



Educate.  
Equip.  
Encourage.

The Timber Times  
January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025

## School News

### Chapel Offering Update

My apologies as I have been a little lax in updating you regarding our weekly chapel offerings. The teachers decided that second quarter offerings will be used to support a missionary pastor in Canada working to create a biblically sound church body. Our total raised so far is \$57.43.

If you feel inclined to give, please remember that chapel is weekly on Thursdays!

### Basketball

The teams played their first game against Lake City this past week. Thank you to everyone who came out to support the teams. Next week there is a game on Tuesday at the Nazarene Gym and no practice on Thursday due to Moms and Muffins. Parents, please make sure to communicate with your child's teacher if you plan to take siblings out of school early for the games. Thank you!

### Vintage Jerseys For Sale!

The old St. Matthew basketball jerseys will be sold at all the upcoming home basketball games. Jersey tops will be \$15 and shorts will be \$5. You can purchase them together for \$15. You can pay with cash or check.

### Moms and Muffins

Moms and Muffins will be here before we know it! View details and RSVP [here](#) or use the QR code below for this fun event on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Deadline to RSVP is TODAY!:)



### Intro to Lutheranism

Parents, would you like to know the distinctive teachings of the Lutheran church? This might help you better relate to your kids' religion homework and understand why we run the school like we do. Pastor West will teach a class on this topic Wednesdays in February starting the 5th. There are time slots at 8:30am, 2:30pm, and 4pm as needed. Please RSVP to Pastor West or your child's

teacher so we can print enough materials. Thank you!

### Early Release/No School

Please remember that we are off early tomorrow (noon dismissal) and the PM3's class has no school tomorrow. We also are off school on Monday in observance of MLK Jr. Day. Enjoy your extended weekend, and stay warm!

### Junior Choir

Junior Choir will meet on January 27<sup>th</sup> @ 3:45 pm in Mrs. Most's classroom. We will be singing the national anthems for the Spokane Chiefs hockey game on Friday, January 24. I will send home game night information once I have the tickets from the Chiefs to send home with your child.

### Gift Basket Idea

We would love to reach out to local businesses in the area to encourage them as well as continue to get our name in the community, and we are looking for parent help! If you could help in any way (i.e. baked goods, gift cards, handwritten cards, assembly, etc.), please speak with Kayla (715) 402-0114. Thank you for your support!

### Mr. Metzger's Call

If you are thinking it's déjà vu — not so! Mr. Metzger has received a second call to serve in Fort Atkinson, WI. Prayers are always appreciated.

### Pokemon Club

Pokemon club will be meeting on Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup> from 3:45-5:00 in the church's basement. The makeup date for the Christmas Tournament is Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup> from 10-12 in the church basement. Can't wait to get in some New Year battling!

### Report Cards

Report cards will be sent home on Tuesday when we return to school.

### Kaluzny Family Meal Train

Some of you may remember the Kaluzny family from last year — Thomas was in K, and Charlie was in PreK. Charlie was recently diagnosed with cancer. We don't know many details, but we do know the Kaluzny family could use your prayers. If you feel inclined, some of Micah's coworkers

## Upcoming Dates

### January

- 16 Basketball Practice — A Team 4-5:30PM / B Team 4-5:10PM
- 16 Adult Basketball 5:30-6:30PM
- 17 Early Release/NO PM3 PreK
- 20 NO SCHOOL — Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 21 Basketball Games — B Team 3:30PM vs. Kingdom Christian / A Team 4:45PM vs. Kingdom Christian
- 21 Adult Basketball 5:45-6:45PM
- 22 Drama Club 3:30-5:30PM — Church Basement
- 23 Moms & Muffins 4-5PM
- 24 Night with the Chiefs 6:05PM / Junior Choir Sings
- 26 Grades K-1 Sing in Church 10AM
- 28 Basketball Practice — A Team 4-5:30PM / B Team 4-5:10PM
- 28 Adult Basketball 5:30-6:30PM
- 29 Drama Club 3:30-5:30PM — Church Basement
- 30 Basketball Games — A Team 4:00PM @ Southside / B Team 4:00PM vs. Faith Christian
- 31 DC Hot Lunch—Chili

created a meal train for their family. You can view that [here](#).



### DC Hot Lunch

Next hot lunch is chili on Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. Your child will be sent home with a sheet to fill out if they would like some hot food that day! Thanks for your support, as always!

# St. Matthew Lutheran Church

## **HOCKEY NIGHT WITH THE SPOKANE CHIEFS!**

Friday January 24, 2025 vs  
Medicine Hat Tigers

St. Matthew's Junior Choir will  
be singing the national anthem!

### **TICKET INFO**

Special Group Rate For  
St. Matthew Lutheran Church

[CLICK HERE](#) or scan QR  
code below for tickets.

