



Educate.
Equip.
Encourage.

The Timber Times
February 22nd, 2024

School News

Mission Offering

Our third quarter offerings are being given to Teen and Kid Closet here in Spokane. Our offering total for this quarter so far is \$163.52. Thank you for your generous giving! Reminder that we have a goal of \$350 for this quarter!

Hygiene Drive

This morning was the deadline for bringing in hygiene items for Teen and Kid Closet

Grades 3-8 Sing

Join us this Sunday as grades 3-8 will be singing "What Wondrous Love is This." All guests will also get the first chance at the Book Fair which starts next week!

Book Fair

Thank you for your donations of gently used books. The Book Fair starts February 25. Come hear the 3rd-8th grade students sing on Sunday and then get first pick of the books! If you are unable to make it on Sunday the book fair will be open before and after school all next week. Books are \$ 0.50 cents each. The funds from the book fair will go toward the purchase of new uniforms for our sports program.

Basketball

Continue to check the google calendar for the schedule. Make sure to reach out to Miss Rosenbaum if your child needs a ride. Thank you!

Chiefs Night—Junior Choir Singing!!!

Reminder that **TOMORROW**, February 23rd, St. Matthew has its second night with the Chiefs. If you haven't purchased tickets yet, please call the ticket office to purchase and mention that you would like to sit with St. Matthew if possible!

Mrs. Most Call Decision

Mrs. Most has returned the call to

teach second grade at Prince of Peace in Salt Lake City, UT. Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Please keep them in your prayers that they find the teacher they need for second grade.

Junior Choir

Tomorrow night is the night we sing the anthems at the Spokane Chiefs hockey game. Please have your child at the Spokane Arena, 700 W Mallon (parking is off of Boone, Lincoln, or Howard), no later than 5:40pm. If you haven't contacted Mr. Brandon Halloy, the ticket account executive, @ 509-340-8398, please do so to coordinate having your child sit with you when they are finished. Remember your child's ticket is free, you only need to pay for you and any other family members coming to the game.

Our next rehearsal is on Monday, February 26 from 3:45-4:30.

Lenten Services Continue

Please note that Lenten services continue on Wednesdays throughout Lent. We will be diving deeper into the life and death of Jesus, and what it means for us. Please join us at 3:45 for worship with a potluck style dinner to follow!

Spirit Week

Spirit week will take place March 4th-8th. Please see the attached flyer on page 4 of the newsletter to see what the dress-up days will be. These flyers will also be displayed in your child's classroom.

Save the Date

The junior choir will be singing in the Lenten service on March 6th.

Parent Conversations

The parent conversation for the week focuses on goals. What goals do we have for our children? [Read here.](#)



Upcoming Dates

February

- 22 Career Day
- 22 A Team vs. Co-Op 3:45PM
- 22 B Team vs. Co-Op 5:00PM
- 23 Chiefs Game — Jr. Choir Sings
- 25 Grades 3-8 Sing 10AM
- 2/26-3/1 BOOK FAIR
- 27 B Team @ Christian Heritage 3:30PM **CANCELLED**
- 27 A Team @ Christian Heritage 4:30PM
- 28 Lenten Worship 3:45PM — Potluck After

March

- 6-7 A Team — Tournament @ PCA TBD
- 6 Lenten Worship 3:45PM (**Junior Choir Sings**) — Potluck After
- 10 PreK Sings 10AM
- 12-19 DC Trip — 7th8th Grade
- 13-15 NO SCHOOL — Spring Conference
- 13 Lenten Worship 3:45PM — Potluck After

Measles

You may or may not be aware that there has been a confirmed case of measles in Deer Park. While not an immediate threat or danger, please be diligent about keeping sick kiddos home from school. Also, please be aware that should a case be discovered at St. Matthew, any children not fully vaccinated against MMR will likely be required to stay home from school until there are no new cases. Thank you!

