



St. Matthew Lutheran Church Newsletter November 2019

President's Report

I lift up my eyes to the hills.

From where does my help come?

My help comes from the Lord,

Who made heaven and earth. Ps. 121 vs. 1-2

November marks the final month of the church calendar. It begins with All Saints Sunday on November 3rd when we remember all our faithful friends and family members who have gone to live with the Lord. ***We also need to set our clocks back 1 hour on Saturday evening as we start daylight savings time on that weekend.*** But, before we move into November, it's important to reflect on some of the events of the past month.

Our thanks to Jen and Lila Anderson, Chuck and Carolyn Stork, Roger Johnson, Jeff Miller, Jim Moser, and the Farrey family - Russ, Amy, Izabella, and Logan, for cleaning the church on Saturday, October 19. It was so nice to come worship once again in a clean sanctuary! The following day was a busy one also as 39 people attended the presentation given by Pastor Baltz on behalf of the group who recently toured the holy land. Thanks also to Carolyn Stork, Cindy and Ethan Baltz, and Dale and Rita Wohlers for sharing their souvenirs and stories with us.

Following the presentation, 24 people stayed for a light lunch and a demonstration on the use of the church's defibrillator. Thank you all for your participation!

Roger Johnson has once again worked his magic with our church's computer and phone lines. We now have fiber optics and our system should run much faster and smoother. Our internet speed has gone from 5 Mb to over 244 Mb. Charlie Marsden, Jeff Miller, and Roger did the hand digging to install the French drain off of Carter Newton's carriage house, performed a temporary fix on the furnace room wall that will tide us over until permanent repairs can be made next spring, trimmed the bushes and crab apple tree in front of the church, and cleaned and pressure washed the front stairs and sidewalks. Also, thanks to the Newtons for trimming the bushes along the property line between their house and the church. Thank you, Roger, Charlie, and Jeff for all of your work.

A very special thank you to Tanya Vanderlinde for stepping up to play for our worship services. Jan is out of commission as she recovers from hand and eye surgeries. She will be unable to play for several months and we are most grateful to have Tanya here to keep our services moving. Thank you, Tanya!

As we move further into November, we will celebrate Christ the King Sunday - the final Sunday of the church year- on November 24. The following Sunday, December 1 we will decorate the church and set up the Christmas tree following the 10:00 church service. A little later that week, on Wednesday, December 4, the annual United Churches Christmas Concert will be held at St. Michael's Church at 7:00. Many people say that concert marks the beginning of the Christmas holiday season for them.

As I look back at this past church year, I reflect on the many blessings God has bestowed on this congregation. We were blessed with a new, young minister at the beginning of this year and the continued devotion and support of the members of this church family. God's continued blessings on you all!

In His service,

Bruce Etzel



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Come join the fun!

The sanctuary and church Christmas tree will be decorated after service the Sunday after Thanksgiving, December 1. Please join us if you are able to help. Many hands make light work! Mark your calendar and plan to attend!

November Special Focus Ministry

The special focus ministry for November is the United Churches of Galena Food Pantry.



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

November 2 5:30 pm - Communion
November 3 10:00 am - Communion
November 9 5:30 pm - Communion
November 10 10:00 am - Communion
November 23 5:30 pm - Communion
November 24 10:00 am - Communion
November 24 10:00 am - Christ the King Sunday

CELEBRATIONS IN NOVEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

November 2 Beverly Brandt
Jeff Miller
5 Connie Consedine
7 Judy Edwards
11 Wayne McIntyre
19 Elliot Baltz
26 Colleen Stephens

ANNIVERSARIES

November 3 Beverly Coffey & Bill Reda
10 Kris & Chuck Korte
11 Ken & Fabi Voigt

October Financial Information

October Income	\$ 8,767.17	YTD \$ 99,107.17
October Expense	\$ 7,462.32	YTD \$ 93,750.05

Please submit articles, pictures or information for the newsletter to 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. 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 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.