

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

1505 Dover Street, Worthington, MN
March 2018 Newsletter

Life Together

Dear Saints in Lent,

We continue our Lenten journey this month. We come to worship not just to thank Him for saving us and promising us eternal life, but also to put ourselves into His presence each week and ask Him to move our hearts to serve. Our Christian life is our thank you.

It certainly does not befit the Lordship of Jesus that we hear about salvation from time to time. Many people joke about being Christmas and Easter Christians, or poinsettia and lily Christians, but it is really no joke. We are brought together by the Holy Spirit into a community of believers asking Him to use us to carry out His Great Commission in our lives.

The Christian diet works the opposite way of any other diet. The more you eat the lighter you get and the less you eat the heavier you get. The Good News that we proclaim every week is to lighten our hearts and lives, but it is not just a personal knowledge issue. We are called to serve our God. Christ Jesus sent His Spirit to move our hearts to look upward and outward, not just inward. We are empowered to go against sin, death, and the devil with His resurrection power. We are at war against false belief, despair, and other great and shameful sins as Luther explains in the Lord's Prayer.

Now, more than ever, come be with fellow Christians. If someone has hurt you, ask the Lord for His help. We only hurt ourselves by staying away because of some hurt, even if real and profound. If you think the Lord has abandoned you, now more than ever come and hear about the Good News that He never leaves us or forsakes us. We can turn inward, only He can turn us outward.

Our Lord looked outward. He looked out for us, laying aside His glory. Come, this Lenten season, and pray as we humble ourselves together under his kingship. Be moved by his love to worship each week, and proclaim your love for your Savior and your desire to have Him work His blessings through you.

In Christ,

Pastor Mark



We will be doing the Good Friday drama again this year!

If you are interested in participating, please contact Joy Schreiber.

Practices will be on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. for the singers.

There are many musical opportunities for Holy Week including small groups, brass for hymns on Easter Sunday, Festival Choir and singing of the Hallelujah Chorus on Easter Sunday. Please be watching the bulletins and pre-service screens for rehearsal information for our upcoming Holy Week services. Contact Lorenda or Joy with any questions, or if you are interested.





LENTEN SCHEDULE

Join us **Wednesday evenings at our 6:30 p.m. worship services** for **Return from Exile**, a special series for the season of Lent. Life is full of journeys – even life itself is a journey. Much takes place between the beginning and the end, and our Lenten journey is no different. As Christians, we embark upon a daily movement from exile – from life under the burden of sin to the joy of the Gospel that is ours in Christ Jesus. As we begin each leg of this journey, do not be surprised to discover that Christ travels with us. He has always been our guide from the beginning, and He will journey with us to the end. We embark on this Lenten journey contemplating the reality of our earthly journey with our eyes fixed on the destination – the empty tomb and the open gates of everlasting life, with the confidence of knowing that we do not walk alone! The themes for the remaining weeks are as follows:

- February 28 – Mountain to Mountain: Mount Moriah to Mount Zion
- March 7 – Out of Egypt: Through the Water
- March 14 – Tree to Tree: The Tree of Life to the Cross
- March 21 – The Wilderness to the Promised Land
- Maundy Thursday, March 29 – Meal to Meal: The Passover to the Lord’s Supper
- Good Friday, March 30 – Sin-Bearer to Sin-Bearer: The Day of Atonement to the Atonement

A Lenten supper is served each Wednesday from 5:15-6:15 p.m. A free-will donation is received for the meals. The remaining meals will be hosted by:

- February 28 – Youth – Swedish meatballs, potatoes & gravy, corn, desserts
- March 7 – LWML – Scalloped Potatoes & Ham, green beans, bars
- March 14 – Pat Arnt – Beef Commercials = slow roasted tender beef, real beaten potatoes, gravy, sweet corn, salads, desserts.
- March 21 – Craig & Nancy Edwards – Chili with bread, assorted relishes, bars

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

PALM SUNDAY, March 25th we will have ONE WORSHIP SERVICE at 9:30AM. Join us for a special service that will include our Sunday School children singing.

NO service on Wednesday, March 28th.

Maundy Thursday, March 29th service at 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday, March 30th service at 6:30 p.m. - This service will include a special Drama!

