

Good News From New Road

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

May 2018

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church



A celebration honoring our GRADUATES and our SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF will be held on Sunday, May 20th at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Also, during this celebration, the St. Matthew Lutheran/Bracken Scholarships will be presented.



Everyone is invited to this special celebration. A sign-up sheet for refreshments will be posted on the podium in the Entrance Way beginning May 6th. Those who are graduating from high school are Ryan Taylor and Mason Gill. *(Parents, if you have a child graduating from college, please let the church office know. You are asked to submit their name, where they are graduating from, degree to be received (college grads), accomplishments and recognitions while in school, and future plans. Please submit this information to the church office in writing, or via e-mail (smlcoffice@saintmatthewwaco.org or pkrupicka@saintmatthewwaco.org) no later than Sunday, May 13th so that it may be included in the May 20th bulletin.)*



Council Notes - April 9, 2018

Members present: Bill Abright, Robert Cotner, Sally Engelbrecht, Sharon Gripp, Linda Heyde, Patti

Hueston, Shelly Jasek, Paula Jenson, Bill Jones, Pastor Paul Krupicka, and Clay Sellers

President Sharon Gripp called the meeting to order.

Linda Heyde led the devotion "I Choose Joy."

Approved the Council Minutes from the March 12th Council Meeting as presented.

Under the **TREASURER'S REPORT** it was reported that the income for March was \$1,586.94 more than expenses. For the first quarter of the year, expenses have exceeded income by \$2,121.96.

PASTOR'S REPORT

- It was reported that a \$600 love offering was given to Rebecca and Elmo Haferkamp.
- Bishop Gronberg will be preaching at St. Matthew Lutheran on Sunday, April 29th following the Synod Assembly. A Reception and Open Forum will be at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
- The Briarwood Fiesta is on May 5th at the Texas Star Conference Center in Euless. St. Matthew Lutheran will be recognized and honored.
- The Lutheran Sunset Ministries Corporate meeting is Sunday, May 6th at 3 p.m. in Clifton. Bill and

- Stephanie Abright and Pastor Paul will represent St. Matthew at this meeting.
- Applications for the Bracken Scholarship have been posted on our website. Paper copies are available in the office workroom. The applications are due by April 22nd. Scholarships will be awarded Sunday, May 20th.
- Jay Dittmann has ordered a new wireless unit for the Pastor. New microphones will be added at a \$100-\$200 cost.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Property

- The work on the bathrooms in the front hall is almost complete.
- The electrician has ordered wiring for setting a new panel in the front of the sanctuary.
- Ideas/quotes are being gathered for landscaping in the front of the sanctuary.
- A list is being compiled of projects that need to be done around the church.
- Committee was asked to get an estimate on what it would cost to remove the carpeting in the Fellowship Hall and replace it with some other floor surface.

Evangelism

- Reviewed Easter ad for Seniorific News
- Committee has some alternate plans for Wine and Hymns.
- Committee discussed the possibility of a day care at St. Matthew but found that the requirements for a day care made it not feasible for our location.

Old Business

- Young Adult Ministry – It was reported that DeAnna was still working on this.
- Because of Lent and Holy Week, Pastor reported that he had not been able to meet with our Computer Tech about a new computer system for the church.
- A Blessing of the Animals celebration with be held on October 6, 2018.
- Pastor Paul reported that we should have a State Sales Tax Exemption Certificate and Number in about two weeks.

NEW BUSINESS

- It was proposed by the Women of the Church to have a Trunk & Treat celebrate on the Sunday before Halloween.
- Suggestions for the Chair for the Finance Committee was presented.
- Members who had agreed to serve on the Personnel Committee were presented.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Engelbrecht, Secretary

**W-ELCA News**

Saint Matthew W-ELCA Mother/Daughter Salad Luncheon and General Meeting will be in the church

Fellowship Hall on Saturday May 5 at 11:00 a.m.

All Saint Matthew ladies are invited to attend and bring your daughters, granddaughters, daughter in-laws or friends to the luncheon and meeting.

Mrs. Ann Harder, KXXV-TV news anchor with be the guest speaker. She will have an interesting program you will not want to miss.

There will be worship, singing, wonderful salads, delicious desserts and fellowship. Mark your calendars now for Saturday, May 5th at 11:00 a.m. to attend.

Bold Woman Sunday

Bold Woman Sunday will be observed on Sunday, May 13th at the 10:45 a.m. Service at Saint Matthew Lutheran.

