

September 2017

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

Prayer for Autumn Days Sr. Joyce Rupp, OSM

God of the seasons, there is a time for everything;
there is a time for dying and a time for rising.
We need courage to enter into the transformation process.

God of autumn, the trees are saying goodbye to their green,
letting go of what has been.
We, too, have our moments of surrender, with all their insecurity and risk.
Help us to let go when we need to do so.

God of fallen leaves lying in colored patterns on the ground,
our lives have their own patterns.
As we see the patterns of our own growth, may we learn from them.

God of misty days and harvest moon nights,
there is always the dimension of mystery and wonder in our lives.
We always need to recognize your power-filled presence.
May we gain strength from this.

God of harvest wagons and fields of ripened grain,
many gifts of growth lie within the season of our surrender.
We must wait for harvest in faith and hope.
Grant us patience when we do not see the blessings.

God of geese going south for another season,
your wisdom enables us to know what needs to be left behind
and what needs to be carried into the future.
We yearn for insight and vision.

God of flowers touched with frost and windows wearing white designs,
may your love keep our hearts
from growing cold in the empty seasons.

God of life, you believe in us, you enrich us,
you entrust us with the freedom to choose life.
For all this, we are grateful.
Amen

Day Camp/VBS

Vacation Bible School with Park River Bible Camp was a lot of fun. 60 kiddos got to learn more about Jesus and his love for them! Thank you to everyone who sent kids, donated supplies or scholarships, and who helped feed the day camp staff. We couldn't have done it without you!



Loving Neighbors



The Outreach Team enjoyed serving the teachers and staff of Thompson Public School at their annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon. We pray all students and staff will have a great year!



We welcomed the following child to our Saint Matthew's Family through baptism in August:

Hadley Jo Jallo, daughter of Samantha and Daniel Jallo. Hadley's godparents are Richard and Jenny Barnes, Megan Bohlman, and Kassy Stollman



The Food Pantry is open during September on Tuesday, September 12 from 11:00 am-1:00 pm and Tuesday, September 26 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.

Our current Food Pantry needs are:

Cereal,
Pasta Sides,
Pasta Sauce,
Cans of Soup
Ketchup,
Canned Fruit,
Canned Veggies,
Tomato Products

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



Youth Group Students – I hope everyone is ready for another fun year of LYO. Our first night of LYO will be on Wednesday, Sept 13th at 6:30 pm. We will have pizza that night, figure out what kind of foods you would like to have when we meet and play a game of some sort. Our plan will be to meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. We hope to have many students join us each week.

WELCA (the women's group of our church) will be gathering for a meeting after worship on Sunday , October 1. Grab a plate of food and then go join the meeting to hear about all they have going on and to get ready for the Festival of Tables!

Any women of the church are also invited to join us on Sunday, Sept 24 at 7 pm for a Freezer Meals Workshop. Come and enjoy some fellowship time with the gals, and leave with some meals you can make your family! For more information on this event, talk to Stacy Plautz today!

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 September 26 at 6:30 pm at Eagle's Crest Grill 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 has taken the summer off, but will resume on Monday September 18 at Dianne Lundgren's. 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 Team

Sunday School and other new education events are approaching quickly! Here is a reminder of important dates of the exciting events that will take place:

We have all our Sunday School and Confirmation Teachers! We are still looking for people who would be willing to be on the substitute teacher list. Thank you to all who have volunteered their time to teach our youth! Teachers, please join us for the "Sundaes on Wednesday" teacher orientation on September 6th at 6 pm at St. Matthew's.

First Day of Sunday School (Grades Pre-K-5) will start on September 10th at 9am!



PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Mondays 1:00 pm-3:00 pm

Tuesdays Office hours by Appointment

Wednesdays 7:30 am-9:30 am, 6-8 pm

Thursdays Pastors Day Off

Fridays 10:00-Noon at Bully Brew Coffee on South Washington in Grand Forks



On Saturday, October 14th there will be a **Prayer and Parent Event with the Kindergarten Students and their parents.** Students and Parents will experience different ways to pray and go home with a prayer pillow too! Stay tuned for more information on this event!!

