

May 2019

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

The Messenger

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As I write this to you on a chilly spring day, we are all probably dreaming of trips we might be taking or time we will get away and relax. Sabbath time, time away from what we regularly do is essential to our well-being. It helps us renew, restore and reconnect with God in a way that nothing else can. I hope that this summer you and your family have scheduled in time to just relax and renew. I hope you get some well-deserved time away from busy schedules and hectic lives. I hope that you are able to get out and enjoy the beautiful weather that summer brings and also have a chance to spend some quality time with friends and family that is so lacking in our busy lives these days.

I also hope that if you are in town on a Sunday, you will come join us for worship. I know that it can be easy to sleep in and take summer off, but we are still here doing ministry and sharing the Good News with one another and with the community all summer long. We hope that you can come join us, whether it is for Sunday worship, the Thompson Days Community Worship, Vacation Bible School, or all of those things!

I also want to offer you some ways to take church with you when you are on trips, at the lake, or just needing some down time this summer. So we are offering the following summer options for ways to stay connected with St Matthew's when you are out and about:

Take Out Church-Come to church on Mother's Day and get a take-out church gift for your family (or for yourself if you live alone). The gift is filled with ideas on how you can still practice the faith while you are out in the world...from Flat Jesus to prayer ideas, from games to play to some snacks for the road, we promise that Take Out Church will have fun for all the ages found in your family.

Faith 5— Our Walking Wet Blog <https://saintmattwalkingwet.blogspot.com/> will once again go live from Memorial Day Sunday through Labor Day Sunday giving you simple devotions and activities to do with your family whether you have toddlers or teens or even an empty nest. This will also be a place where there may be other random articles or activities to participate in sponsored by your church staff.

No matter how you spend your summers friends, I hope you share it with us, and that it is a summer of growing our faith and staying connected to our church family. Thank you so much for being a part of Saint Matthew's. We are blessed by YOU!

Grace and peace,
Pastor Amy

LYO—Youth Group

Youth Group Students – First, thank you to all youth group students and parents who made soup and bars for the soup supper on March 27th. It was all very good. We also would like to thank all that made bars for our trip to serve a meal at the Northland Rescue Mission. We received a \$200 donation to help with food expenses and had 17 youth help prepare and serve the meal. It was a great experience for our kids. We've had another great year with the kids. It's hard to believe we only have one LYO night left on May 8th. On this evening, we will welcome the 8th graders that will be confirmed next fall. Thank you to the congregation for your continued support of our youth.



**Serving a meal at
Northland Rescue Mission**



Loving Neighbors



The 'Spin for Kids' bake sale on April 7th was a great success!! Thank you to everyone who contributed! Due to the generosity of your time and gifts we were able to raise \$487 in sponsorships for our team! Our team consisted of both members of the WELCA and the Outreach Team. Team members: Tanya Barker, Bethany Kurz, Jen Bohlman, Jill Schumacher, Jill Kuster, Haleigh Krogfoss and Sarah Krogfoss. As a team we biked 89.9 miles! Shout out to Jen Bohlman for being our top rider with 14 miles logged!! A great big thank you to everyone who made this happen!



Thompson Food Pantry

The Thompson Food Pantry is open on Tuesday, May 14th from 11am-1pm, and Tuesday, May 28nd 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.

Education

The Sunday school year is wrapping up on May 12, join us as our kids share their memory work and sing in worship. We are already planning **Vacation Bible School**, so mark your calendars for August 5-7! Park River Bible camp will be coming to lead us in a FUN 3-day event! Registration info coming soon to your inbox!

Are you interested in **[bible camp this summer](#)**? Send an email to breberberich@gmail.com and we'll get you information!

Dates to remember!

God's Work Our Hands – April 28

3-year old's attend SS beginning – April 28

Kids sing and do memory work in church – May 12

Do you have education opportunity ideas? We'd love to hear them!

Contact Bre or email breberberich@gmail.com to submit ideas to the education team!



Properties

Mowing season will soon be here!!! A lawn mowing schedule will soon be on the board in the church entry. If you wish to help out you can sign up for a specific week that works for you. REMEMBER—All people operating the mower or weed wacker must be at least 16 years old. If you have questions please contact Duane at 701-215-1809.

Thanks for helping to keep our church yard looking good!!!