7th-8th Teacher

With the growth we have seen here at St. Matthew over the last several years, our congregation has decided that Mr. Biebert's position should transition to more of a full-time principal (more admin/less teaching). On February 11th, we called Mr. Brandon Stubalt to teach 7th-8th grade. Mr. Stubalt currently teaches at Apostles in San Jose, CA. If you would like to reach out to him, please let me know and I will pass along his contact info! Keep Mr. Stubalt in your prayers during his deliberation. Thank you!

Junior Choir Sings for Chiefs TOMORROW!

Classroom News

Preschool News

Mrs. Donna Driesbach (509.638.5361)

Can you believe we are changing our theme and our centers AGAIN??? Last week, we briefly covered our Presidents' Theme. But now we are moving onto our Fire Safety Theme for two weeks. This is such a practical hands-on theme. There are so many great things to learn and so many great things to remember if EVER we might be in a fire situation.

Our Art Center has a picture of a white dog that the children can add black spots with a Q-tip and black paint. We have a fire house in our Drama Center. The children can move the furniture around, play with the firefighters and push the fire trucks all around. A very popular center this week!! The Sensory Center has a bin of crinkled paper - red, orange and yellow. Many fire safety items are hidden in the "flames" that the children need to find. Great new centers!! Great new FUN!!

Today is our Career Day!! We have three wonderful speakers sharing their career experiences with us!! What a treat!! What a great day!!

It is Book Fair Week next week!! Be sure to stop by church next week to purchase some gently used books donated by our St. Matthew families. The price per book is only 50 cents!!!! The money received from these books will be used to purchase new sports uniforms for our school!! Help support St. Matthew and buy a book!!

We have an upcoming field trip to a local Fire Station next week Tuesday and Friday. Please look for our Field Trip form in your child's paper tray. We would love parent drivers for this event, too!! This is a field trip you won't want to miss!! Thanks for your help!!

Our Letter of the Week next week is "Ss". Four year old classes, please bring something to school for show 'n' tell that begins with "Ss".

Our Bible verse next week is I Timothy 1:15 "Jesus came . . . to save sinners."

Have a great weekend!! God's blessings to all of you!!

Kindergarten News

Miss Rachel Taasaas (360.271.5201)

I hope all of you enjoyed the extra days off! I was able to get some cleaning and organizing done at home.

During our In Service meeting on Tuesday we discussed the importance of parent engagement and how "According to research, the most accurate predictor of a student's achievement in school is not income or social status, but the extent to which that student's family is involved." Please speak with me if you would like to know more about the topic.

We also discussed ways to communicate with parents. I am interested in what your preference is as far as how I communicate with you. I currently use the newsletter, the Remind app and your child's yellow folder but is there a better way to keep you informed?

Literature Bags- I will be sending home Literature Bags today. These bags are a way to help your child enjoy reading, want to read, and therefore become a better reader. Please be sure to go through the contents of the bag and make sure that all materials are there. Any items not returned will result in your child not being able to take a new bag home until all materials are returned or replaced. Literature bags are due TUESDAY MORNING so that Mrs. Roth can get the next set of bags ready for the following Thursday.

Book Fair- Our Used Book Fair starts next week. It is located in the church basement. Books are \$ 0.50 cents each. What a great way to stock up on "new" to you books!

1st Grade News

Mrs. Kelly West (509.362.4916)

Hi First Grade Families!

I hope you had a wonderful long weekend!

We are trying out doing different centers for Reading and Math. I'll let you know how it goes! So far the kids seem to enjoy it. Have a great weekend!

2nd Grade News

Miss Erika Rosenbaum (269.326.5437)

Christlight/ Memory Work

- 2/27 - The Seventh Commandment
- 2/29 - 2 Corinthians 9:7b
- Please read the Bible stories from this week (The Widow's Offering).

Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day. Add the minutes to your child's February book-it calendar.
- Continue to work through the xtra math program.
- Spelling: next week we will be working on ck. Just like tch last week, we only use ck immediately after a short vowel. Your child's words will be in their orange folder.

