



*Educate.
Equip.
Encourage.*

*The Timber Times
January 23rd, 2025*

School News

Chapel Offering Update

Our chapel offering total is at \$99.19. Please continue to bring your offerings on Thursdays. Thanks!

Basketball

After two hard fought games on Tuesday, both teams came out with a WIN!! Great job Mighty Timbers! Next week, there is practice on January 28 and games on January 30 (A team at Southside and B team at the Nazarene gym vs. Faith Christian). See the google calendar for times. 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

Reminder that Moms and Muffins is after school today! Can't wait for this special event!

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!

Junior Choir

Junior Choir will meet on January 27th @ 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.

K-1 Sings in Church

This Sunday, our K-1 classes will be singing in church. K-1: please plan to attend this service that starts at 10.

Additionally, we will have Sunday School for kids and Bible class for adults starting at 9am. All other grades: please come and support the kids singing, and enjoy the worship service here at St. Matthew!

Chiefs Night — Tomorrow!

Our Chiefs night is tomorrow! Puck drops at 6:05, and the Junior Choir will be singing the National Anthem (and the Canadian Anthem as well!) Come enjoy a fun night with the church and school and support both the kids and the Chiefs! If you would like to purchase a last minute ticket, Brandon has been helpful in the past. Contact him at 509-340-8398 or bholoway@spokanechiefs.com

Gift Basket Idea

Thanks so much to those of you who have inquired about donations for these gift baskets! We are still looking for a couple of people willing to donate/create/bake items for these baskets. Please reach out to Kayla (715)402-0114. Thanks!

Call Updates

Mr. Metzger is still deliberating his call to WI and Mr. Biebert has also received a call to FL. I know I may sound redundant, but prayers are truly so appreciated :) Please pray for both the Metzger's and the Biebert's. Thank you so much!

Pokemon Club

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

Report Cards

Please sign and return your child's report card envelopes if you haven't yet done so. Thanks!

Kaluzny Family Meal Train

The Kaluzny meal train is going on through the middle of February. If you are able to make a meal for them, please sign up [here](#)



Upcoming Dates

January

- 23 Moms & Muffins 4-5PM
- 24 Night with the Chiefs 6:05PM / Junior Choir Sings
- 26 Grades K-1 Sing in Church 10AM
- 27 Junior Choir — Mrs. Most's Room 3:45-4:30PM
- 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

February

- 3 Junior Choir — Mrs. Most's Room 3:45-4:30PM
- 4 Basketball Games — A Team vs. Spokane Co-Op 3:45PM / B Team vs. Spokane Co-Op 5:00PM
- 5 Drama Club 3:30-5:30PM — Church Basement
- 6 Basketball Practice — A Team 4-5:30PM / B Team 4-5:10PM
- 6 Adult Basketball 5:30-6:30PM
- 7 Early Release/NO AM3 Preschool

DC Hot Lunch

Next hot lunch is chili on Friday, January 31st. Forms are being sent home today for this hot lunch. Please fill out and return by next Wednesday, January 29th.

Classroom News

Preschool News

Mrs. Donna Driesbach (509.638.5361)

Brand New Week!!! Brand New Theme!! Our classroom just screams WINTER, still, but we are moving on to our Health Theme now!! Tuesday and Friday, the children had (have) fun learning about covering their sneezes and coughs and also about washing their hands. We had a fun time with "glitter germs" that I was able to spread onto the children's hands. They had to wash the "glitter germs" off with soap and water!! Let them share this great example with you!! Wednesday and Thursday we learned about how important exercise and eating good food is for our bodies. Great lessons for the children in this season of illnesses.

