

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

1505 Dover Street, Worthington, MN

January 2016



St. Matthew's 125th Anniversary Kick-Off Event

We will have a
Ham Dinner
on Sunday -
January 24, 2016.
Serving will begin
at 11:00 a.m. Come
enjoy ham, cheesy
potatoes, green

beans, buns and cake. There will be a Bake
Sale, anniversary pens and t-shirt orders
will be taken. Information about the
"Adopt a Mortgage Day Calendar" will also
be available. Watch for more information!

**Our next regular VOTERS MEETING will be Sunday - January 24, 2016
in conjunction with our Anniversary Kick-Off Meal. Watch the weekly
bulletins for more information!**

Help Needed to Fund a New Sound System

Our sound system in the sanctuary is ailing and needs to be replaced. At a special voters meeting a new system was approved by the voters with a total cost of \$18,630. Half of that cost will be covered by Thrivent and memorial fund monies. **We would like to cover the other half of that total (\$9,315) by a capital fund drive over the next few weeks.** One of the most important things we do as a church is proclaim the gospel message boldly in word and song in our Sanctuary. Thanks in advance for your generosity and support of our shared ministry here at St. Matthew. Donations may be placed in an envelope marked "Sound System" and put in the offering plate or mailed to the church office.

CHURCH RECORDS

Deaths

- Lois Ann Hunt passed away on December 18, 2015. Funeral service was held at Benson Funeral Home on December 22, 2015.
 - Raymond A. Crippen, Jr. passed away on December 27, 2015. Funeral service was held on December 31, 2015.
-

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

by Roxann Leckband

The Young Women's Group, with or without children, will meet on January 8th, 15th and 22nd.

Family Night will be on January 17th at 3:00 p.m. Please bring a favorite family board game. We will have a taco bar for the main entrée. Please bring a dish to share.

Noon Fellowship will meet on Monday, January 11th in the Fireside Room. The menu will include meatballs and scalloped potatoes. Please bring a dish to share, or just yourself! Everyone is invited!

The January Young Adult Night will be on Monday, January 18th at 6:00 p.m. at Hickory Lodge.

YOUTH NEWS

- There will be a National Youth Gathering Parent & Youth Meeting on January 20th at 7 p.m.
 - Youth Board will meet on January 10th at 9:15 a.m. in the youth room – parents please join us!
 - Tech Crew Operators (projector & camera) are needed at ALL services. It only takes a tiny bit of training. Please contact Bev in the church office to line up training, or go to the balcony and watch what they do!
 - Youth Sunday is January 24th – Readers and Greeters will be needed.
-

ALTAR GUILD NEWS

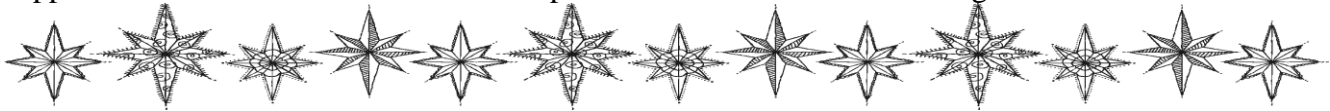
Serving in January will be: Ruth Ramert and Sandy Meyer for the 8AM worship services. If you would like to be a part of the Altar Guild, please contact Velma Cortright, 376-5600 or Sandy Meyer, 376-6290.

LWML NEWS

There will NOT be a LWML Meeting in January. The coffee hour on Sunday, January 17th will be hosted by the Sarah Circle.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

You are invited to the Coffee Fellowship each Sunday morning following the 8 a.m. service. A free-will donation is received to benefit the various church projects. **On the first and second Sundays of the month, there is opportunity for those church committees/groups wishing to host a coffee hour.** Please sign up on the sheet in the church basement when you plan to host the coffee hour. ***Please sign-up at least two weeks in advance.*** The third Sunday of the month, the LWML sponsors the coffee hour. Proceeds are given to a Seminary Student. The fourth Sunday of the month the youth sponsor the coffee hour. Proceeds go to support their various activities and their trip to the National Youth Gathering this summer.



EVANGELISM NEWS

BANQUET: THANK YOU to all who have signed up for serving the noon meal at the Banquet! We appreciate the generous response of our Congregation's commitment to the January 23rd Banquet Serve date. It is a wonderful opportunity for us to share the love of Christ. Serving allows giving back, in some way, for the many blessings we have been given. **THANK YOU for serving!** Those who have participated in the past have found the experience very gratifying!