On **Sunday May 5th at 4:30 pm, you are invited for a fun afternoon for all ages** as we creatively explore the question “what does it mean to be church together?” **Together we will pray and create visual expressions on 12x12 canvases.** These beautiful works of art will then be collected and displayed as part of a special Art Exhibit and Celebration at our next Synod Assembly! All supplies are provided. You do not need to consider yourself an artist to participate. Registration is free but required.

To register, go online to: www.eandsynod.org and click on the “Paint Your Heart Out” event banner. Find the Saint Matthew’s date, click the link to sign up.



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 Eagles Crest on May 14 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. Currently they are working through the book “Finding Rest in a Busy World.” This month the WELCA women will be meeting on Monday, May 20 at Cheryl Widman’s home. For a copy of the book they are studying, contact the church office at 599-2081.

OFFICE HOURS



Pastor Amy's Office Hours for May:

Monday: 9:00-Noon

Tuesday: Office Hours by Appointment

Wednesday: 7:30-9:30 am

Thursday: Pastor's Day Off

Friday: 10:00-Noon at Panera

Vione's Office Hours for May:

May 1: 9:00-Noon

May 6, 7, 9: 9:00-Noon

May 14, 15, 17: 9:00-Noon

May 21, 22, 24: 9:00-Noon

Saint Matthew's Lutheran Church Leadership

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

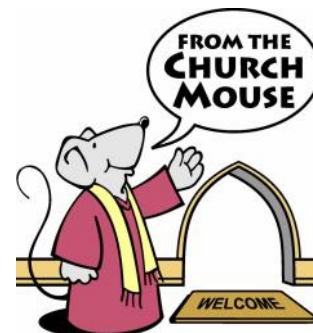
Amy Eisenmann	Pastor	stmattspastoramy@gmail.com
Vione Jordheim	Admin. Assistant	stmattsvione@gmail.com
Jamie Bischoff	Bookkeeper	bischoffjamie@gmail.com
James Thorson	Council President	thorsonja@yahoo.com
Scott Kuster	Council Vice President	scottkuster@gra.midco.net
Angie Muhs	Council Secretary	bamuhs@yahoo.com
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

Happy Birthday!

- 1 Jeremy Anderson
- 2 Jon Hjelmstad
- 3 RJ Anderson
- 4 Rae Ann Burger, Weston Wilson
- 5 Jordyn Bohlman, Sara Larson, Ashley Vaagene
- 6 Paisley Albin, Bob Foote
- 7 Murphy Landa
- 8 Lincoln Staveteig
- 10 Brittney Munson
- 11 Zachary Peterson
- 12 Lindsay George
- 14 Calen Broyles, Evelyn Lowe, Kaycee Wyatt
- 15 Nathan Berberich, Jen Bohlman
- 16 Marjean Greene
- 17 Laura Benoit
- 18 Cash Danner, Riley Kornkven
- 19 Pat Hanson, Sara Munson
- 20 Pierce Cooper
- 22 Dex Avdem, John Berthold, Barbie Larson, Olive Dobmeier
- 23 Dylan Anderson
- 24 Christine Sivertson, Kory Sondreal, Andy Wilson
- 25 Lyla Vaagene
- 26 Travis Fretheim
- 27 Deann Dearing, Bruce Loyland
- 28 Teresa Evanson
- 29 Jesse Kadrmas
- 30 Ki Hagen, Terrie Halvorson
- 31 John Schumacher

Thank you to everyone who is 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:

- Paul and Heidi Strande and the rest of the Youth Team for leading LYO and keeping our hard working LYO crew energized and fed!
- Sarah K, Ellie S, Trin B, Tanya B, Derek P, Sara M, and Steph B for teaching Sunday School this year!
- Josh F, Steph A, Heidi S, Barbie L, Daria H, Bre B, Dave L, Dori M, and Kevin C for your willingness to be confirmation mentors for our 8th graders this Lenten season!
- Everyone who put in extra time to help out during Lent and Holy Week with needed tasks
- Everyone who helped with pie sales during the Fish Frys
- Duane and Chris for all the extra cleaning they did during Lenten season
- Kristi A for organizing Food Pantry and their volunteers
- Deb D and Doris and Grace C for helping with the First Communion Retreat



Together we can do God's Work with Our Hands!