EASTER – April 1st we will have services at: 7:00AM and 9:30AM. Easter Breakfast will be served between the worship services!



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME
BEGINS MARCH 11TH!**
Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour
when you go to bed on Saturday, March 10th

CHURCH RECORDS

Deaths

- Roger Bakkene passed away February 1; funeral service was February 6.
- Lillie Obermoller passed away January 23; funeral service was February 10.

Human Care Ministry News By Roxie Leckband

Visitation Ministry/Food Ministry/Card Ministry

Greetings as we look to the season of Lent we once again are brought to the reality of our sinful world which creates pain and suffering for many people. A mission of St. Matthew's Human Care and Health Ministry is to bring comfort, support, relief and hope for those who are in physical, emotional and spiritual pain. We need your help. Please notify me by e-mail at stmatthhumancare@gmail.com or by phone 376-6168 and ask for Roxie in order for us to provide the needed support.

Health Cabinet Meeting is Monday, March 19th at 12 noon in the Fireside room.

Noon Fellowship will be on March 12th we will be serving Sloppy Joes and cheesy hash browns. There will be a blood pressure clinic beginning at 11:30 for anyone desiring to have their blood pressure taken. I will have information about S.A.G.E.S. (Saints Alive, Growing, Ever, Serving), a MN South District Older Adult Ministry.

The annual Gathering for S.A.G.E.S. (a MN South Older Adult Ministry) will be held at the Country Inn & Suites in Mankato on May 7 & 8, 2018. The title is Pearls of Wisdom Entrusting the Treasure to the Next Generation with a theme verse of Psalm 145:4-7 - *One generation commends your works to another they tell of your mighty acts. They speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty-and I will meditate on your wonderful works. They tell of the power of your awesome works-and I will proclaim your great deeds. They celebrated your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness.*

A Human Care Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting will be on Saturday, March 10th. Anyone who has been crocheting and knitting Prayer Shawls please join us at 9:00 a.m. If there is anyone who would like to become involved or just wants to learn more about the ministry we welcome you! If there are any questions please contact Deb Thompson at 507 360 3381. We look forward to seeing you.

Attention: please remember our **Gap Ministry** as we serve with Love INC to provide cleaning supplies for members of our community. We are always accepting donations of cleaning supplies or monetary donations to purchase supplies. You may drop off the supplies in the designated drawer of the Cabinet at the North entrance. Thank-you in advance for seeing a need and providing for that need.

Christian Education Information

PARENTS and GUARDIANS, PLEASE NOTE:

Our last class for KFC (afterschool program) is March 21st. I cannot believe we are already to this point in our Christian Education year. We have had a great year. To our teachers/helpers for all of their work and also to the parents who sent their children – THANK YOU for making an impact. Thanks as well to the children for their attendance. May God richly bless each and every one of you.

Sunday School Children will be singing at the 9:30AM Palm Sunday service on March 25th. Please have your children downstairs in the Fellowship hall by 9:10AM that morning.

There will be NO Sunday school on Palm Sunday, March 25th or on Easter Sunday, April 1st.

Human Care Ministry News continued:

Confirmation class: There will be NO Confirmation Class on Wednesday, March 28th. Parents please have your children in attendance at the Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter worship services.

Parents/guardians and children/youth: Children please make sure to take the devotional material that is at both entrances to the Sanctuary. Youth/older kids please use the material that was handed out at Confirmation and High School youth.

Vacation Bible School 2018: Please mark your calendar for June 18th-22nd (9am-3pm Monday-Thursday and 9am-12noon on Friday) as we partner with Camp Omega to offer a Day Camp style VBS.

Please keep all of our children/youth in your prayers as the Holy Spirit is working to create and strengthen their faith that will last forever. The Lord Be with you!

FAMILY NIGHT for our young families/adults will be on Sunday, March 18th at 5:00pm. We will meet in the Fireside Room. There will be child care for infants and toddlers. There will be a meal provided. We will discuss what this age group would like to do in the future. Jenna and I look forward to seeing ALL of you. Please feel free to email, text or phone me with any questions you may have. Please, if you think you are able to make it, let me know, even if it is on March 18th.