Sunday, October 1st will be Bible Sunday! Pre-K Students will be receiving story bibles along with the 3rd Graders who will receive an NRSV. This is to recognize the Pre-K students for their first year of starting Sunday school! The Sunday School Kids will be also be singing on this special day! We hope you can join the celebration!



Save the date! The Fall Frenzival (combination festival and frenzy) is back and it is bigger and better than ever! On Sunday October 8 we will gather for good food, games, pumpkins and lots of other fun too! Worship at 10, Frenzival at 11! Grab your friends and neighbors and come join us!

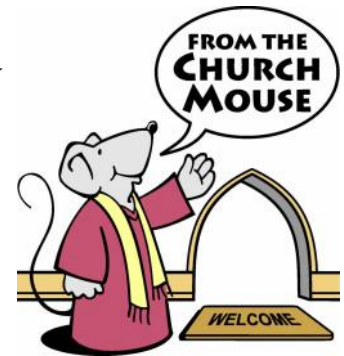


From the Church Mouse

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:

- All of you who helped buy supplies for Sunday School and VBS
- Megan B. for leading the preschooler program at VBS
- Bridget P.. for all her help during VBS week
- Reese B., Leo D., Grace C., for helping with VBS
- Mary W., Mary M., Sandy O., Sharon G., Claire H., and Julie B. for helping to serve the Thompson Public School Staff Luncheon
- Roy O., Sandy O., and Roger G., for painting Pastor Amy's office!



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



This fall and winter we have several wonderful opportunities with guest speakers at DIGG (Delighting in God's Grace), our Adult Education class. They will be supplementing the other work we are doing on the Wellness Wheel, working to make us a healthier congregation. Once a month at 9 am we will join the men in mission and welcome a speaker to come and join us and share about a particular subject. Here's the DIGG schedule for the next few months:

September 24-Red River Hospice

Hospice: Ending Life Well

Oct 22-Community Violence Intervention Center

Treating Each Other Well

Nov 19-Jennifer Haugen, Registered Dietitian, Altru

Treating Our Bodies Well

Dec 10-Thrivent Financial

Leaving a Legacy Well





Join us Rally Sunday for a special celebration! The Eisenmann Puppeteers will be joining us in worship! Come and hear stories from the puppets, sing a few songs with guitar, and see all your friends again!

Sunday School will begin at 9 am on Rally Sunday, September 10, and worship will be at 10 am. Hope to see you there!

Saint Matthew's Lutheran Church

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

ST. MATTHEW'S LEADERSHIP

Amy Eisenmann	Pastor stmattspastoramy@gmail.com
Jamie Bischoff	Bookkeeper bischoffjamie@gmail.com
John Schumacher	Council President jschumacher@invisimax.com
Darwin Potter	Council Vice President darpotter14@gmail.com
Beth Kurz	Council Secretary bkurz@undeerc.org
Dianne Lundgren	Council Treasurer dlundgren44@hotmail.com
Sharon Gustafson	Outreach Team Lead rogersharongustafson@gmail.com
Sara Munson	Fellowship Team Lead saramunson@rocketmail.com
Roy Olson	Properties Team Lead royandsandyolson@live.com
Alicia Schumacher	Education Team Lead Alicia.schumacher@gfcounty.org
Paul Strande	Youth Team Lead pstrande59@gmail.com
Val Uhler	Worship Team Lead valuhler@yahoo.com

Happy Birthday in September!

