

August 2020

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

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord,
"plans to prosper you and not to harm you,
plans to **give** you **hope** and a future."

In these uncertain times, it can be difficult to look beyond what's currently happening in our lives and see the light at the end of the tunnel. Whether we're going through a big life change, a hard time for our family, personal health concerns, or even a pandemic, our faith in God can help us to see a difficult challenge as an opportunity for gratitude. As we continue to pray for a speedy resolution to Pastor Tawanda's visa process; we are reminded of ***The Hopeful News*** from Bishop Wohlrabe.

We have hope in God and in one another. We do not walk alone through this time of waiting!

- ***God walks with us.***
- ***We have each other.***
- ***Your Eastern ND Synod walks with you all.***

Continue to support each other as we walk together toward God's promised future for Pastor Tawanda.

Blessings,

Vione



On Sunday, August 16th, our worship service will be live streamed from the Synod Assembly. On that date our church building will be **CLOSED** but we encourage you to join in and worship with our EaND Synod family. Guest preacher will be ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.

The link to this service is not yet available. Please watch for it in your email closer to that date.

LYO/Youth



The LYO Team is in search of Team Members!

If you like to laugh, have fun, share fellowship through faith, and be an inspiration to our Youth, then this is for you!

Come along, join the Youth Team today.

Get in touch with Steve Hancock and let him know you are interested!!



**This beautiful quilt has been claimed!
Congratulations to Sam Pickard on winning
the quilt raffle sponsored by St. Matthew's
Quilting Ladies.**

**The proceeds from the raffle will go
towards purchasing quilting supplies in order
that these ladies can continue their mission.**

**May Sam always enjoy this beautiful quilt and
feel the love that went in to it.**

Thanks to all who bought tickets!

Faith Formation



We are tentatively planning to resume Sunday School and Confirmation when school resumes. With that, a few dates to remember from your education team (Details for the dates will be coming soon):

Wednesday September 9 – Parent/Confirmand Meeting 7 pm

Sunday September 13 – Rally Sunday 9 am PreK – 5th grade

Wednesday September 16 – Confirmation Resumes 7 pm Grades 6 – 8

Sunday October 25 – 9th Grade Confirmation 10 am

Follow Ups from Spring – We have not forgotten about finishing up our **First Communion** classes, we are working on details to resume and finish 1st communion. Information will be coming out to those who were taking part this spring.

Sunday School Registration – Sunday School Registration is now open! For our team to appropriately order materials, we ask that all students be pre-registered.

Please register your student at the following link [Sunday School Registration 2020-21](#)

Confirmation Registration – Confirmation Registration is now open! We want to be able to provide the best opportunity for your confirmand, please pre-register your confirmand. Register at the following link [Confirmation Registration 2020-21](#)

WANTED | Confirmation & Sunday School Teachers – We are still in need of a few more teachers, subs, and music leader. If you would like to help educate our youth, please let Bre or one of the education team members know!

WANTED | Team Members – Do you have an interest in our education? We are looking for new team members to join our team! First All Teams meeting in August, we'd love to have you!

Educating Together – Bre, Bridget, Jen, Dara, Beth, Stacy

Worship

Greetings from the Worship Team:

Well, we've gotten through another crazy month of Covid-19 and being open. We feel all is going well, and we trust that we can keep moving forward.

On that note I'm excited to announce that the Tech Team is up and running and looking for more techies to help out. If anyone is interested, please contact Josh or Dara Faul at: fauljosh@hotmail.com. we are hoping to get about 8-10 people so that you will only be needed once a month or so. The job requires two people to do the best job.

I will be calling on those listed on the August Worship Assistant list with adjustments as we go.. Please consider helping as you are called on to help the service move along smoothly as we await Pastor Tawanda's return. Thank you in advance!

We are always looking for Team Members....

Blessings - Cheryl, Nancy, and Valorie



August

Kevin & Doris Cooper Family
Brandy & Lindsay George Family
Brent & Terrie Halvorson Family
Dean & Barbie Larson Family
Brian & Angie Muhs Family
Darin & Angie Praska Family
Kory & Susie Sondreal Family
Derek Sondreal Family
Tom & Dawn Stoe Family
Gary & Mary Welsh

From the Church Mouse

Thank you to everyone for your helping hands. We apologize if we missed anyone, know that you are all appreciated!

- * To our summer worship readers.
- * Duane N for the extra cleanings.
- * All who helped prepare and serve food for the funerals.
- * Sara and Mickey M for being our Synod Assembly Representatives.
- * Alivia H for tech supply during the funeral
- * Paul & Wade S for their help with tech supply and all that comes their way.
- * Gary W for building a safe place for the worship laptops.
- * Heidi S for being a computer wizard!



