

October 2018

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

# 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,

As we get deeper into fall, and busier with fall activities, we don't very often get a chance to stop and reflect on how things are going, or what we wish would happen differently in our lives. We don't very often get a chance to stop and think about how God has blessed us or how we are being called by God to do something new.

In the coming weeks at Saint Matthew's, we are going to take some intentional time to stop and listen to what you have to say. We want to hear what you like, what you'd like to change, how you see God at work here, what dreams you have for the future and how you would like to be a part in making that future happen.

These times of intentional listening are going to be called Church Check Up Meetings. It is a chance for members of Saint Matthew's to share what is on their heart about the ministry that is happening. It is a chance for the leadership of St. Matthew's, myself included, to hear from ALL of our members, whether you come regularly or rarely or never. We want to hear what keeps you coming back. We want to hear what keeps you from coming. We want to hear how we can partner with you to make our church healthier, and better for the good of all in our community.

Starting Sept 30, there will be sign up sheets being passed around in worship for you to sign up for one of these church check in meetings. Additionally you can sign up by calling the church office at 701-599-2081. There will also be a survey emailed out in early November that we hope you participate in. We hope each and every member of Saint Matthew's will find a way to participate and have their voice be heard. We are so thankful that you are a part of our church family, and we want to hear from each of you!

As we enter into the season of listening and gratitude, let me say thank you. Thank you for our last 5 years together. Thank you for the gift of letting me walk with you through the joys and trials of this life, and for blessing me with the honor of being your pastor. I look forward, as we talk and listen to each other in the weeks to come, of dreaming of many more years of ministry together, and can't wait to hear what ideas God has planted in you of the ministry of Saint Matthew's.

May God bless and keep each one of you, today and always!

Grace and peace,



We had a fantastic first night of LYO with 32 students in attendance. Reminder, we meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month during the school year from 6:30-8:00. On October 24<sup>th</sup>, our group will help sort the canned goods from the Trick or Treating for canned goods evening.

Feed My Starving Children will once again be collecting dimes to raise money for our event in April.

Please start saving your dimes now and watch for the new container and game that will go with it in the



Narthex this fall.



Looking for a safe place for your kids to go on Halloween? The Confirmation students will be hosting Trick-or-Treat

in the Sunday School classrooms on Wednesday, October 31 from 6-8 pm. Open to all ages. Any candy donations are appreciated by Monday, October 29.

## October

Chris & Kambra Deitz Family  
Matt Fossum Family  
Steve & Shannon Hancock Family  
Dan & Sue Hovet  
Terry & Ursula Hovet  
Maggie Johnson/Newell Ueland  
Travis & Mistie Manzke Family  
Duane & Chris Naas  
Brenda Peterson Family  
Ryan & Liz Welsh Family  
Bill & Cheryl Widman

## November

Paul & Sonia Galegher  
Curt & Debbie Gilberg  
Rick & Claire Herland  
Rob & JoEllen McGauvran Family  
Mary Mitchell  
Mike & Nancy Morgan  
Jason & Alicia Schumacher  
Mike & Val Uhler  
Ruth Waller  
Shawn Widman Family  
Mike & Dawn Zak Family



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.

# Loving Neighbors



Join us for our annual Fall Frenzival on Sunday October 14! Activities will include Bean Bag Toss, Pumpkin Bowling, Photo Booth, Selling Pumpkins, Hotdish Competition, Face Painting, Hayrack Ride, GaGa Pit, Craft Table, Treat Bags, Apple Bobbing, and more! Invite your friends and neighbors to come and join us for worship at 10, activities will begin following worship at 11! All are welcome and encouraged to attend!



The Food Pantry is open during October on Tuesday, October 9 from 11:00 am-1:00 pm and Tuesday, October 23 from 6:00-8:00 pm.

If you or someone you know could use the assistance of the food pantry, please let them know, or come to the pantry during their open hours.

**VOLUNTEERS** are needed to help in the Food Pantry. Morning and evening shifts are available. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Kristie Adams 701-741-7669

**Thank you for all the ways you help to keep this important ministry running!**







Our annual Festival of Tables event is coming up on Sunday, November 4th at 3:30 pm!

We are currently looking for hostesses! This year our dessert table and our front entrance will be decorated around the theme ***"You're a Gem"***.

Hostesses are invited to choose a gem as the theme for their table **OR** they are welcome to use their own ideas and theme.

If you are interested in becoming a hostess or would like more information, please contact Sara Krogfoss at 218-791-4216.

