

September 2018

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

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Welcome back to fall and schedules and programming! We have heard from many of you that the summer went way too fast, so we hope on weekends you are able to catch some of the great weather, and find some much-needed rest and renewal before all the busyness fall brings gets into full swing!

I wanted to let you know of some fun upcoming events that you might want to join us for...

Sept 9-Rally Sunday. The Eisenmann Puppeteers will be here leading our worship service with 5 different stories for children and adults alike. Come join us at 9 am for Sunday School, and 10 am for worship!

Sept 23-Blessing of the Quilts. Come and see all the work the quilters have been up to this past year for local organizations. Be a part of blessing the quilts before they go to those who need them.

Sept 30-Bible Sunday and New Member Sunday-Join us as we celebrate with our preschoolers and our 3rd graders as they receive their Bibles in worship, and join us for an all member potluck afterwards! We are also welcoming new members on this Sunday, so if you know anyone who might be interested in joining Saint Matthew's, or you yourself are considering joining, talk to the church office today!

Oct 7-Blessing of the Pets. Join us at noon this day with your favorite finned, fanged, furry or feathered friends. We will bless each pet individually, take pictures with your pets, and give treats to our furry friends!

Oct 14-Fall Frenzival Join us for worship, and then stay after wards for our 2nd Annual Hotdish Competition, Pumpkins, Bean Bag Toss, Pumpkin Bowling, Hay Rides, Face Painting and much more!

This fall there are also Bible Studies you can join: the men gather Sunday mornings at 9 am, the women gather for WELCA Bible Study on the 3rd Monday of the month in the evening, and for Wine, Women, and the Word (whose date moves around). More info will also be coming about DIGG (our adult ed class), so stay tuned for more details on that!

We will also have additional events in November that you will learn about in the next newsletter including what we are calling "**Church Check-Up**" Meetings. **We are encouraging EVERY member of Saint Matthew's to get to one of these meetings that will run from November 5-18.** If you are unable to make any of the times work, or if you would prefer, please make time to talk with me one-on-one. We want to hear what your thoughts are on how things are going at Saint Matthew's...what you like, what you don't, what you wish we are doing, what we need to change, etc. **This is your church family, and we want to hear what your hopes and dreams and ideas are.** We are stronger together!

As always, thank you for all the ways that you support Saint Matthew's. May your fall be filled with blessings and joy!

See you in church,

Pastor Amy ><>

Day Camp/VBS

Vacation Bible School with Park River Bible Camp was a lot of fun. 42 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!



Vacation Bible School



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!



Blessing of the Quilts will be held Sunday , September 23. Come join us for worship service that day and see the beautiful quilts the ladies have been working on.



The Food Pantry is open during September on Tuesday, September 11 from 11:00 am-1:00 pm and Tuesday, September 25 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. Training will be held in late September. 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!





I hope everyone is ready for another fun year of LYO. Our first night of LYO will be on Wednesday, Sept. 12th at 6:30pm. 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.



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.



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 20 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 "Listening for the Voice of God: Growing in Faith Everyday."

WELCA Bible Study has taken the summer off, but will resume on Monday September 17 at Mary Welsh'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

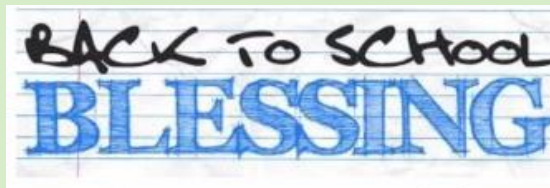
From the Education Team

First Day of Sunday School
(Grades Pre-K-5) will start on
September 9th at 9am! You can register your
children online or fill out a registration form on
the first day of Sunday School. The Education
Calendar with all the children's upcoming
Sunday School Events for the year is also
found on the website.



**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!



Thank you to all who have
volunteered their time to teach our
youth! There will be a special
**Blessing of Sunday School and
Confirmation Teachers on
Sunday, September 9** during

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Mondays: By Appointment Only
Tuesdays: 10:00 am-1:00 pm
Wednesdays: 7:30 am-10:30 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



**6th-8th Grade-
Parent & Student
Meeting**

September 5

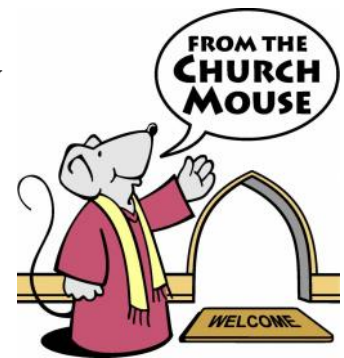
7:00 pm

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:

- One and Done Crew for helping Vione stay on the straight and narrow
- Thompson Public School for the new oven
- Deb DeMoe for taking pictures at Blessing of the Backpacks
- Mary W., Julie B., Mary M., Sandy O., and Sharon G. for helping to serve the Thompson Public School Staff Luncheon
- Roy O., Bill W., Roger G., and Liz W. for painting classrooms
- Reese D. and Kate J. for helping organize classroom cabinets



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



Have you ever wished that you could just set up electronic giving to the church and not have to worry about having an envelope or a check? Have you wondered how to set it up? Or wondered why we do it this way now?