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

Ongoing Ministries

MEN IN MISSION

St. Matthew's men gather each Sunday morning at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall or via Zoom for a chance to chat 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. They spend time in responsive prayer, and then off to work by 7:30. Come and join us as a great way to focus midweek!

WINE, WOMEN & THE WORD

This relaxed group of gals meets once a month for dinner, conversation, and bible study. They haven't been able to meet yet, but stay tuned, we're hoping it won't be long. New folks are always welcome to join us!

WELCA BIBLE STUDY

This group takes turns hosting in homes for an evening of dessert, coffee and Bible Study. They meet from September thru May.



June council minutes, June 14, 2020

Present: Paul Strande, Duane Naas, Scott Kuster, Bre Berberich, Steve Hancock, Kevin Cooper, Pastor Tawanda, Valorie Uhlir Zoom attendance: Angie Muhs, Chelsea Lupein

Absent: Brook Fretheim,

Meeting called to order at --11:06 AM by Council President Strande.

Opening prayer and devotional provided us by Pastor Tawanda.

Bre motioned to approve agenda with the salary conversation for Pastor moved to the end, Val seconded, MPU.

Minutes from May council meeting were shared and reviewed.
Scott moved to approve the minutes as written, Steve seconded, MPU.

Minutes from special council meeting, minutes were shared and reviewed.
Bre moved to approve the minutes as written, Steve seconded, MPU.

Financial Report:

As of latest report, General Checking has \$ 26,227.69

Line of credit balance is \$0.

Total income: 10,862.87

Total Expenses were \$ 9,345.97

Monthly net income of: 1,516.90 .

Year to date net income of \$. 28,970.94

Val motioned to approve financials, Kevin seconds motion. MPU

Calendar Review:

Pastor Vacation – June 29, 30, July 1, 2

August 12, 2020 – All team meeting @ 6 PM

September 9 – Possible parent’s night

September 13 – Sunday school kick off

September 16 – first day of confirmation

God’s Work Our Hands will be on schedule soon.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Tawanda provided his Pastor's report. The full report will be posted in the church binder at St. Matthew's. He has been in St. Matthew's four months. He would love to continue to be our pastor, pending congregation vote. He would like to restart visitations with members if approved by the state (nursing home COVID -19 guidelines).

Men's Club Report: Scott – No update

WELCA: No update

Vitality team- Kevin- Met last week via zoom. Scheduled another meeting July 14, 2020. Planning to get back into vitality including where have we been, where are we at, and where are we going. Vitality was on pause during Covid-19.

Team Reports:

Exec- Paul – Met last week regarding Pastor Tawanda's salary/benefits package.

Education-Bre – Need to figure out what to do regarding first communion.

Fellowship- Chelsea – Considering a book study this fall.

Outreach- Brook- no updates

Food Pantry- Kristi updated Paul. 7 households gathered 258.5 lbs. of food in May

Property- Duane – Maintenance has been ongoing. Will work on filling hole in approach to church and/or looking at more permanent option. Setting up mowing plan for the summer. Church insurance is expiring next month. Insurance must be renewed every 3 years. They asked about background checks and updates on policies to protect our young people.

Worship- Val – Has worked on welcoming congregation into church. Will begin to ask members of the congregation to help.

Youth- Steve – Hoping to get started with youth activities.

Old Business

Adding to envelopes & Give+ for church carpeting (Duane update)

Rosendahl room was carpeted 5 years ago

5000 sq. feet was redone 2010. Price is about \$4 per square foot.

Will consider a carpet improvement fund starting after cameras are installed, technology updated, and paid for. The carpet would be a longer term project.

Camera is ordered and we have the new computer for the system

Update on PPP loan status

We now have 24 weeks to use this loan amount.

New Business

Continuing plan for opening of the church. (Small Groups are wondering)

Hope is allow small groups in the church.

Conversation on safety and accountability. Will reassess every few weeks.

Motion made to allow small groups to start meeting provided, that they follow social distance guidelines including 6 ft. distancing and the wearing of masks. Vote of 6-5 to require masks at present time. Will continue to reassess CDC guidelines and our local church needs.

Discuss date for Congregational vote on Pastor Tawanda's call

Steve made a motion to meet July 12, 2020 @ 11 AM in parking lot, Duane seconded. MPU.

Build a gate/fence for garbage and recycle

Conversation due to the impact of weather.

Making a statement related to inclusion and love for all. A small group will craft a statement for approval. Kevin, Scott, Chelsea and Pastor are going to come up with a statement about inclusion for all.

Approve salary/compensation for Pastor Tawanda as call pastor

Council approved salary and compensation unanimously.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer @ 1:17PM. Steve motioned and Kevin seconded to adjourn the meeting

Next Meeting July 12 @ 11:15 AM

Respectfully Submitted by:

Angie Muhs

As summer is nearing its end, take some time to reflect on the blessings that God has given you. Take some time to reflect on the challenges that God has brought you through. Take some time to reflect on how God has been active in the world around you, take some time to thank God for how He has been at work and to where He might be leading you.