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES FOR WOMEN

The Sarah Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 20th at 12:30 in the Fireside Room. The Hope Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 20th at 5:15 p.m. The Martha Circle will meet on Thursday, March 15th at 1:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

Lutheran Women's Mission League (LWML) News

The March LWML meeting will be on Thursday, March 1 at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This will be our annual Prayer Service. ALL members are encouraged to attend; as well as other members of our congregation. Sarah Circle is hostess. The March 18 coffee hour will be served by the Martha Circle.

ALTAR GUILD

Serving in March will be Velma Cortright for the 8 a.m. worship services. Jen Iverson & Sue Koob will do the Maundy Thursday, March 29 service. If you would like to be a part of the Altar Guild please contact Velma Cortright, 376-5600 or Sandy Meyer, 376-6290.



If you know when you would like to put flowers on the Altar throughout the year, please sign-up right away. **The sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in the Narthex (back of the church). Please make sure you sign up at least 2 weeks in advance (minimum).** Please contact Ruth Ramert, 372-7225 if you have any questions. Thank You.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Each Sunday morning you are invited to join fellow worshippers, following the 8 a.m. service, in the basement for coffee and fellowship. A free will donation is received to cover the costs and benefit the various projects. **The first and second Sundays of the month, there is opportunity for those church committees/groups wishing to host a coffee hour.** There is a sign-up sheet in the basement near the kitchen. **Please sign-up at least two weeks in advance. The third Sunday of the month, the LWML sponsors the coffee hour. The fourth Sunday of the month, the YOUTH (YPOGs) sponsor the coffee hour.**

The Human Care Board will be hosting the coffee hour on Sunday, March 4th

All proceeds will be used to purchase supplies for our Household Cleaning Supplies Love Inc. Gap Ministry. This ongoing ministry has been sponsored for the past 5 years by our church to help meet the needs of those within our community. Our inventory of supplies is in need of replenishing. Donations of various cleaning products such as: paper towels, sponges, toilet bowl cleaner and brushes, window cleaner, carpet cleaner, garbage bags of various sizes, all-purpose cleaners, furniture cleaner, cleaning cloths, brooms & dustpans, scrub brushes, disinfecting wipes, hand sanitizer, and buckets. No industrial or hazardous products are accepted. All products must be in sealed, unopened containers. No homemade cleaning products. **Please place your donations in the drawer marked “cleaning supplies” in the tall wooden cabinet in the north elevator entrance.**

MUSIC & WORSHIP NEWS

This is the 2nd part of a series of articles on our Lutheran Worship Service. The information is adapted from a Bible Study prepared by Pastor Tom Schuetze, Zion Lutheran Church, Atlanta, GA.

Last month we shared how we gather together and prepare our hearts for worship with an opening hymn, invocation, and the confession of our sins followed by words of absolution from our Pastor, “in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”.

In Part 2 of our Lutheran service, we join together in welcoming our Lord and Savior. In our traditional service liturgy, we sing a “Kyrie”. It is a direct address to God, meaning “Lord, have mercy”. It is not part of the confession of sins, but a cry to God to have mercy on us and all humanity. At our traditional service, the Kyrie is followed by a Hymn of Praise to the triune God, focusing chiefly on the saving work of Jesus, “the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world”. Each of the Divine Services used at the 8:00 AM service includes a Hymn of Praise. It is omitted during Advent, in anticipation of the celebration of Jesus’ birth at Christmas. The Hymn of Praise is also omitted during Lent, a season of penitence. At our contemporary worship service, the Confession and Absolution is followed by a congregational song of praise, led by the Worship Band. Our Wednesday evening worshipers sing a traditional hymn of praise from our hymnal following the Confession and Absolution.

Following the Hymn of Praise is the “Salutation”, a liturgical greeting by which the pastor blesses the people. He says, “The Lord be with you”. The congregation responds either with “and with your spirit”, or “and also with you”. It returns the blessing to our congregational shepherd, and acknowledges that this blessing is spoken by the Lord’s servant. The Salutation occurs before the Collect of the Day, and returns later in the service at the beginning of the communion liturgy.