Most banks offer free automatic bill pay, so those fees don't add up for the church. It also helps the church when folks do automatic bill pay, as it evens out things during months or weeks of lower attendance.

If you are interested in setting up automatic bill pay for your offering, all you need to do is contact your banking institution. You can choose the amount you give, how often you give, and what day of the week/month you give. The bank then sends a check to the church. Your offering will be recorded with the next week's offering.

If you have any questions about this, feel free to contact the church office. Thank you for all the ways you give to Saint Matthew's!

Welcome to Our Church! If you or someone you know is looking for a church home, we would love to have you join us! New Member Sunday is September 30. For more information, talk to the church office today!





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 9, 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
Vione Jordheim	Administrative 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 Alicia.schumacher@gfcounty.org
Paul Strande	Youth Team Lead pstrande59@gmail.com
Deb DeMoe	Worship Team Lead deb.demoe@tps-k12.org

Happy Birthday in September!

- 1 Linda Quern, Mike Sundberg
- 2 Debra Gilberg
- 5 Owen Clemetson, Tom Hodek, Todd Fee
- 6 Randy Bohlman, Samantha Jallo
- 7 Sara Anderson
- 10 Jera Sorby
- 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, Brantley Vaagene
- 24 Tyler DeMoe
- 25 John Bohlman, Braden Faul, Jevin Fee, Paul Galegher, Julie Shirek
- 26 Cole Potter
- 29 Lukas Starcevic, Dawn Stoe, Kevin Strand
- 30 Brycen Faul, Jessica Wyatt



UNOFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES – July 31, 2018

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

ABSENT: Paul Strande, Sara Munson

CALL TO ORDER

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

LITURGY:

Pastor Amy led the Church Council in prayer prior to our meeting. She reminded us that we need both highs and lows in life to truly appreciate God.

AGENDA APPROVAL

No modifications were made to the agenda.

Motion: Roy moved approve the agenda. Sarah seconded. Motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVAL

No modifications were made to the June 19 meeting minutes.

Motion: Alicia motioned to approve the June 19 meeting minutes. Deb seconded. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Darwin summarized the financial reports for June. General Giving income was \$6,775.30. Net income was negative \$3,633.75. As of June 30, the General Giving checking account balance was at \$1,084.12. Special Giving net income for June was negative \$632.75. The Special Giving checking account balance as of June 30 was \$43,519.52. Total combined assets are at \$44,603.64. We had to dip into our line of credit this past month in order to pay all of our expenses.

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

CALENDAR REVIEW

Note that the all team meeting is Wednesday, August 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Pastor Amy will add Sunday school to the calendar for September 9.

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: The festival of tables will be November 4 at 3:30 pm.

Men's Club: Nothing new to report.

TEAM REPORTS

Executive: Darwin Potter – Nothing new to report.

Education: Alicia Schumacher – Vacation Bible School starts on Sunday. We are still down from last year on the number of registrants. Alicia is still looking for 2 more teachers for Sunday school. They are going to change things up this year and have an “Advent Event” rather than a Christmas program with the kids.

Fellowship: Sara Munson (absent) – The tie dye event is Wednesday, August 1.

Outreach: Sarah Krogfoss – They will be serving root beer floats at the tie dye event this Wednesday. They had the Pop On Over event on July 24. They didn’t have a lot of people help out, so it was a lot of work for those who did help. They will be serving lunch and giving small gifts for the teachers coming up. The Fall Frenzival event is coming up in October.

Properties: Roy Olson – Not much to report. They continue to mow the lawn.

Worship: Deb DeMoe – Attendance has been down, which is typical for the summer. They are back to organizing the list of upcoming worship assistants. There is a potluck coming up this Sunday, August 5th, for the VBS event.

Youth: Paul Strande – Absent. Nothing to report.

Food Pantry: Sarah Krogfoss – Sarah provided an update on how much food and how many families were served by the food pantry this past spring:

March: 532 pounds of food, 12 families

April: 365 pounds of food, 5 families

May: 327 pounds of food, 7 families

June: 445 pounds of food, 7 families

The food pantry was surveyed by Great Plains Food Bank and the USDA. Both of the inspections were fine.

