



St. Matthew Lutheran Church Newsletter February 2019

President's Report

Dear fellow parishioners,

Despite the cold, snowy weather on Sunday, January 20, we were blessed with a quorum of our members at our congregational annual meeting. We had several important issues to vote on that day, not the least being the offering of a contract to Blake W. Shipman to serve as our pastor. The unanimous vote by the 38 eligible voters present was a highlight of the meeting. Our call committee had been working diligently for more than a year to seek the candidate that would best lead our congregation. After much prayerful consideration, they presented candidate Shipman to the church council and the council concurred with their decision. That decision was then brought to all of you at our annual meeting, as per our congregation's constitution, and the vote was taken. Thank you to everyone who prayerfully worked on this matter. Welcome Pastor Shipman to the position of pastor of St. Matthew Lutheran Church!

Also on the agenda was the formal vote of the title of Pastor Emeritus to be bestowed on Dr. Rev. Frederick W. Baltz. This title was first discussed at Pastor Baltz's retirement dinner in September. It was made official with the total vote of the congregation at the meeting. Pastor Baltz will serve as an Internship Supervisor for Pastor Shipman while he continues his seminary studies.

We elected three new members to join the present members on the church council. Jeff Miller, Tanya Vanderlinde, and Connie Consedine were all unanimously elected to the council. With the addition of Pastor Shipman, we now have a complete slate of 11 council members. Congratulations and welcome!

We also accepted Marilyn Boehm, Dale Wohlers and Dale Knipschild to perform the task of our 2019 Auditing Committee. Thank you!

The three members of the nominating committee from 2018 agreed to perform that function again next year. Those members were Fred Baltz, Charlie Marsden, and Bruce Etzel. Thank you, gentlemen, for your service.

On Sunday, February 17 at the 10:00 service, we will install Pastor Shipman as our pastor and our church council members, both already on the council and our newest members, as faithful leaders of our congregation. A small reception will follow the service in the fellowship hall. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

While these were only some of the highlights of the annual meeting of our congregation, let me say that it has been an honor to serve this congregation this past year. The next meeting of the church council will be Wednesday, February 13 at 5:00 pm. I look forward to seeing what the Lord has in store for us during our coming year!

In His service,
Bruce Etzel
President, St. Matthew Lutheran Church

PLAN TO ATTEND...

On Sunday, February 17 at the 10:00 a.m. worship service we will be installing the church council for the year 2019 along with Blake Shipman as our new pastor. Pastor Baltz will be performing the installation and the service will be followed by a reception in the fellowship hall.

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this most important event!

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

February 9	5:30 pm - Communion
February 10	10:00 am - Communion
February 13	5:00 pm - Church Council Meeting
February 17	10:00 am - Church Council Installation Reception following service
February 23	5:30 pm - Communion
February 24	10:00 am - Communion

CELEBRATIONS IN FEBRUARY

BIRTHDAYS

ANNIVERSARIES

February	2	Tammy Oldenburg	February	14	Gary & Gail Appeal
	9	Rachel McIntrye			
	9	William Reda			
	11	Shirley Friedl			
	11	Irle Wm. Boehm			
	14	Stacy Miller			
	16	Velda Schoenfeld			
	18	Cindy Baltz			
	25	George Daniel			

SPECIAL FOCUS MISSION:

February's special focus ministry is the Colin Neuharth family. As you may have heard in church, Colin is a seminary friend of Pastor Blake. Colin's wife suffered a brain hemorrhage and was put into an induced coma. She was 28 weeks pregnant and their 1 lb., 4 oz. daughter was delivered by C-section. The baby is doing well and the mom is slowly being brought out of the coma. Her entire right side is paralyzed. They also have two other small daughters.

Any help we can provide for this family will be greatly appreciated.

January Financial Information

January Income	\$ 16,365.15	YTD \$ 16,365.15
January Expense	\$ 5,245.58	YTD \$ 5,245.58

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.