- 1 Linda Quern, Mike Sundberg
- 2 Debra Gilberg
- 5 Owen Clemetson, Tom Hodek
- 6 Randy Bohlman, Samantha Jallo
- 7 Sara Anderson
- 10 Jera Sorby, Mike Steinbrink
- 11 Megan Bohlman
- 12 Jocelyn Sondreal
- 13 Ryan Avdem
- 14 Coleen Brorby
- 15 Jeremy Hughes, Duane Naas
- 16 Beth Hughes
- 17 Mark Adams, Josh Sem, Riley Stoe
- 18 Chelsea Lupien
- 19 Jen Starcevic
- 20 Jessica Haugen, Mickey Munson
- 21 Kevin Shimek
- 22 Charlotte Krogfoss
- 23 Brett Sutter-Hegg, Brandtley Vaagene
- 24 Tyler DeMoe
- 25 John Bohlman, Braden Faul, Paul Galegher, Julie Shirek
- 26 Cole Potter
- 29 Lukas Starcevic, Dawn Stoe, Kevin Strand
- 30 Brycen Faul, Jessica Wyatt



Council Meeting June 21, 2017

IN ATTENDANCE: John Schumacher, Roy Olson, Val Uhlir, Pastor Amy, Dianne Lundgren, Sharon Gustafson, Paul Strande, Beth Kurz

ABSENT: Darwin Potter, Alicia Schumacher, Sara Munson

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by John at approximately 7:10 pm.

OPENING DEVOTIONAL

Pastor Amy opened the meeting with a devotional based on Mathew 10.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Two items were added under New Business:

- Approve accounting corrections.
- Committee to assess a new parking lot.

An item was added under Old Business:

- New sign update.

Motion: Paul motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Roy seconded. Motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Motion: Paul motioned to approve the May 17 meeting minutes. Beth seconded. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Special giving income for May was \$357.75. The special giving checking account balance as of May 31, 2017 is at \$49,905.01. The general giving income was \$7,129.87. The net general income was negative \$4,001.35. The general giving account balance as of May 31, 2017 is at \$13,644.64.

Nothing has been given for Guatemala in June. Dianne suggested that we wait a bit before we close the account.

We need approval to make three transfer corrections for \$513.94, \$191.79 and \$322.15. Jamie accidentally double-counted – she thought the money went into the general account, but Pastor Amy had already deposited it directly into the special giving fund. In addition, \$218 was deposited into miscellaneous funds from the Lenten supper but \$84 needed to go to the fellowship team. John suggested that the audit team come in and check the books. They are actually supposed to review the books more than once a year. They'll come in and review the first 6 months of the books.

Pastor Amy mentioned that \$166.04 should have been charged to the pulpit supply fund. These funds need to be transferred from the worship fund to the pulpit supply fund.

Motion: Sharon moved to approve the Financial Reports. Roy seconded. Motion carried.

CALENDAR REVIEW

Pastor Amy is not on vacation July 22.

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: Pastor Amy hosted the Maids and Margaritas event at her house for WELCA. The ladies cleaned the kitchen at St. Matthew's and then had margaritas at Pastor Amy's house.

Men's Club: They donated \$500 to Active Engagement in Life – Valley Transitions.

TEAM REPORTS

Executive: John Schumacher – Did not meet.

Education: Alicia Schumacher – Absent. Nothing to report.

Fellowship: Sara Munson – Absent. Nothing to report.

Outreach: Sharon Gustafson – The food pantry distributed 307.5 pounds of to 5 households in May.

Properties: Roy Olson – The mower is fixed and now runs great. The new door handles are in. Something hit the wall near the front of the building and damaged the siding. It will have to be replaced. John mentioned that we did have some extra siding, but Roy thought it had already been used. Roy will take a piece in and get some more.

Mission Support: Position currently vacant. Nothing new to report.

Worship: Val Uhlir – Worship in the park is July 9. They need a partial reader.

Youth: Paul Strande – They are trying to find a day to go to the red Hawks in the summer.

OLD BUSINESS

Sign Update: Bill said they should have a final price for the sign next week. Some of the work can be done by our guys.

Church Mutual: John talked to them last week about what is included in the "terrorism insurance" part of our policy. They said it covers an attack on our facility. The agent said that we could waive it, but it has to be waived every year. There are questions about what constitutes "terrorism". It's not a big fee – only \$26 per year, but the principal of it seems unnecessary. This insurance might make sense at other locations in the country, but maybe not in Thompson.

Motion: Paul motioned to have the audit team review what is covered by the terrorism insurance. Dianne seconded. Motion carried.