OLD BUSINESS

Church Health Meeting

We have a list of questions for the Church Health meeting. Darwin asked that we go through them and review the questions before our next Council meeting.

Door Key Codes

Scheduled to be changed August 1. Darwin opened a discussion about who should have access to the code. We had previously discussed only church employees, team leads and external organizational leaders having the code. The Food Pantry helpers also need to be included. There was a general discussion about how those with access to the church key need to get better with putting the key back right away (i.e. – as soon as the door is open). There was also discussion about how the outside group leaders also need to fill out the Building Use form.

President and Vice President Terms

Darwin asked if anyone had given more thought about changing the president and vice president terms. Deb asked if anyone had looked at the bylaws to see what this entails. We can do it, but it needs to be approved by the Congregation. It will definitely require a bit of work to enact these changes; however, it might help encourage more folks to sign up for the vice president position if they didn’t have to become president. Plus, it would help with the continuity between the president and the Pastor by having additional time to become familiar with how things work. The only downside to this change may be that people could be discouraged from applying because of the 2 year commitment. Also, if the president wasn’t very effective, it wouldn’t be good to have them in there for 2 years. The question was raised about whether or not there is a protocol for “impeaching” a president if they were really ineffective. Darwin suggested that the VP and president terms should alternate so that they don’t both leave at the same time. We would have to decide if we want move forward with this change first as a Council before bringing the proposed change to the Congregation. If we want to proceed, it would be voted on at a special meeting and then ratified at the Annual Meeting. It could also be brought up to the Congregation during the fall Church Health meeting. Roy thought that it could be detrimental if the VP doesn’t have a year to observe the President. Darwin suggested that the outgoing president could help the incoming president, and perhaps the incoming president could observe the president for a period of time. James mentioned that the VP could also help out the incoming president as well. The bylaws would also have to be modified as necessary if this were approved. Most of the council was in agreement and it was decided to proceed.

NEW BUSINESS

Visual Monitors

We received the final invoice for Phase 1, which is complete. We are now in the initial stages of Phase 2. Pastor Amy provided some information about media sources. The preferred option right now is hard wiring since Bluetooth can have connectivity issues. James mentioned that now we need to weigh costs for a large monitor versus a size that is large enough for everyone to see it. James is going to talk to Sharon and Bill about options as well. We still have about \$5000 in the fund to support this effort. The wiring costs shouldn't be too much. The majority of the costs will be the screens and the equipment to project to the screens. The current plan is to have 2 monitors. James will find out more information. Darwin asked if we can assign a deadline to this. Once we decide what we want to do, it shouldn't take long. Pastor Amy suggested early September. Darwin thought early October was more realistic.

Council Meeting Dates

August: 28th at 6:30 p.m.

September: Sunday the 23rd at 11:30 a.m.

October: October 28th at 11:30 a.m.

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth Kurz

Next Meeting: August 28th at 6:30 p.m.



September

Jeremy & Rachel Anderson Family

Marcus & Amy Benoit Family

Neil & Kami Danner Family

Steve & Teresa Evanson

Josh & Dara Faul Family

Jess Haugen Family

Diane Lundgren

Scott & Char Peterson Family

John & Jera Sorby Family

Paul & Heidi Strande Family

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

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.

Thank you to those who assisted with worship duties throughout the summer months.

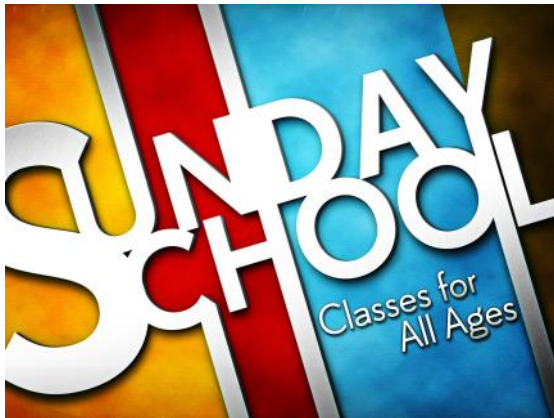
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Welcome to worship

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Education Hour Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Address service requested



Join us for Rally Sunday on Sept 9!

Sunday School classes start at 9 am!



Sept 5 Parent and Confirmants Meeting

Sept 9 Rally Sunday-Sunday School begins
and worship with Eisenmann Puppeteers

Sept 23 Blessing of the Quilts

Sept 30 New Member & Bible Sunday

Oct 7 Blessing of the Pets