

September 2021

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

Leaving A Legacy That Lasts

(Adapted from Bible Study Tools)

Joshua 4:1-9

Leaving a legacy involves far more than handing down a monetary inheritance or passing on a good family name. Sure, the inheritance will be appreciated and put to good use. Churches and other similar organizations survive on the goodwill of people like you, and I encourage you to consider leaving part of your inheritance to them.

This month though, I want you to consider "a lasting legacy." One that continues for eternity and can be passed on from generation to generation. A lasting legacy, one that continues for eternity, is set in stone. It is written on our hearts, and the hearts of our loved ones. Belief in Jesus Christ as the Son of the Living God and Savior of the world is the legacy that lasts.

Most of us attribute the faith we have today to our parents and grandparents. We acknowledge that we probably wouldn't be believers if they did not pass on their faith to us. Today however, I see a lot of parents prioritize other things instead of their faith and their children's faith. And as we have observed throughout the country, a lot of young people do not have any faith at all.

Is there something about your faith that you would like to pass on to those after you? Ask yourself this question, "What are the foundations of my legacy? Are they superficial things of this world or everlasting things of God?"

If your grandchildren or great grandchildren come to you and ask, "What does faith mean to you?" What would you say? That is something I hope you can think about as we get ready for another year of Sunday School and Youth Programs. I hope that we can equip you with the faith and words that you can confidently pass on to your families.

Exercise:

Just as the Israelites were instructed to carry stones from the middle of the Jordan and set them up as a memorial of God's faithfulness, we too can gather "stones" that represent our legacy.

Write a personal mission statement.

Ask questions like, "What do you want to be known for? How can you live your life as a testimony of God's faithfulness? What are the most important things to you?"

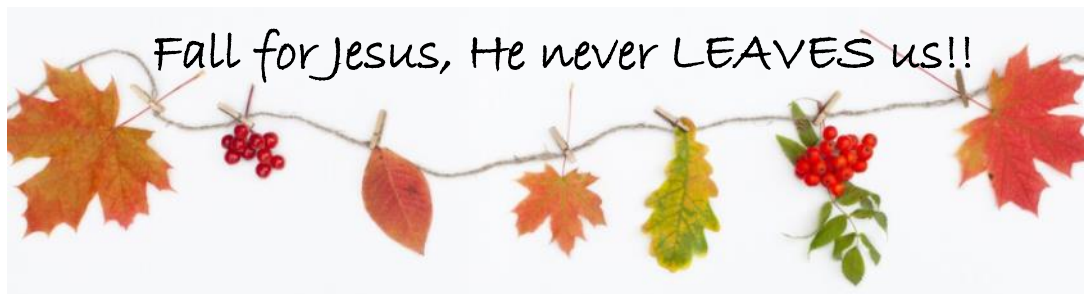
(Frame your statement and hang it in your home. You can even make copies and share it with your family.)

Write and share a testimony.

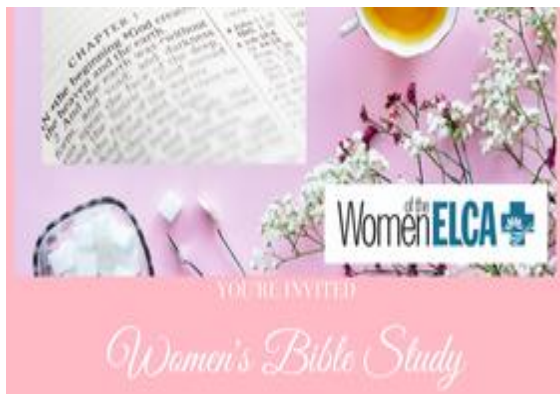
Blessings – Pastor Tawanda Murinda

LYO-Youth Group

The LYO kickoff meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 22nd. We invite all past and new members to come and bring a friend! There will be a cornhole tournament and a cookout with hamburgers, hotdogs, chips and dessert! Come join the fun!!



WELCA



All women of the congregation are invited to Bible Study.

