



# St. Matthew Lutheran Church Newsletter

1505 Dover Street, Worthington, MN 56187

(507) 376-6168

## April 19<sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday of Easter

Scripture Readings: Acts 5:29-42  
1 Peter 1:3-9  
John 20:19-31

We hope and pray everyone is staying healthy. We do these weekly newsletters to keep members informed as much as possible. **These newsletters are usually only posted on our website and emailed to those who wish to receive by email.** However, we felt it was time to mail out to everyone this week! Therefore, in the coming weeks PLEASE, PLEASE help us keep ALL our members informed. If you know someone that does not have internet or Facebook, please give that person a call to check up on them, and to let them know our church's news. Thank you for your help with this!

Due to the Coronavirus situation, and the orders by our Governor, **the church is locked at all times** to limit traffic in the building to keep our staff healthy. **However, the Church Office is available for calls from 9AM-3PM Monday through Friday**, as "Religious Organizations" are on the MN Critical Business List and may work to produce and broadcast worship services and provide spiritual support. Please feel free to call with any concerns, needs, questions, etc. If you call after these hours with an emergency, please go to Bev's voicemail for the emergency contact phone number. You may call to drop off your offerings and we will meet you at the door.

**WORSHIP SERVICES:** We will be recording both Traditional and Contemporary worship services and uploading them to our YouTube channel for the next several weeks. We will do Facebook posts to let you know when the videos are available. The YouTube link is posted on our church's website, [www.stmatthewworthington.com](http://www.stmatthewworthington.com) under the "News" section and in our church's App. If you do not have internet access, there is an alternative in Main Street Living which airs on KDLT Sioux Falls at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays. The local Worthington Cable TV also airs our worship services at 11AM on both Sundays and Mondays. **With the latest orders from the Governor, we will be recording and providing worship services this way until May 4<sup>th</sup>.** Watch our Facebook and website for updates.

**Sunday morning Bible Study:** Pastor Mark is doing a Bible Study via Zoom on Sundays from 9:30-10:30 a.m. If you don't already have the app downloaded you can use any internet browser and go to [zoom.us](https://zoom.us) and that will take you directly to the main Zoom web page. **At the top of the page click on "join a meeting" and you will then use the following numbers to get in = Meeting ID: 716-5937-8549 and Password: 075313.**

**Tuesday morning Bible Study:** Pastor Mark also does a Tuesday morning Bible Study on Zoom from 8:00-9:00 a.m. every week. To join that study the Zoom information is = Meeting ID: 979-018-388 and Password: 524807.

**The Voters Meeting and Board Elections scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup> has been postponed. A date is yet to be determined!**

**St. Matthew's Social Media:** Facebook = Facebook.com/stmattworthington - Pastor Mark does several Facebook Lives during the week. Download our Church App from the App Store = St. Matthew Worthington MN (*it will be a red background with a white Missouri-Synod cross*). We also now have a "Twitter" account.

***A big THANK YOU to those who have mailed in or dropped off their church offerings. Also, to those who have signed up for the Automatic Giving. You are a blessing!***

Consistent offerings will help keep the St. Matthew's Ministries going during this time. If you'd like more information about Automatic Giving, please contact our Church Treasurer, Tammy Brunk, 507-360-8977, or Bev in the church office.

**Something NEW regarding your offering/tithing - You can now give your offering via an App called "Vanco GivePlus"**. You can search for this App in your AppStore and download it to your phone, iPad/tablet, etc. Once the App is downloaded, you may set up an account with your E-mail and a Password, or you can do a one-time giving option with the "Give Now" button. It will also ask you to search for a church, make sure you get the St Matthews Lutheran Church that is in Worthington, MN as there are many St. Matthew's listed. The App only gives the option of using a checking or savings account for your donation. We are in the process of a "push button giving" for our church's website, which should give more options. Please watch for updates or check the website every so often.

**Please remember in your prayers:** Those with health concerns or for healing: *Donna Lee, Shirley Lerohl, Bill Smrcka, and all others.* Those battling cancer: *Tim Hansberger, Bing Lovan, Steve Rubis, Dennis Schaeckel, and all others.* We remember in our prayers all the health care workers and emergency personnel. We also remember the families of Donna Bruns and Bob Acton, as they have passed to their heavenly homes.

**Resources Available on our Website:**

- Bible Stories & Activity Sheets for your family to print out.
- A few adult coloring pages.
- "*Pandemic Hope Family Devotional*" resources.
- Recorded Worship Services

**A reminder to use the RightNow Media video library.** It's like the "Netflix of Video Bible Studies" and has a HUGE library of faith-based videos that you can access whenever and wherever you want – on your phone, iPad, computer or at home on your TV. There are videos for everyone – kids, youth, parents, married couples, college students, single adults, working professionals – all aimed at helping you grow. St. Matthew's has subscribed to RightNow Media for over a year now. If you did not get signed up when we first launched RightNow Media, please contact Bev in the church office and she can send you a new invite. We pray that RightNow Media will be a blessing for you and your family!

