
Good News

From New Road

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, God's Family in Service

February 2019

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Pat's Ponderings

The Body of Christ

The Epistle readings for these last two Sundays in January and throughout February are from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. Although Paul was frustrated with the departure from his spiritual teachings at this church in Corinth, his words in the 12th and 13th chapters are beautiful, and a good reminder for us, 2000 years later, to USE the gifts God has given each of us to BUILD UP the body of Christ (the Church), and to practice LOVE wherever we are. Paul cleverly uses the image of a human body to teach an important lesson: each of us is given gifts that together make up the body of Christ. A body isn't complete without an eye, or a foot, or any other part—the body *works best* when it functions as a whole. Of course, an eyeless body can function when other senses are heightened—when the whole body works together. But a body-less eye is useless. One part of the body cannot function in isolation. It takes determination, patience, and love—lots of love!—for a diverse group of people to function together as a body. Christ as the head gives the body—the Church—just the right amount of determination, patience, and love.

Serving in Love

St. Matthew is a beautiful, diverse group of people serving as the Body of Christ here in Waco. However, I've come to see that this congregation is not "functioning together" as well as could be. Many of the committees mandated in our church constitution are not functioning. We have been content to let a few people do the bulk of the work. It's time to get this Body in motion! Christ as the head of this Body gives just the right amount of determination, patience and love. So let's get started!

One of the goals for the 2019 church council is to reactivate the committees and get more people involved in the work that needs to be done. This will be done through a **Volunteer Fair and luncheon on Sunday, February 17, beginning at 11 a.m.** (immediately following worship—all Sunday School classes are cancelled that day so that all may participate). We'll feast together on a taco bar (sign up to bring a portion of the feast in the narthex). There will be opportunities to learn about the various committees and how you may support them with your willing hands and hearts. There will be training for the various worship volunteers. We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity for fellowship and volunteering. Your gifts and talents are needed to build up this part of the Body of Christ!

Prayer Group

Before Christmas, we talked in worship about prayer and the importance of this special discipline for the church and for individuals. Several indicated that they would be interested in joining the faithful "pray-ers" of this congregation, and maybe add some new ideas to encourage prayer for the congregation. I would like to meet with all who are interested in such a prayer discipline on **Sunday, February 3 at 8:30 a.m.** We will meet in the library.

Souper Bowl of Caring

The Super Bowl will be played in Atlanta on February 3. Which new commercials, which new snacks will catch our attention this year?! Which team will be named Super Bowl champs?!

Each year, millions of dollars are spent on tickets, travel, advertising, and even snacks in our own homes. The Souper Bowl of Caring was the brainchild of a youth group in Columbia, SC, in 1990. Since then, youth groups have raised \$90 million for the poor and hungry of their own communities. St. Matthew will participate in the **Souper Bowl of Caring on February 3**, by encouraging everyone to bring a *special offering*, which will be given to *Caritas of Waco*. Bring extra canned goods, and especially your monetary offering that will be received by the youth of St. Matthew.

Thank you

Although my time with you as interim pastor is short, I have been delighted to reconnect with old friends and new at St. Matthew. I will be saying “so long” at the end of February, as Larry and I prepare to move to our new home in Brenham. Thank you for your generous Christmas gift! And thank you for carrying on the work that needs to be done here at St. Matthew.

Pastor Pat Dietrich

Council Notes—January 10, 2019

Members Present: Bill Jones, Pastor Pat Dietrich, Bill Abright, Sally Engelbrecht, Linda Heyde, Paula Jenson, Clay Sellers, Linda Stanford, and Jeremy Wallace

Members absent: Robert Cotner and Shelly Jasek

President, Bill Jones, called the meeting to order and offered a devotional reading and prayer.

Bill Jones presented the Treasurer’s Report: There is \$62,861.67 in the checking account as of December 31, 2018. The year-to-date income less expenses, for December of Fiscal Year 2018, was \$1,827.80. Bill said there is a large gap in what we were paying Pastor Paul and the current synod guidelines. Pastor Pat said the guidelines are generally a comparison to a high school principal’s salary.

Pastor’s Report:

- Hospital Visits: 0 Home visits: 3
- Home visits with communion: 7
- Phone conversations: 5 Church meetings: 4
- Special services: 3 mid-week Advent services, Mosaic Christmas program;
- Christmas Eve worship
- San Mateo: There seems to be a general agreement that a local person should head up this ministry.
- Pastor Pat is hoping to see more participation within the congregation through committee/task force/team work. Each council member was assigned a committee at last month’s meeting and perhaps there could be some brainstorming on ways to recruit congregation members to join and increase committee action.
- The new “changing room” for worship assistants and acolytes is complete.