DEADLINE TO PURCHASE: 01/20/2025



**SPOKANECHIEFS.COM | 509-535-PUCK**

## Classroom News

### Preschool News

Mrs. Donna Driesbach (509.638.5361)

We are SO excited to welcome 2 brand new children to our Preschool!! Jonas is now attending our morning 3's and having an absolute blast and Oliver has started in our 4's am class - smiles all around. Our children are SO welcoming to these new friends - SO beautiful to see!! Great new friends in Preschool!! Please get to know these children AND their families!! They are now a part of OUR St. Matthew Family!!

What a fantastic second week we have had with our Winter/Polar Bear Theme in Preschool!! Another FUN week!! Monday and Tuesday were celebrated with our Color Day: White and Grey!! Yup, as always, the children all dressed in our wonderful colors, but some also brought a White or Grey item for our special Kodak picture moment. And, of course, we had an arousing game of Hide 'N' Seek with White and Grey rectangles (our colors and shape of the month). Always a great time!!

This week, we also created some beautiful tissue paper snowmen. "A little dot does a lot". Your children know this phrase SO well!! These snowmen are hanging in our windows as suncatchers . . . WHEN the sun shines through our windows. The 3's am class created THEIR soap snowballs and were able to have fun painting their handprints on a craft entitled, "Cold Hands, Warm Hearts". Our classroom just screams Winter Fun!! Come and check it out . . . footprint snowmen and our suncatchers!! SO AMAZING!!!!

I have begun the January evaluations of our 4-year olds this week. Please watch for a Parent/Teacher conference sign up sheet soon, so we can review this evaluation together. Can't wait to meet with you and share our beautiful findings of your child's growth thus far!!

Just a reminder - NO SCHOOL on Friday afternoon. We have a Faculty Curriculum Study during that time. Thank you for your cooperation!!

#### NEXT WEEK IN PRESCHOOL:

**Christ Light Bible Study:** "Young Jesus Visits the Temple"

**Bible Memory Verse:** Colossians 3:20 "Children, obey your parents."

**Theme:** Health/Teeth

**Letter of the Week:** "Oo"

**Snack Person:** 3's AM Dawson 3's PM Austyn 4's AM Sebastian 4's PM Zeke

**Upcoming Events:** Dentist Visit - TBD

Jan. 17 NO pm 3's Preschool - Curriculum Study

Jan. 20 NO School - MLK Day

Jan. 22 Preschool AM & PM Visits Kindergarten

Jan. 23 Moms and Muffins

Feb. 3 Pajama Day

Feb. 4 Pajama Day

Feb. 7 Appreciation Dinner

Feb. 7 No AM 3's Class - Teacher Work Day

Feb. 13 Valentine's Day Party

Feb. 14 Valentine's Day Party

Feb. 17 NO School - Presidents Day

Feb. 18 NO School - Teacher In Service Day

Feb. 26 Career Day

Mar. 3, 4 Fire Station Field Trip

Have an amazing weekend with your family!! See you next week!!

### Kindergarten News

Miss Rachel Taasaas (360.271.5201)

**Literature Bags-** Beginning January 23 your child will receive a literature bag to take home until the following Tuesday. Please make sure all materials are accounted for. Your child will receive a new bag each Thursday as long as they returned their original bag. If the bag is not returned on time they will have to wait a week in order to receive another one.

**Scholastic Book Orders-** A flyer will be going home in your child's yellow folder. Please return it by Wednesday, January 22 if you would like to purchase books. You can write a check or order online.

**Singing in church-** Kindergarteners and First graders will be singing in church on January 26. Please mark this on your calendar and plan to be there.

**Basketball games-** We have quite a few home games for our A and B teams. They are all at the Nazarene gym down the road. All are welcome to attend to cheer on our St. Matthew Timbers!

**Report cards-** These will go home next Tuesday please remember to sign and return the envelope.

**Nightly homework:**



- Read with you for 20 minutes. Fill out the Book it calendar.
- Memory work

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

Mrs. Kelly West (509.362.4916)

Hello, First Grade Families!

In ChristLight we have been learning how God took care of his people while they were wandering in the desert on the way to Canaan. They often complained, but God showed them mercy.

In Reading we are learning about the long i sound, as in ice cream.

In Math we are learning about tens and ones and place value.

In Writing we are identifying and writing linking verbs (such as am, are, is, etc.)

In Science we did a taste test and tasted four foods that were either sweet, salty, sour or bitter. We tasted lemons, salt, arugula, and dried dates.

We would love to see you at Moms and Muffins next Thursday, January 23rd, at 4:00! We will meet in church. Please sign up TODAY if you plan to go. Thank you!

Our class and kindergarten are singing in church on Sunday, January 26th, at 10:00 a.m. Please bring your child to share this beautiful song with everyone. The practices are sounding great so far!

