



*Educate.  
Equip.  
Encourage.*

*The Timber Times  
December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023*

## School News

### Advent Church Services

Come to St. Matthew Wednesdays after school—we will have a short advent themed church service (advent means coming—referring to both Christ's first coming as a baby in Bethlehem, and also his second coming on Judgment Day) with a potluck to follow. We would love for many school families to join us for these services! They are a great way to keep Christ as the focus during the holiday season. We'll see you there! Potluck is immediately following the service—bring a dish to pass!

### Merch Drop!!!

The merch sale ends **tomorrow!** Please place your orders before midnight to ensure they arrive by Christmas Break! You can find it on our school's website [home page!](#) Feel free to send information to family and friends—after all who doesn't look good with a timbers logo sprawled across their chest???



### Children's Christmas Service

We invite you to join us at the Nazarene Gym (9004 N Country Homes) this Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 4:00PM, as the children lead a service celebrating the birth of our Savior. Please come hear the wonderful message, and support your children in all their hard work! We look forward to

seeing you there. Bring your child to the gym between 3:30-3:45PM. Thank you!

### Last Christmas Practice

We have one more rehearsal before the service on Sunday over at the gym—tomorrow kids will head over about 1:20 and all children will be picked up there at 3:30. Thanks!

### Junior Choir

We will go caroling and have our party on Friday, December 15 @ 4pm. Please come sign up to bring a treat, if you can. The list is on the board outside the 4th grade classroom each morning and after school or right inside the classroom door if it is raining or snowing.

### Lost and Found

Is your child missing: gloves, hats, sweatshirts, coats, spoons, sunglasses? If they are please check out our lost and found in the hallway between Miss Taasaas and Mrs. Most because we have all of that and MORE!

### Caroling, Games, & Card-Making, Oh My!

Tomorrow morning, Friday, December 8, we are caroling, making cards, and playing games. If your child would like to dress festively, i.e. wear a Christmas-theme shirt, Santa hat, or antlers, etc. they are welcome to do so!

### Basketball

Miss Rosenbaum will let you know when the games have been scheduled.

Make sure to be looking at google calendar for the practice/game schedule. Let Miss Rosenbaum know if your child needs a ride 24 hours in advance. **No practice on Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.**

### Adult Basketball

After practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays, we will be hosting an adult basketball league at the Nazarene church. Please join us from 5:30-6:30ish if you have any interest! If you have children, they can play on the other half of the court while you play basketball. Bring your friends too! **No adult basketball on Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.**

### DC Babysitting Event

December 16<sup>th</sup> the DC kids have agreed to watch your kiddos (4<sup>th</sup> grade and younger) for the afternoon 1-4PM! \$10/child. Deadline to return form and payment is **next Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>.**

### Piano Recital

Our piano students will have a recital next Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30PM. Please



*Children's Christmas Service*

Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>

4:00PM

\*Bring kids by 3:45PM

## Classroom News

### Preschool News

Mrs. Donna Driesbach (509.638.5361)

What an amazing week we have had in preschool!!! We are in our final push before our Christmas program this Sunday!! The children have put SO much work into this program – they are going to blow your socks off with their performance!! Thank you, parents, for all of your help!! We couldn't have pulled this off without YOU!!

We are still celebrating our Christmas theme this week in preschool!! We had fun decorating our easel-painted trees – add some ornaments and a star and – voila . . . we have a Christmas tree! We have them hanging in our classroom!! Come and check them out!! We had so much fun water coloring a picture of Mary and Joseph and also, baby Jesus. When everything dries, we get to place baby Jesus in the manger next to Mary and Joseph!! And then, we get to build a stable around this beautiful family!! Put a star in the sky and we have a beautiful picture to add to our Memory Books!!

Our Christmas theme is the same, but our centers have changed a bit!! We still have our HUGE felt tree in our Drama Center that the children can decorate, but now we have bingo dotters in our Art Center!! The kids can decorate some trees with "ornaments"!! SO MUCH FUN!!