- The Rite of Confirmation is February 24, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service.

Old Business

- Ushers/Doors/Coordinator(s) – Steve Jenson and Bradley Linda are head ushers. The ushers are responsible for locking the back doors 15 minutes after the service begins. This procedure is for safety reasons and it will still allow members to enter by inputting the code.
- Church Clean Up is scheduled and noted in the monthly newsletter.
- Funeral/Memorial Service Coordinator – Pastor Pat said she will be contact.
- St. Matthew had a policy manual that includes a funeral policy, wedding policy, building use policy, etc. Pastor Pat will look for the manual.

New Business

- Officer installation is scheduled on January 20th.
- Bill was contacted about Lutheran World Relief health kits. The Council agreed this was a ministry that should be continued. This would fall under the Evangelism Committee.
- An Open Forum will follow the January 13th after worship service. The New Directions’ Team will give an update; donuts and coffee will be served.
- Holiday Schedule – Pastor Pat reminded the Council that she will be leaving before Lent starts.

Linda Heyde made a motion to adjourn and Paula seconded. There being no objections, the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Engelbrecht, Secretary

New Direction Team Up-Date

First, your New Direction Team would like to express to you our sincere appreciation for your invaluable input received during our Up-Date/Focus Group gathering January 13th. Your candid, yet thoughtful and prayer driven input helped us to center and focus on your collective desires for the future of St. Matthew Lutheran Church.

The Top Five Pastoral Tasks identified were:

Pastoral Care & Visitation

Preaching/Worship

Youth & Family Ministry

Music/Worship/Art

(tie) Evangelism/Mission Ministry with Seniors

The Top Priorities identified were:

Be effective in working with youth.

Help people develop their spiritual life.

Be an effective communicator.

Be active in visitation of members and non-members.

Be able to share leadership and work in a team.

Our next step? Complete the Ministry Site Profile and put together our Call Committee. We would ask for your continued sharing and prayers. New Direction Team members: Bill Jones, Bradley Linda, Hope Cotner, Jo Von Rosenburg, Kemper Beard, Phil Van Auken and Pastor Pat Dietrich.

catered meal will be served. Registration fee is \$15.00 per person

All ladies from St. Matthew are members of W-ELCA even if you do not attend a Circle meeting. Please come to a W-ELCA meeting and experience what you have been missing. Each of you are needed and wanted.

At the first W-ELCA Board Meeting of the year January 16, 2019, the fundraiser project was discussed for the fall of 2019 and it was voted to have a **Bake Less Cake Sale**. More information will be forthcoming. The profit from the Fall Jewelry Sale was \$549.82. A motion was made and passed to donate \$500.00 from the Jewelry sale and add \$300.00 to make a total of \$800.00 to be donated to St. Matthew to help defray the cost of the new church computer.

Bold Woman Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday, May 12th at the 9:30 a.m. church service. Two ladies will be selected for **Bold Woman** February 23rd. Please be thinking who you would like to select to be honored. You do not have to be a Circle member to be selected.

Please Remember These Dates:

World Day of Prayer is March 1, National

Quilting Day is March 26, and Bold Woman

Sunday is May 12, 2019. **EXCITING**

NEWS: Phil Van Auken will be leading

the combined summer Bible lessons in June, July

and August the second Monday of each month at

10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We are blessed

to have Phil as our leader this summer.



The 2019 W-ELCA Year Book is almost completed and your Circle president will have them for you very soon. The new 2019 W-ELCA Officers and Board Members were installed to their offices on Sunday, January 20th. New Officers are: Wanda Kilstrom, President; Jean Moeller, Vice President; Carol Linda, Secretary; Kim Browne, Treasurer; Board Members: Farrel Bolte, Alaine Copeland, Linda Heyde, Paula Jensen, Arlene Schwarz and Peggy Tooker.

God's Blessing To Each Of You.

Evangelism Committee Meeting

The Evangelism Committee will meet on **February 4th at 5:30 p.m.**



Exciting New 2019 News From W-ELCA

Saint Matthew Lutheran will be hosting the W-ELCA Spring Gathering and General Meeting on **Saturday, February 23rd beginning at 9 a.m.** in the Church Fellowship Hall. Registration forms will be available from your Circle presidents at your February Circle meeting and on the stand in the church hallway.

Four outstanding programs have been planned for the new W-ELCA year. We are excited to have Parnell McNamara, Sheriff of McLennan County Texas, as the guest speaker for the February Gathering. His topic will be "RIDING HERD ON THE LAWLESS". It will be a most interesting program. A lovely



Youth News



YOUTH LUNCH!! All junior high and high school youth are invited for a lunch out **after Sunday school on February 10.** Meet in the fellowship hall at 11:30 and we will pick a restaurant. An extra driver may be needed for transportation depending on the size of the group. Thanks! For any questions, please see Jeremy Wallace.



