

January 2020

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,

It is hard to believe that it is already time to be writing a New Year's letter to you all! What an amazing year 2019 has been. I hope that it was a year where you could see God at work within and among you, where God surprised you in some new ways, and where God challenged you to grow and change to be whom God was calling you to be.

Since the writing of the last newsletter, I have sent a letter of resignation which I hope you all received. I will be leaving in early-mid January to begin my call at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls, Iowa. It was a difficult decision for me to make, and I cannot describe how much I will miss you all.

It has been my joy and privilege to be your pastor. To hear your stories, and to walk with you through them. My last Sunday with you will be on January 5. We will be celebrating Epiphany a day early. Epiphany, a day which means "to reveal" or "to appear". It is a day where we celebrate the wisemen finding Jesus by following the star. A day when we celebrate that Jesus came not just for the Jews, but for all people.

If you have worshipped with us on Epiphany before, you know it is the day when we hand out "star gifts". These are words that are given to you to focus on in the coming year. Sometimes when we receive a star gift we know instantly what they mean for us. Other times it might take all or part of the year before it is revealed to us.

I hope you will join us on January 5 to receive a star gift. I hope you will join us to celebrate all the places where God has appeared within and among us during our years of ministry together, and as we dream about the places where God is going to reveal himself to us next.

In the coming days and weeks dear ones, Saint Matthew's is going to need you. They are going to need you to share your gifts of time and energy. They are going to need you to share your gifts of creativity and care. They are going to need you to love one another through this transition time.

When a pastor leaves it isn't a time to step back and wait for the new pastor to come. It is a time for you to step up and be vocal about what gifts you want your new pastor to have. It is a time for you to step up and take leadership in worship and community life here. It is a time, for you and all of your gifts to shine!

While it is harder than words can say to leave you all, I am glad that it is on Epiphany. I cannot wait to see where God will appear in your midst in the coming years. I cannot wait to see what new things God will reveal to you in the coming years. You are in good hands dear ones, God's hands. May you rest in his arms, take a deep breath, and then keep shining for Him!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Amy

LYO– Youth Group

Happy New Year from the Youth Team. In December our group went to the Northlands Rescue Mission in Grand Forks and served a meal to 74 people in need. These young members of our congregation and community are so AWESOME! It was great that they gave time on a Sunday evening to help those in need. We will have two LYO nights in January, on the 8th and 22nd. We sincerely appreciate all the support from the congregation to keep the youth involved in the church and look forward to more in 2020!!!



Learning & Growing Together

Sunday School will resume on January 5th. Please remember to look at the education calendar for important dates! You can find it on the church website.

You can also like us on Facebook for updates!

*Education questions: Contact
Bre Berberich | 701.740.3207
breberberich@gmail.com*

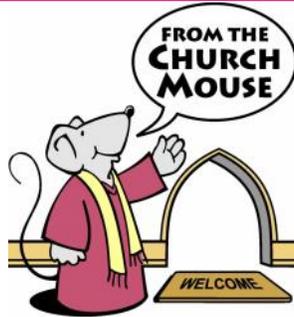
January 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

5 - Sunday School Resumes
26 - Kids Sing

Giving Thanks

Thank you to everyone who is a part of the ministry at Saint Matthew's! Here are a few folks we would like to say a special thank you to this month! We apologize if we miss anyone!



The church mouse would like to thank:

- All the help for the new parking lot: Bill Weber/Northern Tier for the extra fill; Strata for the concrete; Mike W for sharing his Garon toys; Duane N and Scott K for hardwork so Gary didn't have to leave the Bobcat; Schumacher Farms for trucking and food; Garon Construction for the culvert; and Thompson Elevator for the seed.
- Cheryl W, Val U, Nancy M for dressing our church in its Christmas finery!
- Bre B for organizing Sunday School and having a wonderful Christmas program.
- Sarah K, Trinity B, Steph B, Kjersten L, Grace C, Derek P, Jess H and Jamie B for teaching Sunday School.
- Jerod L, Jill K, Dara F and Sara M for teaching Confirmation classes.
- Roy O and Bill W for bringing light to the Man Cave once again.
- Roy O for lightening the load on the roof.
- Kay L for the many visits to our shut-ins with Pastor Amy thru the years.
- Pastor Amy for always being there for us; but most of all for being our Pastor and our Friend!

Thanks to all who are making a difference! We appreciate you!

Blessings to everyone who contributed to this year's Angel Tree Project! You are indeed the hands and feet of Christ! Several area families were gifted by your generosity. There were many smiles, tears and hugs of gratitude that are passed along to all of you.

God bless, Rita West,
and Julie Brorby



*Thank
you*

Thank you to all who have donated financially to St. Matthew's this past year. Your giving is greatly appreciated. God's blessings to you all!