Two W-ELCA ladies were selected by paper ballots at the Spring Retreat Gathering/General Meeting on February 24th. These two ladies will be introduced and honored as **Bold Women on Mother's Day**,

Lutheran World Relief Report 2018

Saint Matthew Lutheran Church, Waco, was the Ingathering Site for the NT/NL Heart of Texas Missionary Conference, LWR Boxes. Twelve HOT churches and two non-conference churches brought 410 boxes packed with various items. These boxes were delivered to Messiah Lutheran Church in Plano, Texas, on Saturday, April 7th.

Saint Matthew had 43 boxes packed with 56 quilts, 175 personal care kits, 25 schools kits, and twenty-one pounds of soap. **Many thanks** to the following churches who made donations toward the expense of the truck rental, fuel –refill and insurance: First – Temple, First – Waco, Immanuel – Killeen, Our Savior's – Norse, St. John – Coryell City, St. Paul – Crawford, St. Olaf – Cransfill Gap, Zion – McGregor, Zion – Priddy, Trinity - Clifton.



A big **Thanks** to the five brave "MEN" who braved the coldest morning of the year--37° and bitter cold wind: Daylon Crye, Jay Dittmann, Bill

Jones, Bill Moeller and Terry Roller. They all survived with donuts and hot coffee between loading boxes. Thanks to Pastor Paul for driving the 16 foot Penske truck and Jo Anne Krupicka for her help. Know that your efforts will be blessed by God in His service. Thanks to each of you for your help with the LWR Ingathering.

**YOUTH NEWS**

☞ **LUNCH OUT:** In celebration of graduations and the end of school, the Sr. High Youth will go out for lunch following the 10:45 a.m. worship service on Sunday, May 20th. All Sr. High Youth are invited to attend.



☞ **Day Camp 2018** will be July 9 - July 13, 2018 at St. Matthew Lutheran. The theme is "This Changes Everything." Day Camp is open to all youth ages four years through having completed fifth grade. There is also a need for Junior Counselors (youth having completed sixth

grade and older.) Mark your calendar now, and plan to attend Day Camp 2018! Registration forms for both campers and Jr. Counselors will be posted in the narthex beginning Sunday, May 6th.

- ☞ **CAMP BRIARWOOD.** What are you doing this summer? Have you thought about spending a week at Briarwood? The theme of summer camp at Briarwood in 2018 will be “This Changes Everything,” focusing on how the grace of God in Jesus Christ changes the lives of everyone it touches. There are camping opportunities for all ages. Registration for summer camp is now open. Go to www.BriarwoodRetreat.org to reserve your spot for a week of fun, fellowship, and growth.
- ☞ The **2018 ELCA Youth Gathering** is June 27 - July 1, 2018 in Houston. We have two young men – Paul Dittmann and Carter Towers who will be attending the gathering, along with Pastor Paul. During the gathering there will be opportunities for worship, study, service, growth, and lots of fun. At the last count, there are over 30,000 young people and sponsors registered for the gathering.

Website: ELCA.org/gathering

Facebook: facebook.com/youthgathering

Instagram: @elcagathering

Twitter: @elcagathering

Snapchat: @elcagathering

OVER 50S

On Wednesday, May 9th the **OVER 50S** group will have a potluck luncheon after Bible class. Bring a favorite dish to share – casseroles, salads, veggies, fruit, or desserts. Our program for the day will be a presentation by Kenneth and Marianna Busch on their trip to New York state. Come at 11:00 a.m. for Bible study, noon for lunch followed by the program!



In celebration of Earth Day and Soil and Water Stewardship Week, the **MEN'S BREAKFAST AND BIBLE STUDY** group will host a breakfast on Wednesday, May 2nd at 6:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for all who would like to learn more about the care of God's creation especially in terms of water stewardship. We will begin with a breakfast of eggs, sausage, biscuits, gravy, fruit, and sweets, followed by a study on water stewardship. Again this special event is open to anyone and everyone (not just men). Please join us for breakfast and a time of growth.