Our Art Center has a picture of a bear that is ready to sneeze. The children can color him and glue a tissue on his paw because he needs to "Cover His Sneeze". Our Listening Center has the book, "The Magical Snowman". A little rabbit created a wonderful snowman. Daddy says "He isn't real." But when the little rabbit gets lost in the snow, a very special friend takes him on a magical journey home . . . what a great story for the children to listen to with headphones!! Our Sensory Center has playdough, googly eyes and pipecleaners. The children can create "Germ People" . . . whatever a Germ Person looks like to them!! It's all about Health this week!!

I'm still evaluating your 4-year old kiddos. A Parent/Teacher conference sign-up sheet will be available in a week or two!! Stay tuned. Can't wait to meet with you to talk about the progress of your child!!

PLEASE bring in an empty cereal box for a Valentine's Day craft coming up SO soon. If you have extras, we sure would LOVE them. Grade school families - if you would like to donate any empty cereal boxes, we would SO appreciate them, too!! Thank You!!

Watch for our Valentine's Day Party sign up sheet. Coming soon!!

NEXT WEEK IN PRESCHOOL:

Christ Light Bible Study: Jesus is Baptized by John

Bible Memory Verse: Matthew 3:17 "A voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son'."

Theme: Health

Letter of the Week: Review Week: K, L, M, N, O

Snack Person: 3's AM Giovanni 3's PM Damian 4's AM Seneca 4's PM Hallie

Upcoming Events: Dentist Visit TBD
 Jan. 23 Moms and Muffins 4:00-5:00 pm
 Feb. 3 Pajama Day
 Feb. 4 Pajama Day
 Feb. 7 No AM 3's Class - Teacher Work Day
 Feb. 10 Pink/Red Day
 Feb. 11 Pink/Red 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 Day

Have a fantastic weekend with your family!! See you next week!!

Kindergarten News

Miss Rachel Taasaas (360.271.5201)

Literature Bags- Please make sure you are doing an inventory of the bags when you bring them home on Thursday. Notify me if you notice anything is missing.

Singing in church- The kids have been working so hard on their song! I am excited for you to hear them. Church is at 10 am. Please plan to attend.

Report cards- Please return the report card envelope with your signature.

100th Day and Valentine's Day- We have 2 fun events coming up in February. Stay tuned for information about these upcoming parties.

XtraMath- I will be sending home login information for XtraMath in your child's yellow folder. This is an online program that we use at St. Matthew to help with math facts. I am asking that students log in AT LEAST three days a week to practice their math facts.

Nightly homework:

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

1st Grade News

Mrs. Kelly West (509.362.4916)

Hi First Grade Families!

This week in ChristLight we learned about The Israelites entering the Promised Land, and Rahab and the Spies.

In Reading we are learning about the long o sound (like in rose) and the long u sound (like in mule or tune).

In Math we are working on ordering numbers.

In Writing we are learning about adjectives.

In Social Studies we are learning about different kinds of jobs, and the difference between needs and wants.

In Science we are learning about our sense of touch.

Please remember that our class and kindergarten are singing in church this Sunday at 10:00! Looking forward to seeing you there!

Our Memory Work for next week is (you'll like this one!) The Fourth Commandment: Honor your father and mother, that it may go well with you and you may enjoy long life on the earth.

God's blessings on you and your families! Have a nice weekend!

2nd Grade News

Miss Erika Rosenbaum (269.326.5437)

Christlight/ Memory Work

- 1/28 - 1 Corinthians 10:31
- 1/30 - Psalm 56:11
- Please read the Bible story from this week (Moses' Sin and the Bronze Snake; Balaam Blesses the Israelites) 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 "ar". Here are the words for next week: car, dark, arm, star, park, yard, party, hard, farm, start, part, spark, art, jar, carpet, apartment. The spelling test will be Friday, January 31.