All Church Birthday Party will be on Sunday, January 19th after worship! All are welcome to come and celebrate!!



Donut Making Day will be on Saturday, February 15. If you are able to help or if you have any questions please contact Sandy Olson 891-9975 or Amy Bergeron 741-3923.

Worship



Greetings from the Worship Team!

I trust you had a wonderful Christmas holiday with family and friends.

As we begin the new year at St. Matthew's, we will need a lot of participation to continue on the wonderful path that Pastor Amy has created. Please consider how you can make the transition go smoothly with service participation as your names come up on the Worship List. We want our services to continue as smoothly as possible, especially with an interim Pastor leading us.

I just want to thank you all in advance for your great help! Please consider joining our team.

Blessings for a great 2020!

Worship Team: Nancy Morgan, Cheryl Widman, Valorie Uhrir



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.

January

Donny & Wendy Ackerman Family

Mike & Julie Brorby

Raeann Burger

Earl & Cathy Haugen Family

David & Sarah Krogfoss Family

Scott & Danean Landa Family

Lonnie & Gretchen Peterson

Darwin & Michelle Potter

Linda Schumacher

Julie Shirek

February

Dylan & Sara Anderson Family

Mark & Kristie Adams Family

Tony & Paula Amborn Family

Joshua & Tessa Clemetson Family

Tim & Dena Hegg Family

Jon & Junelle Hjelmstad

Jeremy & Beth Hughes

Trent & Tracie Ivesdal Family

Brian & Joey Overby Family

Ashley Vaagene Family

Congratulations to Brandy & Lindsay George on the baptism of their son Copper Adam George. Cooper was baptized on December 1st. His sponsors are Tony George and Brittany & Mike Jacobson.

Welcome into our church family Cooper!



We are looking for a new pastor, and your help is needed! If you would like to be a member of the Call Committee, or if you have suggestions of names of pastors you would like us to interview, please contact James Thorson (701-317-4313) or Scott Kuster (701-490-0510).



Is God calling you?? Our church council will have the open positions of President and Treasurer this coming year. Team Leads with openings will be: Youth, Outreach and Worship. Have you wanted to get more involved in the church? Wanted your finger on the pulse of all that is happening? If you are interested in either of these positions, talk to President James Thorson or Vice President Scott Kuster 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. 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 January 7 at 6:30 pm at Olive Garden 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 meet Monday, January 20. Place to be determined.** For more information, contact the church office at 599-2081.



Pastor Amy and Buhla's New Address is:
 1522 College Street
 Cedar Falls, IA 50613

Saint Matthew's Lutheran Church

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

ST. MATTHEW'S LEADERSHIP

Amy Eisenmann	Pastor stmattpastoramy@gmail.com
Vione Jordheim	Admin. Assistant stmatstvione@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 Lead smartin@polarcomm.com
Chelsea Lupien	Fellowship Team Lead chelsea.lupien@und.edu
Duane Naas	Properties Team Lead dnaas@sterlingcarpetone.com
Bre Berberich	Education Team Lead berberich@midco.net
Paul Strande	Youth Team Lead pstrande59@gmail.com
Val Uhlir	Worship Team Lead valuhlir@yahoo.com

Financial Peace University classes are coming back to Saint Matthew's!

For 9 weeks, beginning January 12th, St. Matthew's will

once again be hosting Financial Peace. The classes will meet from 3:00-4:30pm each Sunday afternoon. For more info and to register for the class, check out our church website at: www.stmatthewslutheranchurch.org



Happy Birthday in January!

- 1 Cheryl Widman
- 2 Barry Arntz
- 3 Angela Muhs
- 4 Garnet Bischoff
- 5 Averie Geatz
- 6 Kristie Adams, Brandy George
- 7 Samantha Johnson
- 9 Ellie Schumacher
- 11 Jaxon Clemetson, Cassie Riewer
- 12 Arvin Brorby, Halie Fossum, Jesse Hegg
- 13 Cornelius Everett
- 14 Zach Ackerman, McKenna DeMoe, Collin Hancock
- 15 Lucy LaRoque
- 16 Noah Novak
- 18 Layla Manzke
- 19 Jailin Avdem, Megan Kadrmas
- 20 Marcus Hughes, Mistie Manzke
- 21 Joey Overby, Hadley Plautz
- 23 Kevin Cooper
- 25 Adrienne Jarvis, Daman Pearson
- 26 Brook Fretheim, Richard Staveteig
- 28 Christina Johnson
- 29 Lauren Plautz
- 31 Zakary Kadrmas

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

Welcome to worship

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School at 9 a.m.

Address service requested



Pastor Amy's Last Sunday - January 5

Annual Birthday Bash - January 19

Frozen Fest - February 9

Our Annual Meeting will be held on January 26th after worship. There will also be a potluck that day. In case of inclement weather, we will meet on February 2nd.