Extra Notes

- We completed our third life skill - sewing. The kids worked on sewing a "wallet" since we had been working with money in math. Hopefully the kids can continue this skill of hand sewing in the future.
- Writing: we finished our personal narratives and are starting to introduce informational writing.
- Math: some kids are working on measurement, while the other kids are working on place value.
- Social Studies: We are continuing our talk about some important historical figures. This week we talked about Theodore Roosevelt.
- Science: we are talking about slow and rapid changes to Earth such as volcanoes, earthquakes, landslides, erosion and so on.

3rd Grade News

Miss Avery Broyles (208.995.3465)

Memory Work a week ahead

- 2/27 - Romans 6:23
- 2/29 - 1 Corinthians 12:3b
- 3/1 - The Ninth Commandment
- It is really important your child is practicing memory work at home, so they can recite it on the due date.
- Please read the Bible stories from this week with your child (Paying Taxes to Caesar & The Widow's Offering)

Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day, and record it on the February calendar.
- No spelling this week due to a short week.
- Your child's spelling list will be in their Friday folder this Friday for next week.
- 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

- Please note on the Google calendar that 3-8 sings in church on February 25th . Please plan to attend.
- Don't forget to have your child record minutes on their Bookit calendar, as it is part of your child's nightly homework.

Have a great weekend!

4th Grade News

Mrs. Michelle Most (832.212.9102)

Word of God - Jesus teaches lessons on using God-given gifts is the truth we are learning about this week with the lessons of paying taxes to Caesar and the widow's offering.

Reading - What do guppies, a green Christmas, and nightcrawlers all have to do with ten year old Henry Huggins? Find a fourth grader and ask them!

Science - The students will be sharing their planet posters with the class this week. Learning more about each planet will be out of this world fun!

Social Studies- Washington has many different industries that make up our state's economy. The students will be researching one of these industries to share with the class this week.

EXTRA NOTES:

Save the date - Grades 3-8 sing at the 10:00 service this **Sunday, February 25**. Hope to see you all there. We have been working very hard on a song that has so many musical devices in it, such as ostinatos, rounds, and texture.

Recorders - Our first playing test is tomorrow. Please help remind your child to bring their recorders with them to school.

It was nice to have an extra couple of days off. I was able to get caught up on cleaning and some other smaller projects. During our in-service meeting on Tuesday, we discussed the importance of parent engagement and how research has shown that the most accurate predictor of a student's achievement in school was the extent to which that student's family is able to: 1) create a home environment that encourages learning, 2) communicate high, yet reasonable, expectations for their children's achievement and future careers, and 3) become involved in their children's education at school and in the community. (cited from michigan.gov) If you would like to learn more about this topic please speak with me.

I'd also like to know the best way to communicate with you whether that be by text, phone call, or email. Please stop by and let me know or send me a text message with the information and best and worst times to contact you. The best way to reach me is by phone call or text message. I will answer both of those rather quickly depending on what is happening at the moment during the school day. Emails take longer for me to respond back to you. My office hours are Monday through Friday 7am – 5:00pm. During those times I will respond as quickly as I can. Outside of that time, I will respond to you on the next school day.

5th-6th Grade News

Mr. Glenn Metzger (734.788.4637)

I want to start off this week with a quick note about memory work. We are switching the part of the catechism we focus on to the 10 Commandments, which most of the students have learned before. Combine that with us hitting some passages that are review, and I've started adding another verse or two on to the passages so the students continue growing in their knowledge of Scripture. So if you notice that the passages are a little longer, that is why.

In our regular classes, we are wrapping up some units and starting new ones. In religion, we are studying the 2nd petition of the Lord's Prayer and some lessons Jesus taught during Holy Week. In math, both classes just had tests and are moving on to new chapters: 5th grade will be learning about decimals and 6th grade will be learning about surveys and graphs. In science, we are wrapping up our study of the weather, which is going to lead into an informative essay that we will write during English class. Finally, in Social Studies we had an assessment this week about the founding of the original 13 colonies, and will be starting a mini-investigation into the practice of map-making.