Members with Prayer Concerns: Teresa Umberger, Albert Hampel, Glenn von Rosenberg, Linda Stanford, Peggy Tooker, Steve Jenson, Maggie Lambring, Rebecca Hafterkamp, Elaine Noack, Sharon Gripp, Elsie Pietzsch, Melba Hafer, Edna Harris-Howland, Bill & Elnora Schwake, Agnes Decker, Duane Early, Ron & Sharon Peterson, Eunice & John Linda, Stephanie & Ron Lambring, Mary Ann Lippe, Ty Henrichs, Alfred Gstattenbauer, Irene Erickson, Lauren Roller, Tammy Vickrey, David & Stacey Vanderkinter, Weldon Howell, Stephanie Partin, Cynthia Shetler, and Ed Poehl.



Those serving in our military:

Noah Anderson and Niall Kelly, grandsons of Roy & Florence Anderson.
Landry Erickson, grandson of Irene Erickson
Willie Creamer, brother of Sam Creamer
Claten Bechtol, grandson of Glenn & Jo von Rosenberg

Those for whom prayer is requested:

Larry Schwartz (*Shelly & John Jasek*)
Roger Sanders (*Clydine Arthur*)
Rodney Roller, Robert Prince, Scott & Kylie Kubicki & family, Sandra Jameson, Megan Nicole, Joyce Sproles, Clint Tchiavsky, Rick Buckner, Hitchcock Family, Bob Stough (*Janet & Terry Roller*)
Sheri Goldman, Richard Washmon, Sherlon Dyer, Bill & Judy Reynolds, Pete Anderson (*Del & Sue Hensel*)
Maddie Douglas, Eddie Kunze (*Franci Rogers*)
Crockett Rainer (*Toni & Sharon Barnum*)
Willie Davis (*Timothy Pristash*)
Gilbert Janner (*Kathy & Lee Nordt*)
Scout, Bretten & Haley Schulz (*Roy & Florence Anderson*)
Vicky Ash, Camille Hiland, Timmy Fields, Steve Kent, Tom Berch, Yanski, Steven Sudbury (*Ray & Heather Baker*)
Terri Castleberry, Adora Joy (*Deanna & Kemper Beard*)
Vicki Smith, Joe Cook (*John & Carol Linda*)
Mary Fallon-Pommer (*Sharon & Ron Peterson*)
Pastor Augie Ristow (*Stan & Jean Hoffmeyer*)
Gary Penney (*Kim & Ross Browne*)
Heather Abright, Harlan Abright (*Bill & Stephanie Abright*)
Teri Hafer
Buffy Bayer, Jan Richter, Annette Carruth (*Meridith & Clay Sellers*)
Martin (Duty) Cruse (*Lee & Marilyn Cruse*)

Mark Wright (*Nona Preble*)
 Donna Hahn (*Doris Akard*)
 Leonard Janke, Janell Janke (*Arlene Schwarz*)
 Sherry Perrin, Glenn Howell, Lisa Brown, Sammie Wise (*Marcyl & Weldon Howell*)
 Carl Potter, Jack Odell (*Peggy Tooker*)
 Beth Gray (*Henry Beard*)
 Curtis & Patsy Forrester, George & Janet Ahrens (*Bill & Diane Jones*)
 Butch Barrington (*Dana Bush*)
 Mike Howland, Rick Wooley (*David & Edna Howland*)
 Gary Mittendorf, Ardeth Lindell, Jeff Harris & Family, Melanie, Judy Harris (*Beth Pristash*)
 Dana Bush (*Tammy Bush*)
 Joyce Cunningham, Wendell Davis (*Jean & Bill Moeller*)
 Kristina Staples (*Elmo & Rebecca Haferkamp*)
 Christina Whiteside, Mike Riley, Al Canales (*Denise Self*)
 Pete Tamez, Debbie, Candice & Brian Vonasak, Conrad Engelholm, Jason and Velina Copeland (*Bill & Elnora Schwake*)
 Lucille Culverhouse (*The White and Lambring families*)
 Stephanie Stone (*Branden Stone*)
 Warmaus & Janette Bailey, Sharon Roach, Al Castilleja, Karen Ploetz, Sharen Carley, Freddie & Andy Anderson (*Steve, Paula & Ashley Jenson*)
 Roland Krienke (*Teresa & Michael Bancale*)
 Lillian Miller (*Stephanie & Ron Lambring*)
 Rob & Lynn Aho, Elinor Parker, Stevie Spalda, Belva Meckes, Wayne Gower, Phyllis & Royal Fraedrich (*Karl & Karen Aho*)
 Calvin Henrichs, Krystal, Addyson & Tyler Henrichs, Josh & Chandal Chenier, Ann Simpson (*Larry, Helen & Ty Henrichs*)
 Christine Pyle & family, Phyllis Rude (*Sarah Rude & Niles Haich*)
 Logan Lopez, Andre Young, Dorian Young, Roxi Joiner (*Mary & Bobby Koon*)
 Dr. Michael Stones (*Bill & Cora Gillespie*)
 Ella Niekamp (*Allen & Patti Hueston*)
 Tyson Selman
 Geoff Arms, Elena Grant (*Lauren Roller*)
 Antonio Rodriguez (*Pilar Rodriguez-Larson*)
 Patti Hawkins (*Monica & Daniel Harper*)