Youth Lawn Mowing: John spoke with the insurance person about age limits for kids to mow the lawn. She said there was no limit if they are a volunteer, but they have to have experience, training or access 911. Paul suggested that they have to have a valid driver's license to mow the lawn. If they don't have a driver's license, they need to have an adult present at all times.

Motion: Paul motioned that youth that mow the lawn need to have a valid driver's license, or an adult present at all times. Roy seconded. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Accounting corrections: Discussed in the Financial Reports section above.

Motion: Paul motioned. Val seconded to approve the transfer of funds discussed above. Motion carried.

Committee to Assess New Parking Lot: John would like to form a committee to discuss parking lot options. We are running out of room in the parking lot and would like to expand the parking lot to the west. They'd like to bring in some fill for the extra lot, but they need to talk to the city about the drainage ditch on the north side of the road. They would like to fill the ditch, bring the side lot up to level with the existing lot and then cover it with gravel. There is some fill available from the city, but we're not sure how long it will be available. We need to discuss it further with the city. John will bring a list of potential committee members to the next meeting.

Motion: Dianne motioned to approve a parking lot committee to look into creating an additional lot. Val seconded. Motion carried.

Legal and Financial Responsibility for the Food Pantry: Kristie received an email a week ago from a representative of the Great Plains Food Pantry asking for a letter stating that we are a 501(c)(3) operation and that we handle the food pantry needs for the greater Thompson community. It is not St. Matthew's food pantry, but we operate it for the community. The money given for the food pantry is only used for the food pantry, and not for any other expenses at St. Matthews. There are some concerns about liability by including the food pantry under the 501(c)(3) status of St. Matthews. Pastor Amy would like to have a food pantry board established that would report to the outreach committee. Since we are serving Buxton and Reynolds, we should have members from those communities on the board. A board would also help to insure that the full financial responsibility of the food pantry doesn't fall on the shoulders of one person. John would like us to assume full financial and legal responsibility for the food pantry and make sure that we establish a board to oversee it. Pastor Amy will talk to Kristie about establishing the food pantry board.

Motion: Pastor Amy moved that we send a letter out stating that we assume legal and financial responsibility of the food pantry as long as we agree that a board will be created to oversee the food pantry. Paul seconded. Motion carried.

The July 19 meeting was cancelled. If anything comes up, the Executive Team will meet. The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 23 at 7:00 pm.

Motion: Val moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Sharron seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bethany Kurz

Congregational Celebration-Save the Date!!

On Sunday November 19, we are having a congregation-wide celebration for all members and friends of Saint Matthew's. Keith Zeh from the synod office will be here with us to celebrate with us how God has been at work in and among us and to dream with us about where God might be calling us next.

Save the date for a special worship service at 10, awesome potluck at 11 and good conversation! We hope to have as many folks present as we can fit in the space! :)



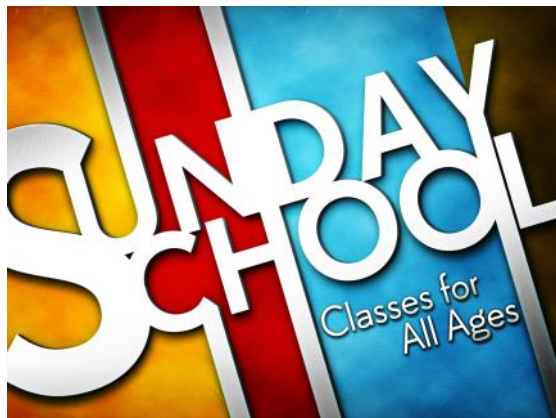
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Welcome to worship

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Education Hour Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Address service requested



Join us for Rally Sunday on Sept 10!

Sunday School classes start at 9 am!



Sept 6 Parent and Confirmants Meeting

Sept 10 Rally Sunday-Sunday School begins

Sept 17 New Member Sunday & Potluck

Sept 24 Blessing of the Pets & DIGG

Oct 1 Bible Sunday & Potluck