Our Memory Work for next week is The Third Commandment: Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

God bless you and your families! Have an enjoyable weekend!

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

Miss Erika Rosenbaum (269.326.5437)

#### Christlight/ Memory Work

- 1/21 - The Ninth Commandment
- 1/23 - Matthew 6:33
- Please read the Bible story from this week (Day of Atonement; 12 Spies; Korah Turns Against God's Leaders) with your child during the weekend.

#### Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day. Add your minutes to your January Book-It Calendar.
- Spelling: next week we will focus on the long e which can be spelled with a y. These are the words: happy, pretty, baby, very, puppy, funny, carry, lucky, only, sunny, penny, city, tiny, many, sorry, and noisy. The spelling test will be Friday, January 24.

#### Extra Notes

- Math - we started the next chapter on money and time. This week we focused on reviewing each coin and their value.
- Reading - The kids got to read "Luke Goes to Bat". This story included Jackie Robinson, so we got to learn about his life as well. We worked on the long i (i, igh, ie, y) for our phonics skill this week. Then we introduced and learned about antonyms.
- Writing - we took a look at interjections. We then started to review all the different parts of speech before starting our descriptive writing unit.
- Science - we are continuing the lessons on position and motion.
- Social Studies - we started the next unit focusing on "We the People". This week, we are focusing on the laws our country follows. This led us to discuss how laws are made and passed, so we talked about our country's 3 branches of government.
- We finished our second round of MAP testing. The kids did a nice job taking their time and thinking through the questions.
- Report cards will be coming out on Tuesday. Please return the envelope signed once you have look at your child's report card. Please reach out if you have any questions.
- Valentine's Day and the 100th day - both of these days are approaching quickly. A remind was sent out today with information about these upcoming dates in the classroom.

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

Miss Avery Broyles (208.995.3465)

#### Christlight/Memory Work

- 1/21 - Matthew 28:20
- 1/23 - Revelation 2:10b
- 1/24 - A Portion to The Third Article of the Apostles' Creed
- Please read the two bible stories with your child (The Bronze Snake & Balaam)

#### Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day
- Work on spelling words
- Xtramath practice
- Add minutes to the January calendar

#### What are we learning?

- In math we are working on more multiplication facts. The students have created flashcards to study to help them with their facts. Our math test will be next Wednesday.

- In social studies we are all done with our regions and the students will get to take home a scrapbook of all the regions we have traveled to.
- In science we are talking about what it means to be an engineer. The students are working on their bridges and will be able to take them home next week.
- We are in the middle of our reading groups. The students have been enjoying different books with their groups.

#### Extra Notes

- Please continue to check with your child about any homework they have to complete.
- Please remember that we have no school on Monday due to Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 2nd quarter report cards will be going home on Tuesday!

Have a great extended weekend!

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

Mrs. Michelle Most (832.212.9102)

#### In the Classroom:

**Word of God** - Our lessons for this week are 7A - The Bronze Snake & 7B - Balaam

**Reading** - We are really enjoying our novel, Snow Treasure! The action is heating up!

All children will need to pick a chapter book that is at least 150 pages and isn't a graphic novel, and have it approved by Friday, January 17. We will be using this book to learn how to write a book report at the beginning of February. The book will need to be completely read no later than February 5. Most of the work on the book report will be completed at school, but I will be sending a copy of the book report instructions home so you can see what we are working on in class.

**Math** - We are now hard at work learning more about division, dividing 2-digits or more by a single digit.

**English/Writing** - Work has begun on our personal narratives. These are some of my favorites to read as I learn more about each student and their families.

#### Extras

- I've sent home the January book orders today. Please place your orders by Friday, January 24. You can turn the money in to me and I can place the order or you may go online and do so. There are many other options online also. Please use the class code: RDHK6, if you place the order online so we receive credit for it.
- The end of the quarter is tomorrow, Friday, January 17.
- MAP testing went really well this week. I'll be sending the results home with the report cards.
- Parents are welcome to join us for the Symphony and Recorder concert in May. It will be on May 21 at 10:30 am.

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

Mr. Glenn Metzger (734.788.4637)

Our student message of the week comes from Ava, who says, "Hi?" It's because of these riveting messages that people keep coming back to the 5th and 6th grade section, folks!

In the classroom, we are wrapping up our second quarter! We have been talking about the 6th Commandment and the Israelites' journey to Canaan in Religion class. In Math, both classes are wrapping up their chapters on fractions, to be followed by another chapter on fractions! In Science, we are trying to manipulate forces to achieve different results, right now using magnets to make floating "trains". In English, we are doing assessments on all our sentence skills we've been practicing. In Reading, we are demonstrating our ability to explain how and why a character feels a certain way based on words and actions. Finally, in Social Studies, students are finishing their take-home tests about Ancient Mesopotamia, and will be starting a study comparing two perspectives of the same event soon.

