

# St. Matthew Lutheran Church

1505 Dover Street, Worthington, MN

## October 2016 Newsletter



### Are my needs met this month?

**Yes, because He promised to give us our “*daily bread*,” not the bakery!**

Dear Friends in Christ,

October is often a time when churches talk about stewardship—the giving back of our time, talent, and possessions to the Lord and for His work. Some people think that talking about money in the church is “unspiritual.” However, how we individually handle our resources is of great concern to God. As you read through the gospels, Jesus focuses one-third of his teaching on the individual and his/her possessions. Seventeen of his 38 parables are about possessions. In the Bible the words *belief*, *believers*, and *believing* appear 272 times; *prayer* appears 371 times; *love* or *loving* 714 times; and *possessions* and *giving* appear 2,172 times.

Our Christian Stewardship includes much more than the money we give to our church. It involves our whole life—our time and how we use it, our attitudes, our abilities and what we use them for, and our money and possessions. As God’s children, all we do should be done in response to all that he has done for us.

As we pilgrimage in this life we are compelled to continually grow and mature in our giving of our possessions and ourselves. Recently, I came across three different levels of giving that people usually progress through their lifetime as they continue to grow and mature in Christ. Here are the different levels of giving provided by the organization, *Stewardship Advisor*:

1. At the first level of giving, people give only a token amount, if anything at all. Often times, people at this level give to imitate others because they see other people giving. This giving is not usually associated with faith.
2. The next level of giving could be referred to as self-interest giving. People see the church as important so they give to keep the doors open. The attitude toward giving could be compared to paying dues. Giving fulfills a sense of obligation. The self-interest giver sees little connection between faith in God and what he does with his money. Giving is from the leftovers rather than from the top.
3. The next level of giving could be referred to as a level of spiritual gratitude. At this stage, a person recognizes how God has feely given him salvation through his Son Jesus who went to the cross for his sins. Out of thanksgiving for what Jesus has done, there is a response of gratitude. Jesus has paid the penalty of sin so that we can be made right with God. When someone understands what Jesus did on the cross, there is joy in giving. Giving at this level stops focusing on the church budget and becomes a personal surrender of one’s life and resources. People at this level give regular and proportionate amounts of their incomes.

Many of you have already found the joy of giving and have been blessed by it. I pray we all continue to grow and mature as God’s stewards. “And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up” Galatians 6:9.

In Christ,  
*Pastor Mark*

# Fall Worship Schedule

Wednesdays at 6:45pm  
Sundays Include:  
Traditional at 8am  
Contemporary at 10:30am  
\*Sunday School & Adult Bible Class  
at 9:15am on Sundays

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## CHURCH RECORDS

### Baptisms

- Damien Michael Leckband, son of Greg & Roxann Leckband was baptized on September 4, 2016. Sponsors were: Lacey Leckband, Laura Braun and Kayla Leckband.
- Kinsley Kay Heideman, daughter of Brandon Heideman & Kayla White was baptized on September 18, 2016. Sponsors were: Kyle Kirlin and Harlie Welling.

### Death

- Luella Schroeder passed away August 27, 2016. Funeral service was held September 1, 2016 at Benson Funeral Home.

### Wedding

- Marek (Mark) Czajkowski & Meghan Knigge were united in marriage on September 24, 2016.

### Transfers/Releases

- Herb, Matthew and Daniel Schafer to Owatonna, MN.
- Lori Buschena to Marshall, MN.

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## DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY by Roxann Leckband

Family Night will be on October 16<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-5:30PM at Langseth Cabin, 33501 280<sup>th</sup> Street, Worthington MN. We will be carving/painting pumpkins and doing other Fall activities. There will be grilled hamburgers and hot dogs provided. Please bring a dish to pass. Please bring a pumpkin to carve or paint. Paint and some carving tools will be provided.

Mom's Group will be on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-11:30AM. The moms will be participating in reading and discussing a book titled, Unglued. This book is applicable in discussing the raw emotions of young women. It discusses how God works in our lives and provides His loving grace when our emotions get the best of us. The children will be with loving women enjoying play time, Bible stories, crafts and snacks!

Noon Fellowship will be on October 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:00PM. There will be a great main entrée of Tator Tot Casserole, peas and dinner rolls. Please bring dish to pass, a free-will offering or just yourself. Come for good food and Christian fellowship.

**Youth and congregation members:** please see the notes below from our Youth Board meeting for upcoming activities. Youth group will be on Wednesday nights from 5:30-7:30PM. Please note upcoming fundraisers and support our youth financially and with prayer.

### **YOUTH NOTES from September 7, 2016 Meeting:**

**Budget/Activities:** The Budget was gone over with the youth. There will be some combined middle school and senior high activities this year.