The “Collect” is a concisely written prayer that "collects" the prayers of the people. The Collect of the Day is normally prayed following the Salutation, and prior to the reading of the Holy Scriptures. The Collect usually begins with addressing God the Father, followed by praise, a petition often related to the scriptural theme of the day, and concluding with a Trinitarian ending--”through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen”

In Part 3 we will learn how our Lord speaks to us in worship through His Holy Word.

God’s Blessings as we worship our Lord and Savior together.

God’s Blessings,
Lorenda Glade, Joy Schreiber, Directors of Music

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE NEWS

Thank you for all the volunteers who helped serve as the hands and feet of Jesus at The Banquet in Sioux Falls on January 27. Jeremiah Clark, Jessica, Autumn and Faith Arnt, Arnie & Nancy Ihrke, Andrew & Jenna Bents, Karen Schwartz, Lee & Karen Meyer, Dave & Jane Schettler, Mary Krueger, Ron, Jen & Nia Iverson, Jerry, Diane & Kami Vogt, Ken Meyer, Cheri Schmidt, Kaylee Gerdes, Landon Dahl, Gabe & Bethany Dorschner, Bailey Sounthala, Pastor Mark, Caleb, Neveah, Isaac & Ben Schreiber, Marianne Behrens, Terri, Jasmine & Ashley Riley, Joel & Julie Lorenz and Cindy Brunk. It's great to see our church family working so great together! Over 400 were fed a great meal! May God bless you for your kindness!

EVANGELISM MOMENT – Life is short, fragile and precious. It is a gift and a blessing, not to be taken for granted. Love passionately, unconditionally and don't sweat the small stuff! God is good and loves you very much! Pray...Lord let me be a servant leader in my family-never asking for anything in return. Amen.

THRIVENT ACTION TEAM GRANTS

Action Team Grants were a tremendous aide for several projects for St. Matthew's in 2017.

Youth Pork Chop Dinner and Omelet Feeds
LWML Card Shop was supplied by 4 different grants.
Pillowcase dresses and shipping.
Snacks for KFC and Sunday School.
Veterans Breakfast
Welcome Center was started by the church offices.
Puerto Rico School & Medical Supplies
High School Graduates & Baby Quilts

Reformation Dinner
A Card Ministry was initiated.
Yarn for baby afghans.
Advent Children's Event
Eggroll Fundraiser for the LWML.
Items for the Mitten Tree Ministry
Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Thrivent Action Teams make it easy for you to bring people together to make a positive change in your community and church! When you see a need, apply to lead a volunteer team and bam! Once your idea is approved, a Thrivent Action Kit is delivered to your door. It's packed with everything you need to help make your project a success. It even includes \$250 in seed money to help get your project started. This passion-powered program is brought to you by Thrivent Financial because they believe that being wise with money and living generously go hand in hand. If you're a member of Thrivent Financial, you can apply to lead a volunteer team. If you have any questions, contact Jeanette Varuska or Bev in the church office.

Thank you for the calls, cards, food and flowers that I received. It was much appreciated! It made me realize how much it means to be remembered.

Margaret Schroeder

Voters' Meeting Notes from the January 28, 2018 Meeting

(Please keep in mind, these are just NOTES – the actual Minutes cannot be printed until they are approved.)

Treasurer's Report: Fourth Quarter figures were: expenses \$104,769.71. Income was \$113,506.31. Balance of the General Fund \$72,482.96. Building fund loan balance is zero. Memorial Fund is \$124,587.55.

Scholarship Fund is \$711,773.52. Youth Account \$20,098.39.

Staff Reports: *Pastor Mark* – Very impressed and encouraged with the great attendance at the Advent & Christmas services. Our church should always be looking ahead to the future and to the people that will be attending here. It is time to consider updating the rooms in the education wing. *Roxie* – Visitation Ministry continues as parish nursing and also parish visitors. Confirmation classes have been going by quickly. We have approximately 35 youth in grades 5-8 attending. A small food ministry has begun. Adopt-A-Family project was a blessing according to the family that our church and friends supported. A card ministry has