We express our Christian Sympathy to:

- † The family of Richard "Dick" Johnson. A memorial service for Dick was held at St. Matthew Lutheran on Wednesday, April 25th at 2:00 p.m.
 † The family of Patrick Posey (Linda Heyde)

- † Pastor Pat & Larry Dietrich, Bethany & Bryan, and their family at the death of Pat's mother, Dorothy Stillson
 † The family of David Brown (*Scott Bancale*)
 † The family of Sharon Kelley (*Meridith & Clay Sellers*)



CONGRATULATIONS to Dylan and Kristen Harrison at the birth of their son, Judson Moore Harrison. Judson was born on March 31st in San Antonio. He weighed 6 lbs. and 6 oz. and was 20" long. His proud grandparents are David and Debbie Evans. The proud great grandparents are Robert and Betty Krienke.

CONGRATULATIONS to SAWL Rocio Alarcon who was installed as the Synodically Authorized Worship Leader and Mission Developer for Mision Luterana San Mateo in Waco on Sunday, April 15th. The service of installation took place at San Gabriel Lutheran Church in Alvarado.

OPPORTUNITIES TO BE CHRIST'S FAMILY IN SERVICE

- ♥ **Day Camp 2018** – *"This Changes Everything!"* is coming July 9-13. To make Day Camp 2018 a success, your help is needed. We will need housing for our Briarwood Counselors (3), suppers for the Counselors, lunch for the Day Camp Staff, workers in the kitchen, and Junior Counselors to assist the Briarwood Counselors. (*A sign-up sheet is posted on the podium in the Entrance Way, or you can call the church office at any time to volunteer.*) We will also need monetary donations to purchase snacks for the campers. Donations may be placed in the white pew envelopes and marked "Day Camp".
- ♥ **Caritas:** We continue to collect food items for Caritas. With summer approaching, the need becomes much greater as youth are no longer in school. Bring your donations of non-perishable food items (***NO glass, please***), and place them in the Caritas box in the Entrance Way.
- ♥ **Blast Off for Books!** The 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering will be collecting books for students in Pre-K through 6th grade for its in kind offering at the gathering. The Houston ISD estimates that 74% of the students in the district come from families who struggle to provide books for their children. This means the students begin each

school year at a disadvantage. By putting books in the hands of Houston's economically disadvantaged students, we can help change lives. The Houston ISD has identified a very specific list of books they would like brought to the gathering. Between now and May 20th, our youth will be collecting donations toward the purchase of these books. If you would like to make a contribution toward **Blast Off for Books**, please use one of the white pew envelopes and mark on it "books." If you would like to purchase the books yourself, please see Pastor Paul as he has a list of the books that are needed.

- ♥ A second goal of the *2018 ELCA Youth Gathering* is to raise \$500,000 for the **ELCA WORLD HUNGER'S GLOBAL FARM CHALLENGE**. This would equip communities around the world with livestock, seeds, tools, training and more – all with the goal of making families healthier and stronger. To help the youth reach their goal, you may make a donation to purchase items such as a piglet for \$30, chicks for \$10, a rooster for \$15, a cow for \$500 (or a share of a cow for \$50), a fish farm for \$250, an oxen and plow for \$1,000 (or a share of an oxen and plow for \$100), honeybees for \$20, a goat for \$50, a family farm for \$715, fruits-tree seedling for \$10, a fruit-tree nursery for \$150, a community vegetable garden for \$200, or farming tools for \$25. To make a donation, please use one of the white pew envelopes and mark on it "Farm." Also, be sure to put on the envelope what item you are purchasing.



FELLOWSHIP EVENTS – Have a great idea for a social/fellowship event the would involve St.



