



# St. Matthew Lutheran Church Newsletter January 2019

Greetings and peace in the name of Christ Jesus

2018 has come to a close and in its place comes 2019. With a New Year come the resolutions that we always say we are going to keep but come February we find ourselves in the same routine. Well this year will be different! Let's make an effort to stick to these resolutions this year. My resolution is to continue to accompany this congregation, both in my time as the interim minister and when this comes to an end a member, throughout the year so that it may thrive and continue to serve the greater community around us. As I write this letter to you it has been nearly two months since I have begun my tenure of interim minister and since then much has happened. We have celebrated Christmas Eve together, we have gathered around the Lord's Table for Holy Communion, I have begun teaching a confirmation class to four young people, and there have been many new faces coming through our doors. A few weeks back the Gazette ran a story on me where I said this congregation is thriving and I really do believe this. I am a firm believer that if God did not want this congregation to exist, he would have put many stumbling blocks in our path yet here we are.

In the upcoming year I pray that we continue to band together as the church family of Saint Matthew Lutheran and all resolve to accompany this congregation for years to come. Please keep your leadership team and myself in your prayers and please know you are in all of ours. Have a safe, happy, and blessed new year.

Yours in Christ

-Vicar Blake Shipman

## **President's Report**

Dear fellow members of St. Matthew's,

As we look forward to 2019, please note that a very important meeting of our congregation will take place on January 20. Among other things, we will be looking at the Annual Report from 2018. We have our 2019 budget to approve. We certainly have had a very busy year! My personal thanks to all those who have volunteered their time to serve on the church council. The Lord has richly blessed this congregation and it is an honor to serve on this committee.

2019 looks to be another exciting year. As of the writing of this letter, I am looking forward to the first few weeks of January when our new organ is scheduled to arrive. Jan will be busy learning how it all works. While the new organ will be similar to the old one, there will be much for Jan to learn about it. Please be patient with her.

The annual report will be available in the welcome center in another week or so. Please pick up a copy, take it home, and read and study it before the January 20th meeting. See you at church!

In His service,  
Bruce Etzel  
Council president

## **Call Committee Meetings**

Committee members present at the December 6<sup>th</sup> meeting were Deb Hyland, Connie Consedine, Wayne McIntyre, Jan Etzel and Bill Fitch, absent was Tanya Vanderlinde. We discussed our latest candidate and also reviewed previous pastoral candidates for further consideration.

The Committee is spending more time on reviewing names of additional pastoral candidates. Due to the busy December Christmas season further candidate review and consideration will take place after the first of January.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Fitch

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- There will be a memorial service for Bernice Carragher, Maureen Knipschild's mother, on Saturday, January 5. A visitation will be held at 10:00 followed by the service at 11:00. A lunch will follow in the fellowship hall. Donations of salads and desserts for the luncheon would be appreciated by the family.
- On Sunday, January 6, following the 10:00 church service, we will take down the Christmas decorations in the sanctuary. Please plan to attend.
- Please mark your calendars for Sunday, January 20 following the 10:00 church service. This is the Sunday of our annual congregational meeting. A quorum will be necessary so please plan to attend.

### Thank you to the following people who donated poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary:

Bruce and Jan Etzel	in memory of parents Merle Etzel, Geraldine and Wilbur Gronewold
Fran Rogers and Family	in memory of Andy Rogers
Maureen and Dale Knipschild	in memory of Bernice Carragher
Jeannine Steinle	in memory of Bud Steinle, Nellie and Tony Dotzel
Marilyn and Irle Boehm	in memory of loved ones
Deb and Mike Hyland	in memory of parents Cordy & Walter Guenther Eileen and Dale Miller
Cindy and Fred Baltz	in memory of parents Mary and Harold Sand Helen and Eugene Baltz
Ken and Fabi Voigt	in memory of parents and grandparents
Jim and Marie Moser	in memory of Deloris and Philip Moser

