

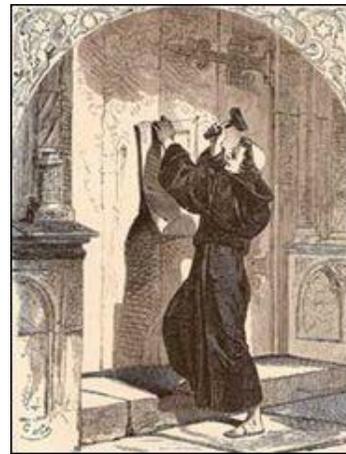


St. Matthew Lutheran Church Newsletter February, 2017

From the Pastor...

The 500th Anniversary Year of the Reformation the months ahead we will be getting back in touch with heritage that we may have forgotten, or perhaps never about. What came out of the Reformation changed the live yet today! It's true for education, family life, the way we worship, and the way we use the Bible.

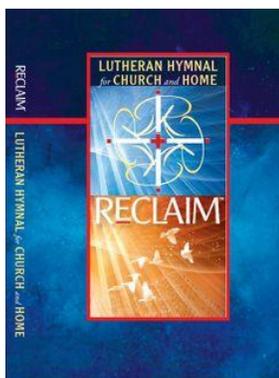
People recently have said to me: "Tell the Who are we?!" That is just what I hope we will do together great occasion for it! On October 31 it will be five Luther nailed up his 95 Theses.



has begun! In parts of our even knew ways people government,

Lutheran story! in 2017. What a centuries since

A generous donor has already helped us make possible a special event in October that will involve a guest preacher/teacher from the Institute of Lutheran Theology. Let's remember our heritage together and give thanks.



Over the next weeks and months we will be learning parts of a worship service called ReClaim. This will happen in our regular worship services, a little at a time. We may use the ReClaim service in its entirety at some point in the future. That is a matter for the future, and it will be a carefully-made decision involving all concerned.

ReClaim is really not new. In 1888 Lutherans across the United States used something called The Common Service. That same service found its way into the old brown hymnal, used here at this church in the early 20th Century (which some of our members will still remember). Then it became the foundation for the Service Book and Hymnal (the red book) which this congregation used from the 1960's until the introduction of the Lutheran Book of Worship (the green book) here in 1980.

We have three musical settings of the ReClaim service available to us. The first was written by John Ylvisaker, whom you know as the composer of the hymn, "Borning Cry". It is very singable. The second is a jazz arrangement which we will probably not use anytime soon. The third is the actual music as found in the old Service Book and Hymnal, abut with the text changed to more contemporary language.

We have forms of these settings for Communion and non-Communion worship. We also have the music in computer format, so we can print worship folders with any or all ReClaim music we choose.

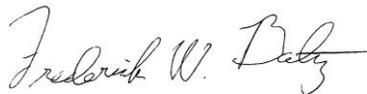
I'd like to ask you all to be patient with this. I am sure we will learn the service quickly, but it won't be all at once. The end result will be good. At the very least we will avail ourselves of another form of worship which connects us with our history while bringing us some new melodies. This does not mean that either the LBW or WOV (the blue book) services we use now will be gone. It does mean that we will now have more choices.

Worship is one of the areas revolutionized by the Reformation. The time is right to ReClaim what is ours.

I invite all of you with internet to go to: <http://lutherancss.org/>. There you will find current news about our friends in the Lutheran Church of South Sudan. It is important to remember them. It is also important to remember Captain Tim Grass and his family. You might also look at: <http://www.christthevictor.net/>. This is the website of our sister congregation, Christ the Victor Lutheran Church in Florence, Arizona. We help them in establishing an expanding ministry. LCMC itself continues strong in our nation and beyond.

Looking ahead, March 1 is Ash Wednesday. Lent will again mean midweek services here at the church, and a chance to reflect on many things as we reach out to bring the Word of God to one another and to our neighbors.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frederick W. Baltz".

Pastor Frederick W. Baltz

President's Letter to the Congregation

February 2017

Dear Members of the Congregation,

Thank you for attending the Annual Meeting on January 15th. If you were not able to attend and would like a copy of the Annual Report, please contact Fabi Voigt, church clerk, at 777-1134 or email fvoigtchurchclerk@gmail.com.

The Annual Report contains a wealth of information, including a report from Pastor Baltz, a Financial and Investment Committee report from Treasurer Dick Beutel, and a number of other reports from boards and committees.

