

September 2019

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,

As we enter into another program year, I hope that this summer has been one of rest and renewal for you! As things are kicking off, I invite you to take time to read through this newsletter, find places/events that might interest you, and plug into some new opportunities.

If you are wondering about how to plug in at Saint Matthew's, or maybe how to re-plug in after being gone a while, or maybe looking for a different way to plug in to re-ignite your faith life, I invite you to consider this quote: *"The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."*

What are the ministries of our church that give you joy? Maybe it is volunteering with the children or the youth. Maybe it is spending time in a new book study or learning more about what it means to be Lutheran. Maybe it is joining the men for coffee and conversation on Sunday mornings, or the women for dinner, wine, and Bible Study at an evening of Wine, Women, and the Word. Maybe you have always wanted to try to quilt, but have been scared to, or you have always wanted to help with properties upkeep, but just weren't sure where to start.

As a member or even as a friend of Saint Matthew's (for those of you who aren't yet members), you are always welcome to come to any meeting or gathering of people on the calendar to learn more about them. You are encouraged to talk to Team Leads about the ministry their team is doing (the list of leads is found later in this newsletter), you are welcome to call the church office and ask for more details on events. Vione would love a chance to chat with you on the phone or in person.

Maybe you don't even know what ministries are happening at Saint Matthew's, and are just kind of feeling overwhelmed about whether or not to plug in somewhere. Or maybe you have a ministry idea that you would like to see Saint Matthew's be a part of that we aren't yet. Whether you have no idea of where to start, or you are itching to get something going, I would love to have a conversation with you about how we can find a place where your passions for life fit into the ministry here. We are so thankful that YOU are a part of our church family, and we look forward to helping you find ways that your church experience can be deeper and more meaningful for you. Just call the church office to set up a time to chat, or come during my office hours that are posted here and online.

However you plan to be involved this fall, dear ones, know that I am so thankful that you are here, that you are a part of Saint Matthew's church family, and I thank God that I get to be your pastor. See you soon! Can't wait to hear how your summer has been!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Amy



I hope everyone is ready for another fun year of LYO. Our first night of LYO will be on Wednesday, Sept. 4th 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 second night in September will be Sept. 18th. We will also have LYO Service Sunday on September 15th.

Looking for a chance to chat with Pastor Amy?

Her **September** Office hours will be:

Monday: (@ church) by appointment

Tuesday: (@ church): 10:00 am -12:00 pm

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

Thursday: Pastor's Day Off

Friday: (@Archives, UND Campus): 10:00 am-12:00 pm

If you would prefer another time, let Pastor Amy know, and that will be made available!



Calling all team members! **Our next All Team Meeting will be Wednesday, October 9th!**

We will be talking about who will be returning to our teams and who we hope to add to our teams, as well as budget planning for 2020. New members are always welcome to All Team Meetings

Coffee or Tea with the Pastor!

Come and join Pastor Amy on Fridays at UND's Archives Coffee Shop for a cup of coffee or tea and conversation. She will be holding office hours at Archives which is located in the same building as Christus Rex (Lutheran Campus Ministry) from **10-Noon on Fridays**. Hope to see you there!



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!



**The Food Pantry is open during
September on Tuesday,
September 10 from 11:00 am-
1:00 pm and Tuesday,
September 24 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.



**Sunday, October 6th
11:00am—2:00pm**

Join us for our annual Fall Frenzival!
Activities include: bean bag toss, pumpkin bowling, photo booth, face painting, gaga pit, kids crafts, apple bobbing and more!!

We will have our 3rd annual hot dish competition starting at 11am! The hot dishes are submitted by our church teams. Come bring your appetite, and vote for the winner of the "Traveling Tater Tot Trophy"!

Pumpkins, gourds and ornamental corn for free will offering

Bible Sunday is coming! Preschoolers and 3rd Graders will receive their Bibles during worship on Sunday, Sept 29. Third Graders and parents are encouraged to stay after worship to enjoy a potluck and then join us for our class on how to use your Bible. More info will be coming about this to your mailbox soon!



There are so many different ways and places to pray, and sometimes it can feel overwhelming to teach these to our children. **We invite Kindergartners and their parents to join us for a special prayer event just for you on Saturday Oct 12 at 10:00 am.** Come with learn new ways to pray, spend some quality time with Mom and Dad, and receive a special gift from the church just for YOU!