***"She is worth far more than rubies" - Proverbs 31:10***

We will be harvesting the pumpkins on October 13 @ 10am in preparation for the Fall Frenzival. **Confirmation kids can earn a discipleship requirement for helping.**

Come join the fun!



## 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, 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. 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 October 30 at 6:30 pm at Olive Garden 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 be held on Monday October 15 at Claire Herland's House. For a copy of the book they are studying, contact the church office at 599-2081.

**ST. MATT'S BOOK CLUB** Will be reconvening soon! Stay tuned for more details!

# Faith Formation

## From the Education



**Sunday, September 30th will be Bible Sunday!** Pre-K Students and 3rd grade students will be presented Bibles during church services. All of the Sunday School kids will be singing during worship on that day and there will be a Bible event for all the 3rd graders and their parents after services that day. We hope you can join the celebration!

**Saturday, October 6 will be the Kindergarten Prayer Milestone!** Parents and Kindergarteners will gather to play and learn about the different places and ways they can pray. Kindergarteners will receive a special prayer pillow made by our quilters. Be sure to RSVP as soon as possible if you want to attend.

**Volunteers are needed for the Advent Family Festival on December 15th.** Talk to Alicia Schumacher for more info—701-740-6109

**October 14th at 3pm the 9th graders will be gathering for the Fall Confirmation Retreat.** They will work on faith statements, stoles, banners and everything else they need to do before Confirmation Sunday which is October 28th.

### PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Mondays: By Appointment Only  
Tuesdays: 10:00 am-1:00 pm  
Wednesdays: 7:30 am-10:00 am  
Thursdays: Pastor Amy's Day Off  
Fridays 10:00-Noon at Bully Brew Coffee on South Washington in Grand Forks  
\*\*Pastor Amy is also available at other times by appointment



Confirmation Kids will be going **Trick-or-Treating for canned goods** for the Thompson Food Pantry on **Wednesday, October 24** from **6:30-8:30 pm**.

Items most needed by the Food Pantry at this time include: pasta sides, rice sides, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, pancakes, syrup, mashed potatoes, stuffing, canned gravy and also toiletries.

Please, **NO EXPIRED FOOD**.

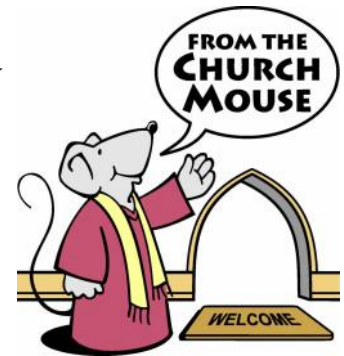
Thank you for your generosity in your giving, it is always appreciated!

# From the Church Mouse

Thank you to everyone who made this school year so much fun and such a success. As we prepare to head into fall, and back to school, here are a few folks we would like to thank this month! We apologize if we miss anyone!

The church mouse would like to thank:

- Sara and Mickey M, Jill S, Doris and Kevin C, and Bill and Cheryl W for all your help with the Houston Appreciation Lunch!
- Gary W for keeping us caffeinated on Sunday mornings!
- Duane and Chris N for helping the church to shine!
- WELCA and Men's Group for the purchase of the new lawnmower
- Roy and Bill for painting the Fellowship Hall
- Scott L for being our Constitution and Bylaws guru



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



Blessing of the Pets and Stuffed Animals  
will be Sunday, October 7 at noon! Bring  
your furry, finned, fanged, or feathered  
friends to be blessed as we celebrate to-

gether God's awesome creation!

Don't have a pet? Bring your stuffed animal friend and we will bless  
them too!



At the printing of this newsletter, we have borrowed \$8,000 on our line of credit to pay bills for the general fund (things like electricity, water, staff salaries, team budgets, etc). At the last annual meeting, the congregation voted to raise some of the budget lines which means we need more income to make ends meet. While we have at

times in our recent church history been at this point financially, we wanted to inform you and encourage you, if possible, to give to the general fund and help us catch up on where we need to be to stay in the black for 2018. If you have questions, feel free to contact the church office or Tracie Ivesdal, our church treasurer.



## Inspiring JOYFUL Generosity

## Beyond the Offering Plate

As we enter into a season of thankfulness and generosity, some questions to think and pray about:

- \* What is your earliest family memory of giving and volunteering?
- \* Who have been some of your heroes and role models that reflect a generous life? How can you live as they live?
- \* To what people and places do you feel a sense of gratitude? How can you live out that sense of gratitude to them?
- \* What are one or two life experiences that have shaped who you are today?
- \* What is precious to you?
- \* What values do you want to pass on to your family and friends?