Voters Meeting Notes continued:

been started for those individual that the church is made aware of health concerns. Walking Ministry and Faithfully Fit exercise class continues. *Jenna* – Youth paid \$12,500 towards the cost of a 2nd van for our church. We are excited to be able to use this van for youth transportation and future events. We have 27 youth and 8 chaperones going on a mission trip to Alaska this summer. Youth Board has been considering doing a Hoagie Fundraiser in April. Working on an application for admission to the DCE Program out of Concordia University in Irvine, CA. This is a 2-3 year online program. *Lorenda/Joy* – Had a well-attended blended service celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation on October 29th. PreK-8th grade Sunday School children presented their Christmas program “Sing with Us the Christmas Story” on December 17th. Special thank you to all who shared their musical talents throughout this past year and to the sound techs.

Elders: Started a new lectionary in January that is a four-year series that will enable us to focus on different books of the Bible. Developed a weather cancellation policy, if there is an active weather warning, a committee will meet on Saturday and decide whether to cancel Sunday services. Will apply for a vicar again this year. Remind members the monthly newsletter is available by email to save the church on postage costs.

Trustees: General upkeep and maintenance throughout 2017 – replaced: one sump pump, two water heaters, coils in one air conditioner unit, and fan in one furnace. Baseboards in the Fellowship Hall were scraped and repainted. Gutted the bathroom by the old nursery so that room could be used for storage of kitchen supplies. Other projects: leased a color printer for the church office, worked with Elders on the church-wide Wi-Fi project, switched internet service provider due to speeds needed for the Wi-Fi, replaced blinds in the Sanctuary, installed 3 TVs and DVD players to use for education purposes, helped in the purchase of an additional van for the church, replaced the water fountain in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you to the Youth Board for helping with the purchase of the additional van.

Board of Education: Collected and delivered 84 boxes for Operation Christmas Child project. We are passing out treats/snacks to the students during the Sunday School hour. This assists the groups serving coffee during the Fellowship hour. Sunday school donations will be divided between Love INC, the hurricane victims in Texas and to Missionary McDermott.

Evangelism: Prayer Intercessors for confirmation youth have been going well. Served at the Banquet in Sioux Falls. Delivered Mobile Meals during the month of January.

Human Care: Have made several prayer shawls and have delivered some to members and to the Hospice Cottage.

Youth: Held a “dinner to go” fundraiser in November. Family & youth painting event in November. Jr. High youth had Pray & Play events. HS youth baked and decorated cookies for the Love INC Christmas Tree Forest. Served an Advent meal. Youth did Salvation Army bell ringing.

New Business: Sound techs needed. Vicar position has been budgeted for current year. Will know sometime in late March or April. Education Wing Update Project: Trustees have made a suggestion to replace all the windows with energy efficient ones. Would remove 43 windows and replace with 26 new ones and would replace the 4 restroom windows. Rooms that currently have 3 windows would be decreased to 1 window with the other two openings being replaced with walls. Rooms that currently have 2 windows would be replaced with just 1 window and filled in with replacement walls. Would not do anything with Chapel windows. Outside walls would be finished with materials that would match the outside walls of the Great Hall addition. Would not need the cost of an architect as there would be no changed to current support walls. Estimate possible costs of project are \$165,000-\$180,000. Further discussion included concern about the age of the building, the flat roof, the stairs, the insulation, the bathrooms and plumbing, and what are the goals of the church. President, Nathan Holt will appoint a building committee to consider what the space needs of our church are in the future. Discussion about the need for a bigger stove in the kitchen. Recently it took an hour to bake something, instead of the 20 minutes it should have. Would prefer a commercial grade stove as the kitchen is used frequently for various events. Memorial Fund \$ designated for a new stove could be used.

HIGHLIGHTS from the February 13, 2018 Council Meeting:

Treasurer's Report: January expenses were \$35,922.16. Income was \$24,007.86. Building Fund income was \$395.00. Net income for the month was a negative \$11,519.30. Balance in the General Fund Checking Account on January 31 was \$60,963.66. Memorial Fund balance was \$124,642.56. Scholarship Fund balance was \$729,977.89; however, when Tammy checked balance today after the recent decline in the stock market the balance as of today was \$699,457.93. Youth account was \$17,315.87. Large deficit this month.