*Please join us on
Monday, September 20th at 7:00 pm
at the church.*

*We would love to see you there
We want you to know the love of God
And feel His presence near.
For you are special to the Lord
And special to us, too
Your life has significance,
And there's purpose in what you do.*

Faith Formation

Education

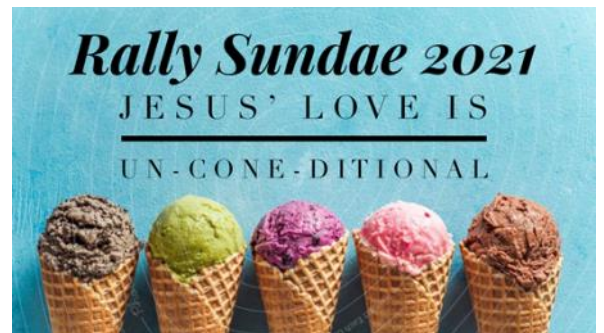


The kids enjoyed an awesome VBS experience in August! We had close to 50 students attend VBS this summer. While at VBS they learned many new songs and meal time prayers. They had bible study time in their small groups and enjoyed lots of fun crafts and yummy snacks. We are so grateful to Park River Bible Camp for bringing their ministry to our church this summer. The kids played and prayed their hearts out—we look forward to having them back again next year!

Rally Sunday is 'Rally Sundae' this year! It will take place, Sunday, September 19th. 'Rally Sundae' will be our first official day of Sunday school for the fall. During worship our Sunday school and Confirmation teachers will be recognized. Following worship we will have a potluck and ice cream social.

Please plan to register for Sunday school so that we are able to properly plan for a successful year of Christian education. Look for the registration link in your emails, on our Facebook page or on our website.

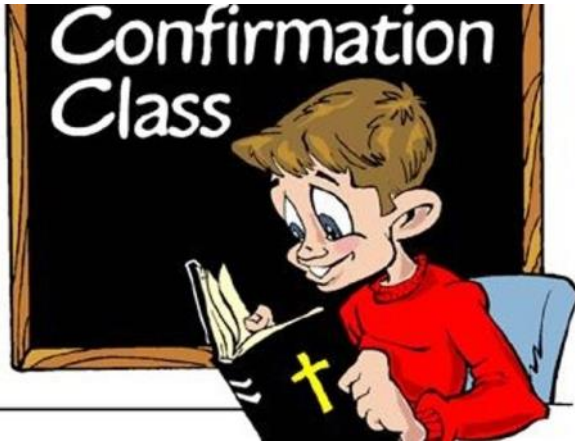
Pre-K and 3rd graders will receive their Bibles on October 3rd during worship. That same day, 3rd graders will have a Bible retreat at 2pm at the church.



We are in need of Sunday school teachers this fall! If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about being a Sunday school teacher or is ready to teach, please contact Sarah @ 218-791-4216.

In His Grace,
The Education Team

Faith Formation



Confirmation Orientation meeting for grades 6-8 along with parents/guardians will be held on Wednesday, September 22nd from 7:00-8:00 pm.

9th grade students will be confirmed on Sunday, October 31st. More information will be sent to the respective students.

Loving Neighbors

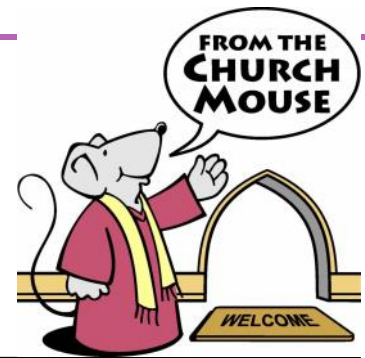


The Food Pantry is open during September on **Tuesday, September 14 from 11:00 am-1:00 pm** and **Tuesday, September 28 from 6:00-8:00 pm**. If you or someone you know could use the assistance of the food pantry, please let them know, or come to the pantry during their open hours.