The 2017 budget is also included in the report. I am very pleased that we have begun the year in the "black" and will work with a balanced budget due to the success of our recent Stewardship Drive and your generous financial support.

Our first Council meeting for the year is on February 8th. We'll welcome three new members, Bryan Daniel, Todd Vanderlinde and Wyatt Anderson, and say good-bye to retiring members Amy Farrey, Joanne Carlson and Fran Rogers. Their service and commitment has been greatly appreciated.

Council was not able to meet in January because of hazardous driving conditions, so the first meeting of the year will be a full one.

Just a reminder that we have a new addition to our Special Focus Ministries this year: The Riverview Center. The collection period runs from February 12th through March 5th. The Center, with locations in Galena and Dubuque, offers free services including a 24-hour crisis hotline, legal and medical advocacy, long and short term counseling, transition assistance for domestic and sexual violence survivors, and violence prevention education programs.

Pastor will announce our Lenten services schedule and special Reformation Celebration events in the coming weeks. Invite a friend, a neighbor or a fellow church member! The Brown Bag Bible Study on Wednesdays (noon in the Parish Hall) begins a study of the Book of Exodus this month. Please call Pastor for more information.

Later this year we'll honor Thomas Vanderlinde on his Confirmation Day, and in late summer or early fall, we'll welcome the return of Captain Tim Grass from Afghanistan. Please keep him and his family in your prayers. Cards and letters of support may be left in the Welcome Center.

And there are many other activities and events on the horizon; keep a close watch!

I would like to mention one last thing that might be of interest to you. Proverbs 31 Ministries is a website that offers an internet subscription of "Daily Devotions". Enter your email address and you'll receive a daily devotion with supporting biblical passages, and much more. It's a good way to start each day.

As I write this letter to you, the bible verse of the day is:

Galatians 6:1

Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted.

You are always welcome to call or email with your thoughts and questions: 563-424-0129 or njahyman@gmail.com. It is my blessing to be your Council and Congregational President.

Your sister in Christ,
Nancy Hyman

Special Focus Ministry:

The next Focus Ministry, February 12–March 5. Riverview Center

As an agency, Riverview Center is unique in that they are the only agency in the 14 county Northeast Region of Iowa providing sexual assault services; and they are the only agency providing either sexual or domestic violence services in Jo Daviess and Carroll Counties in Illinois. And unlike other mental health agencies, all of their services are provided absolutely free of charge without regard to sex, race, and socioeconomic status. Their services are available to anyone affected by intimate violence and their non-offending significant others.

KEEPING HIM IN OUR PRAYERS

Timothy Grass has been deployed to Afghanistan, and during his time of service we will keep Tim and his family in our prayers. God's blessings to Tim and to all people who serve our country. If you wish to send a card or letter to Tim, there is a basket in the Welcome Center. Please place in it any correspondence that you would like Andrea to mail to Timothy.

Lending Library

We have a small lending library located in the Welcome Center. Such items as tapes, books (audio and written) are available for check out. Please remember to return what is checked out so the next person can enjoy them as well.

CELEBRATION CORNER FOR FEBRUARY

BIRTHDAYS

Feb. 2 Tammy Oldenberg
9 Rachel McIntyre
William Reda
11 Shirley Friedl
11 Irle Boehm
14 Stacy Miller
16 Velda Schoenfeld
18 Cindia Baltz
Sarah Miller
25 George Daniel
27 Sharon Lorenz

ANNIVERSARIES

Feb. 14 Gary & Gail Appel

VISIT THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Jeannine Steinle @ The Galena Stauss Nursing Home

Marilyn Muehleip @ The Galena Stauss Assisted Living

Roy Clingman @ The Galena Stauss Assisted Living

Bernice Edwards @ her home, 824 Young St, Galena (815) 777-1835

Velda Schoenfeld @ The Galena Stauss Assisted Living

Pete (Marion) Schmidt @ The Galena Stauss Nursing Home

Ruth Schmidt @ The Galena Stauss Assisted Living.

Please take time to visit our Church friends in the above residences.

SPECIAL REQUEST: If you have an article or a note for the newsletter, please submit it to: fvoigtchurchclerk@gmail.com no later than the 25th of the month. Thank you.