Spring is here! Time to do some spring cleaning and get rid of things we don't need or want and are just tired of looking at. If, by chance, you have fabric leftover from projects you have done or fabric you just don't know what to do with "The Quilters" at St. Matthew's have a place for this. We take this unwanted fabric and make it into quilts to give to people in need. We make

quilts that give comfort and warmth to people at the Grand Forks Mission, Red River Community Action, CVIC, Valley Memorial Home and anyone in the area in need. We will have a plastic container for fabric at the church that will be marked for this. Thank You!

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



May

Justin & Amy Bergeron Family
 Roger & Sharon Gustafson
 Ron & Krista Kornkven Family
 Neil & Kay Lindell
 Brue Loyland
 Roy & Sandra Olson
 Vaughn & Linda Quern
 Alex & Jen Starcevic Family
 Mike Sundberg Family
 Chuck & Kara Welke Family
 Troy & Sheila Wilson Family

There are no assigned families for the month of June. However, if you are willing/able to help in worship in anyway, please talk with Deb DeMoe. Also, if you play an instrument or sing and would like to provide special music in church, we would love to have you show off 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.



April Council Meeting-Held April 7, 2019-Unofficial Minutes

Present: James Thorson, Scott Kuster, Tracie Ivesdal, Paul Strande, Duane Naas, Sarah Krogfoss, Bre Berberich, Chelsea Lupien, Deb DeMoe, Pastor Amy Eisenmann, Angie Muhs

Absent: None

Meeting called to order at 11:36 AM.

Pastor Amy led us in Council Liturgy.

Meeting agenda shared. Sarah moved to approve the agenda as amended. Deb seconded, MPU. Amendments included adding Sabbatical for Pastor Amy to new business and changing next meeting date to May 8, 2019 @ 7 PM.

Minutes from March 3, 2019 Council meeting shared. Paul moved to approve the minutes, Scott seconded, MPU.

Financial Report: Our latest report is February and March combined--General Checking balance is (\$1,190.13) and the Special Giving Checking balance is \$28,577.88. General Giving Income for Feb/Mar is \$18,097.25 with Total Expenses of \$24,587.26, resulting in a net loss of \$6,490.01. Offering has decreased. Discussion surrounding how to increase giving. Shortcomings possibly related to snowstorms. Pastor Amy will draft a letter and Exec team will co-sign and send out

All team expense total was 953.70

Move to eliminate categories and close out accounts when they are depleted such as sound system.

Scott moved to approve the financials as amended. Chelsea seconded. MPU

Calendar Review:

WELCA meeting May 5 @ 11 AM

Council Meeting May 8, 2019 @ 7 PM

Financial Peace University is Sundays @ 6 PM for Teens

Pastor report:

Pastor Amy provided a Pastor's report. Pastor Amy's report in written form can be found in the minutes' binder in the church office.

WELCA/Men's Club Report:

Last fish fry Friday, April 12th. Help is needed cleaning up and serving. John S. plans to send out a message asking for help with this. Turn out has been great thus far.

WELCA pie sale in conjunction with fish fry. Bake Sale this AM to benefit Spin for Kids. May 5th, 2019 is the next meeting following worship.

Team Reports:

Exec- Met March 25. Discussion related security due to changing the lock code at the front door for access. Alerted to some security issues. Chimes are working now on the front door. Food pantry has offered to help with purchasing a possible key lock pad for the side door by the kitchen.

Education- Three year olds will be starting Sunday school during April.

VBS dates are not yet confirmed (August) but the check was cashed. Bre is looking at finding people to assist with children's Good Friday and helping with First Communion.

Fellowship-Chelsea reported hosting a Woman's Tea May 5. Also looking to do "Goat Yoga". Reported a possible women's book study. Emily Dogmeier will also be helping on the fellowship team.

Outreach-God's Work Our Hands Day will be April 28 this year. Julie Brorby will be taking people to Feed My Starving Children that same day.

Food Pantry-Sarah reported that The Food Pantry Board will contribute half to the keypad. Kristy is looking for people to volunteer their time with this. The food pantry will give St. Matthew's \$2000 for the use of the building as well as \$500 toward a keypad for the west door.

Dan Meyer will be doing pest control for the food pantry.

June 11 is the next quarterly meeting.

Property-Duane reported that the key and lock for supply closet door will be installed next week. Tables and chairs are spoken for graduation weekend (Saturday/Sunday).