Thank you for taking time to think and pray about how you and your family might inspire joyful generosity!

### Saint Matthew's Lutheran Church

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

#### ST. MATTHEW'S LEADERSHIP

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

## Happy Birthday in October!

- 1 Nicholas Berthold, Bailey Munson
- 2 Josie Schumacher
- 4 Reese Barker
- 5 Josh Barker, Gretchen Guetter, Haley Hegg
- 6 Mary Welsh
- 8 Kaylee Kurz, Zachary Sivertson
- 11 Haleigh Krogfoss
- 12 Taylor Krogfoss, Charles Welke
- 13 Curtis Gilberg, Kinsley Pearson, Logan Widman
- 15 Jill Schumacher
- 16 Layne Johnson
- 18 Rebecca Derosier, Terry Hovet, Darwin Potter
- 19 William Welke
- 21 Cheryl Arntz, Amy Benoit
- 22 Reece Berberich
- 24 Samuel Halvorson, David Krogfoss, Emma Schumacher
- 26 Amy Bergeron, Drew Overby, Shawn Widman
- 27 John Sorby
- 29 Jordan Senger
- 30 David Stevens





## **UNOFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES – August 28, 2018**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Pastor Amy, Darwin Potter, Beth Kurz, Deb DeMoe, Tracie Ivesdal, Sara Munson

**ABSENT:** James Thorson, Paul Strande, Sarah Krogfoss, Roy Olson, Alicia Schumacher

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by Darwin at 6:30 p.m.

### **LITURGY:**

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

### **AGENDA APPROVAL**

No modifications were made to the agenda.

**Motion:** Deb moved approve the agenda. Beth seconded. Motion carried.

### **MINUTES APPROVAL**

No modifications were made to the July 31 Council meeting minutes.

Motion: Tracie motioned to approve the July 31 meeting minutes. Deb seconded. Motion carried.

### **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Tracie summarized the financial reports for July. General Giving income was \$8,825.00. Net income was negative \$5,568.22. As of July 31, the General Giving checking account balance was at negative \$311.34. Special Giving net income for July was negative \$4,403.47. The Special Giving checking account balance as of July 31 was \$39,116.05. Total combined assets are at \$38,804.71.

We are staying on budget expense-wise, we are just down in giving. There was discussion about the Food Pantry account and how we really don't need additional donations at this point. There was also discussion about the Miscellaneous Account and how there is money in the fund that was put in there for various purposes, such as the ski trip, but it is difficult to keep track of what money is supposed to be designated for what purpose. We need to do a better job of setting up funds that are specific for the purpose, rather than putting money into the Miscellaneous Fund. Pastor Amy asked if we can transfer the money from the Uphold Account, since we were asked to no longer donate to that charity, and put the money into the Mission Fund. Darwin asked if one of the Council members could make a motion to do so.

**Motion:** Deb motioned to transfer the money from the Uphold Fund to the Mission Fund. Sara seconded. Motion carried.

**Motion:** Beth moved to approve the Financial Reports. Sara seconded. Motion carried.



## **CALENDAR REVIEW**

Pastor Amy is going to add the Church Check Up event to the calendar. It will run from November 5 through November 18. 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**

**WELCA:** They have a WELCA meeting coming up on September 16th.

**Men's Club:** No update.

## **TEAM REPORTS**

**Executive:** Darwin Potter – There was an executive team meeting just before this Church Council meeting, but everything we discussed is listed on the agenda for discussion during this Council meeting.

**Education:** Alicia Schumacher – Pastor Amy reported that we have all the teachers lined up and 8 substitutes.

**Fellowship:** Sara Munson – Everything coming up for the remainder of the year is on the calendar. Fellowship will be helping to provide food for the new member potluck just to make sure we have enough. Also, Fall Frenzival is coming up. We need to talk to Sarah Krogfoss about where the money raised at the Fall Frenzival should go. Pastor Amy suggested that it go to the General Fund.

**Outreach:** Sarah Krogfoss – Absent. Nothing reported.

**Properties:** Roy Olson – Absent. Darwin reported that Roy and the properties team painted the classrooms.

**Worship:** Deb DeMoe – Everything related to Worship is on the calendar. We have a lot of activities coming up this fall. She is looking forward to people stepping up and helping with Worship duties.

