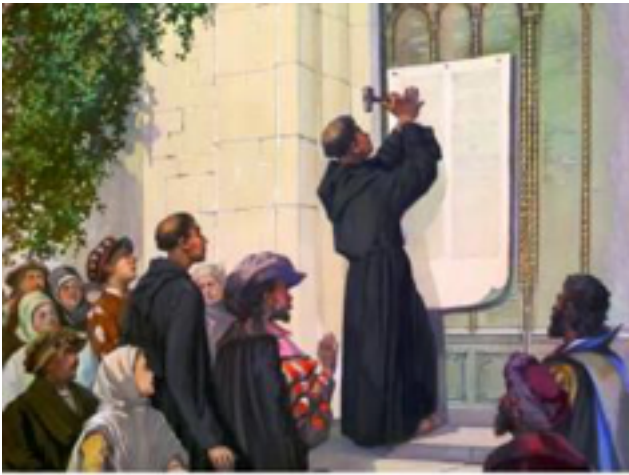




St. Matthew

Lutheran Church

Newsletter

August 2022

The Lutherans: Posting Vital Information Since 1517

[Letter from the Pastor](#)

Greetings and peace to you in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord!

What a great month it was! July is now in our rearview mirror and some pretty great things happened within our congregation. We celebrated the start of a new round of Sunday School, worship was held faithfully (which is always exciting if you ask me!), and we had brunch as a church on the last Sunday of the month. As we get into the latter days of summer I can't help but to think of the coming fall and winter. Now I am not one to want to wish away the coming summer days, but I also am excited about what is in the works for the church in the future.

I wrote to you last month about an adult education series I am beginning, and this is still coming I promise, but I realized that I need more time to prepare

this class to be something worthwhile so our Lutheranism 101 class will begin early September and run through the fall and winter. The book study on Bonhoeffer's *Discipleship* that I am preparing will be pushed back until the coming Lenten season. Along with our new programming, I would also like to thank our newest council member for saying yes to serving Christ's Church. Gary Appel is joining our team along with the Deb Hyland, Maureen Knipschield, and Kris Korte.

This coming week's lectionary texts all speak to what faith can do in a believer's life. It only is by faith that we can worship the triune God and it is by faith that we discern the way forward for this congregation. I ask that you hold me in prayer as I alongside our council discern what that call may be.

Respectfully yours in Christ

Reverend Blake W. Shipman

President's Letter August 2022

Greetings to all!

I have just a few topics to touch on this month, so will be brief. We now have a fully functioning camera security system that can record both video and audio. Roger is monitoring the back-up process, and everything seems to be working fine. We will soon have signage up both outside and inside the church to let people know, then we will be scheduling a meeting with the Galena Police Department and other first responders who want to see what we have set up.

We had expected the rehabilitation work on the stained-glass windows to start in early June, but the contractor had to postpone the start for unavoidable personal reasons. He is now planning to start the work around August 10. I look forward to see what issues he uncovers as the work progresses. Hopefully the first phase one of the project will be completed before the cold weather returns so we can start planning what needs to be done in the second phase next year.

This past July 31st, the fifth Sunday of the month, was our first planned fellowship event following Sunday's worship service. I was in bed with a fever so

not able to attend, but I understand the brunch was well-attended and a great experience for everyone who participated. I encourage all members and friends to join in our next Firth Sunday event which, appropriately, falls on Reformation Sunday – a day certainly worthy of celebration!

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

Bryan Daniel
Congregation President



COMING SOON!

LUTHERANISM 101

With Pastor Blake

Wednesdays at 2 pm

Starting September 7

ALL WELCOME!



You might be Lutheran if...

1. Your idea of an affirmation is "This is most certainly true."
2. Change means wearing your brown suit instead of your blue suit to church
3. The most mail you receive all year is from the Stewardship Committee.
4. Doughnuts are in the official church budget.
5. They have to rope off the last pews in church so the front isn't empty.
6. You hear something really funny and smile as loud as you can.
7. The only mealtime prayer you know is "Come Lord Jesus."
8. Sharing the peace during the service takes more time than the sermon.
9. All your relatives graduated from a school named Concordia.
10. The pastor skips the last hymn to make sure church lasts exactly 60 minutes.
11. You only serve Jell-O in the proper liturgical color for the season.
12. During the entire service you hold your hymnal open but never look down at it.
13. You sing "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus" while sitting down.
14. A midlife crisis means switching from the old hymnbook to the new one.
15. You can actually come up with responses to this.

Credit CafePress

OUR MISSION OF THE MONTH

The Hope Foundation of Jo Daviess County

The Hope Foundation of Jo Daviess County gives assistance through grant applications to individuals, families, or agencies. Grants are used to help those with functional limitations related to health, housing, education, transportation or employment. The Hope Foundation works with many nonprofit agencies in our county, giving these donations a chance to reach a wide range of people with specific needs. Please help support this very important ministry.

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”**



Gail Appel

Bev Coffey

Bryan Daniel

Cameron Harstad

Maureen Knipschild

Kathleen Stuart

Jerry Wachter

Rita Wohlers

Scott Miller

Brian Miller



Irle & Marilyn Boehm

Dick & Edie Jones

John & Tammy Oldenburg

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Recently, Gail Appel realized a life-long dream of conducting a full live symphony orchestra.

Gail was one of four local personalities chosen for “Pursuit of the Podium,” a fundraiser for the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra. The combined efforts of these four individuals raised over \$43,500, which beat the previous high record by \$3,000!

Gail stated, “I would encourage any of you that may be approached to run for this opportunity to say YES! This was a once -in-a lifetime experience, and I will never forget your loving support that helped to make it a reality.”

At the last symphony concert of this past concert series, Gail was announced the winner for having raised the most funds. The coveted prize for this achievement was to conduct the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra at the Dubuque Arboretum for the outdoor “Summer Melodies” concert. So on Sunday, June 26, her dream was realized as she stepped onto the podium and picked up her baton.

“It was an absolute thrill to step onto that podium, with baton in hand and conduct Copeland’s, “Hoe Down”. I was on a true high and felt like I was on fire directing that lively piece,” said Appel.

Perhaps you supported her by making a donation, or shared some encouraging words. Whatever the case, she wants you to know that your love and support was what carried her over the finish line.

Thank you!



We would love to include more stories like this one in our newsletter. Please send them to Kim at contact.stmatt@gmail.com

GIVING STATEMENTS

Your giving statement for the period of January – June is ready. Please pick up yours in the Welcome Center at the back of the church.

Connie Consedine,
Treasurer

July Financial Information



Income \$9,767

Expense \$10,774



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!