

Good News From New Road

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

March 2019

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Pat's Farewell Message

I cannot thank you enough for the opportunity to return to St. Matthew after 20 years doing other ministry, to serve as your interim pastor these past four months. Back in November, as I began the interim, four months seemed like a long time—plenty of time to get reacquainted, to accomplish some small goals, to enjoy doing ministry among you once again. It seemed an especially long time, as Larry and I prepare to move into our “dream” home in Brenham, TX. The waiting and watching for an exciting new adventure can seem interminable! But that time has gone all too quickly, and it’s time to say “So long” and “Thank you!”

As I shared in my sermon (Feb. 24), we all face fears and challenges for the next months and years. Larry and I are anxious about leaving our home of 31 years and making new friends, becoming acclimated to a new community, finding a new church-home and new avenues for volunteer work. St. Matthew has fears about the future, too, as you long for the stability of a full-time, Spirit-filled pastor of your own; as you face the challenges of financial stability that will allow you to continue the ministry that you have come to appreciate and love at St. Matthew.

We may worry about the future and the challenges that await us; we long for stability and peace. But this I can assure you (even as I remind myself!): God is always near. God gives hope. God makes what we consider “too little” to be enough and more.

This past Sunday was also Confirmation Day for five fine young men of St. Matthew: Hans Sellers, Colten Stanford, Hayden Stanford, Jacen Stanford, and Carson Taylor. The Scripture verses chosen to encourage and support our newest Confirmands are also nuggets of truth and promise for all of us who face anxieties and fears:

“Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love” (1 Cor. 16:13-14).

“Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long” (Ps. 25:4-5).

“Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses” (1 Tim. 6:12).

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith...” (Hebrews 12:1-2).

“But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint” (Isaiah 40:31).

Don’t be afraid to dream big! God is bigger than our fears! Jesus’ promises are filled with hope and forgiveness and joy! Paul’s admonition to the Thessalonians are my words of advice for all dreamers--for our 5 Confirmands, and for you of St. Matthew Lutheran Church: “Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” (1 Thess. 5:16-18). God be with you all.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve here at St. Matthew these past four months. Thank you especially for the lovely flowers, cake, and hand-crocheted cross, which will find an active home in my Bible! It has been my honor and my greatest pleasure to serve among you! I pray God’s blessings upon you for a bright and beautiful future!

Prayer Angels have been actively praying for our St. Matthew members with health concerns, as well as several others who have requested prayer. Their ministry is a special trust that benefits the church and so many in need! The Prayer Angels will meet on Sunday, March 3, at 8:30 a.m. in the church library, for updates, reports, and prayer. If you are interested in becoming a Prayer Angel, please attend this meeting!

The Volunteer Appreciation luncheon was fun, and especially exciting as St. Matthew looks to the future! Many volunteers are needed to keep the church running like a well-oiled machine! If you are interested in

helping with committee-work, as a teacher, worship helper, encourager, cook, or fix-it guru, please check with one of the following people:

Property: John Linda
 Christian Education: Linda Stanford
 Worship and Music: Jeremy Wallace or Sha Towers
 Evangelism: Bill Abright or Marcy Howell
 Stewardship: Linda Heyde
 Finance: Shelly Jasek
 WELCA: Wanda Kilstrom
 Men in Mission: Bill Jones
 Quilting: Edna Dietrich or Peggy Tooker
 Stephen's Ministry: Peggy Tooker or Carol Linda

Please stop into the Church office Monday-Friday Morning to meet our new Administrative Assistant, Michelle Wokaty! Thank you to Bill Jones and the Personnel Committee for faithfully interviewing and screening to find the right person to fill our position!

Pastor Pat Dietrich



Council Notes—February 14, 2019

Members present: Bill Abright, Robert Cotner, Pastor Pat Dietrich, Sally Engelbrecht, Linda Heyde, Shelly Jasek, Paula Jenson, Bill Jones, and Linda Stanford

Members absent: Clay Sellers and Jeremy Wallace

President Bill Jones called the meeting to order and Linda Stanford offered a devotional reading.

Shelly presented the Treasurer's Report: There is \$66,802.34 in the checking account as of January 31, 2019; approximately \$36,000 of this amount is designated funds. The year-to-date actual income was \$17,841.32. The year-to-date actual expense was \$16,540.60. The income less expense is \$1,300.72. The cash in the checking account, after designated funds are deducted, will barely cover two months of expense. Bill Jones stated the congregation needs to be fully apprised of our financial status and specifically our income shortfall and how it affects our call process. Bill asked for a motion for a special called congregational meeting on March 3. The meeting will be to discuss the financial needs and giving. Sally made the motion to approve the special called congregational meeting on March 3, 2019 and Paula seconded. The motion was approved.