**EVENTS THIS MONTH**

**Every**

Tuesday	10:00 am - Bible Study at The Nursing Home
Wednesday	8:30 am - Men's Bible Study
2nd & 3rd Tuesday	12:30 pm - Quilters
2nd & 4th Tuesday	3:00 pm - With Our Hearts and Hands Ministry

**Specific Dates**

January 9	5:00 pm - Church Council Meeting
January 12	5:30 pm - Communion
January 13	10:00 am - Communion
January 20	11:00 pm - Annual Congregational Meeting
January 26	5:30 pm - Communion
January 27	10:00 am - Communion

**CELEBRATIONS IN JANUARY**

**BIRTHDAYS**

January	15	Kris Korte	January	16	Kimberly Miller
	18	Gordon Montgomery			Thomas Vanderlinde
	20	Jane Klinkner		24	Chuck Korte
	26	Fred Baltz		29	Bill Fitch

**ANNIVERSARIES**

January	11	Robert and Bobbi Johnson
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## **SPECIAL FOCUS MISSION:**

### **JO DAVIESS WORKSHOP**

**January 2018**

The Mission of The Workshop is to promote the general welfare of individuals with disabilities in Jo Daviess County.

The goal of the program is to provide job training and real work opportunities for individuals with disabilities according to their needs and abilities. Individuals may work on the production floor (a 20,000 square foot facility), in the laundry or in community janitorial services.

Training includes Wellness/Counseling, Educational Instruction and Social Skills & Activities. See their website ([www.theworkshopgalena.org](http://www.theworkshopgalena.org)) for more information on this important organization within our community.

Several members of St. Matthew are active in this organization. Please join them by providing your financial support.

## THOSE WHO SERVE IN JANUARY 2019

Weekend

### # USHERS & ACOLYTES (Sat: 1 person, Sun: 2)

### LECTORS (1 Person)

1	Sat.	5	_____	Sat.	5	_____
1	Sun.	6	Ken & Fabi Voigt	Sun.	6	Connie Consedine
2	Sat.	12	Jim Moser	Sat.	12	Colleen
2	Sun.	13	_____	Sun.	13	John Klinkner
3	Sat.	19	Jeff Miller	Sat.	19	_____
3	Sun.	20	Chuck & Kathy	Sun.	20	Kathy
4	Sat.	26	_____	Sat.	26	_____
4	Sun.	27	Ken & Fabi Voigt	Sun.	27	_____

### Bulletin Folders (1 or 2) - 10:00 am Sat. AM

### COMMUNION ( Sat: 1; Sun: 2)

Sat.	5	Jackie Miller	Sat.	12	Fran Rogers
Sat.	12	_____	Sun.	13	Ken & Fabi Voigt
Sat.	19	_____	Sat.	26	Jim Moser
Sat.	26	Jackie Miller	Sun.	27	Ken & Fabi Voigt

### Counting Couriers - 10:00 am Tuesday

Wed.	2	John Klinkner
Tues.	8	John Klinkner
Tues.	15	John Klinkner
Tues.	22	Connie Consedine
Tues.	29	_____

**December Financial Information**

December Income	\$ 39,302.88	YTD \$188,878.88
December Expense	\$ 57,346.95	YTD \$163,219.73

Please submit articles, pictures or information for the newsletter to [contact.stmatt@gmail.com](mailto:contact.stmatt@gmail.com) no later than the 28th of the month.

**Church Office News**

If you need to contact Stacy Meade, Church Clerk, or Tom Staver, Financial Secretary, please call the church office at 815-777-1134 or email [contact.stmatt@gmail.com](mailto:contact.stmatt@gmail.com). There is an inbox on the desk in the office for messages, notes, receipts, etc. Please include your name, phone number and instructions in case there are questions.



St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
127 South High Street, Galena  
[www.stmat.net](http://www.stmat.net)      815 777-1134

**Service times: Saturday at 5:30pm, and Sunday at 10:00am**

*Where God's work happens 7 days a week.  
A First Century Church for the Twenty-first Century.*

See our website for our full calendar of events.