St. Matthew's Lutheran Church Newsletter

July 2024



Faith Chat:

Blessings on your summer! As we officially slide into the warm, vacation, relaxation, and all-around good vibes season, it's a time when we often miss a Sunday or two, including me! Now, don't worry, this isn't a "Pastor finger wagging, "better go to church during the summer and while on vacation," post. Nope, it's a reminder that our faith is lived out wherever we are. Yes, gathering in worship matters for our faith journey, it's how we keep learning, growing, and serving God and neighbor, AND like anything else in life, our faith journeys rarely (if never!) happen in only one place. I could be wrong, but I'm fairly certain that God didn't intend for us to not enjoy as much of God's creation as possible, even if it means skipping worship from time to time. *Although remember that Brian Schuster does a wonderful job of bringing worship to the interwebs each week!*

So, what am I trying to say? I want you to be free of any guilt as you enjoy time in nature, with family, friends, or even strangers! I want to offer you this summertime, vacation time, relaxation time prayer, faith time prayer:

May you savor each moment as a gift and keep your heart, mind and soul open to what God is showing you wherever you are.

May each sunrise and sunset remind you of the presence of God in the liminal spaces in your life. May the vibrant colors of wildflowers, the shrieks of joy from toddlers in the pool, the smell of fresh mown grass, the content chirping of crickets and a refreshing breeze feed your soul.

May you wander and wonder in God's creation, grounded in the mystery and gift of God's grace. May you rest and trust in the promises of God's presence wherever you are, whenever you are and whoever you are.

May summer bring you joy in the love of God in Jesus. Amen.

In Christ,

Pastor Brigette Weier

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Council President Letter:

Each of you should use whatever gifts you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10

This quote from Peter was on a card in my Thrivent Kit that I had received when I applied for an action grant from Thrivent for our pantry along with T shirts and thank you cards.

Over the last several months each Ministry of St Matthew's spoke during services about what they do and who is on the Ministry and the mission and purpose of each Ministry. Every Ministry has asked for volunteers to help on that Ministry and Church Ministries play a crucial role in fostering community, spiritual growth, and social outreach. The backbone of these ministries is often the volunteers who dedicate their time, skills, and resources to support various St Matthew's activities.

Volunteers are indispensable to the success and vitality of St Matthew's ministries. Their motivations for volunteering are diverse, ranging from spiritual growth and community connection and personal fulfillment.

The contributions of volunteers enable St Matthew's to expand our outreach and service efforts. Ministries focused on humanitarian aid and community support rely heavily on volunteer involvement. These activities

extend St Matthew's impact beyond this congregation, addressing the needs of the wider community.

If you would like to be part of one of St Matthew's Ministry, please see me or Pastor Brigette and we will direct you to the Ministry lead person so you can get started.

Our senior breakfast club is growing. If you would like to join us we meet at Dee's Family Restaurant 4710 South Redwood Road every other Tuesday at 9:00 am. Our next breakfast dates are July $2^{\rm nd}$, $16^{\rm th}$ & $30^{\rm th}$.

St Matthew's Hospitality Ministry sets up a coffee and treat table just before service, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Services begin at 10:00 a.m.

Blessings,

Mike Stoker

Council President





Sunday Service Streams Live:

It's too hot, I'm sick or I just can't get moving on a Sunday morning. Don't worry you can still watch service.

St Matthew's streams service live every Sunday at 10:00 am so join us online. If you can't join service on Sunday that week, service is still on our web page www.stmatthewsut.org for five days.

So if you want to hear the sermon again or want to hear the gospel or Kathleen's music during that week, just go to St. Matthew's web page and click on the link.

Submitted by Communication Ministry

July Newsletter Articles:



KNIT. CROCHET. PRAY.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on the first Monday of every month at 2 PM. Prayer shawls, hats, baby blankets, and scarves are projects we work on together. We have a great need for yarn donations; please see Mary Wimmer or Henny Johnson for more information.



Email Change:

Please note that the emails for St. Matthew's have been changed. The new ones are:

- Office email will now be officeofstmatts@gmail.com
- Newsletter email will now be newstmatts@gmail.com

Submitted by Brian Schuster Communications Ministry



Property Ministry HELP WANTED:

The Property Ministry is looking for volunteers to help with the church yard and building. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to use your gifts to help serve the people of St. Matthew's and the community.