Paving/painting company has contacted us in regards to the parking lot.

Worship-Deb reported that there is need for people to step up in worship assisting, especially during the Lent and Holy Week seasons. Thanks to all those who help in worship.

TV monitor feedback has been very positive.

Youth-Paul reports that LYO continues to meet every other Wednesday.

Rescue mission served by youth on March 31st. TPS provided a bus for the kids. This opportunity was good experience.

John Schumacher and Paul have been teaching a youth class for financial peace. Good feedback for this. They are in week 4 at this point.

Old Business:

Monitors: The final payment was made and the remaining funds will transfer to the Adobe funds. Positive feedback regarding this. Hoping for more people to join the IT/tech team and assist with this. Printing of bulletins has decreased significantly as a result.

New Business:

Building security: Looked into access to doors. Food Pantry has offered to help pay up to \$500 for a keyless code entry for the west door. Looking at options that allow multiple codes and/or one time access that could change as needed. It will be important for St. Matthew's to follow the process in regards to providing the codes to others.

Looking at options for the security and safety of staff and patrons. Considering looking at external cameras. We have no current funding for this.

A second door chime may be purchased.

Posted Office Hours: Vione is working at her approved limit at this point. Would like to increase her hours 4 hours per week so to assist Pastor Amy. This will influence the overall budget line item. Summer hour needs are less. Needs increase during Holy Weeks. Help needed with typing slides onto the screens; however, program is not user-friendly which limits those who can volunteer. Discussion surrounding options. Tabled until August 2019.

Development of Overflow parking: Discussion surrounding parking to the west. Looking at diverting the water from that lot. Gary Welsh is looking into this. Parking needs have increased. Questions if a funding drive needed. Duane will report at our next meeting.

Age requirements for lawn mowing: Age 16 and older due to church insurance requirements. May consider offering a tutorial for the lawn equipment. Volunteers needed.

James and Pastor Amy attended a Risk Management Seminar hosted by the Bishop and Synod legal counsel.

Sabbatical for Pastor Amy: Beginning to discuss a three-month sabbatical leave for Pastor Amy. She is in year 7 at present and would like sabbatical in year 8 (Summer 2020). Synod guidelines support sabbatical every 5-7 years. Lilly endowment out of Indiana created for "Clergy Renewal grant". Due April 11, 2019, which limits the opportunity to apply for this. Grants are up to \$50,000 to cover expenses. May need to apply for next year's award.

Plan to set up a committee to plan for the sabbatical time. Scott, Paul, Deb, James, Bre have volunteered to assist. Scott will lead this committee.

Supported Pastor Amy taking her current vacation time as well as looking for additional options as sabbatical leave may be pushed back.

Pastor Amy will be done in June as Dean.

Next Meeting is Wednesday, May 8 @ 7:00 PM. Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 1:01 PM

Respectfully submitted, Angie Muhs



We have had some questions lately about building security, so we wanted to offer you an update.

If you need to get in the building during non-office hours, we ask that you **fill out a building access form in the church office**. Upon doing so, you will be given the code to get in the building. **This code changes in February and August of every year**, so if you want to ensure you are notified upon code changes, you need to have a current form on file in the church office. There will be a new keypad for codes placed on the kitchen door. **This keypad by the kitchen will be used by outside groups or those needing temporary access to the building** (Food Pantry, for a one-time event, etc). There has also been some discussion lately about installing cameras at the front entry due to the increased use of the parking lot. If you have concerns about any of these safety issues, we invite you to talk to James Thorson, Council President or Scott Kuster, Council Vice President.



Congratulations to our First Communion Students this year! They received their 1st Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 18, 2019.

Left to right back row: Wyatt Bergeron, Cash Danner, Katelyn Kuster, Astacia Hansen-Oelrich, Kasey Munson
Left to right front row: Maxx Albin, Ethan Gallant, Adalee Foote, Wyatt Dearing

Graduate Recognition.
St. Matthew's high school seniors will be blessed by the congregation on May 19 during worship. If you have a senior that is graduating, please let the church office know by May 6!

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Welcome to worship

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Address service requested



Save the date!

Vacation Bible School for children in K-5th grade will be Aug 5-7. See page 3 for more info, or go online to www.stmatthewslutheranchurch.org/education.html and register today!