The Evangelism Committee will be sponsoring the Coffee Hour on January 10th in support of the Banquet. Also, feel free to put an offering in the collection plate, during offering time, in an envelope marked "The Banquet". **THANK YOU** to everyone for your support in prayers, monetary donations and volunteering to serve! Again, those who have been part of this serve project, in the past, come away feeling blessed and thankful for God's blessings. **MAY ALL GLORY AND HONOR BE TO GOD.** Thank you.

PRAYER INTERCESSORS: The Evangelism Committee thanks each of you for being a blessing in the lives of St. Matthew's youth. Please continue to pray for your Confirmation student in New Year and thank you for taking your time to share the love of Christ, with note of encouragement. To remain anonymous, consider using 1505 Dover St. as the return address on your correspondences. **Students, please pray for your Secret Prayer Intercessor also, as they are praying for you!** May God richly bless each of you!

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES FOR WOMEN

The Martha Circle will meet on January 21st at 1:30 p.m. at Arlene Bents' home. The Hope Circle will meet January 19th at 5:15 p.m. in the Youth room. No information was received from the other Circles. Please watch the weekly bulletins for updates.

THANK YOU

Mission Sewing & congregation,

Our volunteers just packed your wonderful donation of assorted quilts, blankets & dresses. We hope to ship them on our next container to mission recipients in Riga, Latvia. Orphan Grain Train appreciates your support!

*Blessings,
Doug Trampe, Warehouse Manager
Relief for Human Need Worldwide*

THANK YOUS (continued):

Dear St. Matthew Lutheran Church Family,

I want to express my sincere thanks for all the well wishes, cards and gifts that were given to me for my birthday and our family at Christmas. I am truly blessed to be serving in such a loving and caring congregation. I pray that each and every one of you will have a great "New Year" as our Lord continues to shower us with his love and grace.

*Love in Christ,
Roxie Leckband*

Thank you to all Thrivent Members that designated their Choice Dollars to St. Matthew Lutheran Church during the past year. A total of \$8,218 was used in 2015 to help purchase/donate to the following: sound board, security system, altar linens, postage for "Operation Christmas Child" shoeboxes, Pastor Mark's Welcome, baptismal medallion engravings, quilt materials for the "FAITH" high school quilts and baby quilts, VBS, YPOG's activities, and teacher appreciation gifts, the Harvest Dinner, and other miscellaneous items. Our members have shown excellent support for our church endeavors!

Thank you to all who served as the hands and feet of Jesus by delivering mobile meals during the month of December: Clarence Mess, Lenny Ruesch, John Galstad, Jim & Eloise Langseth, Pat & Teresa Riley, John & Marlene Moberg, Marianne Behrens, Alvin Sachen, Gary & Velma Cortright, Margaret & Keith Schroeder, Daryl & Karen Doeden, Gary Obermoller, Marlene Jurgensen, Rosemary King, Virgil & Donna Reed, Bill & Karen Knigge, Dean & Phyllis Leistico, Jen Iverson, David & Kathy Roslansky, Myron & Sandy Meyer and Clair, Linda Lindemann, LaVonne Holt and Jim & Jessica Arnt. May God bless you for your kindness!

The Altar Guild thanks everyone who ordered a poinsettia to help beautify our church for the Christmas Season!

ALTAR FLOWERS

if you would like to provide flowers for the altar on a specific Sunday please sign up on the flower calendar in the Narthex. Please sign up at least two weeks in advance. Bouquets are ordered from McCarthy's Floral by Ruth Ramert. If you wish to order your flowers from Hy-Vee, you will need to place the order directly to Hy-Vee yourself and Hy-Vee will need to set up a delivery time with us to ensure someone is here when they deliver. If you have any questions, please contact Ruth Ramert at (507) 372-7225.



PLEASE TAKE NOTE: WHEN THE WINTER WEATHER IS QUESTIONABLE - HOW DO I FIND OUT IF CHURCH SERVICES/ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN CANCELLED?

To find out if worship services have been cancelled, please tune into the following radio stations for announcements:

- FM Stations 95.1; 93.5 and 104.3
- AM Station 730 (KWOA)

OR Check out our Facebook page – facebook.com/stmattworthington.

