



St. Matthew

Lutheran Church

Newsletter

July 2022

The Lutherans: Posting Vital Information Since 1517

[Letter from the Pastor](#)

Greetings to you in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord

It has been one month since my ordination and my what a month it has been! Many moments of great ministry occurred despite Covid taking me out of the office for a week. In this past month alone I've visited with community leaders, studied God's word, heeded God's call for this congregation, assembled willing people to help steward the mission of God's church here in Galena, have planned adult education opportunities, and have lead worship which is my favorite of all of the events in this past month.

Education is important to this congregation; it is something that Pastor Baltz held near and dear to his heart and it is something that I hold near and dear as well. To that extent I am excited to say that I will be offering a course soon entitled Lutheranism 101. Think of it as a

deeper dive into what you learned in catechism. In the next few weeks a day and time will be announced for this class.

Another important aspect of the congregation is effective leadership. I wish to thank Deb Hyland, Kris Korte, and Maureen Knipschield for accepting an invitation to serve on the church council. These three people bring much experience and enthusiasm to the council and I look forward to working alongside them. Together with the rest of those serving on council we are going to be having great conversations about what God is up to in this church and how we might better serve the community around us. I ask for your prayers in this endeavor. I feel strongly that we are called to service in the name of Christ through this congregation, but where, is still a bit fuzzy. Rest assured, however, that your council and I will be fervent in prayer and discerning where God is calling us. If you have any words of wisdom or advice as to where this might be, please do not hesitate to reach out. It will take a whole village working together in order for us to be effective, but I am confident that this congregation will answer God's call because I've seen it done before. God is at work in this church and I thank God every day for your never ceasing witness to this reality. Do know you are all in my prayers and I ask that you also pray for me and our church leaders in the days and months ahead.

Respectfully yours in Christ

Rev. Blake W. Shipman

President's Letter July 2022

Greetings to all!

This month's newsletter is running late since I have been preoccupied assisting Roger Johnson and Ambrose Virtue as they ran cables in the church's very hot & cramped attics from front to back, and drilled through 3-foot brick walls and closets to install the new security cameras in and around the building. We all should thank Roger and Ambrose for everything they did to provide a professional security system that we hope will never be needed in the future to protect life and property.

So, we now have a functional security camera system that is monitoring all access points to the building: indoors, four cameras to cover the sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, and Little Learners/ Sunday school classroom; and outdoors, seven cameras around the perimeter of the building, including one each in the front and back of the church, two on the south side and three on the north side. Please take a stroll inside and around the building the next time you are here to take a look at where the cameras are positioned (and feel free to pick up any lost nuts or PVC tubing scraps we may have overlooked when we were cleaning up!).

Just to be clear, there is no recording capability in any place in the building that any of us would consider our private space: no cameras have access to restrooms, the church offices, or the quilters' room; and there is no camera access to either of the conference rooms upstairs or downstairs (but we have installed cables to allow access in the future if desired). Next steps: there is still some software tweaking that we are doing to the security system hardware; we need to invite the chiefs of police and fire to visit to understand the system so that they will be able to use it if ever needed in case of an emergency; and, very importantly,

the Council needs to consider who has access to the live-stream and stored video content, as well as how long to save the content before deleting (one week, one month, etc.?). We will publish a policy covering these items in the next month or so.

Pastor Blake announced last week that we as a congregation are planning to have fellowship events on the fifth Sunday of months that have fifth Sundays going forward, with the first event being a cookout behind the church on July 31. I encourage everyone to attend the event. Speaking as a Sunday morning regular, I miss seeing our Saturday Vesper service attendees, so I hope all can attend as well so we can renew our fellowship in Christ together.

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

Bryan Daniel



Photos by Bryan Daniel

OUR MISSION OF THE MONTH

Lutheran World Relief School Kits

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”

PASTOR SHIPMAN'S ORDINATION. Photos by Gail Appel



During Pastor Blake's ordination ceremony an offering was collected. The collected donations have been split between two very worthwhile organizations.

\$225.50 was sent to Lutheran World Relief for the people of Ukraine.

\$225.50 was given to the local chapter of Presentation Lantern Center which works with immigrants to help them with language skills and citizenship preparation.



Matthew 25:40. And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you In as much as you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren you have done it unto me



Joanne Carlson

Amy Farrey

Roger Johnson

Dick Jones

Kren Montgomery

Lydia VanderBush

Tanya Vanderlinde

Fabi Voigt

Dale Wohlers



Jennifer and Wyatt Anderson

Jane and John Klinkner

Kathleen and Charlie Pedersen

May Financial Information



Income \$7,387

Expense \$10,776



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 9 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!