Staff Reports: *Pastor* – Logo change was discussed and envelopes have been ordered. Still working on design of the letterhead. Plan to print this on own printer as not used as often. Church App has the bare minimum set up and was submitted today for approval from the App Store. Will have video & audio of sermons, upcoming events, notifications, and links to information about our church. Will take 2-3 weeks to receive approval before site is functional. Current administrator is Pastor Schreiber. *Roxie* – Planning Adult Mission Trip to Texas. Will be taking one of the church vans and 2 participants will be flying there. Have at least 8 going and possibly 2 more. *Jenna* – Youth served omelets on Voters Meeting Sunday in January. On January 31st the 7th-12th grade youth went to Grace Community Church to watch the live stream of “No Apologies Purity Event.” Our youth group won 10 free tickets to RiseFest this summer. February's 507 Youth Event was held at 1st Presbyterian Church with Tom Henderson from Restoration Generation as the guest speaker. Every youth received a free copy of his book. Held a Super Bowl Party at the church. Have been preparing for the Sweetheart Banquet. *Lorenda & Joy* – Ash Wednesday, midweek Lenten services and Holy Week services are being prepared. Plans are being made for the Sunday School students and interested parents to join together in singing a worship song about families and God's love on Mother's Day, May 13th. A few “rattles” in one of the organ pipes has been noticed recently.

Elders: Pastor Schreiber will be leading monthly elder trainings at the elder meetings. Will be having only 1 service during the summer months of July and August. Will continue to have 2 services in June.

Trustees: Will be placing a hitch on the Chevy van soon. This van will be used for the Adult Mission Trip.

Christian Education: Sunday school will finish on the 3rd Sunday in May. VBS will be June 18-22. Planning a fun event for March 18th for Sunday School students.

Evangelism: Our cost to provide the meal at the Banquet in Sioux Falls was \$905.00. Have been discussing possibly doing this event twice a year. Delivered 920 Mobile Meals for the month of January. Gave out a postcard with our church contact on it and the times of our services on Cable 3.

Human Care: Continue with the prayer shawl ministry. Will be hosting coffee hour on March 4th. Considering making lap robes for nursing home residents.

Youth: Discussed other fundraisers. Will be doing a hoagie fundraiser in April. Possibly doing butter braids before Easter. Will be doing a Lent supper.

New Business: Will have elections at April Voters Meeting. Nominating Committee will be: Tim Hansberger, Arnie Ihrke, Karen Knigge, Mike Dierks, and Kirk Feit. Present set up a Building Committee of: Ken Meyer, Joel Lorenz, Lynn Brunk, Jerry Vogt, Bill Knigge and Chairperson Ron Iverson. Discussed revision process of our constitution to stream line some of the current boards that overlap with each other and could be eliminated. Referred to Elders to discuss. Next Council Meeting will be March 13 at 5:30 p.m.



Did you know you can receive your monthly newsletter via email? If you would like this option, please email Bev at stmatchurchoffice@gmail.com Please help us save some \$ on printing and postage costs. THANK YOU!

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: With Winter upon us, in the event of bad weather, please tune into the following radio stations for information about church services and activities.

➤ FM Stations 95.1; 93.5 and 104.3

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

UPDATE: ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN – 2011 through 2017

2,431 Quilts, Blankets, and Baby Blankets have been shipped – that’s an average of **347/year**.

253 Pillowcase Dresses were shipped in 2016 and 2017 (**185** to the Grain Train & **68** to Puerto Rico)

The Fall Edition of the Orphan Grain Train shows children in **Monrovia, Liberia** holding blankets made by **St. Matthew Mission Sewing Ladies**.

Hope and Care for Children, Inc. has 30 orphans living in the orphanage and over 100 students attending the school Nursery-3rd grade in the same building. Soon a new school will house Nursery-6th grade with enrollment of 200 students.

They received a 40’ container filled with desks, tables, chalkboards, school hygiene & layette kits, sewing machines, quilts and over **42,000 Mercy Meals – processed rice meals**. Through these meals, every student’s tummy will be filled keeping their mind focused every school day for an **ENTIRE YEAR**. (Thanks to efficient buying, **7 Cents** provides a meal to a needy individual.) Every day the Gospel is shared with every student through lessons, devotions, interactions, relationships, and chapel messages.