THOSE WHO SERVE IN FEBRUARY 2017

USHERS & ACOLYTES

FEB. 4 Nancy Hyman
5 Dale & Maureen Knipschield
11 Jim Moser
12 Dale Knipschield/
18 Colleen Stephens
19 Nancy Hyman/
25 Jim Moser
26 Ken & Fabi Voigt

LECTORS

Feb. 4 Nancy Hyman
5 Jan Etzel
11 Dave Anderson
12 Dale Knipschield
18 Colleen Stephens
19 Nancy Hyman
25 Dave Anderson
26 Jan Etzel

OFFERING COUNTERS

Feb. 5 Ken & Fabi Voigt
12 Ken & Fabi Voigt
19 Colleen Stephens/Connie Consedine
26 John & Jane Klinkner

COMMUNION SERVERS

Feb. 11 Bernadine Anderson
12 Ken & Fabi Voigt
25 Fran Rogers
29 Nancy Hyman/

BULLETIN FOLDERS

Feb. 4
11 Bernadine Anderson
18
25 Bernadine Anderson

TIME & TALENTS

Serve the Lord by using the “time and talents” that He has given us.

Please remember to sign the “Those Who Serve” sheet located in the Welcome Center. If you switch with someone, please make changes on the sheet in the cry room.

USHERS: Please remain in the back of the church during the service to greet worshipers and provide assistance in case of an emergency.

READERS: An extra copy of each lesson will be located on the lector stand.

Used Ink Cartridges

The Church will gladly accept any size, color, or make of used ink cartridges that you have. Used ink cartridges will be returned to Staples, who in turn will give a \$2 credit to the Church for each one, thereby helping to keep the cost of our office supplies at a minimum. Used ink cartridges may be left in the Office or in the Welcome Center.

Dates to Remember !!!!!

- BS Nursing Home every Tuesday @ 10:00 am
- Each Wednesday Men's Bible Study @ 8:00 am at the hospital
- Each Wednesday Brown Bag Bible Study at noon.
- Feb. 1 Wednesday @ 1:00pm Executive Committee Meeting
- Feb. 2 UCG @9:00am
- Feb. 5 Pancake breakfast From 7:00am to 12:30 pm @ Galena High School Cafeteria
- Feb. 5 Chili Cook-off @ 5:00 pm @ Crossroads Church
- Feb. 7 WBS @ 2:30pm
- Feb.8 Council Meeting @ 6:00 pm
- Feb.14 & 21 Quilt Tie @ 12:30 pm
- Feb.14 & 28 "With These Hands" @ 2:00 pm
- Feb. 25th Healing Service after Communion Service.
- Starting Feb. 21 Through Mar. 28 Bereavement Support Group from: 10:00 to 12:00 am and from 6:00 to 8:00pm for information call: Hospice of Dubuque @ (563)582-1220 or ask Fabi Voigt at 713-447-6169

Our Church is pleased with has been able to make: We're also have worked on we donated 1 shawl to one blessed us with the gift of 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each limited to members of the Your **Donations help us of yarn and ¾ inch ribbon are welcome.**

With These Hands



the number of items that this Ministry shawls, scarves, and lap blankets. some lovely Snow Bears. Last Month of our Church members. God has our hands, and we ask you to join us the month @ 2:00pm. This activity is not Church; all are welcome to participate. **get supplies that we need. Donations**

For information please call: Fabi Voigt @ 713-447-6169.

We meet at St. Mathew Lutheran Church located @
127 High St. Galena, IL

Note: If you know someone that needs a prayer shawl, please let us know as well. Thank you.

Food Donations

Donations of unopened, undamaged food products within the freshness date are accepted at the Food Pantry only on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays (Feb. 9th and 23rd). Or you may drop them off at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 127 High St. , 815-777-1134, before the assigned days or @ Illinois Bank & Trust, 971 Gear St. between 2:30 pm and 4:30 pm on the drop off dates. For Information call 815-777-1456

Church Financial Health thru Jan 25, 2017

	<u>Jan. 2017</u>	<u>Jan. 2016</u>
Total Income	\$15,828	\$20,438
Total Expenses	\$12,042	\$13,965
Total Net	\$3,786	\$6,473

Lost and Found

This corner is increasing in volume. Please check "Our Lost and Found Corner" located in the Fellowship Hall on the coat rack.



St. Matthew Lutheran Church
127 South High Street, Galena
www.stmat.net 815 777-1134



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

*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.

From our Constitution---



The mission of this congregation is to make disciples for Jesus Christ by going to people within and outside the Church with the message of the Gospel, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and teaching them by word and example to obey the Word of the Lord.