Thanks from the Property Committee

We would like to thank:

- The 30 plus members who worked at the church cleanup day. After it was all said and done we filled the dumpster three times with unneeded items. Thanks to all who worked. This is the largest group cleanup in several years. Several areas are now cleaner and neater.
- Bradley Linda for making the new vinyl lettering on the doors with the office times and information.
- Jay Dittman and Bradley Linda for their work on evaluating and upgrading the church computer systems for record keeping and security. Thanks as well to the donors who contributed to the needed equipment upgrades.



Members with Prayer Concerns

John Linda, Albert Hampel (The Delaney), Imadene Peterson (St. Catherine's), Denise Self (home), Pat Gorton (home), Steve Jenson, Pastor Kenneth Moerbe & Paula Moerbe, Joanne Zuch, Agnes Decker, Duane Early, Clydine Arthur, Ron & Stephanie Lambring, Lauren Roller, Linda Stanford, Rebecca Haferkamp, Elsie Pietzsch, Melba Hafer, Edna Harris-Howland, Bill & Elnora Schwake, Ron & Sharon Peterson, Eunice & John Linda, Ty Henrichs, Alfred Gstattenbauer, Tammy Vickrey, David & Stacey Vanderkinter, Weldon Howell, Stephanie Partin, Cynthia Shetler, Ed Poehl



Those serving in our military:

Landry Erickson, grandson of Irene Erickson
Willie Creamer, brother of Sam Creamer
Claten Bechtol, grandson of Jo von Rosenberg

Those for whom prayer is requested:

Brenda Henderson (Edie Walker)
Brenda Marowitz (Terry Roller)
Marie Fuller (mother of Cynthia Frey)
Bert Dockall (Bradley Linda)
Rodney Roller (Terry Roller)
Gloria Martin & Family, Heather and Shawn
Sperflage (Beth Pristash)
Wilfred Dietrich (Larry Dietrich)
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church (Grand Prairie, TX)
Umoja International Chapel (Ft. Worth, TX)
Antioch Community Church (Waco)
New Road Church of Christ (Waco)

Art as Worship 2019

This year the Fine Arts Ministry will host the ninth annual Art as Worship: A Gallery Exhibition and Benefit. This year we invite artists to submit work that contemplates the many meanings of JUSTICE in Scripture, in Christian thought, and in our society today. It is written in Psalm 50:6

And the heavens proclaim his righteousness, for he is a God of justice.

Please visit the Fine Arts Ministry blog at www.fineartsministry.blogspot.com for more information and to get the link for the artist's application. Feel free to send the information to any friends or family members who might also be interested in participating. Each year our exhibit grows and each year we have more congregation members participating. Will you be one of our first-time artists this year?

The opening gala will likely again be in mid-November — we will announce the exact date soon.



Dear Members of St. Matthew Lutheran,

I want to thank you very much for the many prayers and cards, and the generous "love offering" you sent to me during my lengthy illness and recovery from my liver transplant. Your love and concern were truly a great source of strength for me and for Paul! Thank you for all you have done for us, all is greatly appreciated!

God bless you!

Love,

JoAnn & Pastor Paul

February Birthdays

Joe Hutyra	2/1
Lori Smith	2/3
Morgan Adams	2/7
Jean Moeller	2/7
Kelly Heyde	2/8
Jason Umberger	2/8
Roy Anderson	2/9
Billie Boeche	2/11
Irene Erickson	2/12
Marci Duncan	2/13
Wanda Kilstrom	2/13
Scott Bancala	2/14
Megan Wilfong	2/14
Tommy Bush	2/15
Artie Lambring	2/16
Lilah Schmedthorst	2/16
Daylon Crye	2/18
William Pederson	2/18
Kevin Henry	2/21
Ed Poehl	2/22
Jeremy Wallace	2/24
Karen Aho	2/27
Melissa Mullens	2/27
Mary Ann Lippe	2/28

February Anniversaries

Weldon and Marcyll Howell (61 years)	2/5
Ross and Kim Browne (31 years)	2/6

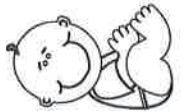
Baptism Birthdays

Joe Hutyra	2/1
Troy Dodge	2/3
John Linda	2/3
Macoy Umberger	2/8
Kristen Harrison	2/10
Brenda Henry	2/10
Terry Roller	2/10
Daylon Crye	2/18
Katye Stanford	2/18
Bill Jones	2/20
Jerry Cureton	2/24

Save the Date: The St. Matthew Lutheran Women will be **hosting bridal showers** for Tabbie Pritts, bride-elect of Cody Browne on March 23, 2019 and for Melissa Mullins, bride-elect of Travis Fairchild on April 27, 2019. Please plan to attend!