## Director of Youth & Family Report continued:

Mission Trip: The youth came up with ideas for mission trips and voted. They chose to go to Alaska for a 12-day mission trip in the summer. Each youth member will be responsible for putting \$50 each month into an envelope for Alaska for commitment to the trip.

Fundraising: Ideas were talked about for the year. The goal is to get as much fundraising done in the first half of the year as possible. Each Youth Sunday (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month) the youth will do some kind of a meal for fundraising. September 25<sup>th</sup> will be an Omelet Feed; October 23<sup>rd</sup> will be a pork chop dinner; November 27<sup>th</sup> will be a Bake Sale; and Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> youth will do a Christmas goodie baking sale/wrapping presents fundraiser.

Planning for the Year: The members present filled out a questionnaire with contact information, medical information and emergency contact and listed ideas for fellowship events/community service projects/topics to discuss. October 21-22 will be a lock-in at the church. Talked about possibly doing a service project every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month.

Communication: A good communication plan is in the works for Adult to Student and Student to Student communication accountability. Events posted on Youth facebook page. Will need ALL youth contact information for texting information.

Other: Wednesday nights will be come and go from 5:30-7:30PM for youth; devotion times will be around 6PM.

**Next Meeting is Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:15AM.** Bible Study will be 9:45-10:15AM that Sunday.

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## EVANGELISM NEWS

**Be the hands and feet of Jesus!** St. Matthews will be doing the local Mobile Meals for the month of October. Please contact Pat Arnt, 360-8717, if you are able to help out with this ministry.



Serving in October will be: Nancy Edwards and Lynn Dierks for the 8 a.m. services. If you would like to be a part of the Altar Guild, please contact Velma Cortright, 376-5600 or Sandy Meyer, 376-6290.

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## WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES FOR WOMEN

The Sarah Circle will meet on Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room. The Hope Circle will meet on Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m. The Martha Circle will meet on Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

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## 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 projects. **On the first and second Sundays of the month, there is opportunity for your church group 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 and all proceeds are given to a seminarian student. The fourth Sunday of the month, the youth sponsor the coffee hour. Proceeds go to support their various activities.

## Music and Worship News

*“Oh that I had a thousand voices to praise my God with thousand tongues!  
My heart, which in the Lord rejoices, Would then proclaim in grateful songs  
To all, wherever I might be, What great things God has done for me.” LSB 811 vs 1*

God continues to do great things for us at St. Matthew. Our fall programs are underway, including our Adult Choir and Bell Choir. Please join us as we use our voices and instruments to praise our Lord and Savior. All singers are invited to our **adult choir rehearsals on Wednesday evening at 5:30**. Our director is Louise Clausen, with Linda Lang serving as accompanist. Our **bell choir** is trying out a **Tuesday, 5:00 PM rehearsal time**. If you have fundamental music reading skills, you are invited to participate in bell choir. Please contact director Louise Clausen or Lorenda Glade for more information.

Our Wednesday evening services continue, beginning at 6:45 in the sanctuary. This is another worship option at St. Matthew, and we encourage people to attend, particularly if you will be out of town on the weekend and unable to worship at one of our Sunday morning services.

A number of special worship opportunities are coming up in the next few months, including:

- LWML Sunday on October 2, with the women offering special music that day.
- Reformation Sunday on October 30, which will include special music celebrating our Lutheran heritage and the priceless gift of salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.
- We continue to celebrate our 125th anniversary at St. Matthew, with a special celebration service and meal planned for Sunday, November 6.
- A men’s chorus will offer thanks to God for our veterans on November 13.
- We will offer our thanks to God for our many blessings at our Thanksgiving Eve service on November 23, which will include special brass and choir music.
- We will begin celebrating the season of Advent on Sunday, November 27, and our midweek Advent services.
- December 18 will be our Sunday School Christmas program/service.

Please be watching the bulletins for more information on all of these special music and worship opportunities.

God’s richest blessings,  
*Lorenda Glade & Joy Schreiber, Directors of Music*

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## LWML (Lutheran Women’s Missionary League) NEWS

The October meeting for LWML will be on Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm. We will finalize plans for the Fall Harvest Dinner. Martha Circle will be Hostess. Please note that the Worthington Zone LWML Rally is on October 22 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Lakefield. Registration is at 8:30am. Gifts from the Heart to be announced. Coffee Hour on October 16<sup>th</sup> will be served by the Martha Circle.