With that essay coming up, I wanted to give parents a chance to get information straight from the teacher before it starts. To do that, I'll be hosting two quick meetings on Friday the 23rd and Monday the 26th at 3:20 p.m. During those meetings, I'll go over the prompt for the essay, the schedule for when we will be completing each step in class, and the criteria I'll be using to grade the essays. If you'd like to attend either session so that you know what's involved with the project or the best ways to help your student, I'd love to see you there.

7th-8th Grade News

Mr. Jacob Biebert (715.402.0094)

If you blinked, you may have missed this short week of school. We ended up having a normal day of school on Friday, instead of our Fancy Friday classes, due to the otherwise limited instruction time for our normal curricula this week. Thursday was also career day. I hope the students got the opportunity to think about a career field they may be interested in, as well as hear about three career fields that they may have never considered before.

Here is the memory work for next week:

Monday 2/26: Galatians 6:10, 1 Thessalonians 4:7; Thursday 2/29: Hymn 111: 1,3,5 ; Friday 3/1: 1 Timothy 6:10a, The 5th Commandment

The students are finishing up their children's books on how Washington went from a territory to a state. This assignment is due next Tuesday. After we finish up our chapter, we will be looking at different aspects of Gettysburg and the Civil War.

We are taking a test on the skeletal, muscular, nervous, endocrine, and reproductive systems. Since this was a ton of information, we will be breaking this test up into two different parts. The students will test on some of the key concepts and terms on Friday, and they will test on the application of some of these terms next Tuesday.

Our class sings in the 10 AM worship service at St. Matthew this Sunday. The students have been working hard on their song, and it sounds beautiful. I hope everyone can attend.

God's blessings on your weekends! It should be a busy one for the Bieberts as we have the Chief's game on Friday, hopefully a boat day on Saturday, and worship on Sunday.

Spirit Week March 4-8

3/4 - MARVEL Madness

DRESS AS YOUR FAVORITE
SUPERHERO

3/5 - Sleeping Beauties

WEAR YOUR FAVORITE
PAJAMAS

3/6 - Black & Green Day

WEAR YOUR ST. MATTHEW
GEAR

3/7 - Tweedledee & Tweedledum

TWIN UP AND DRESS LIKE
YOUR FRIEND

3/8 - Monster University

WEAR ANY SPORT OR
COLLEGE GEAR

Conquering Separation Anxiety

When babies become more cognizant of their surroundings, they often begin to exhibit signs of separation anxiety. When they were a week old, they didn't care much who is holding them as long as they were fed and changed. But later on, when the face of the person who has them in their arms is not familiar, cries for help are almost immediately let loose. If babies could talk, they'd scream, "I don't know this person, so how can I know whether they are to be trusted? Mommy, where are you?"

Separation anxiety is not just a childhood phenomenon. Adults can have it, too. We may no longer feel it in connection with our mommies, but other people and things have taken mommy's place. Like the security blanket Charlie Brown's buddy Linus lugged around wherever he went, we develop relationships with the people, places, and "playthings" of this world that we can hardly imagine living without; we think they're essential to our existence! And when we lose them, it brings tears to our eyes and anxiety to our hearts.

But is it possible to lose Jesus' saving love? Is

there anything that can separate us from it? In Romans 8, the apostle Paul answers with unmistakable emphasis: Absolutely not! He even rounds up the usual suspects in to make himself clear. He asks, Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble, hardship, persecution, famine, nakedness, danger, or sword? Nope.

But what about death? It must have the final say, right? After all, because of our relationship to Jesus, Christians "face death all day long." We're like "sheep to be slaughtered." But Paul reminds us that Jesus even conquered

death. "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us."

So don't be anxious. Jesus is here. Always. For you.

Prayer:

Jesus, help me find peace in your abiding presence and your everlasting, conquering love. Amen.

*Want more daily devotions?
[I get them here!](#)*



Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

Romans 8:35-37