Congratulations to Linda Heyde at the birth of **her grandson, Hudson James Heyde**, who was born on January 13. He weighed 7 lbs. 9oz. and was 20 inches long. Hudson is the son of Robert and Stephanie Heyde who reside in Cave Creek, Arizona. He joins his two older brothers Andrew (6) and Beckham(3).

**MEMBER ADDRESS CHANGE**

Albert Hampel
The Delaney
2121 W. Hwy. 6, #2426
Waco, TX 76710
254-715-3726 (cell)
254-772-4049 (apartment)

FEB2019

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

FEB 3 01 02

***SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**

9:00 Quilters

03 8:30 Stephen Ministry Supervision
8:30 Prayer Group
9:30 Worship
10:30 Sunday School

04 5:30 Evangelism Committee

05 11:00 Dominos
6:00 Bell Choir

06 6:30 Men's Prayer Breakfast
11:00 Bible Study
5:30 Mary Martha Circle
6:30 Choir

07 9:00 Quilters

08 10:00-5:00 Calligraphy

09

10 9:30 Worship
10:30 Sunday School
11:30 Youth Lunch

11 10:00 Grace Circle

12 11:00 Dominos
6:00 Bell Choir

13 11:00 Bible Study
12:00 Over 50's Lunch
6:30 Choir

14 6:30 Church Council Meeting
9:00 Quilters

15

16

17 9:30 Worship
No Sunday School
11:00 Volunteer Fair & Taco Luncheon

18

19 11:00 Dominos
6:00 Bell Choir
6:30 Stephen Ministry Continuing Ed.

20 11:00 Bible Study
6:30 Choir

21 9:00 Quilters

22 9:00 W-ELCA Spring Gathering & General Meeting

23

24

25 9:30 Worship/Confirmation
10:30 Sunday School

26 11:00 Dominos
6:00 Bell Choir

27 11:00 Bible Study
6:30 Choir

28

	FEBRUARY 3	FEBRUARY 10	FEBRUARY 17	FEBRUARY 24
	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM
Worship Assistant	DeAnna Toten Beard	Bradley Linda	Sue Hensel	TBA
Communion Assistant	Marcy Howell	Marcy Howell	Marcy Howell	Marcy Howell
Communion Assistant	Shelly Jasek	Linda Heyde	Shelly Jasek	Linda Heyde
Children's Sermon	DeAnna Toten Beard	Jeanne Dittmann	DeAnna Toten Beard	Jeanne Dittmann
Lector	Larry Dietrich	Bradley Linda	Bradley Linda	TBA
Acolyte	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Communion – Set Up	Jean Bush & Meredith Ronnevik	Jean Bush & Meredith Ronnevik	TBA	TBA
Communion – Clear Altar	Marcy Howell	Marcy Howell	Marcy Howell	Marcy Howell
Wash Communion Ware	Diane & Bill Jones	Diane & Bill Jones	TBA	TBA
Greeter – Elements	John & Carol Linda	Kelly & Linda Heyde	John & Carol Linda	Kelly & Linda Heyde
Greeter	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Usher	Kim Browne	Kim Browne	TBA	TBA
Usher	Ross Browne	Ross Browne	TBA	TBA
Usher	Sharon Gripp	Lyle Gripp	TBA	TBA
Usher	Lyle Gripp	Sharon Gripp	TBA	TBA
Tellers	Shelly Jasek & Pilar Larson			
Tellers				
Altar Flowers	Howell's Anniversary	TBA	Denise Masters in memory of Robert Masters, Jr.	Confirmation Families

Saint Matthew Lutheran Church
800 North New Road
Waco, Texas 76710

Address Correction Requested

Want to CONTACT us at Saint Matthew
Lutheran
Telephone: 254/772-9349

Website: www.saintmatthewwaco.org

Email: Church Office
smlcoffice@saintmatthewwaco.org

Friend us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/SaintMatthewLutheran

Church Office Hours:
Monday through Thursday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 noon.

Remember: If you **do not have a code** to the alarm system (which is different from the code to the key pad outside the front and back doors), **DO NOT enter the building after office hours**, or if no one else is already in the building. All Council members and the various group leaders that meet at St. Matthew have codes for the alarm system.

Church Council Members:

President: Bill Jones254/640-0282
Bjones75@hot.rr.com
Vice-President: Paula Jenson254/836-9523
cspjenson@aol.com
Secretary: Sally Englebrecht.....254/723-6543
Sengel1918@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Shelly Jasek.....254/857-3829
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Council-at-large:

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