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## LWML Celebration on Sunday - October 2, 2016

Based on Psalm 66:5 and John 1:35-51, the theme chosen for LWML Sunday 2016 is “Come and See.” LWML Sunday is celebrated annually in The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) churches. Come celebrate LWML Sunday on October 2, 2016. Watch for more information about the LWML and becoming involved in reaching others with the love of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

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*St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
and LWML Harvest Dinner  
Sunday, November 6, 2015*

*Special Worship Service at 10:30a.m.*

*Meal served from 11:30a.m. – 1:00 p.m.*

*\*A "Free-will Offering" will be received for the meal.*

Come and enjoy a delicious **Thanksgiving Dinner** of turkey and all the trimmings, plus homemade pie! Please come celebrate this milestone anniversary and the completion of our Building Addition Loan! There will be a bake sale of homemade goodies and also cards available from our bookstore. Proceeds from the meal will go toward LWML Missions and the new roof on our church.

**Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow!**

**Deliveries will be available within the City of Worthington. Please call the church office, 376-6168 by 3:00pm on Friday, November 4 to sign-up for a delivered meal.**

### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

Ruth Ramert (372-7225) is the flower coordinator and a sign-up sheet is in the Narthex (back of the church). The cost of the arrangements are \$25. We order our altar flowers from McCarthy's Floral in Worthington. McCarthy's will have the containers that our church uses. In those containers, and for the \$25 cost, you may pick from the following flowers: carnations, mini carnations, daisies, austromarias and mums. If you choose to have other flowers, the cost would be more. If you would rather use your own container or vase you may do so by dropping it off at McCarthy's. McCarthy's will deliver the bouquets to church. Please return the containers to the church or directly to McCarthy's Floral, so we may reuse the containers for more beautiful bouquets for the church. Anyone wishing to order flowers from Hy-Vee will have to place their own order with Hy-Vee and you will have to bring the flowers to church, or ensure that someone will be at church when Hy-Vee delivers. Thank you for providing the beautiful flower arrangements for our altar.

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### **MISSION SEWING – MEETS 2<sup>ND</sup> AND 4<sup>TH</sup> THURSDAYS from 9 AM to 1 PM**

If you can tie a knot, we need you. We clamp a bottom to the tables to secure, add a filler, and then a top. We then tie the quilt. Once that is done, the edges are turned and pinned. Someone then takes it home to finish sewing. A quilt is then complete and can be delivered to the Orphan Grain Train.

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**St. Matthew Lutheran Church's  
Quarterly Voters Meeting  
Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:45 a.m.**



Announcing

If you would like to submit something to be included on the Agenda, please contact Nathan Holt, Congregation President by October 4<sup>th</sup>.

All active, confirmed members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church, who are at least 18 years of age, are considered to be VOTING MEMBERS, and are expected and encouraged to attend and place their vote. **Please watch for more information!**

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**THANK YOU**

*A heartfelt thanks to each of you who in any way helped to make our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration a memorable and happy day. God bless you all. In Christ's Love,*

*Daryl & Karen Doeden*

*The Arnt family gives thanks and glory to God for all the wonderful people that touched our lives during Jim's passing. May God bless you for your kindness! Life is fragile, precious and short! It is a gift and a blessing, not to be taken for granted. Love is the greatest gift of all. Love passionately, unconditionally and don't sweat the small stuff! Never put worldly things above your family. God is good and loves each one of you very much! Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever! Psalm 23 AMEN!*

*Thank you St. Matthew's congregation, family and friends for helping us celebrate our birthdays with good wishes, prayers and your presence during our celebration. God Bless,*

*Larry & Peg Ruesch*

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**November Veterans Breakfast - EVERYONE IS INVITED!  
Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 a.m.**

*(during the normal Coffee Hour time)*

Please watch for more information in the upcoming Sunday bulletins regarding this Special Breakfast.

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**ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN**

On August 22, 2016 John Galstad delivered 31 boxes to Orphan Grain Train in Norfolk, Nebraska. Included in the boxes were 89 blankets and 60 baby blankets. Also sent were 33 pillowcase dresses made by JoAnn Smith.

If you have good book bags that your children don't need any more, Orphan Grain would appreciate them. At this point, they have school supplies but no book bags to put them into so the supplies can be shipped. You may put book bag donations in the "blanket drawer" in the north entryway donation cabinet.

Orphan Grain Train's "Project Feed 500" pays for shipping food in the U.S. and worldwide. \$15 will ship 500 meals. They would like to increase this year's shipments to over 5.5 million meals to help feed starving children. Donations may be made to Orphan Grain Train on [Thrivent.com/orphangraintrain](http://Thrivent.com/orphangraintrain).

