



St. Matthew Lutheran Church Newsletter April 2019

Greetings and peace to you in the name of Christ Jesus

Lately I have found myself drawn to the words of Mother Theresa of Calcutta. In one of her quotes she says, "Find your own Calcutta. Find the sick, the suffering, and the lonely right there where you are- in your own homes and in your own families. In your workplaces and in your schools. You can find Calcutta all over the world, if you have the eyes to see it. Everywhere, wherever you go, you find people who are unwanted, unloved, uncared for, just rejected by society- completely forgotten, completely left alone."

We have talked a lot about introspection this Lenten season and how we live into our Lutheran identity and I think that this quote speaks exactly to who we are as a Church in the Lutheran tradition. We live life together acknowledging the pain we go through and help each other through hard times. In one of my recent sermons I named this as the theology of the cross. This theology is how we live and operate, we serve others because of the love and sacrifice shown to us for us.

Over this past month I have visited shut ins, prayed with the dying, listened to people's apprehensions in life. I have found my Calcutta; I have found it within the tri-state area. Our territory is one in need and we as a church are called to serve those in need. Where do you see your Calcutta? It could be in the city, in your workplace, even in your own home. As Lent gives way to Easter later this month, never forget our great commission to make disciples of all nations. Also do not forget the corporal acts of mercy Jesus speaks of for it is in care of the neighbor that we see Christ.

As always it has been a divine honor and privilege to walk with you this month. I look forward to the Easter season to come.

In Christ
Pastor Blake Shipman

Hospice of Dubuque will soon be sponsoring a six week bereavement support group. It will be open to anyone in the tri state area who has experienced the loss of a loved one, through death, within the past twelve months.

The group will meet on Tuesday evenings from 6-8 pm, beginning April 16 – May 21, at the Hospice of Dubuque office in the Theisen Education Center, 1670 JFK Road. There is no requirement to have had a precious connection with Hospice of Dubuque. The sessions are meant to be both educational and emotionally supportive. Pre-registration is required by April 9th.

Please contact the Hospice office at 563-582-1220 for a registration form.

Easter Lilies:

There is a form in the welcome center for Easter lilies from Valley Perennials. The cost is \$11.99 per plant. If you wish to place an order through the church, it must be made by Sunday, April 7. You may choose to purchase your own plant in honor of, or in memory of, someone. If you prefer this option, please have the plant to church by Saturday, April 20. There is a sheet in the welcome center where you can sign your name with your in honor of/in memory of designation.

If you have any questions, please direct them to Jan Etzel at 815-541-4888.

Special Focus Mission

Fill the Well

April 2019

The need for good clean water is great in many parts of the world. Water is something we can easily take for granted, but for many, they must travel long distances just to get fresh water and sometimes they can't even find it. Please consider supporting this important ministry. Consider each time you fill a glass with fresh water from the tap; many people are thirsting around the world. We send our contributions to Lutheran World Relief, so you know that 91% of your generous giving goes to help those in need.



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
Thursday	6:00 pm - Choir

Specific Dates

April 13	5:30 pm - Communion
April 14	10:00 am - Communion
April 18	7:00 pm - Communion
April 21	10:00 am - Communion
April 27	5:30 pm - Communion
April 28	10:00 am - Communion

CELEBRATIONS IN APRIL

BIRTHDAYS

April	3	Marie Kempert
	5	Alex Montgomery
	8	Darin Wohlers
	14	April Oldenburg
	15	Rachel Oldenburg
	21	Deb Hyland
	22	Ethan Baltz
	25	Logan Farrey

ANNIVERSARIES

April	14	John & Joanne Carlson
	21	Bill & Elaine Fitch
	26	Todd & Tanya Vanderlinde
	28	Sam & Deanna Gross

THOSE WHO SERVE IN APRIL 2019

Weekend

#	<u>USHERS & ACOLYTES (Sat: 1 person, Sun: 2)</u>		<u>LECTORS (1 Person)</u>	
1	Sat. 6	_____	Sat. 6	_____
1	Sun. 7	Pam & George Johnson	Sun. 7	_____
2	Sat. 13	Jim Moser	Sat. 13	Colleen
2	Sun. 14	_____	Sun. 14	_____
	Thurs. 18	_____	Thurs. 18	_____
	Fri. 19	_____	Fri. 19	_____
3	Sat. 20	_____	Sat. 20	_____
3	Sun. 21	_____	Sun. 21	_____
4	Sat. 27	_____	Sat. 27	_____
4	Sun. 28	Edie Jones	Sun. 28	Edie Jones

Bulletin Folders (1 or 2)

COMMUNION (Sat: 1; Sun: 2)

Fri.	5	Edie Jones		Sat.	13	Fran Rogers
Fri.	12	Jackie Miller		Sun.	14	_____
Fri.	19	Edie Jones	Thurs.	18	Fabi Voigt	_____
Fri.	26	Jackie Miller	Sun.	21	Ken & Fabi Voigt	_____
		_____	Sat.	27	Jim Moser	_____
		_____	Sun.	28	Ken & Fabi Voigt	_____

Counting Couriers - 10:00 am Tuesday

Tues.	2	Connie Consedine
Tues.	9	_____
Tues.	16	Connie Consedine
Tues.	23	John Klinkner
Tues.	30	_____

March Financial Information

March Income	\$ 7,424.23	YTD \$ 28,886.90
March Expense	\$10,056.64	YTD \$ 25,000.60

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.