



St. Matthew

Lutheran Church

Newsletter

MAY 2022

The Lutherans: Posting Vital Information Since 1517

Letter from the Pastor

Pastor Blake is completing his coursework before graduation and was unable to write a letter for this issue. He will have a letter in the June newsletter. In his place, we have included an article about Mother's Day. The origins of Mother's Day can be traced back to three women.



Ann Maria Reeves Jarvis



Anna Jarvis

Ann Reeves Jarvis

Known as "Mother Jarvis," Ann Reeves Jarvis was a young Appalachian homemaker who taught Sunday school lessons. She also was a lifelong activist who, in the mid-1800s, had organized "Mothers' Day Work Clubs" in West Virginia to combat unsanitary living conditions. Reeves Jarvis was concerned about

the high infant mortality rate, especially pervasive in Appalachia, and wanted to educate and help mothers who needed it the most.

During the Civil War, Mother Jarvis had also organized women's brigades, encouraging women to help without regard for which side their men had chosen. After the war, she proposed a Mothers' Friendship Day to promote peace between former Union and Confederate families.

Julia Ward Howe

Julia Ward Howe was a famous poet and reformer. During the Civil War, she volunteered for the U.S. Sanitary Commission, helping them to provide hygienic environments for hospitals and ensure sanitary conditions during the care of sick and wounded soldiers. In 1861, she authored the famous Civil War anthem, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," which was first published in February 1862.

Around 1870, Julia Ward Howe called for a "Mother's Day for Peace" dedicated to the celebration of peace and the eradication of war. As expressed in what is called her "Mother's Day Proclamation" from 1870, Howe felt that mothers should gather to prevent the cruelty of war and the waste of life since mothers of mankind alone bear and know the cost.

Howe's version of Mother's Day was held in Boston and other locations for about 30 years, but died a quick death in the years preceding World War I.

Nothing new happened in this department until 1907, when a Miss Anna M. Jarvis, of Philadelphia, took up the banner.

Anna M. Jarvis

After her mother, Ann Reeves Jarvis, died in 1905, Miss Anna Jarvis from Philadelphia wished to memorialize her mother's life and started campaigning for a national day to honor all mothers. "I hope and pray that someone, sometime, will found a memorial mother's day commemorating her for the matchless service she renders to humanity in every field of life," Ann Jarvis once said. "She is entitled to it."

Anna's ideas was less about public service and more about simply honoring the role of motherhood and the sacrifices made in the home. She bombarded public figures and various civic organizations with telegrams, letters, and in-person discussions. She addressed groups large and small. At her own expense, she wrote, printed, and distributed booklets extolling her idea.

Why Mother's Day in the U.S. is in May

In May of 1907, Anna memorialized her mother's lifelong activism with a memorial service held at the Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia, where Anna's mother had taught. The following year, **on May 10**, a Mother's Day service was held at that same church to acknowledge all mothers. Thus was born the idea that the second Sunday in May be set aside to honor every mother, whether living or deceased.

Her efforts came to the attention of the mayor of Philadelphia, who proclaimed a local Mother's Day. From the local level she went on to Washington, D.C. The politicians there knew a good thing when they saw it and were quick to lend verbal support.

While West Virginia was the first state to officially adopt the holiday, others followed suit. Proclamation of the day by the various states led Representative J. Thomas Heflin of Alabama and Senator Morris Sheppard of Texas to present a joint resolution to Congress that Mother's Day be observed nationwide. The resolution was passed by both houses.

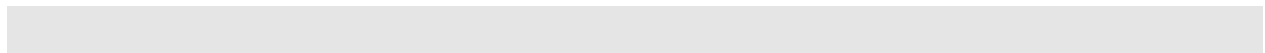
In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed a bill designating **the second Sunday in May** as a legal holiday to be called "Mother's Day"—dedicated "to the best mother in the world, your mother." For the first few years, the day was observed as a legal holiday, but in absolute simplicity and reverence—church services were held in honor of all mothers, living and dead.

A Bittersweet Legacy

According to many sources, Ann simply wanted to honor her mother, claiming that her mother was the originator of the real Mother's Day. As the holiday went mainstream, she was dismayed to see it become more commercialized with the sending of greeting cards and flowers; she also didn't even want the holiday promoted by women's organizations, charitable foundations, or public health reformers to raise money—somewhat ironic considering her mother's public health mission. In 1948, Ann Jarvis died in a sanitarium in a state of dementia.

Mother's Day Today

Mother's Day endures and evolves. Just as Mother's Day was the creation of multiple women, the modern Mother's Day celebrates the varied roles of mothers today. We commemorate the many ways mothers have fought to better the lives of their children, from social welfare to non-violence. We also honor the way mothers have raised and nurtured their children with love and courage.



President's Letter May 2022

Greetings to all!