**Youth:** Paul Strande – Absent. Nothing reported.

**Food Pantry:** Sarah Krogfoss – Absent. Nothing reported.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Church Check-Up (Fall Meetings)**

Darwin handed out a sheet that he and Pastor Amy drafted that provides details on the plan for the upcoming church check-up meetings. They really want to have someone at each meeting to record what is said. We want people to feel comfortable and to provide feedback, so we are trying to target multiple venues and groups. Tracie mentioned that if someone has an issue, we should ask them if they have thought about a solution. The date range we are targeting is November 5 through November 18. Darwin asked if we had any thoughts about it or things that we think should be changed. Sara asked how it will work – for example, if we have someone from each group (i.e. – Men in Mission or WELCA) run the meetings, or if someone from outside of the group will come in and moderate the meetings. If there are people from the various teams that are willing to moderate the meeting, then that would be great, otherwise we can find volunteers to assist. We might want to split up into smaller groups for the session after church on Sunday. There will also be an online survey that needs to be completed by November 18. Darwin wants to know how involved the Council wants to be in setting dates. Several Council members expressed interest in being involved in scheduling the meeting dates so that they can make sure they are available to help run the meetings. Sara asked what precipitated these meetings. Darwin explained that he felt like there was a disconnect between the Congregation and the Council. It is often difficult to get feedback to see what people like or don't like about St. Matthews, so we are hoping to get that feedback through these meetings.

## **2. President and Vice President Terms**

Scott Landa has agreed to go through the church constitution with us to look at what would need to be amended if we want to change the President and Vice President terms. Ultimately, the Council needs to decide the terms of each appointment. The idea is that the Vice President would be a separate two-year term and not necessarily assume the role of President. The President and Vice President terms would stagger so that we don't ever have a new Vice President and President starting at the same time. Sara mentioned that it could be intimidating for a brand new president to come in without having prior training. A solution would be for the acting President to spend some time with the new President to help train them in. The idea of a 2-year President is appealing in that we might be able to get more done. Darwin mentioned some other options that Scott Landa brought up in the event that the Present position isn't really working out, such as having to nominate the President into the second year of their term. Darwin is going to have Scott look into it further. All present were in favor of proceeding.

## **3. Visual Monitors**

James put Darwin in contact with a person from ACME, Mark Decker, who is very experienced in dealing with AV systems. Mark has agreed to advise us on how to install the system and he provided us with a recommended list of equipment. Currently, Darwin, James and Josh Faul are working on the system improvements. Mark cautioned Darwin on what TV types and sizes to avoid. The TVs will not be cheap, but if we want people to be able to see them, we need to make the investment. We will also need a computer to help run the system. It will be a desktop-type system that will be located near the piano. This is Phase 2 of the project and we don't currently have all the funds to pay for the whole project, which will probably cost between \$7,000 and \$7,500 when all is said and done. That means we will need another ~ \$1,500. Darwin asked if we want to approve the bid, keeping in mind that we probably won't have to pay this out for another couple of months yet. Motion: Sara moved to approve the bid that Mark Decker provided for the AV equipment. Deb seconded. Motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Vione and Bookkeeper Position**

Jamie will no longer be handling the bookkeeper duties. Vione has agreed to give the position a try, with the understanding that if she doesn't feel comfortable with the duties, we will find a replacement.

### **2. Upcoming Council Meeting Dates**

September 23rd at 11:30 a.m.

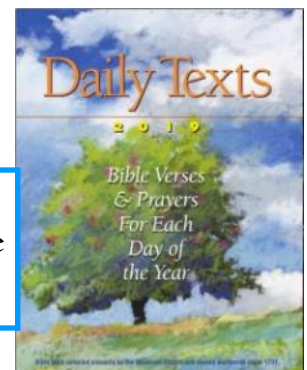
October 28th at 11:30 a.m.

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

Meeting closed at 7:38 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Beth Kurz

Do you want a daily text to have as your devotional this year? Sign up on the church bulletin board so that we can get them ordered and have them here by January 1!



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## Welcome to worship

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Education Hour Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Address service requested



**FALL Frenzival**  
**Sunday, October 14**  
**Following worship service**



- Oct 6 Kindergarten Prayer Event
- Oct 7 Blessing of the Pets
- Oct 14 Fall Frenzival
- Oct 24 Trick or Treat for Canned Goods
- Oct 30 Confirmation Sunday