Pastor's Report

- Pastoral Calls

- Hospital Visits- 5 Home/visits - 13
- Home visits with communion - 16
- Phone Conversations - 3 Funeral – 1
- Meetings/Retreats: Confirmation retreats – 2, New Direction Team meetings – 2, Council meeting – 1, Evangelism committee meeting – 2, Worship committee meetings – 2, Interim Pastors' meeting – 1 (Briarwood)
- Pastor Pat will attend a meeting for interim pastors at the Synod Office on Monday, February 18.
- Pastor Pat shared her thoughts of serving over the past 4 months and her last day will be Sunday, February 24. As a reminder, a group of five young men will be confirmed on that Sunday.

Old Business

- Paula reported that \$625.75 was collected from the Souper Bowl and approximately three pounds of food credit is given for each dollar donated. There was also 280 pounds of food donated to Food for Families.
- Bill asked the council to think about individuals for the Nominating Committee.
- Lutheran World Relief (LWR) – April 27 is the shipping date.
- WELCA donated \$800 for the office computer.

- The organ is now working; it was serviced, and an invoice is expected.
- Council notebooks – The Council members confirmed they have notebooks.

New Business

- Mary Herring has requested to return as a member of St. Matthew. Bill Abright made the motion to accept her membership request and Robert seconded. The motion was approved.
- Pastor Pat discussed the upcoming Volunteer Committee Luncheon. The council reviewed the handouts that Pastor Pat had for the various committees. The Worship Committee has suggested that the members proceed to the fellowship hall after Sunday's service. The Council will work on the food preparation while Pastor Pat talks with the congregation about the volunteer opportunities and sign-up sheets. This will be a fun and light meeting.
- Pastor Pat will leave before Lent starts. Bill Jones will talk with Phil about midweek Wednesday services.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Engelbrecht, Secretary

Evangelism Committee Meeting

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

Finance Committee Meeting

The Finance Committee will meet on **Monday, March 18th at 6:00 p.m.**

Administrative Assistant

Your Personnel Committee is pleased to welcome and introduce to you our new Administrative Assistant, **Michelle Wokaty**. **Michelle** began her employment Monday, February 25th and has begun training in our various systems with Carol Linda. (**Thank you, Carol!**) Stop by the church office and welcome **Michelle** to St Matthew Lutheran.

New Direction Team

Your New Direction Team is fast approaching completion of the MINISTRY SITE PROFILE in preparation to extend a call to our next pastor. The one last major section in the process concerns our financial commitment in support of a new pastor. This is a major commitment on our part and one requiring a clear understanding of how it affects our congregation going forward.

Therefore, to share critical information with the congregation, your Church Council is announcing a **specially called congregational meeting on Sunday, March 3, 2019**. The meeting will be held immediately following worship, and will be in our fellowship hall. Our New Direction Team, in preparation to establish a Call Committee, invites congregation members to a Question and Answer Meeting to discuss the critical need for your financial commitment to St Matthew Lutheran Church.

Your New Direction Team and your Church Council strongly urge you to attend and to be a part of shaping St. Matthew's future.

Your Servant in Christ,
Bill J. Jones, Church Council President



Ash Wednesday services will be at 12:15 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 6 with Pastor Pat Dietrich.

SCHEDULE

Mid-Week Lenten Services will be held March 13, 20 and 27 at 12:15 p.m. with Pastor Larry Henrichs.



On Easter morning, we will again be filling the chancel with **EASTER LILIES**. We will be **taking orders for lilies (\$12 each) through Sunday, April 7th**. If you would like to purchase a lily to place in the chancel, please complete one of the order forms that will be on the back of the weekly bulletin – or contact the church office. Lilies may be taken home after our worship service on Easter morning.



Members with Prayer Concerns

Maggie Johnson, 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, 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:

The family of Harry Reed (Betty Bracken)

Vicki Terry at the loss of her step-son (Carol Linda)

Brook Hanson at the loss of her grandfather (Mary Herring)

Judy Granger at the loss of her niece (Mary Herring)

Jackie Harkins (Mary Koon)

Chelsey Crye (Daylon Crye) on mission work

Brenda Henderson (Edie Walker)

Heather and Shawn Sperfslage (Beth Pristash)

Marie Fuller (mother of Cynthia Frey)

Bert Dockall (Bradley Linda)

Rodney Roller (Terry Roller)

Gloria Martin & Family (Beth Pristash)

Wilfred Dietrich (Larry Dietrich)

Trinity Lutheran Church (Lockney, TX)

First United Lutheran Church (Dallas, TX)

Calvary Baptist Church (Waco)

Red Rocks Church (Waco)

Thanks

Thank you to Paul and Victor Larson for repairing the processional cross I broke. I so appreciate your knowledge and work.

Thanks so very much, gentlemen. —Marcy Howell



Wine & Hymns is at 7:00 p.m. next Tuesday, March 5th



St. Matthew Lutheran Women will be **hosting bridal showers** for Tabbie Pritts, bride-elect of Cody Browne on **March 23rd from 2:00 to 4:00 pm.** in the fellowship hall. Selections at Target and Bed Bath & Beyond. Please plan to attend!