Matthew Lutheran – dinner out, a game or "talent show" night, a trip to see the wild flowers in bloom or the painted churches, or an excursion to a ball game or a concert? We would like to hear your idea. Then we would like to encourage you to make that idea a reality at St Matthew Lutheran. We will assist with advertising and planning if you will serve as the head coordinator of the event. With summer rapidly approaching, is there a fellowship/social event you would like to see take place at St. Matthew? Let us know.

Thank You to . . .

- ♥ Wanda Kilstrom for coordinating the loading of the LWR truck . . . Bill Jones, Daylon Crye, Terry Roller, Jay Dittmann, & Bill Moeller for loading the truck . . . and Pastor Paul and JoAnn for driving the LWR donations to Dallas
- ♥ Jay Dittmann for all the work he does to improve and keep our sound system running
- ♥ Rosemary Fielder, Steve & Paula Jenson, & John, Carol, & Bradley Linda for all of their hard work on "refreshing" the restrooms near the offices.
- ♥ Helen Henrichs for maintaining the flowerbeds behind the church

Fellowship Hall Reservations

A reminder that the **FELLOWSHIP HALL** and other rooms are **reserved** on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like to reserve a space, please contact the church office to be sure it is available. We would be happy to assist you to get your event on the official calendar.

The **Briarwood Fiesta** is Saturday, May 5th at the Texas Star Golf & Conference Centre (1400 Texas Star Parkway in Euless, Texas). A fun evening is planned with cocktails, dinner, and a silent and live auction. Also during the Fiesta, St. Matthew will be recognized and honored for its support of the ministry of Briarwood. Cocktails & Registration begin at 5:30 p.m. Visit bidpal.net/briarwoodgala to purchase tickets, see auction items, or make a donation (or call 940-241-2099).

A bit of Trivia –

April 14, 1902 – J.C. Penney opens his first Golden Rule Store (in Kemmerer, Wyoming), committing himself to the highest ethical standards. He seeks to run his business on biblical principles: giving each customer only quality merchandise at a fair price, taking no more than a fair profit, and transacting business for cash only.



May Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Baptisms

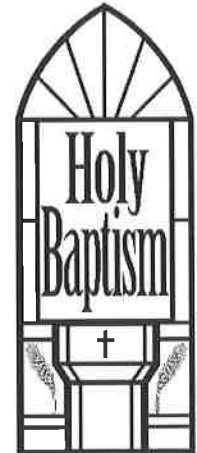
5/1 Niles Haich
 5/1 Edna Harris-Howland
 5/4 Cory Stanford
 5/5 Sarah Schwieger
 5/6 Judy Schwieger
 5/7 Stan Schwieger
 5/8 Mary Krause
 5/9 Owen Brock
 5/9 Savannah Reiske
 5/10 Maggie Lambring
 5/10 Adria Schmedthorst
 5/11 Carter Towers
 5/13 Alaine Copeland
 5/13 Sharon Peterson
 5/13 Bobby Zimmerman
 5/16 Ed Taylor
 5/17 Tammy Bush
 5/17 Jo von Rosenberg
 5/19 Thomas Vanderkinter
 5/20 Aralia Thompson
 5/21 Eunice Linda
 5/22 Shawna White
 5/23 Linda Stanford
 5/25 Amy Nelson
 5/27 Max Towers
 5/29 Gus Hengst
 5/29 Lola Hull
 5/29 Anneli Kucera
 5/31 Dayna Hamilton



5/2 Allen & Patti Hueston Sr. (3rd)
 5/16 Cory & Megan Stanford (20th)
 5/21 Bill & Stephanie Abright (30th)
 5/25 Ned & Geneva Massingill (44th)

Anniversaries of Baptism

5/1 David Nesmith
 5/2 Elnora Schwake
 5/5 Shannon Adams
 5/8 Artie Lambring
 5/12 Stephanie Partin
 5/14 Jean Moeller
 5/14 Janet Reiske
 5/14 Savannah Reiske
 5/16 Rachel Cotner
 5/17 Ryan Henry
 5/17 Donna Zimmerman
 5/22 Judy Schwieger
 5/22 Sarah Schwieger
 5/25 Dana Bush
 5/25 Helen Henrichs
 5/26 Stephen Heyde
 5/26 Bradley Linda
 5/26 Matthew Linda
 5/27 Melba Hafer



Want to CONTACT US at St. Matthew Lutheran:

Telephone #: 254-772-9349

Fax #: 254-772-4328

Website: www.saintmatthewwaco.org

Email:

Church Office: smlcoffice@saintmatthewwaco.org

Pastor Paul: pkrupicka@saintmatthewwaco.org

Friend us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/SaintMatthewLutheran

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

In the event of **an emergency**, call the telephone number above and follow the instructions for "if this is an emergency" to reach Pastor Paul.