The Listening Center now has a book, Bear's First Winter. We get to find out what Chaucer does all winter long while his parents sleep!!

Our Preschool Bookstore is open!! Please purchase a book for \$5 (cash or check made out to me) and take this book home to wrap for a friend!! Please bring it back without a to/from tag. Your gift will be placed under our Christmas tree. We will have fun sharing our gifts at our Christmas party!!

The Letter of the Week next week is Letter "L". Four year old classes, please bring something for show 'n' tell that starts with "L".

Our bible verse for memory work is Luke 1:31 "Give him the name Jesus."

Please continue working on our bible verses and songs that we are saying and singing this Sunday!! You parents are SO amazing!! Thank you for your spectacular help!! Your kiddos are going to shine for Jesus as they tell the story of His birth!!

Have a fantastic weekend!! See you next week!!

### Kindergarten News

Miss Rachel Taasaas (360.271.5201)

**Christmas Program-** Our program starts at 4 pm this Sunday. The doors will open at 3:30 pm. Please make sure you are there no later than 3:45 pm so that we can get the students lined up and start promptly at 4 pm.

**Snow-** Is it going to stick around? Who knows? Whenever there is snow on the ground please send ALL snow gear. As a faculty we discussed that students may bring sleds if they would like to use them at recess. The sleds can be left at school overnight but St. Matthew is not responsible for any lost, stolen or broken sleds. The sleds must go home on Thursday nights because we will not have time on Fridays to use them.

**Christmas Party sign up-** I sent home a note with what you signed up for. Please do not bring your items early, I have nowhere to store them. The date you need to bring your items is highlighted on your sheet.

**Christmas Party-** I told the kids they could wear pajamas for the Christmas party. This is optional.

**Christmas Stocking Exchange-** Our class will be doing a stocking exchange on Wednesday, December 20 during our class Christmas party.

Boys will exchange with boys and girls will exchange with girls. Purchase items that you think would be appropriate.

Buy (or make) a stocking and fill it with 3 items. Only one of the items can be candy. Keep the cost of the stocking and the 3 items to \$15 or less. Please wrap each item individually.

The stocking needs to be brought to school on Monday, December 18 (no earlier) with a tag that says "From (your child's name)" We will draw names to see who gets what stocking, they do not know who they are exchanging with.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade News

Mrs. Kelly West (509.362.4916)

Hello First Grade Families,

This Sunday at 4:00 p.m. we have our Children's Christmas Service at the Nazarene Church gym at 9004 N. Country Homes Blvd. Doors will open at 3:30. Please bring your child there by 3:45. Please have your child dress nicely and go to the bathroom at home before you leave. Thank you!

On Wednesday, December 20th in the afternoon we will have a class Christmas party. Parents are welcome to attend. God bless your weekend!

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade News

Miss Erika Rosenbaum (269.326.5437)

### Christlight/ Memory Work

- 12/12 - 1 John 1:7b
- 12/14 - Romans 3:23
- Please read the Bible stories from this week (Jesus Comforts His Disciples; The Good Samaritan) with your child during the weekend and sign the blue sheet in the orange folder.

### Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day. Add the minutes to your child's book-it calendar.
- Continue to work through the extra math program.
- Spelling: We are going to take a break from spelling until after Christmas. Thanks for working hard on the words we have had so far. We will continue with vowel pairs after Christmas.

### Extra Notes

- Make sure your child has enough warm clothes for recess/PE. Please send your child with a bag to put their snow gear in so it doesn't get their backpack wet.
- Our Christmas party is coming up quickly. I will remind you all about the items you signed up to bring the weekend before the party. Thank you for volunteering to bring something.
- Please plan to attend the Christmas program this Sunday, December 10 at 4 pm. Doors will open at 3:30 pm. Have your child there NO LATER than 3:45 pm. You won't want to miss it!
- Thank you to everyone who is helping transport children either to the Nazarene church or back to school. We appreciate the help.
- The kids reached their classroom goal. They had picked to do a tent day in the classroom. We made our desks into tents for the entire day on Tuesday. It was a crazy day, but the kids had a blast!