Thank you to everyone who made this summer 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 the ladies that prepared, served and worked the Teachers' Appreciation Luncheon.
- The set-up crew for the funeral.
- Duane N for making the floors shiny and bright
- Paul S for leading worship during Synod Assembly
- Sarah K for organizing VBS and especially the fresh out-of-the oven snacks!
- Sara & Mickey M for helping prepare food and clean-up at 'Tie Dye Your Heart Out'



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

Worship

Greetings from the Worship Team!

Wow! Where did the summer go??

Now that school has started, along with Sunday School and Confirmation; please sign up as Worship Assistants. I will provide the duties for each slot.

IF your month is NOT the best for you, please contact me and we'll find a more suitable month for service.

Thank you in advance for your willingness to help!

Bless you - The Worship Team



September

Neil & Kami Danner Family
Josh & Dara Faul Family
Jessica Haugen Family
Scott & Charla Peterson Family
Paul & Heidi Strande Family

October

Steve & Shannon Hancock Family
Duane & Chris Naas
Ryan & Liz Welsh Family
Bill & Cheryl Widman

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!

WELCA BIBLE STUDY This group will begin meeting again this month. Their next Bible Study will resume on Monday, September 20 at 7:00 pm at the church.



September Office Hours

The church office is open 9am-Noon, Monday through Thursday.

Pastor Tawanda welcomes visitors at the church anytime. He is in the office all day on Mondays and Thursdays, please feel free to stop in.

Tuesdays and Wednesdays, please contact him to set up a time to meet. Pastor Tawanda's day off is Friday.

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 Cooper George, 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



The baptism of
Grace Marie Naas, daughter
of Andrew and Hannah Naas
took place on Sunday,
August 8th.
Grace's sponsor is
Christian Berry.





St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Council Meeting

Date: August 22, 2021

In Attendance: Paul Strande, Brook Fretheim, Ryan Welsh, Scott Kuster, Val Uhler, Robyn Bohlman, Pastor Tawanda, Sarah Krogfoss

Absent: Duane Naas, Sara Munson

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Paul Strande at 11:39. Pastor Tawanda led opening prayer.

Agenda Approval: Steve moved, Brook seconded to approve the agenda. MPU

Minutes Approval: Brook moved, Ryan seconded to approve the minutes. MPU

Financial Reports: General Giving income for July was \$6306.81. As of July 31st, the General Giving checking account balance is \$23,951.87. Special Giving checking is \$27,681.65. Our line of credit is \$0. Our YTD income is \$5246.79.

Approval: Steve moved, Val seconded to approve financial. MPU

Calendar Review: no changes

Pastor's Report: See Pastor's full written report

Men's Club & WELCA report: WELCA – DATE FOR CLEANING THE KITCHEN?

Team Reports:

Executive Team: nothing

Education: Sarah Krogfoss – VBS was successful – total of 47 kids. Rally Sunday Sept 19. 16 families registered so far. Teachers are still needed!!

Fellowship: Sara Munson – nothing

Outreach: Brook Fretheim – Julie Brorby did a great job with the Teacher's/Staff luncheon. Fall Festival is October 10.

Food Pantry – In June, 8 households got 428 lbs of food, in July 9 households got 486 lbs of food. Brook will check with school if we can send a note home with information on Food Pantry

Properties: Duane Naas – nothing

Worship: Val Uhler – getting ready to work on monthly schedule for helping with services.

Youth: Steve Hancock – Getting ready to start back up – first meeting will have hamburgers/hotdogs and will play cornhole

Old Business

Altar, Pulpit and Baptismal Font – met this morning. Brought some ideas. Will keep working on it.

Ruby's pantry – tabled

Bid from HB Sound – tabled

Child Care Center at St. Matthew's – Paul made a motion the executive team along with Pastor set up a meeting with Dawn at Red River Regional Council to get more information. Steve seconded.

MPU

Reminder All-Team meeting this Wednesday, August 25 at 7pm

New Business

2nd PPP Loan – Paul talked to Jeremy Hughes at bank and he is 95% certain the second loan will not need to be paid back. Will know more shortly.