If you are able to help in any way, please contact Mike Stoker; (801) 232-6588. michaelrstoker@gmail.com.

Submitted by Mike Stoker Property Ministry



Like a garden needs dirt to grow, Stewardship needs dirt as well. But unlike the dirt we use to plant. The dirt we need is all of you. We will be starting to talk about our annual initiative for this coming year and you can expect some great and wonderful news in the months to come. Yes, I know this is a wee bit early but the early bird gets the worm. The worm that is in the dirt.

Blessings,

Submitted by Elizabeth Hawke Stewardship Ministry



Faith at Home:

To "BLESS One Another" is to shower God's favor on others. We do it often as Christians. It is the last of the FAITH5 faith practices that we do simply by being kind, listening, helping, praying for others. In Genesis 12 "God tells Abraham that he will be blessed so that he can be a blessing to others. This is the beginning of a bigger blessing that will be to all humanity. God has blessed us, and He desires for us to bless others as well."

It is our Christian culture to share blessings throughout our worship services and beyond. FAITH5 is the new 'beyond' - Every Week at Church and Every Night in Every Home.

God bless you as you begin living FAITH5. The FAITH5 steps:

- SHARE your highs and lows.
- **READ** a bible verse or story.
- **TALK** about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows.
- PRAY for one another's highs and lows
- BLESS one another

Submitted by Pam Lawrence Faith Formation Ministry



Are You Traveling this Summer?

Why not worship with a local congregation while traveling this summer.

Use "Find a Congregation" tool at elca.org to search churches in the places you are visiting.

Submitted by Mary Kay Arnold



Have you ever wondered, how many ministries St. Matthew's has? Maybe you considered getting involved in one or more of them, but was unsure of who to talk to about it.

Well, here's your chance. With a new pastor and new possible members joining, your council has agreed that the time has come to answer those questions.

We are asking all ministry leaders to represent their ministry during the announcement portion of services. They will announce who is on their team, as well as a brief discussion about what that ministry does.

• July 28th - Council

Submitted by Amanda Ventura St. Matthew's Council



Our senior breakfast club is growing if you would like to join us. We meet at Dee's Family Restaurant, 4710 South Redwood Road, every other Tuesday at 9:00 am. Our next breakfast dates are **July 2nd, 16th, & 30th.**

Submitted by Mike Stoker Breakfast Club



Pastor on Vacation:

Pastor Brigette will be on vacation in Greece from **July 13-25**. She will be in worship on July 28. Please contact a caring minister for emergency pastoral care.

Submitted by Pastor Brigette Weier



St. Matthew's Lutheran is asking for the community's help. Our Little Pantry supplies are running low due to increased need. Products needed the most include:

- Canned Pasta
- Canned Corn
- Canned Soup
- Canned Fruit
- Cereal
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Jelly
- Boxed Drinks/Juices
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Tooth Brushes

But...any donations is greatly appreciated.

Donations will be accepted Wednesday nights (June 26th – July 17th) from 6:00 pm -7:00 pm, and Sunday mornings till noon or call (801) 699-4580 to arrange a drop off.

Outreach & Advocacy:



Little Food Pantry:

A grateful "Thanks" for all those who have donated to our Amazon Wish List, the Little Pantry has been blessed once again. Our thank you seems so small compared to all you've done, but it comes from the heart.

Submitted by Jacki Peercy Outreach & Advocacy Ministry



Piggy and Barn Banks!

Summer is coming (or here), be sure to pick up your banks to collect your loose change through the summer months.

Banks will be collected in **September** and all proceeds go to the ELCA World Hunger.

Submitted by Rhonda Joa Outreach & Advocacy Ministry

God's work. Our hands.

DAY OF SERVICE, GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS SATURDAY SEPT. 7 & SUNDAY SEPT. 8

The Outreach and Advocacy Ministry is providing an opportunity to fellowship and serve as a congregation on Sunday, Sept 8, after worship service.

This is an opportunity for all ages to join in. We will gather to assemble *Personal Care Kits* to be distributed to those in need by *Lutheran World Relief*.

And of course we are relying on your generosity to help supply this project.

We will be gathering supplies from April thru August and then gather in September to assemble the kits.