Confirmation Classes will be held from 7:00-8:00 on Wednesday nights beginning on September 18. Teachers for this year are: Jill Kuster & Steph Albin—6th Grade, Sara Munson & Dara Faul—7th Grade, and Pastor Amy—8th Grade.



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. 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. WELCA Bible Study will resume on Monday, September 16 at Mary Welsh's.

WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY Will begin on Sunday, September 8th and continue each Sunday thru October 20th @7pm. It will feature *It's Not Supposed to Be This Way: Finding Unexpected Strength When Disappointments Leave You Shattered* by Lysa Terkeurst..

Faith Formation

From the Education Team

THANK YOU! To everyone who helped make Hero Central VBS a success!! We had 64 kids participate, with fun had by all!



If you haven't already, remember to register for Sunday School! This year we will try a new curriculum this year, with a few changes!

The education team is planning a FUN filled Rally Sunday! See you all there!!

Want to know how you can help? We are still looking for Sunday School & Confirmation Substitute teachers! Contact Bre Berberich to be added to the list!

Dates to remember!

- ⇒ Sunday School & Confirmation Teacher Orientation – August 28
- ⇒ Rally Sunday – September 8
- ⇒ Confirmation Orientation – September 11
- ⇒ Bible Sunday – September 29
 - PreK & 3rd Graders receive their bibles
 - Kids sing in church



Calling all parents and kids Grades 6-8!

Our Confirmation kick-off meeting for this year will be September 11th at 6:30 pm. Come and hear about some new and exciting plans for the year, as well as meet your teachers, have some good food, and help to organize class and acolyte schedules. **All students and parents of 6th-8th graders are requested to attend.**

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:

- Sue S. and Paul & Sonia G. for assisting at the Hovet funeral.
- Bre B for all her work organizing, setting up and time during Vacation Bible School
- ALL those that volunteered and assisted during VBS
- Duane & Chris for all your extra work cleaning during VBS Week
- Gary W for all your work on the parking lot addition

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



Calling All Adults! Let's DIGG!

This fall we will once again have an opportunity to gather as brothers and sisters in Christ to DIGG-Delight in God's Grace. Once a month, we will gather as **men and women together** to learn and grow together. This class is a chance for all of us, men and women, young and old (9th grade and up are encouraged to attend!), to gather and Delight in God's Grace. Hope to see you there!

The schedule for Fall DIGG classes will be:

Sept 15-Vital Signs Come and hear from Assistant to the Bishop Jessica Daum about the new Vital Signs program, and how we can work as a congregation to renew our mission and vision and get excited once more about the ministry that God is calling us to.

Oct 13-Campus Ministry Sunday Come and hear from some current campus ministry students about what is happening in campus ministry at UND these days. We also hope to have some of our own current college students back visiting with us this day, so if you know a college student, let's chat!

Nov 10-Sanctuary Denomination and Other Church Updates-what does it mean for us that the ELCA is now a Sanctuary denomination? What are we really called to do as ELCA in the here and now? Come and join the discussion and share your ideas for how we can continue to grow and be the church God calls us to.

Dec 8-Breathing into Advent-At this point in the season of Advent, we are crazy busy trying to get preparations in and everything done that needs to be to make Christmas perfect. Come and spend some time in quiet and reflective peace. Hear some Advent readings, share some Advent reflections, and slow yourself down and remind yourself what this season is all about!



Here at St Matthew's, we recognize that pets are an important part of our family. This year, we are going to have our annual **Blessing of the Pets on Sunday, October 13th at noon.** So bring

your finned, fanged, feathered, and furry friends to church for a blessing and to celebrate all of God's creation! Special treats will be available to any dogs and cats that attend. Please be sure to bring your animals either in a cage, tank, kennel or on a leash for safety reasons! Stuffed animals (toys) are welcome to come for a blessing too!