Pastor possible trip to Zimbabwe – looking for 3 Sundays in October to make trip home. Scott made a motion to approve Pastor's vacation from October 8 to October 24. Steve seconded. MPU

Next council meeting will be September 12, 2021 at 11:10 am

Motion to adjourn made by Pastor Tawanda, seconded by Scott. MPU

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn Bohlman



A Message from your Council President

Greetings and blessings to all of you,

As we have now gotten into the school year, it is an exciting time for our church as this is typically the time of year that the church seems to come to life. We will soon kick off Sunday School, Confirmation classes and LYO. Our leaders of each group, Sarah Krogfoss (Sunday School), Pastor Tawanda (Confirmation), and Steve & Shannon Hancock (LYO) are putting in many hours to put together meaningful programs for the youth at each of these levels. We definitely have a church that has a vibrant group of youth. With that comes a need; we need some more Sunday School teachers; we have a need for confirmation teachers and we have a need for more adults to get involved in LYO.

In addition to education and youth, we also have a need for our members to help fill our other teams. We have Fellowship team, Outreach team, Properties team and Worship team. These teams serve a vital role for our church and each team can use some reinforcements. We know that everyone is busy, but so are our team leaders. The more people we can get on a team, the less work it is for the team leaders. If you have questions about what the role of a particular team is, ask myself or another member of your Church Council. We would love to have you get involved.

Some of you might have heard or read in the minutes that there have been some discussions about a possible daycare center at the church. I want to assure everyone these are just talks and there is no plan at this time, just fact finding and gathering information. Pastor Tawanda brought the idea to council as there are many congregations in the region that have added a daycare. A few things we do know:

Our building **would not** be turned into a daycare, that is not anyone's vision.

We do have a need for more space for our youth education. The rooms for Sunday School are overfilled with students on Sunday mornings and with our large Confirmation classes it is hard to find room for Confirmation classes to meet. This could possibly help with that.

We have several household daycares in our community that will see the provider retiring in the next 5 years.

There are many parents in our community that drive their kids into Grand Forks each day because there are not enough daycare providers in Thompson.

This would not be trying to run any home daycare providers out of business.

I am looking forward to seeing our church come back to life after the summer. As we all have learned in the last couple years, we have to adapt with changes. And hopefully we have all learned that through our Faith we can handle many difficult changes in life and come out just fine on the other side.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to myself or other council members. We are all willing to have a conversation or answer questions that anyone might have.

Respectfully,

Paul Strande



Whether you have an hour or a whole day to spare you can make a difference and we would love to hear from you!



We are in need of

Sunday School Teachers

Team Members—Properties, Fellowship, Outreach, Worship, Education, Youth

Worship Assistants

Call or email the Church Office if you can help 599-2081 OR stmattsvione@gmail.com



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ST. MATTHEW'S LEADERSHIP

Pastor Tawanda Murinda	Pastor	pastor@stmatthewsthompson.org
Vione Jordheim	Admin Assistant	stmattsvione@gmail.com
Jamie Bischoff	Bookkeeper	stmattsbookkeeper58278@gmail.com
Paul Strande	President	stmattspresident@gmail.com
Ryan Welsh	Vice President	rswelsh@invisimax.com
Robyn Bohlman	Secretary	rbohlman@invisimax.com
Scott Kuster	Treasurer	scottkuster@gra.midco.net
Brook Fretheim	Outreach Team	brook.fretheim@tps-k12.org
Sara Munson	Fellowship Team	smunson190@mygfschools.org
Duane Naas	Properties Team	duanechrisnaas@gmail.com
Sarah Krogfoss	Education Team	sarahkrogfoss@icloud.com
Steve Hancock	Youth Team	shannonandsteven@gmail.com
Valorie Uhlir	Worship Team	valuhlir@yahoo.com

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Welcome to worship

Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m.

In person and live on our YouTube Channel

Address service requested



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

Offices Closed—Labor Day—September 6

Rally Sunday—September 19

WELCA Bible Study—September 20

LYO—September 22

Confirmant/Parent Orientation—September 22

Table Talk for Adults—September 26