The 30 orphans and all staff waited all day for the container to arrive. The compound is about a mile off the main road down a muddy, narrow, and winding trail called a road. The orphans **WAITED** and **WAITED** in the **DARK OF NIGHT** until they saw the headlights appear – blocks in the distance. Despite the rain, mud, and ponds in the “road,” the semi made it – having to stop once and have someone climb on top and use a stick to lift a hanging electrical wire until the semi cleared.

These orphans saw the goodness of God from strangers in a world far away; their spontaneous burst of praise was the result. The joyful singing and dancing in the dark and rain lasted for about 30 minutes and ended in prayer eventually. The **SMILES LASTED FOR DAYS**. Two days later the container was opened and even the smallest of the kids ran to get in line to carry in the precious gifts.



ORPHAN GRAIN SHIPMENTS – A NEW YEAR 2018

On Tuesday, February 13, John Galstad delivered 37 boxes containing 78 blankets, quilts, and comforter, 25 baby blankets, 59 pillowcase dresses each with 2 pair of underwear tied on. Two boxes of candles, book bags, and miscellaneous items were also included in the shipment.

A **HUGE THANK YOU** to everyone who donates sheets, blankets, mattress pads, pillowcases, fillers, thread, lace, etc. **THANKS** to each and every lady who makes quilt tops, helps put the quilts together, hems the quilts, and to those who help make and pack boxes. **EACH OF YOU ARE APPRECIATED – YOU ARE BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING!**

Karen Doeden

MARCH WORSHIP HELPERS

ACOLYTES

	<u>8 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
March 4	Jordis Weber	Sierra Goedtke
Wednesday, March 7 - 6:30 p.m. – Ashley Riley		
March 11	Caleb Barber	Presley Sieve
Wednesday, March 14 - 6:30 p.m. – Brandon Arzu-Bustad		
March 18	Sander Brunk	Jake Ahrenstorff
Wednesday, March 21 – Grant Peterson		
Palm Sunday, March 25 – 9:30 a.m. – Lance Gordon		
Thursday, March 29 – 6:30 p.m. – Eli Hansberger		
Friday, March 30 – 6:30 p.m. – Calah Riley		
EASTER, April 1 – 7:00 a.m. – Luke Gordon 9:30 a.m. – Damien Leckband		

10:30 a.m. Nursery

March 4	Maelie Holt, Beth White
March 11	Sierra Goedtke, Val Wolford
March 18	Kyle Ahrenstorff, Angie Kopplow
March 25 – 9:30 a.m. – Christine & Jennifer Preuss	
April 1 – 9:30 a.m. – Evan Hansberger, Gail Holinka	

If you are unable to fulfill your scheduled time, please find a replacement and then phone the church office with the change. Thank You!

GREETERS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
March 4	8AM – John Galstad, Ilona Benson; 10:30AM – Bruce & Shawn Boomgarden
March 7	6:30 PM – David & LaVonne Holt
March 11	8AM – Dan & Laurita Roos; 10:30AM – Al & Gail DeGrote
March 14	6:30 PM – Karen Schwartz, Ruth Ramert
March 18	8AM – Don & Lorna Buntjer; 10:30AM – David & Alexie Cross
March 21	6:30 PM - Clarence & Twyla Mess
March 25 –	9:30AM – Keith & Margaret Schroeder; Julie Buntjer
March 29	6:30PM – Mark Schwarz; Marlene Jurgensen
March 30	6:30PM – Joel & Julie Lorenz
April 1	7AM – Daryl & Karen Doeden; Jim & Eloise Langseth 9:30AM – Bill & Karen Knigge; John & Jessica Widvey

*If you are unable to fulfill your scheduled time, please try to switch with someone and then phone the church office with the change. **WE ARE IN NEED OF GREETERS** - If you would like to be added to the Greeter Rotation please contact the church office. Thank You!*

In the case of inclement weather, please tune into the following Worthington Radio Stations (93.5FM, 95.1FM, 104.3FM) to find out if our worship services have been cancelled, or check our Facebook – facebook.com/stmattworthington.