Is God encouraging you to step into something new? Is God challenging you? Is God speaking to you? Are you taking the time to listen?

If you've read through the newsletter to this point, you know there are some wonderful opportunities here at St. Matthew's. Listen, pray, reflect; this just might be where God is leading you.

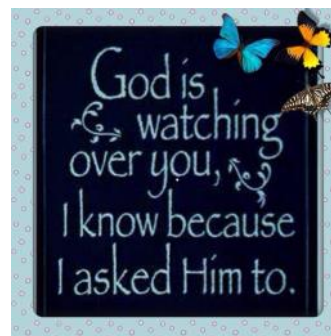
Loving Neighbors

Happy Birthday in August!

- 1 Brynlie Jallo
- 2 Michael Benoit
- 3 Roger Gustafson, Hunter Novak,
Dawn Zak
- 4 Carly Berberich
- 5 Seth Arntz
- 6 Trent Ivesdal, Paul Strande
- 7 Ryan Strande, Bill Widman
- 8 Bethany Kurz
- 9 Rick Herland, Addysen Lopez,
Margaret Robinson,
Madison Walsh
- 10 Daniel Mayers, Eli Schumacher
- 12 Lonni Peterson
- 14 Hannah Ackerman, Sam Landa
- 15 Morgan Muhs, Brian Overby
- 17 Acen Everett
- 18 Paula Amborn
- 20 Blake Guetter
- 21 Donna Gunderson
- 24 Leigh LaRoque
- 25 Stephanie Albin
- 26 Cami Stevens
- 28 Mary Loing, Angie Praska,
Logan Steinbrink
- 31 Maxx Albin, Deb DeMoe

Thompson Food Pantry

The Thompson Food Pantry is open on Tuesday, August 11th from 11am-1pm, and Tuesday, August 25th from 6pm-8pm. The pantry serves the communities of Thompson, Buxton, and Reynolds. For more information on the pantry, talk to Kristie Adams at 701-741-7669.



Keeping in our prayers
the families of

Evie Lowe

Terry Hovet

Darlington Murinda



Where does my money go when I give offering?

When you donate money to St. Matthew's, it isn't just about paying staff salaries, or providing lights and heat. Your money goes to a lot of different places to help a lot of different projects.

For example, did you know that it is offering that helps make the following things possible?

- *Sunday School and Confirmation for 90+ kids.
- *Youth Group for 40+ High Schoolers.
- *Bible Studies for Women and for Men
- *Fellowship Events
- *Outreach Projects which change the lives of hundreds of people each year.
- *Providing a space that can host the local food pantry, which feeds 22+ families each year.
- *Weekly Worship on Sunday mornings, and bi-weekly worship during Lent

And so, so much more. Every little bit of offering makes a huge impact within our four walls and out into the community. **THANK YOU for giving and supporting the ministry of St. Matthew's!**

Did you know there are four different ways to financially give to St. Matthew's?



In Person-Come to church and place your offering in the offering plate on Sunday, or in the drop box outside the secretary's door.



By Mail-You can mail your offering to 701 Broadway St. Thompson, ND 58278 if you are going to be out of town.



Automatic Bill Pay-Through your bank, you can set the church up to receive payment automatically. This helps keep the budget running even if you are away from church for an entire season.



Give+ -Simply search the GivePlus App for St. Matthew's, select a fund and the amount you'd like to donate, provide your credit or debit card information, and complete your donation.

However you choose to help support the ministry of St. Matthew's, know that we appreciate you and are so thankful that you are a part of our church family!

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Welcome to worship

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Address service requested

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ST. MATTHEW'S LEADERSHIP

Pastor Tawanda Murinda	Interim Pastor	pastor@stmatthewsthompson.org
Vione Jordheim	Admin. Assistant	stmattsvione@gmail.com
Jamie Bischoff	Bookkeeper	stmattsbookkeeper58278@gmail.com
Paul Strande	Council President	stmattspresident@gmail.com
Scott Kuster	Council Vice President	scottkuster@gra.midco.net
Angie Muhs	Council Secretary	bamuhs@yahoo.com
Kevin Cooper	Council Treasurer	kevin.j.cooper@outlook.com
Brook Fretheim	Outreach Team	brookweber@hotmail.com
Chelsea Lupien	Fellowship Team	chelsea.lupien@und.edu
Duane Naas	Properties Team	dnaas@sterlingcarpetone.com
Bre Berberich	Education Team	breberberich@gmail.com
Steve Hancock	Youth Team	shannonandsteven@gmail.com
Valorie Uhlir	Worship Team	valuhlir@yahoo.com