**From our Music & Worship Ministry:** "*O Savior, precious Savior, Whom yet unseen we love.*" LSB 527 verse 1. Every year our Gospel reading for the Sunday following Easter is John's account of Jesus' appearance to Thomas. Jesus' words in John 20:29b are as much for us today as they were for His disciples 2000 years ago: "*Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.*" For this week's traditional worship service, the sermon hymn is LSB 527 "O Savior, Precious Savior." The words to this hymn were written by Frances R. Havergal (1836-1879). A writer of poems and hymn texts, this brief biographical excerpt summarizes her life's work: 'Simply and sweetly she

sang the love of God, and His way of salvation. To this end, and for this object, her whole life and all her powers were consecrated. Her poems are permeated with the fragrance of her passionate love of Jesus.' May this hymn bless you this week as we praise and confess our risen Lord and King.

**From Roxie Leckband:** I pray all of you had a blessed Easter and that we can live every day in the glory of Jesus saving grace won for us by His death and resurrection! He has Risen, He has Risen indeed Hallelujah!

Confirmation students in 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grades, please e-mail me a weekly sermon note relating to our Sunday YouTube worship services. You should have received a text from me in relationship to this. I will add your name to the drawing as I get your notes. Please contact me with any questions you may have.

Our Human Care & Health Ministry are here to help. If you need help getting groceries or other essential items please contact me at the church or my cell, 712-260-3820. Please note there are regular delivery hours.

During these days as we are more confined and for some alone, please do not hesitate to give me a call! I have been speaking with some of our brothers and sisters in Christ and it seems that has been of help for them and myself. It is good to know people are coping and their physical needs are being met but I want to make sure the emotional and spiritual needs are also being met. I can deliver devotional material for those who do not have internet accessibility. Please, for those of you who have internet and can take advantage of our Facebook and website and know of congregation members who do not, please have them contact us. We would like everyone to have access to worship.

If anyone would like to sew masks for the Sanford Health Care System, we have an instruction sheet available. Please let us know if you are interested and we will get the pattern and instructions to you. Thank you in advance for your service, God bless!

Please continue to go on our website for family and kid-friendly activities to print. There will be sheets available each week to go along with the Children's Message in our worship services.

In closing, I miss ALL of you and it will be a "special day" when I can see everyone face-to-face! May our Lord's peace be with you as in the words of John 14:27 *"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."*

**From Jenna Bents:** High School students are encouraged to attend the weekly ZOOM meetings on Mondays at 3PM and Wednesdays at 5PM (unless noted otherwise). These are great opportunities to reconnect with each other through fellowship, laughter, sharing, games, devotion, and scripture reading. I have been sending out weekly links for these sessions. There will be high school senior night on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 7PM via ZOOM! There will be a "Live" 507 Event for 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students on YouTube on Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 7PM, "[Wgtnyouth](#)" is the name to search for. There will be a place during this event that Seniors will also be honored!

**CONFIRMATION SUNDAY** has been postponed to August 30<sup>th</sup>! Please mark your calendars.

**BLESSING OF THE SEED is THIS Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>** – be sure to watch the YouTube Worship Service and have your seeds ready!

Remember we are here for you! Don't hesitate to contact us.

**"The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." Isaiah 34:17-18**

## BLANKET & PILLOWCASE DRESS MINISTRY – 2019

*Our Mission Sewing Group not only makes quilts, they also make pillowcase dresses. Here are the statistics for all their work that was delivered to Orphan Grain Train in 2019.*

### DELIVERED TO ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN IN NORFOLK, NE

242 Quilts and Blankets

65 Baby Blankets

74 Pillowcase Dresses

148 Pair of Underwear

32 Sheets & 5 Pillows

20 New Book Bags

### TOTAL SHIPMENTS FROM 2011-2019

3,108 Blankets, Quilts, Baby Blankets – Orphan Grain Train, Norfolk, NE

120 Blankets & Quilts – White Earth Indian Reservation, School & Crisis Center, Northern, MN

419 Pillowcase Dresses (351-Orphan Grain Train; 68-Puerto Rico)

Donated items of good used, worn out, and electric blankets, mattress pads, sheets, tablecloths, napkins, pillow shams, material, quilts that were started but never finished, batting, material, thread and notions are all greatly appreciated. Everything is used. Thanks Kerry Sauer for the endless supply of quilt tops that you make. Thanks Joan Rotschafer for making the beautiful baby blankets. Thanks JoAnne Smith for making the beautiful pillowcase dresses. Thank you each and every lady who joins us for an hour or longer putting together these quilts. Thanks Margaret Schroeder for stitching blankets together. Personally, I give thanks that my machine continues to sew through all these heavy quilts. Thanks John Galstad for your many trips to the Orphan Grain Train to deliver these blankets.

If you have any extra time, check us out and tie a knot or two (**once we are able to gather together again**). We meet downstairs in the classroom across from the Fireside Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month. We always have snacks. We usually meet from 9:00AM until 1:00PM, but sometimes we work longer. We make six or more quilts each time we meet.

Below are pictures of some of the pillowcase dresses that have been made. Donations of used pillowcases, extra wide bias tape and 3/8" elastic are greatly appreciated. Embroidered dresser scarves and doilies make wonderful pockets.