By the time you receive this month's newsletter I hope everyone has received a notice in the mail informing members of SMLC that we will be holding a Special Meeting of the Congregation on Sunday, May 15, at 11:00 a.m. to approve a resolution calling Pastor Blake Shipman as our new permanent pastor. (Please let me know if you did not receive the mailing so we can update our church records.) Planning is already well underway for Pastor Blake's ordination service on Saturday, June 4, and his installation service on Sunday, June 5, and we will be sharing the details of those services with you in the next couple of weeks. This is an exciting time and an important milestone in the long history of our congregation, so we look forward to seeing many friendly faces fill the pews for these joyful events.

The Birdies for Charity campaign is in full swing during throughout the month of May, and we are making solid progress towards our twin goals of funding a permanent Outreach Fund and installing a security camera system in the building. The security upgrade is an unfortunate but needed enhancement due to the times we are living in. But the establishment of an Outreach Fund will give us much more financial wherewithal and flexibility to do the real work of the Church in our Congregation, our community and beyond: the Great Commission (Matt. 28:16-20).



I am not very good at saying goodbyes, so I will just say with mixed emotions, “See you soon, and, I hope, often” to Chuck and Kathy Pedersen. We will miss their active participation in, and many contributions to, the life of our congregation, and well as to the lives of the residents of Galena and all of Jo Daviess County. They are moving to Mt. Morris later this month, and will be with family as they continue their life journey together. So we look forward to seeing Kathy and Chuck as regular visitors going forward. The Council will be electing a new Congregation Secretary to backfill Kathy this month, and we are always on the outlook for any members who would like to serve the Congregation on the Council. Finally,

Isn't it nice to have the Choir back?

With that, looking forward to seeing all of you in church again soon.

Bryan Daniel
President



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April 1, 2022

Dear Friends and Members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church Galena:

It is Birdies for Charity campaign time again, the 2022 edition!

Our Congregation has been partnering with John Deere to raise funds for quite a few years now through their Birdies for Charity program. Campaigns in recent years have primarily focused on funds for needed maintenance or improvements to our building infrastructure, and updated audio/video technology to improve our outreach efforts during the pandemic. We are redirecting our efforts this year.

This year we are asking for your participation so that we can focus our efforts on two primary areas over the next twelve months:

- Establishment of a new Outreach Development Fund
- Implementation of phase I of a security system

At least 50% of the monies raised will be used as seed money to establish a restricted fund to be available for projects intended specifically to broaden and strengthen our outreach to both Members and friends of the church, as well as to increase our outreach in our community. Our plan is to grow this fund over the next year or two until it reaches a point that it is sustainable over the long-term. Specific outreach projects will be announced in the future when approved by the Council.

The Strategic Plan approved by the congregation several years ago included installation of a security system that would integrate with local emergency first responders to improve response time in times of need. We would use roughly half of the money raised to kick off the installation of this system.

This year's goal is \$5,000. We look forward to your help and support to raise the funds needed to begin these important projects. All of the Birdies for Charity funds designated to St. Matthew Lutheran Church Galena, will be returned to our church with a minimum of 5% added by the John Deere Birdies Organization. This is only possible with the direct support from our Congregation and friends of our historic church.

Thank you all for your help and support!

From the St Matthew Church Council and St. Matthew Birdies for Charity Committee

*As a Christ-centered Congregation we enrich our lives through God's Word, sharing our gifts with all.
A member of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ*

OUR MISSION OF THE MONTH

LUTHERAN MILITARY VETERANS AND FAMILIES

If you would like to give to our mission of the month, please put your donation in an envelope marked MONTHLY MISSION and place in the basket in the welcome center.

"When God Blesses You Financially,
Don't Raise Your Standard Of Living. Raise Your
Standard of GIVING"



Mark your
calendar!

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

A Special Meeting of the Congregation of St Matthew Lutheran Church will be held on May 15, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. in the church sanctuary.

The meeting will be conducted in person and by Zoom. The purpose of the Special Meeting is to formally Call Blake W. Shipman as the ordained pastor of St Matthew Lutheran Church. A 2/3 majority of Members voting by Zoom or in person is required for approval.

We encourage as many members to attend as possible since this will be an important day in the history of St Matthew Lutheran Church. We have not called a new ordained Pastor since 1978. This will be a time to come together in Christian fellowship.

St Matthew Lutheran Congregation Council



Carolyn Bennett-Stork

Elaine Fitch

Howard Klauer

John Klinkner

Ken Voigt



Fred & Cindia Baltz

Dan & Connie Consedine

Howard & Nancy Klauer

Charlie & Kathy Marsden

Harold & Marie Moser

April Financial Information



Income \$11,571

Expense \$8,127



St. Matthew Lutheran Church

127 South High Street,

Galena, IL 61036

815-777-1134

www.stmat.net

Service Times:

Saturday at 5:30 pm

Sunday at 10 am

Recorded Service Available On Our Website After 12:30 pm

Where God's work happens 7 days a week.

A First Century Church for the Twenty-first Century

Look for us on Facebook!