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## ***The Reader's Digest version of the Council Minutes from September 13, 2016***

*These are just highlights from the meeting; as the actual Minutes will not be approved until the October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.*

Treasurer's Report: August expenses were \$37,870.04; income was \$26,836.65. Building Fund income was \$1,865.00 and expenses were \$1,000 for a net income for the month of -\$10,168.39. Balance in the General Fund checking account on August 31 was \$90,203.42. Roof/Building Loan balance at the end of August was \$164,808.68. \$34,881.48 in Adopt-A-Day money was received in August. Memorial Fund balance is \$57,634.71. Scholarship Fund balance is \$640,591.20. Starting building loan balance for August was \$202,980.16. A generous donation in Adopt-A-Day money was received to pay off the remaining balance from the previous building loan. Automatic payments have been set-up with smaller amount due than previous loan. Will continue to make higher payments, due to Adopt-A-Day donations, which will be applied to the principal loan balance. Interest rate on the new loan was 3.8%. All money given with the "Adopt-A-Day program" for the remainder of this year will be paid directly on the principal of the New Roof Building Loan.

Staff Reports: *Pastor Mark* – average weekend attendance was 282, average Wednesday attendance was 32. Continuing to work on developing our church App site. Members will have to download the App to access this site. We will be able to see who have accessed it. Can be used to do group notifications.

*Roxie* – Sunday School curriculum will be following the "Believe" Bible Study program. Will be monitoring the Sunday School and Confirmation attendance. Planning to resume Young Adult monthly fellowship activities since softball has concluded. WAYMA is planning on a "Feed My Starving Children" event for March or April, and plan to have youth involved in this event. October 5<sup>th</sup> will be next "507" event for youth at 6:30 p.m. at First Lutheran Church. *Lorenda* – Working on finalizing a blended service for Wednesday evenings. Thank you to Darci Holt for donating her services as keyboardist for the summer Wednesday services. We are in need of additional Adult Choir members and encourage new and former members to join. Worship Band will rehearse on Sunday mornings between services. We are still in need of additional sound techs for both Sunday services.

Board of Elders: Recommended Chris Luther to fulfill Jim Arnt's elder term.

Board of Trustees: Need a list of the plants/flowers that need to be replaced and the costs. Installation of the new roof and insulation has been completed. Gutters will be completed in September. Decided to have all the HVAC condensers checked each spring for Freon levels as preventative maintenance. Annual fire sprinkler inspection and testing will be this month.

Board of Christian Education: Sunday School Kickoff had 70-75 in attendance. Sunday School will be using the "Believe" curriculum for all grades. December 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. is the date set for the Preschool-8<sup>th</sup> grade Christmas program.

Human Care: Will be preparing and serving a meal, September 26<sup>th</sup> Growing Hope class being given by Love INC at Wgtn. Christian Church. Planning a Love INC Sunday and will be hosting a coffee hour to support our Household Cleaning products GAP Ministry.

New Business: Tammy Brunk has received the training on a new program for automatic offering donations that members will be offered. A form is in this newsletter for members to complete and turn into the church office. Members will still receive envelopes for special services held during the church year. Will also have a card that can be placed in the offering plate if needed.

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### **GRAIN OFFERINGS**

Any farmers that would like to make a donation using loads of grain may do so by simply telling the grain elevator, and then calling the place you are doing the donation for, so they may contact the elevator. You may make your donations this way to the following organizations:

- St. Matthew Lutheran Church
- Worthington Christian School
- Love INC. of Worthington

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

# WORSHIP SERVICE HELPERS

## ACOLYTES

<u>Date</u>	<u>8 AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
October 2	Brandon Arzu-Bustad	Luke Gordon
October 9	Hannah Henning	Eli Hansberger
October 16	Chad Buntjer	Carson Wolford
October 23	Ashley Ling	Zaydan Abdulrahman
October 30	Caleb Barber	Jacquelyn Banegas
<b>November 6 – One Service at 10:30AM = Faith Arnt</b>		

## NURSERY (10:30 service only)

October 2	Jessalyn Broesder; Gail Holinka
October 9	MacKenzie Meyeraan; Val Wolford
October 16	Brynne White; Alexie Cross
October 23	Ivy Paplow; Kham HOLETON
October 30	Kyle Ahrenstorff; Marlis Rohwer
November 6	Sierra Goedtke; Beth White

**Please remember to arrive at least 15 minutes before the service begins.** If you cannot fulfill your scheduled date, please find a replacement and call the church office with the change, 376-6168.

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# GREETERS SCHEDULE

October 2	(8 am) (10:30)	LWML Ladies; and Barry & Kerry Sauer LWML Ladies; and Lee & Karen Meyer
October 9	(8 am) (10:30)	Dale & Bonnie Schroeder LaDean & Lori Fletcher
October 16	(8 am) (10:30)	Kent Brunk; Cindy Brunk Virgil & Donna Reed
October 23	(8 am) (10:30)	YOUTH YOUTH
November 6	(10:30)	Ilona Benson; John & Marlene Moberg

*Please Note: If you are unable to fulfill your scheduled time, please find someone to switch with and then let the church office know of the change. Thank You for serving!*

***Please contact the church office if you would like to be added to the greeter's rotation schedule.***

