



St. Matthew Lutheran Church Newsletter December 2019

Presidents Report

Rejoice, rejoice,

Emmanuel shall come to you, oh Israel! (From Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel)

Blessings of the Advent season – the season that leads us to ponder and prepare for the celebration of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ! Jan always said that choosing hymns for the Advent season was one of her favorite times of the church year. The hymns are beautiful and reflective. And so we begin December with the start of yet another church year.

Looking forward into December, we will start each service with a reading and the lighting of the Advent wreath. On December 1 following the service, members are invited to set up the Christmas tree and decorate our sanctuary. Jan and I can't help but remember Bud Steinle when the beautiful Chrismons adorn the tree. Bud made these for us a number of years ago – what a wonderful memory!

Another event you may want to attend will be presented by Pastor Emeritus Baltz on Thursday evening, December 12 at 7:00pm. Entitled "Gather around the Wreath", this will resemble an Advent evening brown-bag Bible study. Look for more information in the bulletin regarding this event.

Our December focus ministry is the Ixtapa mission congregation in Mexico. Each year, Shirley Friedl takes our offering directly to the church in Mexico. This year she is going down on January 11. Please help support this very important ministry.

The Christmas Eve Candlelight service will be held at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, December 24.

In other December church business, council will meet on Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 5:30. The Christmas tree and decorations will come down following Sunday's service on January 5.

Merry Christmas and a blessed new year to you all!

Bruce Etzel

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

December 7	5:30 pm - Communion
December 8	10:00 am - Communion
December 12	7:00 pm - "Gather around the Wreath"
December 24	7:00 pm - Christmas Eve Service
December 28	5:30 pm - Communion
December 29	10:00 am - Communion

The focus ministry for the month of December will be: *the Ixtapa mission congregation in Mexico.*

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CELEBRATIONS IN DECEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

December 7 Dan Consedine
18 Mike Hyland
22 Andrea Grass

ANNIVERSARIES

December 26 Dave & Bernadine Anderson

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

God's blessings to Bryan and Tina Daniel who were married at St. Matthew's on Wednesday, November 13. Congratulations!

THOSE WHO SERVE IN DECEMBER 2019

Weekend

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

LECTORS (1 Person)

1	Sun.	1	<u>Pam & Roger Johnson</u>	Sun.	1	<u>Edie Jones</u>
2	Sat.	7	<u></u>	Sat.	7	<u></u>
2	Sun.	8	<u>Kathy & Chuck</u>	Sun.	8	<u>Kathy</u>
3	Sat.	14	<u>Jim Moser</u>	Sat.	14	<u></u>
3	Sun.	15	<u>Dick & Edie Jones</u>	Sun.	15	<u>Connie Consedine</u>
4	Sat.	21	<u></u>	Sat.	21	<u></u>
4	Sun.	22	<u></u>	Sun.	22	<u></u>
	Tues.	24	<u></u>	Tues.	24	<u></u>
5	Sat.	28	<u></u>	Sat.	28	<u></u>
5	Sun.	29	<u></u>	Sun.	29	<u>Connie Consedine</u>

Bulletin Folders (1 or 2)

COMMUNION (Sat: 1; Sun: 2)

Fri.	6	<u>Jackie Miller</u>	Sat.	7	<u>Fran</u>
Fri.	13	<u>Jackie Miller</u>	Sun.	8	<u>Ken & Fabi Voigt</u>
Fri.	20	<u>Edie Jones</u>	Sat.	28	<u>Jim Moser</u>
Fri.	27	<u></u>	Sun.	29	<u>Connie Consedine</u>

Counting Couriers

Tues.	3	<u>John Klinkner</u>
Tues.	10	<u>John Klinkner</u>
Mon.	16	<u>Connie Consedine</u>
Mon.	30	<u>Connie Consedine</u>

November Financial Information

November Income \$ 15,108.25 YTD \$114,215.42

November Expense \$ 10,245.28 YTD \$101,536.50

** These amounts include the Birdies amount of \$5,256.52

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.