Extra Notes

- Math - we started the next chapter on money and time. This week we focused on comparing money and giving change when buying something.
- Reading - The kids got to read "My Name is Gabriella". This story is a biography, which tells about events in a person's life. We got to make a chart to help understand details about the main character.
- Writing - We are reviewing all the different parts of speech before starting our descriptive writing unit.
- Science - this week, we talked about forces, friction, and ways to predict motion. We briefly introduced our next unit about Earth's position and motion.
- Social Studies - the kids got to learn about how timelines are used in history. They then got to practice making their own timeline. The kids also got to "visit" our country's capital and learned what happens in Washington D.C.
- Report cards came out on Tuesday. Please return the envelope signed once you have looked 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 last week with information about these upcoming dates in the classroom. Reach out if you have any questions.

3rd Grade News

Miss Avery Broyles (208.995.3465)

Christlight/Memory Work

- 1/28 - Psalm 119:105
- 1/30 - James 1:22 & Genesis 39:9b
- 1/31 - The Ninth Commandment
- Please read the two bible stories with your child (Entering the Promised Land & Rahab and the Spies)

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 finishing our chapter on multiplication and division facts
- We are finishing our books in reading class. The students have been loving the books they are reading.
- In social studies we have been talking about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr and the Civil Rights leaders.

Extra Notes

- Please continue to check with your child about any homework they have to complete.
- Please make sure your child isn't bringing any toys or things from home to school, lately we have been running into that issue.
- We will be having a Valentine's Day exchange on February 14th. More details to follow.

Have a great weekend!

4th Grade News

Mrs. Michelle Most (832.212.9102)

In the Classroom:

Word of God - Our lessons for this week are 8A - Crossing the Jordan & 8B - Rahab and the Spies.

Reading - Everyone has chosen their books for their book report. Please remind your child to be reading the book at home. I encourage them to bring it to school, so they can read it during their free time here.

Math - We are nearing the end of our chapter on division. The test will be next week.

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, and I get to share a little about an accident I had on my thirteenth birthday that I can look back and laugh at now.

Extras

- Book orders are due tomorrow, 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.
- Report cards were sent home on Tuesday. Please return the envelope, signed by you, as soon as possible.
- We are in need of paper plates for lunch time. If anyone would like to donate some, it would be greatly appreciated.
- Parents are welcome to join us for the Symphony and Recorder concert in May. It will be on May 21 at 10:30 am.

5th-6th Grade News

Mr. Glenn Metzger (734.788.4637)

Our student message of the week comes from Prescott who says: "Um... *what should I say?*" Oh! Don't ground your kids for their report cards!" This message has been brought to you by the desperate students association of Spokane.

In our classes this week, we have kicked off the 3rd quarter in religion by looking at the events during the Israelites' 40 years of wandering in the desert. We also continue to look at the 6th Commandment in our Faith Foundations class. In Math, the 6th graders finished their test on Chapter 6, while the 5th graders have started to practice multiplying fractions. In Science, students are in the middle of an exploratory build where they try to construct magnetically levitating trains with a variety of materials and little direction from me. In English, we are starting to learn about nouns and all their different uses. In Reading, we have finished *Esperanza Rising* and are working on our final activity: a monologue written by our students from the perspective of one of the characters. Finally, in Social Studies, we are learning what historians do when there are conflicting accounts of the same event through a study of the Assyrian Siege of Jerusalem.

With the second semester, I start changing a few procedures for the 6th graders to get them ready for 7th grade. The first is that memory work that is not mastered by Thursday morning is considered missing work, and students must stay in during recess until they have memorized everything. The second change is that I will start scaling back which materials they are allowed to use during tests, so that eventually they will have to study and remember the information without any notes or textbooks or study guides by the end of the school year.

7th-8th 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 finished the topic "What to say when you lose a loved one?" It isn't always easy to find the words to say when you are unsure whether the deceased believed in Jesus or not. The Lord does give us some guidelines as to what to say to comfort a grieving family member or a friend of the family.

In seventh-grade math class, the students took a test on chapter 5 and have begun working in chapter six this week. Some of the skills they have learned are working with ratios, unit rates and unit costs, and solving proportions just to name a few.