I will be starting to send students to help in the preschool again when the third quarter starts. We also will start getting the opportunity to read with some of the 1st graders once a week. It's great when our class can practice leadership with their younger schoolmates!

Finally, in case you didn't see the Remind I sent out on Tuesday night, I have received another call. Crown of Life Christian Academy in Fort Atkinson, WI, has asked me to join their staff as the 8th grade homeroom teacher and 5-8 grade science teacher. Please keep me in your prayers and share your thoughts if you feel like it.

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

Mr. David Zabel (941.201.7896)

**Please refer to My Planbook whenever your child is absent from school. This way they can keep up with their assignments.**

<https://app.planbook.com?t=2011934&k=1234&v=W&y=92524834>

This week we started a new topic of discussion in Bible class. This unit is entitled "What Do I Say Lord..." It will help students to know what to say during some difficult situations. They will learn what to say when someone close to them passes away, when someone has been deeply hurt, or when a person doesn't trust in Jesus as their Savior, etc. The topic we discussed this week was, "... When It's Time for Me to Speak Up?" The key points in this lesson were the following questions: Why does God want me to speak his Word to others? Where can I find the things I need to know and say to others? and How will I be able to say what others need to hear?

There was MAP testing this week. I skipped any subjects they were testing on that day so they wouldn't be so overwhelmed by homework. We tested Language on Monday, Math on Tuesday, and Reading on Wednesday.

In seventh-grade math class, we have come to the end of chapter five. They will take a test on Tuesday next week. After that they will begin a unit on ratios, rates, and proportions.

The students have finished their study of Latin America and will take a test on Friday. The study guide was handed out earlier this week and we have gone through it in classes. They should be ready to take the test.

This week we continued our study of plants. The students discussed plant hormones, and the different types of tropisms. They have begun a review of the chapter to prepare themselves for a test next week.

The students have completed their narrative paragraphs this week. They wrote a about a specific and exciting event that happened to them. Some of their stories are very interesting. The next writing assignment is based on a narrative also, but this time it is longer and will include some dialogue.

This is a reminder that we have early dismissal on Friday and no school on Monday because of the national holiday.

Mr. Z

---

### Principal Thought you Probably Didn't Want :)

*A note from Jacob (715.402.0094)*

#### Re-enrollment

I just wanted to give you all a heads up that we are stilling planning for February for getting re-enrollment underway. I can't guarantee that we will be ready to hit the ground running during the first week of February, but Kayla and I are going to sure try. As mentioned last week, we may possibly be switching over to Jupitered, so we will keep you posted on this as part of the whole re-enrollment process.

Usually about this time of year is when I start working on the calendar for next year as well. I will notify you all when this is finished. There is usually quite a bit of time after I finish, where things get tweaked or revisions are made after talking with the faculty, but we should no start and end dates at a minimum by the beginning of February, because those are usually the first things we set in stone.

If any of you have any questions about either of these things as we start to look towards next school year already, then feel free to reach out with any questions you have. You know where to find me. If you stop by the office, then don't forget to do the super -secret knock.

---

## Harsh or Hippie?

There seems to be an interesting flip-flop of expectations for Jesus between the Jewish people of his day and us today. The Jewish people of that time wanted a fiery figure like John the Baptist, one with power who would bring heat on the elite. Jesus seemed too ordinary, humble, and uninterested in being a powerful leader.

But now it's flipped. It seems that more and more people today would prefer to have a hippie Jesus who's cool with whatever we feel like doing or whoever we feel like being. A Jesus who always throws up peace signs and "hang loose" signs. Many want a Jesus who doesn't confront sin and doesn't come to separate the chaff from the wheat and bring judgment like John was talking about because that sounds too harsh and unloving.

While it's true that Jesus is the greatest expression of God's love, he also wasn't just some pushover hippie. Jesus brought fire to those who thought they were secure in their own righteousness. He came because there was a serious problem to address—our sin. And Jesus didn't back down from talking about it and calling it out.

So, is Jesus harsh or a hippie? He's neither. He is just and powerful yet also humble and merciful. Jesus didn't come to say, "You're all good just the way you are." Instead, he came to prove, "I've made you good by my perfect life, innocent death, and powerful resurrection." Jesus was harsh in his answer against sin, death, and the devil. He showed his full power in defeating our enemies. And he has shown his overwhelming grace in loving us who didn't deserve God's mercy because of our sin.

We thank our God that he's given us a mighty Savior who is mighty in power and even mightier in love.

### Prayer:

Dear mighty Savior, I am not worthy to approach you, but you approached me in love. I praise you for your acts of mighty love on my behalf. Amen.

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



John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

**Luke 3:16**