Highlights from the December 8, 2015 Council Meeting:

Treasurer's Report – November expenses were \$30,878.59; income was \$50,086.00; Building Fund income was \$17,263.00 and expenses were \$14,079.46 for an overall positive of \$22,390.95. Building Loan balance is \$91,956.83. Memorial Fund balance is \$28,703.04. Scholarship Fund is \$615,775.68. In addition, reported a donation of \$15,593.52 will be used as follows -- \$10,000.00 to Building Loan Principal and \$5,593.52 toward Sound System.

Pastor Mark – Average weekend attendance in November was 329. Pictorial Directory update: a total of 252 families were photographed, 18 photos were submitted. Directory was finalized on Monday, December 7th and all required information is being sent to the company. We will receive a proof sometime after Christmas.

Roxie Leckband – Working out details for the National Youth Gathering next summer in New Orleans.

Lorenda Glade & Joy Schreiber – A call has been made to David Salmen to take a look at the organ, as the green power light is no longer working and the trumpet pipes do not always work consistently. Joy and Lorenda are pleased with the new keyboard in the sanctuary, but are still in need of a replacement keyboard for the balcony. They will continue to look at the best options to meet our worship needs.

Elders – December 1st, LCMS Memorandum of Understanding to drop association with Boy Scouts. Not sure what will happen locally at St. Matthew's.

Trustees – Permission granted to purchase new printer for Music Office. The sign "Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread", which is mounted above the serving window in the basement, will be replaced. Some of the existing letters are missing. The LWML will take over this project. A new vinyl sign will be provided.

Board of Education – Sunday School going well.

Evangelism Committee – Organizing the Banquet service project for January 23 in Sioux Falls.

Unfinished Business – 125th Anniversary Update: The Adopt A Day mortgage for 2016 will be set at \$125 a day.

New Business – 2016 Annual Church Report will be started again, last one was in 2010. Each board should have their information to next council meeting on January 12th. Ken Meyer presented information about internet update and it was decided to go with Frontier as they are already our phone provider and have excellent service.

Stewardship Bulletin Sentences (from LCMS.org)

Luke 2:40 "And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him." At Christmas God became man. And as a man, Jesus grew up and increased in strength and wisdom. We are called to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, to grow in His image. The power for this growth comes from receiving the grace of Jesus in His Word and Sacraments. How is the Lord calling you to grow this year?

2015 Giving Statements will be ready for pickup by January 24th – watch the weekly bulletins for updated information. Any statements not picked up by January 25th will be put in the mail to you.



Worship Service Helpers for January 2016

ACOLYTES

Jan. 3	(8 AM) Ashley Ling	(10:30) MacKenzie Meyeraan
Jan. 10	(8 AM) Chad Buntjer	(10:30) Ivy Paplow
Jan. 17	(8 AM) Kaylee Gerdes	(10:30) Zach Ahrenstorff
Jan. 24	(8 AM) Cayla Ling	(10:30) Brynne White
Jan. 31	(8 AM) Austin Heimgartner	(10:30) Alyssa Bosma
Feb. 7	(8 AM) Carter Hokeness	(10:30) Hunter Boomgarden

NURSERY (10:30 service only)

Jan. 3	Eli Hansberger
Jan. 10	Carson Wolford
Jan. 17	Faith Arnt
Jan. 24	Jacquelyn Banegas
Jan. 31	Jessalyn Broesder
Feb. 7	Laci Boomgarden

Nursery Adult Supervisor

Beth White
Alexie Cross
Val Wolford
Jessica Larson
Marlis Rohwer
Gail Holinka

** Please be sure to mark your calendars. If you cannot fulfill your scheduled date, please find a replacement and **call the church office with the change.** THANK YOU*

GREETER SCHEDULE for January 2016

**If you are unable to fulfill your scheduled time, please try to find a replacement and call the church office with the change. Thanks for serving.*

Jan. 3	8 a.m. – Clarence & Twyla Mess 10:30 – Mike & Cindy Froderman
Jan. 10	8 a.m. – Dale & Bonnie Schroeder 10:30 – Bruce & Bev Kness
Jan. 17	8 a.m. – Bill & Jeanette Smrcka 10:30 – Dale & Vickie Larson
Jan. 24	8 a.m. – YOUTH 10:30 – YOUTH
Jan. 31	8 a.m. – Kent Brunk; Cindy Brunk 10:30 – Roger Bakkene; Alice White
Feb. 7	8 a.m. – Sue Koob; Ilona Benson 10:30 – Bill & Karen Knigge