The class has begun a new chapter in World History. This chapter's topic is "Dividing North America". They will learn who came to North America and why, exploring the northern and southern parts of North American, and Changes in the New World. This is a very brief study on the beginnings of our country.

In Science this week the students have taken a test on chapter 2 "Plant Activities". They will also begin to study for a Unit Three test that will cover "Introduction to Plants and Plant Activities."

The students didn't get complete their narrative paragraphs because of MAP testing last week. I hope to have this project completed by the end of next week.

If you have any questions about grades on your child's report card, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. I am always happy to talk with you.

Mr. Z

Principal Thought you Probably Didn't Want :)

A note from Jacob (715.402.0094)

A Few Random Thoughts To Start The Third Quarter

The second quarter recently ended at school. A couple things to take note of: If you didn't receive your child's winter MAP testing scores, or if you aren't entirely sure what the numbers mean, then please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher. If you misplaced your grade scale cheat sheet that had information about what the grade standards mean, then I would be happy to replace it with either a hard or digital copy. Also, if you would like to make a 3rd quarter resolution, because you found out your child had all A's, and you thought they were going to have all D's, then please chat with your child's teacher about getting a Jupitered login. You should have gotten this login at the open house night, but perhaps you never received it or misplaced it. Jupitered is a great way to track your child's progress academically, and a great way to monitor if the statements: "No, I don't have any missing work or homework this week. No, I don't have any F's." are actually factual. I know that I am likely the only who has children that don't always tell the full story, so.....beep boop beep.....I'm logging on to Jupitered right now to fact check everything they ever told me. But, be careful, because if we end up switching over to Jupitered for our student information management, then your children can fact check you too! "What!, Aunt Ethel is actually my paternal grandmother???? And you authorized her for pickup???????? She's blind mom!" The highs and lows of fact checking can be very stressful.

Your teachers are all here to help, so if you need something to be more in the loop on your children's grades, or you have some questions that need clarifying, or you just want to help your child to be pushed to their full potential, then don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher and set up a meeting.....anytime.

God's Blessings as we enter this 3rd quarter of school. I pray this is your family's best quarter yet. Continue to keep your eyes peeled for re-enrollment information to come out in the near future.

More Love Than You Can Know

Ten-year-old Aiden loved everything about the ocean, as anyone who met him would know.

“Did you know that the earth’s oceans are just one huge body of water covering seventy-one percent of our planet?” Aiden would ask out of nowhere. “That’s one hundred thirty-nine million square miles!”

“My favorite is the Pacific Ocean. It’s massively huge! The biggest thing on the planet—bigger than all the continents put together! And it’s incredibly deep. The average is maybe twelve thousand feet, but there’s this place called the Mariana Trench, and the guy who made the Titanic movie went down there in a submersible and made videos, and it was seven miles down! It’s so cool!”

If you let him, Aiden could talk for hours about his passion. But here’s the thing: Aiden’s family lived far from the coast, and he had never visited the ocean in person. He never experienced its vastness or heard its waves. Instead, he soaked up every book and video from the library that would reveal more details about his favorite sub-

ject.

The apostle Paul was just as passionate in the way he talked about Jesus Christ. He wanted others to share his love and to discover what a wonderful Savior we have in Jesus. Unlike Aiden and the ocean, though, Paul did personally encounter Jesus. He knew his love firsthand. Previously, Paul had been violently persecuting Christians, dragging them to prison. But Jesus had mercy on him, forgave him, and called him to proclaim his saving grace to the world.

The love that Christ has for you is more than you can ever fully know. You can spend a lifetime exploring

its heights and depths and never reach its limits. But it is worth the investment of your time. Join with the rest of God’s people who share this passion in learning what it means to be loved by him.

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus, I have only scratched the surface of learning about your love. Lead me deeper into your word and promises so that I may know you better. Amen.

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



And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge.

Ephesians 3:17-19