Graceful Generosity

Published to help you grow as a steward of God's grace.



Sold Out!

Speaking to his disciples, Jesus said, *“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters – yes, even his own life – he cannot be my disciple”* (Luke 14:26).

He tried explaining his task to them. He told them about the coming suffering he would endure, that he would be killed, but that he would rise again. “Never!” exclaimed Peter. How did Jesus reply? “Oh, thank you, Peter. That’s so thoughtful and brave of you, Peter.” No, that’s not what Peter heard. *“Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men”* (Matthew 16:21-23).

It’s difficult for us to understand Jesus’ command to leave our families, even to hate them, so that we can follow him. Our difficulty comes because we have in mind the things of men, not of God.

We know Jesus loved his family. On the cross, his request of John was to care for his mother. We know he loved his friends. He wept at Lazarus’ tomb. We also know that Jesus never wavered in his love for us, and that’s why he *“resolutely set out for Jerusalem”* (Luke 9:51). Because he had in mind the things of God, he

could accomplish the eternal good of all mankind.

What about you? Are you keeping in mind the things of God? Can you say, “Get behind me” to well-meaning family or friend who would deter you from the path on which you know God has set you? Be encouraged by your Savior who has fulfilled perfectly all that he asks you to do. Be inspired by him who set aside honor and glory to pay the price of your failures. Then pick up the cross he gives you and be his disciple (Luke 14:27).

Ashamed of Christ?

The streets were packed with people shouting, *“Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”* (John 12:13). Although he rode down that street on a donkey, the crowds still saw him as the king who would deliver them from oppression.

The disciples, too, envisioned an earthly kingdom with Jesus ruling overall and themselves sitting at his right and left hands (Mark 10:37, 41).

As the events of the week unfolded, however, that hope had evaporated. Still, the disciples and the faithful few followed their Master and stood at the foot of the cross, watching and waiting, unashamed as the One they loved and trusted hung nearly naked, bruised, and bleeding in seeming defeat as he died a death reserved for the vilest criminal. Were they responding to Jesus’ words that, if they were ashamed of him, he would be ashamed of them before his Father? *“If anyone is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels”* (Luke 9:26). Perhaps, but more likely their love surpassed any feeling of shame that their cause, along with their Lord, was lost.

1 Corinthians 13:13 tells us, *“And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.”* At times faith is dim, and hope is distant. Love overcomes shame and fear and doubt. Love brought Jesus here the first time, and love will bring him back again.

On the Lighter Side

While driving in Pennsylvania, a family caught up to an Amish carriage. The owner of the carriage obviously had a sense of humor, because attached to the back of the carriage was a hand printed sign: “Energy efficient vehicle ... Runs on oats and grass. Caution: Do not step in exhaust.”



Is Your Light Shining?

One of God’s greatest blessings is sunlight.

Light is so basic, so necessary, and so wonderful. It is essential for life. Because of the light from the sun, we can see the beauty of God’s creation. We have light because God said, *“Let there be light, and there was light”* (Genesis 1:3). Until God made light, the world was dark.

What the Creator God did for the earth, the Redeemer God does for us humans. John, the apostle, tells us how this has come about.

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us... (John 1:1, 14). In Jesus, John told us, “The true light that gives light was coming into the world” (John 1:9).

Jesus is that true light, and he told us, *“You are the light of the world”* (Matthew 5:14). It is his light within us being reflected that allows us to carry out his command: *“Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven”* (Matthew 5:16). We are called to keep the light that God gives us burning brightly and shining for the entire world to see. *“Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house”* (John 5:15). Nourished through Word and Sacrament, we can be faithful reflections of God’s light.

Blessings on Your Stewardship Journey!