The items needed are:

- April One bath towel, 20" x 40", light or medium weight
- May 2 bars of soap
- June One adult toothbrush, individually wrapped
- July One sturdy comb
- August One metal nail clippers (attached file optional)

We will send out monthly reminders for each item needed and you can stop by the Outreach & Advocacy bulletin board in the hallway where there will be more information about the kits.

Submitted by Rhonda Joa Outreach & Advocacy Ministry



Day of Service with the Taylorsville Community:

The Taylorsville Community will have their Day of Service on **Saturday Sept 14**th, and it will be a food drive to benefit the Utah Food Bank.

Watch for the drop off location address in our August newsletter.

Submitted by Rhonda Joa
Outreach & Advocacy Ministry



It's Easy, Safe & Convenient!

Go to St. Matthew's Website. Click on the **BLUE** donation button.

St. Matthew's provider for online giving is Tithe.ly. You can make one-time donations or set-up a giving schedule that meets your needs. Tithe.ly will do the work for you, making your giving easy and convenient. If you have any questions please check with the Stewardship Ministry.

St. Matthew's Information:



St. Matthew's Newsletter:

Our newsletter has more information about the life of the congregation that you don't want to miss. If you are not receiving the newsletter, please send an email to Amanda Ventura at newstmatts@gmail.com to get your name added to the list.

July Birthday Wishes: Happy Birthday ** July Babies!

| • | Norman Seglem | July 3 |
|---|------------------|---------|
| • | Parker Swingle | July 12 |
| • | Sandra Widdowson | July 12 |
| • | Leandra Ludlam | July 19 |
| • | Ryder Butcher | July 20 |
| • | LaVon Passey | July 26 |

Church Calendars:

| ne | Caring Ministry: None | | Hospitality: Jacki | ndra | Counters: Lue & Leandra | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|----------|
| Debbie & Amanda Ventura | Frank Cordova | Pastor Brigette | Leandra Ludlam | Pastor Brigette | Pastor Brigette | 7-Jul |
| Usher | Greeter | Childrens Message | Worship Assistant | Preacher | Presiding Minister | 10:00 AM |

| | 14-Jul |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Counters: Harmony & Eric | Mary Kay Arnold |
| 7 & Eric | Leandra Ludlam |
| Hospitality: Frank | Liz Hawke |
| | Samantha Johnson |
| Caring Ministry: Liz & Debbie | Mike Stoker |
| iz & Debbie | Liz H. & Harmony T. |

| | 21-Jul |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Counters: Leandra & Cindy | Leandra Ludlam |
| & Cindy | Pam Lawrence |
| Hospitality: Mike | Karla Stoker |
| | Pam Lawrence |
| Caring Ministry: Karla | Craig Widdowson |
| arla | Eric & Mike Stoker |

| | 28-Jul |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Counters: Jacki P. & Cindy B. | Pastor Brigette |
| હે Cindy B. | Pastor Brigette |
| Hospitality: Mary Kay | Eric Stoker |
| lay | Pastor Brigette |
| Caring Ministry: Pam | Cindy Becker |
| am | Jacki P & Cindy B. |

If you are unable to serve as scheduled, please switch with someone or find someone to take your place. Thanks, Mary Kay Arnold (801) 232-7564

Prayer Chain:

For Healing in Mind, Body or Spirit:

Mavis Agar, Selam Alemu, Renee Aspenson, Danny Behounek, Sandy Behounek, Mary Beck, Brianna & Dan Bell, Ellen Dahl, Julie Durrance, Leone Eastman, Scott Frandsen, Gretel Gallagher, Annalisa Giles, Josie Granlund, Carl Hedin, Jay Holzworth, Henny Johnson, Christine Knittle, Edie Knittle, Mark Knittle, Nancy Marple, Sandra Muthreich, Jim Peverelle, Rod Rowland, Pastor John & Jackie Sandstrom, Norman Seglum, Shy Schaugaard, Viki Tellez, Allison Winters, Dave Wolfe, Joe Wolfe, & Minnie Wolfe.

Military & Other Public Servants:

 $1^{\rm st}$ Lt. William Clausen, US Army; Andrew Nguyen, US Air Force; Cadet Evan Schomaker, US Army; & Cody Wood, US Army.

The Community & World:

Our prayer partner congregation, Mt. Tabor; schools; all victims of violence and/or warfare; those who have lost homes and businesses in the fires, hurricanes, and other natural disasters, all who are suffering because of COVID-19, and those recovering from addictions.

