crossroads Lenten Characters:**  
**March 6-Confession: King David**  
**March 13-Betrayal: Judas**  
**March 20-Judgment: Pontius Pilate**  
**March 27-Compassion: Malchus**  
**April 3-Declaration: Peter**  
**April 10-Obedience: John**  
**Palm Sunday-April 14**  
**Suffering: Simon the Zealot**  
**Maundy Thursday-April 18**  
**Forgiveness: Marie and Tom**  
**Good Friday-April 19**  
**Death: Mary, the Mother of Jesus**