Saint Matthew's Lutheran Church

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ST. MATTHEW'S LEADERSHIP

Pastor Amy Eisenmann 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 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, Owen Gallant
- 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, Brody Johnson, Lilly Murphy
- 23 Brett Sutter-Hegg, Brantley Vaagene
- 24 Tyler DeMoe
- 25 John Bohlman, Braden Faul, Jevin Fee, Paul Galegher, Julie Shirek, Greta Wilson
- 26 Cole Potter
- 29 Lukas Starcevic, Dawn Stoe, Kevin Strand
- 30 Brycen Faul, Jessica Wyatt



UNOFFICIAL MINUTES—August 19, 2019

August Council Minutes August 19, 2019 @ 6:33 PM

Present: James Thorson, Scott Kuster, Tracie Ivesdal, Duane Naas, Sarah Krogfoss, Bre Berberich, Angie Muhs, Pastor Amy Eisenmann

Absent: Paul Strande, Chelsea Lupien

Meeting called to order at 6:33 pm.

Pastor Amy started us with devotion and round table.

Meeting agenda shared. Scott moved to approve the agenda with the revision that Pastor Jess will be here September 15, 2019 and not September 8, Tracie seconded, MPU.

Minutes from July Council meeting were shared. Sarah moved to approve the minutes, Scott seconded, MPU.

Financial Report:

As of latest report, General Checking has \$-1363.76 Special Funds Checking has \$25,748.68. General Income was \$9325.00. Total Expenses was \$11,334.22. Leaving a Net Income of \$-2009.22 and YTD Net income of \$-16,110.90.

Printing was doubled paid in July and is therefore over budget for July.

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

Calendar Review:

Vital Signs-Sept. 15 Pastor Jessica Harris-Daum

Kindergarten prayer event is moved from October 5th to 12th.

The next council meeting will be September 15, 2019 @ 11:30 AM.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Amy gave her pastor's report. She will be gone September 22nd to attend the Addiction and Faith Conference.

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

WELCA/Men's Club Report:

No new business coming up or fundraises planned at present. Discussions occurring around "socks for kids" fundraising.

WELCA has been working with the backpack program. WELCA has purchased new coffee carafes. Festival of tables coming up in November.

Team Reports:

Exec-Met July 08, 2019. There will be a vacancy for the Worship Team Lead. Discussed transition process. Discussed all team meetings and vital signs (a program put on by ELCA).

Education-Bre reported that 64 kids attended VBS in August. Thank you to those who hosted the Park River campers. Sunday school registration has begun. We may need to divide our three and four year olds due to large numbers.

Education will be using a new WHIRL curriculum AY 19/20. New processes will take place and technology can be used with this program. The message and characters are adapted to the age of the children. Education team is looking into allowing the classes to do a art project on rally Sunday.

Fellowship- Next meeting this week.

Outreach-Sarah had the teacher luncheon organized by the quilting women. It went well. Next activity is fall festival on October 6 that the fellowship and outreach team work together on.

Food Pantry- No new update.

Property-Duane provided an update on the parking lot. Plan is to have the parking lot striped this fall. May need to look into new bushes in front of the church due to damage from snow.

Worship- We need people to help with worship tech and slides.

Youth- Bonfire planned this summer. The bonfire was cancelled due to limited interest.

Old Business:

Overflow parking lot complete. Will fill in low spots. Drainage is working well.

New Business

Approval of Val Uhler to complete term for upcoming vacancy of Worship Team Lead, Deb De-Moe. Discussion on this topic. Bre moved to approve Val Uhler as the team leader. Sarah seconded. MPU

Numbers of team members on each team and are they sufficiently staffed? Discussion related to numbers on teams. Support is available when needed.

Vital Signs-Sept. 15 with Pastor Jessica Harris-Daum. She will talk to St. Matthew's regarding this opportunity. Additionally, it would allow 4-6 people from St. Matthew to be part of the Vital team.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 7:30pm.

Next Meeting September 15, 2019 @ 11:30.

September

Marcus & Amy Benoit Family
Neil & Kami Danner Family
Steve & Teresa Evanson
Josh & Dara Faul Family
Jess Haugen Family
Dianne Lundgren
Scott & Char Peterson Family
John & Jera Sorby Family
Paul & Heidi Strande Family

October

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 8!
Sunday School classes start at 9 am!



- Sept 8 Rally Sunday-Sunday School begins
- Sept 8 Book Study begins
- Sept 11 Parent and Confirmands Meeting
- Sept 15 New Member Sunday, DIGG, What Does This Mean class begins
- Sept 18 Confirmation Begins