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade News

Miss Avery Broyles (208.995.3465)

### Memory Work a week ahead

- 12/12 - 1 John 1:7b & Philippians 2:8b
- 12/14 - Mark 10:45
- 12/15 - The Second Article of the Apostles' Creed
- It is really important that your child is looking at the memory work packet at home so they know their verse/verses and the day they are due.
- Please read the Bible stories from this week with your child (Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand & Baptist & Jesus Walks on Water)

### Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day, and record it on the December calendar.
- Work on spelling words. They are in your child's Friday folder. Make sure your child is keeping their list in their accordion folder and bringing it back to school so they are able to practice. This week we are working on words with possessive nouns.
- It is important that your child is taking their accordion folder home everyday because it has their spelling list.
- If your child is taking home something other than those things, then they didn't use their time wisely in class. Please let me know if you have any questions.

### Extra Notes

- Water bottles need to be brought to school and filled up everyday.
- If anyone wants to volunteer for the running club Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:30, there is a sign up on my door.
- We will be having a sock exchange at our Christmas party (December 20th) please spend no more than \$5 on some holiday socks, the names remain anonymous. Please wrap the socks before bringing them to the classroom. The kids can start bringing their wrapped socks in the week of the party (Mon, Tues, Wed). There is a sign up on my door for anyone who would be willing to help with the party, bring food items, or help clean up. If anyone wants to help plan the activities for the party, please reach out. Thank you.
- As the weather starts getting colder, please send a coat with your child along with gloves and a hat.
- We will plan to go outside everyday for P.E., please have your child dress appropriately.
- Don't forget to have your child record minutes on their Bookit calendar, as it is part of your child's nightly homework.
- The children's Christmas program is at 4pm this Sunday at the Nazarene Church. Please have your child there no later than 3:45.

Have a great weekend!

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade News

Mrs. Michelle Most (832.212.9102)

**Word of God** - In our lessons this week we learn about Jesus teaching his disciples to trust in him. When he fed the 5,000, they learned to trust in him for all their daily needs, and we do too. In the lesson when Jesus walks on water, he shows his almighty power and how we can trust in it to care for us, rather than worry or be afraid.

**Math** - Chapter 5 is all about division! Did you know that multiplication and division are inverse operations?

**Reading** - What were the dangers of digging a well on the prairie? What would you do if you were surrounded by a pack of buffalo wolves? Find the answers in [Little House on the Prairie](#).

**Writing** - Stop by to check out our Holiday Cinquain Poetry hanging in the hallway.

**Science** - How do our body systems work together? This is our big question we want to answer as we learn about the human body.

#### EXTRA NOTES:

**Thank you** to Mrs. Ferre for coming in and helping us learn to do some baking! We got to make heart shaped Christmas cookie cakes just like in [Little House on the Prairie](#)! So much fun and yummy too!

**Children Christmas Service** - This Sunday, December 10 at 4pm at the Nazarene gym is the special Christmas Service we have been working so hard on for the last month. The doors will be unlocked at 3:30. Please have your child there by 3:45 pm.

**Christmas Caroling** - Tomorrow we have the opportunity to go caroling! Your child is encouraged to dress festively for the occasion.

**Christmas Gift Exchange** - We have finished up our stockings and they are all hanging snug by our library! Items can be brought in anytime to be placed into them before next Friday, December 15.

**Christmas Party** - Our classroom Christmas party will be on Wednesday, December 20. Pizza will be provided for each child.

**Snowy Weather & Recess** - Please remember to send gloves/mittens, boots, and snow pants to school with your child if they want to play in the snow during recess. Your child may also bring a sled to use during recess. They need to sit on the sled and not to sled head first. Please make sure your child's name is on the sled, and it must go home on Thursday. The school is not responsible for lost or damaged sleds left overnight or over the weekend.