March Birthdays

Geneva Massingill	3/1
Violet Wiechering	3/1
Carolyn Van Auken	3/6
Jillian Duncan	3/9
Hans Sellers	3/9
Pat Dietrich	3/11
Rachel Cotner	3/12
Christopher Cocek	3/13
Norma Swanson	3/14
Rosemary Fielder	3/15
David Vanderkinter	3/15
Bethany Baker	3/17
Michelle Cocek	3/18
Henry Lippe	3/20
Donna Zimmerman	3/22
Robert Cotner	3/25
Beth Pristash	3/26
Kyra White	3/26
Del Hensel	3/28
Kenneth Busch	3/29
Helen Henrichs	3/29

Wedding Anniversaries

Bill & Diane Jones	3/5
Lyle & Sharon Gripp	3/6
Bill & Cora Gillespie	3/31

Baptismal Birthdays

Karen Aho	3/1
Sarah Rude	3/1
Paul Dittmann	3/3
Ken Cocek	3/4
Wanda Kilstrom	3/4
Ronald Peterson	3/8
Betty Krienke	3/9
Mason Gill	3/11
Geneva Massingill	3/11
Ryan Taylor	3/19
Abigail Jasek	3/22
Cameron Vickrey	3/26
David Vanderkinter	3/29
Mary Ann Lippe	3/31

REMINDER:

11:00 am Wednesday Bible Study will not meet during Lent & will resume on Wednesday, April 24th.

March 2019 Ministers of Worship

	March 3	March 10	March 17	March 24	March 31
	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM
Worship Assistant	De Anna Toten Beard	Bradley Linda	De Anna Toten Beard	Meridith Sellers	Clay Sellers
Communion Assistant	Sue Hensel	Rosemary Fielder	Paula Jensen	Paula Jensen	Paula Jensen
Communion Assistant	Diane Jones	Marianna Busch	Bradley Linda	Linda Hyde	Ken Busch
Children's Sermon	De Anna Toten Beard	Jeanne Dittmann	De Anna Beard	Jeanne Dittmann	Jeanne Dittmann
Lector	Pat Gorton	Bradley Linda	Joanne Zuch	Clay Sellers	Jeanne Dittmann
Acolyte	TBA	TBA	TBA	Hans Sellers	Hans Sellers
Communion – Set Up	Peggy Tooker	Peggy Tooker	Peggy Tooker	Peggy Tooker	Peggy Tooker
Communion – Clear Altar	Marcie Howell	Marcie Howell	Marcie Howell	Marcie Howell	Marcie Howell
Wash Communion Ware	Carolyn Van Auken	Carolyn Van Auken	Carolyn Van Auken	Carolyn Van Auken	Carolyn Van Auken
Greeter – Elements	Bill Jones	Edna Dietrich	Paula Jensen	Kelly & Linda Hyde	Bancale Family
Greeter	Bill Jones		Steve Jensen		Bancale Family
Usher	Bill Moeller				
Usher	Jean Moeller				
Usher					
Usher					
Tellers	Terry Bracken & Bill Moeller				
Tellers					
Altar Flowers	Bill & Diane Jones 53 rd Wedding Anniversary		Jean Zuch to the Glory of God	Beth Pristash to the Glory of God	

March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>8:30 Prayer Angels</p> <p>8:30 Stephen Min. Supervision</p> <p>9:30 Worship</p> <p>10:30 Special Called Congressional Meeting</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>11:00 Dominoes</p> <p>7:00 Wine & Hymns @ Klassy Glass, Austin Ave</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6:30 Men's Breakfast</p> <p>11:00 Bible Study</p> <p>12:15 Ash Wednesday Worship</p> <p>5:30 Mary Martha Cir.</p> <p>6:30 Choir</p> <p>7:00 Ash Wednesday Worship</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>1</p> <p>9:00 Quilting</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>10</p> <p>9:00 Worship</p> <p>10:30 Sunday School</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:00 Grace Circle</p> <p>4:30 Katherine Luther Circle</p> <p>5:30 Evangelism Com.</p> <p>6:30 Church Council</p>	<p>12</p> <p>11:00 Dominoes</p>	<p>13</p> <p>11:00 Bible Study</p> <p>12:15 Lenten Service</p> <p>6:30 Choir</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:00 Quilting</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17</p> <p>9:30 Worship</p> <p>10:30 Sunday School</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>11:00 Dominoes</p>	<p>20</p> <p>11:00 Bible Study</p> <p>12:15 Lenten Service</p> <p>6:30 Choir</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:00 Quilting</p>	<p>23</p> <p>1:00-5:00 Wedding Shower of Tabbie Pritts, Bride-elect of Cody Brown</p>
<p>24</p> <p>9:30 Worship</p> <p>10:30 Sunday School</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>11:00 Dominoes</p>	<p>27</p> <p>11:00 Bible Study</p> <p>12:15 Lenten Service</p> <p>6:30 Choir</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:00 Quilting</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:30 W-ELCA Retreat Carrollton</p>
<p>31</p> <p>9:30 Worship</p> <p>10:30 Sunday School</p>						

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
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cspjenson@aol.com
Secretary: Sally Englebrecht.....254/723-6543
Sengel1918@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Shelly Jasek.....254/857-3829
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