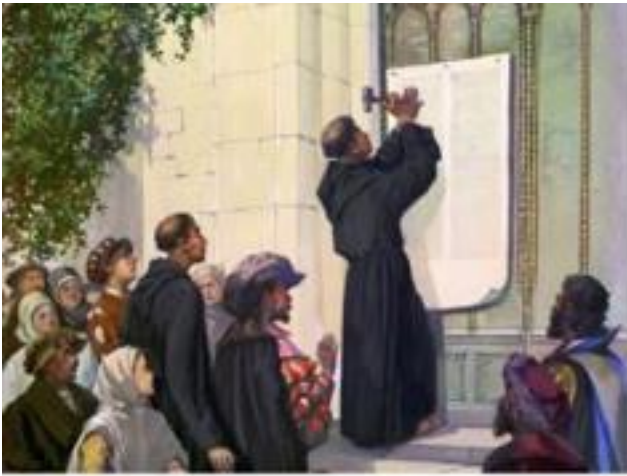




St. Matthew

Lutheran Church

Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2022

The Lutherans: Posting Vital Information Since 1517

[Letter from the Pastor](#)

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

September is a time of changes on multiple fronts. The weather begins to cool down, trees turn from their monotone greens to vibrant colors, the days begin to get shorter. September is also a time of change for the church, with our services beginning at 10 am again for the colder months. This September in particular is a month rife with change. There are many great things taking place in the church starting this month. The biggest change is that adult education is starting once again. On Tuesdays I am going to Prairie Ridge assisted living home and leading a bible study. On Wednesdays I am teaching a class on the Lutheran reformation and how it still affects us to this day. This month also started off with the loss of a dear friend to this congregation, Betty Owens. We hold her and her entire family in our thoughts as they continue on over the next weeks and months without her.

Looking to the future we will celebrate our second fifth Sunday a week early on October 23rd, be on the lookout for more information on this at a later date. Reformation Sunday is coming up as well where our young ones will profess their faith as full members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church for the first time. The United Churches of Galena Thanksgiving service will be held at St. Matthew this year as well and Advent too is coming down the road soon and midweek services will be back again this year. This September marks a change indeed, and thanks be to God for this. The future is looking bright and full of fun and intentional time together worshipping our Lord and Savior.

Respectfully yours in Christ

Rev. Blake W. Shipman



President's Letter September 2022

Greetings to all!

It was a busy month in and around the church building throughout the month of August. The contractor is now well underway on the first phase of the stained-glass window project, starting with the windows on the north side of the building. So far the news has been good, as he reports that the wood around the windows he has worked on appears to be in pretty good shape. We'll keep our fingers crossed as the work progresses. We also are in the process of patching, installing and painting new drywall in the furnace room, bringing the room up to the fire code (and we may have found and fixed the problem with water seeping into the room). And several members spent considerable time cleaning the conference room downstairs, so it is looking very nice and is more functional now.

Pam McKinsey has spent hours sorting through and organizing our collection of sheet music and hymnals that were stored in the church office and up in the sanctuary balcony. We rediscovered hymnals copyrighted as far back 1915, which we are saving for historical purposes and possible use in the future. We also had Locksmith Express in Dubuque come in and work on the safe located in the closet in the Welcome Center. We now have a fully functional, fire-resistant safe that we can open and close, so now all of the church's historical records are protected from fire or water damage (including the complete records of St. John's Lutheran Church that once existed here in Galena).

The security camera system is now up and running, and the last action item on the project list will be completed during Labor Day week when the Galena Chief of Police comes to review

the system. Finally, if you didn't notice last week, a crew of members trimmed the bushes and tree in front of the church. After some discussion, and with much regret, we have decided that we will need to cut the tree down next spring as we are concerned that its root structure could damage the water and sewer lines that run near the tree. But we will talk more about this next spring.

So, as you can see, there is a lot of activity going on in the church, and we are always looking for more volunteers.

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

Bryan Daniel
Congregation President

"Alone we can do
so little; together
we can do so
much."

Helen Keller

LUTHERANISM 101

With Pastor Blake

Wednesdays at 2 pm

ALL WELCOME!





SUNDAY MORNINGS 10 AM

COME JOIN THE FUN!!!

COMING NEXT MONTH: Meet the teachers and hear about what is happening this year in Sunday School!!!!



The Bible says God gave Judah's King Hezekiah a sign that he would live fifteen more years, and that the deadly threat from Assyria superpower — super power of its time — would vanish. The sign? The sun's shadow would retreat ten degrees. Impossible? Fantasy? Legend? See the new evidence that this account is true as it is presented in the Bible.

Wednesday, October 5, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Check-in will begin at 6:15 p.m at Sinsinawa Mound Center. To register, call 608-748-4411.

\$20/person. Registration ends on Friday, September 30.

Presenter: Dr. Fred Baltz is Pastor Emeritus of St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Galena, Illinois. For four decades Fred has been a Bible Detective, investigating events in the Scriptures which some have simply dismissed as non-historical. This is your chance to review and learn some Bible texts yourself while hearing from the disciplines of the biblical languages, archaeology, history, geology, and even astronomy.

OUR MISSION OF THE MONTH

WORLD FOOD CRISIS

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”



Sam Gross

Rhonda Harstad

Bret Johnson

Rebecca McIntyre

Norman Muehleip

Todd Vanderlinde

James Wachter



Chuck & Carolyn Stork

Dale & Maureen Knipschild

Jeff & Kim Miller

Gordy & Karen Montgomery

NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF NEWSLETTER PRINTING

August Financial Information



Income

Expense



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!