



**St. Matthew  
Lutheran Church  
Newsletter  
January 2020**

***The Lutherans: Posting Vital Information Since 1517***

From the Pastor...

Greetings in the name of Christ Jesus

As my generation seems to live on Facebook, I too find myself there for more time than I would like to admit. In my scrolling over the last days I found this writing. "When the song of the angels is stilled, When the star in the sky is gone, When the kings and princes are home, When the shepherds are back with their flock, The work of Christmas begins: to find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among others, to make music in the heart." This letter was done by Howard Thurman an African-American theologian and civil rights leader that was active in the 1920's. Thurman's words are our charge this year and for the years to come. Though the whimsical warm feelings Christmas provides us have come and gone for another year, the truth that came to our world that night still lives within each and every one of us; our Christ is indeed here in and amongst us.

Let's not accept the status quo this year. Let's not say we have always done it this way. Instead let us say this, "is the way in which we do church helping spread the gospel or impeding someone from hearing it?" I promised you over a year ago now that I will not capsize your boat, but I will rock it a bit, and that is a promise I will indeed keep, but be prepared for some more waves. In 2020 my goal for this congregation is to foster an environment where outreach is done and is helped to thrive. This is not just a pastor job, this is not just a council job, this is an all of us job. I need your help in this task because when I am in school, I do not know the comings and goings of Galena, but you do. Those who live in town, those who live in the territory, those who live elsewhere and travel to come to us. You all know something that this community could use. So brothers and sisters my charge to all of us this year is simple, if you see a need in our community that we could fill come to me and the council. Come however silly, simple, serious, or complex you think the issue is. Come to us with a plan, or a shamble of ideas, or a team the really is invested in a specific ministry and you will be met with these words, "how can we help."

This is a new decade for St. Matthew Lutheran Church and the future is looking bright with all of us working together.

Your faithful servant in Christ  
-Pastor Blake Shipman

January, 2020 President's letter

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**"All glory be to God on high, and peace on earth!" the angels cry. Rejoice! Rejoice! With thanks embrace another year of grace.**

**(From LBW #181 vs. 62-6 Greet Now the Swiftly Changing Year)**

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Blessings of the New Year to all of you!

I pray you all had a blessed Christmas. As we enter the new year we find many of our members, including Jan and myself, have retreated to warmer climates to weather the coldest of the winter months.

We welcome Kim Miller as our new church secretary. Kim will be doing a variety of office related jobs including assembling and sending out the newsletter. Please send any announcements for the newsletter to Miller, Kimberly06@yahoo.com. Welcome aboard, Kim!

The one thing at the forefront of my thoughts is the Annual Congregational Meeting of the congregation on Sunday, January 19 following the service at 11:00. If you are still in the area, please plan to attend as a quorum of the congregation is necessary to approve the budget and other church business for the coming year.

In the December newsletter, I spoke about the beautiful Chrismos on the church Christmas tree and my wonderful memories of Bud Steidle making those ornaments. Well, one of the things about getting older is that our memories aren't always as accurate as we would like. While it's true that Bud indeed made those ornaments, Ron Stevens also added his expertise to those same Chrismos with Bud. So, thank you Ron for your contribution, also. They are as beautiful now as they were some 20 years ago when they were made.

It has been an honor to serve all of you as your president. Thank you for supporting the council with your prayers and help when called upon.

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In His Service,

Bruce Etzel

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## Vice President's Report

The Annual Meeting of St. Matthew Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, January 19, 2020 at 11 am in the Sanctuary.

The Annual Report will be available by email and in the Welcome Center.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting.

Charles Marsden  
Vice President

### **SPECIAL FOCUS MISSION**

#### **JO DAVIESS WORKSHOP January 2020**

The Mission of The Workshop is to promote the general welfare of individuals with disabilities in Jo Daviess County.

The goal of the program is to provide job training and real work opportunities for individuals with disabilities according to their needs and abilities. Individuals may work on the production floor (a 20,000 sq. ft. facility), in the laundry or in community janitorial services.

Training includes Wellness/Counseling, Educational Instruction and Social Skills & Activities. See their website [www.theworkshopgalena.org](http://www.theworkshopgalena.org) for more information on this important organization within our community.

Several members of St. Matthew are active in this organization. Please join them by providing your financial support.

### **December Financial Information**

<b>Income</b>	<b>\$9,999</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$11,116</b>	<b>Net Loss</b>	<b>\$1,117</b>
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## Events This Month

### Every

Tuesday	10:00 am	Bible Study at Nursing Home
Wednesday	8:30 am	Men's Bible Study
2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	12:30 pm	Quilters
2 <sup>nd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	3:00 pm	With Our Hearts and Hands Ministry

### Specific Dates

January 11	5:30 pm	Communion
January 12	10:00 am	Communion
January 19	11:00 am	Annual Meeting/Sanctuary
January 25	5:30 pm	Communion
January 26	10:00 am	Communion

## Celebrations This Month

### Birthdays

15	Kris Korte
16	Kim Miller Thomas Vanderlinde
18	Gordy Montgomery
20	Jane Klinkner
24	Chuck Korte
26	Fred Baltz
29	Bill Fitch

**THOSE WHO SERVE IN JANUARY 2020**

**USHERS & ACOLYTES (Sat: 1 person, Sun: 2)**

**LECTORS (1 Person)**

Sat. 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Sun. 5 Dale & Maureen Knipschild

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dale K.

Sat. 11 Jeff Miller  
Sun.12 Dale & Rita Wohlers

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cindy Baltz

Sat. 18 \_\_\_\_\_  
Sun.19 Dale & Maureen Knipschild

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cindy Baltz

Sat. 25 \_\_\_\_\_  
Sun.26 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Connie Consedine

**Serve Communion**

**Fold Bulletins**

Sat. 11 \_\_\_\_\_  
Sun. 12 Ken & Fabi Voigt

Fri. 3 Jackie N.  
Fri. 10 \_\_\_\_\_

Sat. 25 \_\_\_\_\_  
Sun. 26 Confirmation Class

Fri. 17 \_\_\_\_\_  
Fri. 24 \_\_\_\_\_

**Couriers**

Tues. 7 John  
Tues. 14 John  
Tues. 21 Connie  
Tues. 28 Connie  
Tues. 31 John



Pointsettias have been given by the following:

Fran Rogers and Family in memory of Andy Rogers  
Jeannine Steinle in memory of Tony and Nellie Dotzel  
Jeannine Steinle in memory of Donald (Bud) Steinle  
Deb and Mike Hyland in memory of Parents  
Chuck and Kathy Pedersen in memory of Family  
Bill and Jackie Miller in memory of George and Barbara Miller  
and Daniel Lester (2)  
Bill and Jackie Miller in memory of Dan Miller  
Ken and Fabi Voigt in memory of Parents  
Ken and Fabi Voigt in memory of Grandparents  
Dale and Maureen Knipschild in memory of Parents  
Dan and Connie Consedine in memory of Parents  
Jim Moser in memory of Phil and Deloris Moser  
John and Joanne Carlson in memory of Parents  
Wyatt and Jen Anderson in memory of Inez Piquett  
Wyatt and Jen Anderson in memory of Mona Bodell  
The Jeff Miller Family in memory of Ruth Lutzow  
The Baltz Family in honor of Christ's birth

### Church Office News

**If you need to contact Kim Miller, Church Clerk or Tom Staver, Financial Secretary, please call the church office at 815-777-1134 or email [contact.stmatt@gmail.com](mailto:contact.stmatt@gmail.com). There is an inbox on the desk in the office for messages, 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](http://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.