MAY 2018 MINISTERS OF WORSHIP

	May 6		May 13		May 20		May 27
	9:30 a.m.	8:15 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	8:15 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	
Worship Assistant	Marianna Busch	Phil Van Auken	Meridith Sellers	Beth Pristash	Sue Hensel	Clay Sellers	
Communion Assistant	Paul Larson Linda Heyde	TBA	Clay Sellers Marcy Howell	TBA	Rosemary Fielder Ken Busch	Linda Heyde Rosemary Fielder	
Communion Elements	Jean Moeller Denise Masters	Jean & Tammy Bush	Marcy Howell TBA	Jean & Tammy Bush	TBA	Marcy Howell TBA	
Children's Sermon	Pastor Paul	-----	Pastor Paul	-----	DeAnna Toten Beard	DeAnna Toten Beard	
Lector	Pat Gorton	Joanne Zuch	Clay Sellers	Beth Pristash	TBA	TBA	
Acolyte	TBA	TBA	Hans Sellers	TBA	TBA	Hans Sellers	
Clean Communionware	Paul & Pilar Larson	Carolyn Van Auken	Wanda Kilstrom	Carolyn Van Auken	Bill & Diane Jones	TBA	
Greeters	Jean Moeller Denise Masters	TBA	Wanda Kilstrom Marcy Howell	TBA	TBA	TBA	
Usher	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	Bill Jones	Del Hensel	
Usher	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	Diane Jones	Roy Anderson	
Tellers	Peggy Tooker & Beth Pristash						
Flowers	Allen & Patti Hueston	Alaine Copeland		Bill & Stephanie Abright		<i>Open</i>	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MAY 2018						
6 8:30am Stephen Supervision 9:30am Worship 3:00pm Lutheran Sunset Ministries Annual Meeting	7 5:30pm Aggie Moms	8 11:00am Dominos	9 11:00am Bible Study 12:00pm Over 50s 6:30pm Choir	10 6:00pm Bell Choir	11 9:00am Quilting	12 9:30am Waco Calligraphy Guild
13 Bold Women of Faith Sunday 8:15am Worship 9:30am Sunday School 10:45am Worship	14 10:00am Grace Circles 4:30pm Katherine Luther Circle 6:30pm Church Council	15 11:00am Dominos 6:30pm Stephen Ministry Cont. Ed	16 11:00am Bible Study	17	18 9:00am Quilting	19 2:00pm Piano Recital in Sanctuary
20 8:15am Worship 9:30am Graduate & Sunday School Staff Recognition 10:45am Worship 12:15pm Sr. High Lunch	21 5:30pm Evangelism	22 11:00am Dominos	23 11:00am Bible Study	24	25 9:00am Quilting	26
27 9:30am Worship	28 <i>Memorial Day</i>	29 11:00am Dominos	30 11:00am Bible Study	31	MAY 2018	
5 11:00am W-ELCA Salad Luncheon 5:30pm Briarwood Fiesta			<i>Cinco de Mayo</i>			

St Matthew Lutheran Church
800 N New Road
Waco, TX 76710

Address Correction Requested

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS . . .

- ★ Wednesday, May 2nd – Men's Breakfast hosts Soil & Water Stewardship study at 6:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
- ★ Saturday, May 5 – W-ELCA Mother-Daughter Salad Luncheon at 11:00 a.m.
- ★ Saturday, May 5 – Briarwood Fiesta celebrating Cinco de Mayo beginning at 5:30 p.m.
- ★ Wednesday, May 9 – Over 50s Potluck Luncheon at 12:00 noon
- ★ Sunday, May 13 – Mother's Day and Bold Women of Faith Sunday.
- ★ Sunday, May 20th – Reception honoring our Graduates and our Sunday School Staff at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall
- ★ Sunday, May 27th – Begin Summer worship schedule – one service at 9:30 a.m.

SUMMER WORSHIP: Beginning May 27th, we will move to our summer worship schedule of one service beginning at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday. We will return to two worship services on Sunday, September 9th. Please mark your calendar and join us for worship this summer.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT . . .

What I want is not always what I get in life. I may not have chosen my current circumstances, but I can choose whether I'll live in a state of disappointment and discontent or search out the treasures hidden in the unexpected and imperfect.

I am Thankful . . .

- ▶ for the taxes I pay, because it means I am employed
- ▶ for the mess to clean after a party because it means I have been surrounded by friends
- ▶ for the clothes that fit a little too snug because it means I have enough to eat
- ▶ for a lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning, and gutters that need fixing, because it means I have a home.
- ▶ for the person behind me in church who sings off key because it means I can hear.
- ▶ for my huge cooling bill because it means I am cool and comfortable in the hot Texas summer
- ▶ and finally, for the alarm that goes off in the early morning hours because it means I am alive