### 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade News

Mr. Glenn Metzger (734.788.4637)

We are back to working on our normal memory work now that Christmas Service practice is wrapping up. In case the children don't communicate this accurately, I am giving two weeks for them to memorize the First Article of the Apostle's Creed. It is up to them how much they want to say the first week, as long as they finish it on the second week.

In the rest of our classes, we are studying some of Jesus' parables in Christ Light. In math, the 5th grade is wrapping up an introduction to fractions with a test coming next week, while the 6th grade just completed a mini-unit on integers. In science, students are working on a short research project about the biomes around the world. In English, we just finished our unit on pronouns and will be starting a narrative writing unit that will continue into January. Finally, in social studies we are beginning an investigation into different perspectives about why the religion of Islam spread so quickly from ancient Arabia across Africa and Southern Europe.

The students are planning our class Christmas party largely on their own, with guidance from Mrs. Benson and me. It's part of our "life skill" for the quarter. Thanks for your patience as they figure out how to organize and communicate with each other to figure out what will best fit the class's interests.

### 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade News

Mr. Jacob Biebert (715.402.0094)

Well, we are finally ready to share with all of you the good news of the birth of our Savior. This is a plan for our salvation that is free, complete, and that God had prepare in eternity for each and every one of us. God knew we would sin, and he created us any way. God knew we would want nothing to do with him, yet he sent his Son to save us any way. This is the most amazing story of grace that there ever will be, and we are excited to share it this Sunday at 4 o'clock. Please have your children to the Nazarene gym no later than 3:45 so that we can get lined up and ready.

Here is the memory work for next week:

Monday 12/11: Matthew 11:28-30, 2 Corinthians 12:9; Thursday 12/14: Hymn 38: 1,3,13,15; Friday 12/15: Isaiah 7:14, Micah 5:2

We looked at the needs the homesteaders who moved to Washington had and how they fulfilled these needs using the environment around them. This was a lot of hard work, because essentially nothing was established in the West. Next week we will begin to look at what the process was like for the creation of separate territories, including Washington territory. This was the stepping stone for the creation of States that we have today.

We took a test on our nervous system today. Next week we will be beginning to study a short chapter on our senses and the intricacies of these senses.

Your children drew names for a Secret Santa gift exchange we will have at school during our class Christmas party. A note will be sent home, but please help your child pick out a gift in the \$8-\$15 range for the student that they randomly drew. The students each created a sheet of likes/dislikes to help in selecting a gift. Please talk to your child about this list. Gifts can be brought to school any time before the party with the person it is to left blank.

As the season of Advent is upon us, I hope you find time to prepare your hearts and minds for our King through worship. If your church doesn't have Advent services, then we would love to have you join us at St. Matthew for worship every Wednesday right after school.

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## Worth the Wait

When our children were little, they had some difficulty understanding the passage of time. Everything in the past happened “yesterday,” and everything in the future was “tomorrow.” When they were anticipating something exciting like another visit from their cousins, they would ask, “Is it tomorrow yet?” On the day their cousins were to arrive, they would often check the front door and gaze out the front window until the moment finally arrived. It was agonizing—but it was worth the wait!

We may wish we were old enough to understand God’s timetable when it comes to the end of the earth and the return of Jesus in glory. He said he was coming soon, and it doesn’t seem soon according to the way we think of time. But as God’s children, we realize that he has a long view of time. It is agonizing—but it is worth the wait!

To remind ourselves that the wait is worth it, we think of awesome things that God has done. He sent his Son to be our Savior. Through that Savior, he forgave our sins and assures us that our sins are forgiven, even when we

don’t expect it.

There is nothing like a visit from the only true God. We have seen what it was like when Jesus lived, died, and rose again, and we look forward to seeing what God will continue to do on behalf of those who wait for him.

**Prayer:** *(Psalm 40:17)*

As for me, I am poor and needy; may the Lord think of me. You are my help and my deliverer; you are my God, do not delay. Amen.

*Want more daily devotions?*

*I get them here!*



For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you. Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.

**Isaiah 64:3,4**