



Educate.
Equip.
Encourage.

The Timber Times
November 12, 2020

School News

Mission Offering

Our second quarter offering is going to Meals on Wheels in Spokane! Meals on Wheels is an organization that delivers food to people who are not able to shop or cook for themselves. We are especially excited to get to help them during this holiday season. What a blessing this organization is to so many people in Spokane!!! So far, we have collected \$69.87. Our second quarter donation goal is \$1,300! It is a big goal, but church will also be helping out, and I know we can do it!!

Mr. Biebert's Call

After deliberating for several weeks, Mr. Biebert has decided to return the call to Eagle River, WI, and continue teaching at St. Matthew. We are so grateful to our St. Matt's family for all your kind words! Please read Mr. Biebert's letter on the next page.

Veterans Day

A very special thank you to all our veterans!!! We are so thankful for your service, and are so grateful that you chose to help protect our freedoms! God Bless You!!! To help honor our veterans this year, the students made magnets that Miss Jenna Swenson delivered to the Mann-Grandstaff VA Medical Center.

Baby Pictures!

This week's baby was Maxwell Rowland! Liam Tumlinson was the first to guess correctly! Check out this week's baby on page five

Student Interviews

Corban Benson is our 6th grade student of the week this week. Check out page 6 to learn a little more about him!

Snow Clothes!

Please remember that if there is snow on the ground to bring your child's winter clothes—boots, gloves, snowpants, jacket, hat, etc. The kids absolutely love playing in the snow, but we only allow it if they are dressed appropriately.

Questions about Lutheranism?

Pastor West is hosting a one-hour presentation to give parents a better idea of what our church teaches, and what your children learn at school. Please consider coming to this workshop. Let Pastor West know what time works best for you next Tuesday, November 17.

Scholastic Book Orders

New book orders are being sent home this week, and are due back on Wednesday, November 18. This will be our last book order before Christmas, so if you are planning on Christmas shopping for books, consider placing an order!!

Shop with Scrip— EARN \$\$\$ FOR SCHOOL!

St. Matthew is a part of the Scrip Program, gift cards you can purchase to almost all major retailers that give our school rebates!

11/13 Cleaning

Upstairs: Nixon

Downstairs: Roth

Children's Christmas Services

Please start thinking about the Christmas services for both the preschool and elementary school! This is such a special time for all our students and teachers. The kids go through so much preparation to get ready for this wonderful service! We will have to do things a bit differently this year due to Covid. Please see attached sheets for more information.



I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints.

Philemon 1:4-5

MR. BIEBERT'S CALL LETTER

Dear Members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church and School,

To say these last few weeks have been a bit chaotic would be an understatement. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to learn about the ministry going on at Christ Lutheran Church in Eagle River, Wisconsin. I have also enjoyed reflecting on the exciting ministry going on at St. Matthew as well as talking with many of you about the ministry taking place here. I have gotten the opportunity to think about why God placed my family and me in Spokane, WA. However, this call process has also been gut-wrenching at times as I have reflected on how I am an imperfect, miserable sinner serving a perfect God. Have I been unfaithful, selfish, and lazy at times? The answer to all these questions is yes! Yet, God graciously gives each of us the important task of spreading his Word despite how unfaithful we often are.

Deciding on where to serve God is the most difficult and easiest thing all at the same time because God can be served anywhere, and God can use anyone to fulfill his will and help his church grow. But, a person also questions why God put them in the certain situations and ministry settings that he has. It also becomes difficult when the human element gets mixed into things. A person doesn't want to get too comfortable in his or her ministry because there is great urgency in the work that needs to get done.

A section of scripture that I have kept coming back to in my time deliberating has been from Luke 14:15-24. This is the parable of the Great Banquet. What has stood out to me is the urgency with which the master sends his servants out to invite people to the great banquet. He sends the servants into the alleys, country roads, and country lanes. The master says "compel them to come in, so that my house will be full." There isn't time to sit back and hope that a sinful human race will wake up and desire to know Christ. There isn't time to hope that someone more bold than I, more eloquent than I, or more knowledgeable than I will eventually share the Gospel message with those who don't know Christ. People are dying daily who don't know Christ. People are dying daily in Spokane who don't know Christ. Our urgency should be to compel them with the power of the Gospel. But, comfortability does come into play when you think of the joy of getting to serve Christ alongside people who you would consider your family. The members of St. Matthew are an extremely gifted, generous, and loving group of people. God has blessed St. Matthew and The Vine with wonderfully wise and faithful pastors. Our school has teachers who are hard-working and caring. We have generous members who willingly donate their time and money into the ministry here. God has given this church and school wonderful leadership who knows exactly how to manage the generous gifts that are given. Our laypeople are ones that are extremely loving, welcoming, and excited to share the Gospel.

It is this urgency to spread the Gospel and excitement to continue to see the gifts that God has blessed this ministry with used that I have decided to return the call to Christ Lutheran in Eagle River, Wisconsin. There is amazing work that needs to be done and can be done to spread the Gospel right here at St. Matthew and in Spokane. I pray that each of us urgently and excitedly embraces this task of using our different and varied gifts to further spread the Gospel. I am extremely humbled to serve as your principal and love doing so. Please pray that Christ uses me to faithfully spread the Gospel as a part of our ministry team here at St. Matthew.

Hearing about the ministry at Christ Lutheran and reflecting on the ministry here at St. Matthew should remind us of the great need at both places. There is certainly opportunity to share the Gospel message both here and there even more than is currently happening. Christ Lutheran certainly needs our prayers as they continue to seek more avenues to spread the Gospel, as well as they continue to seek a principal. Please pray that the Lord of the harvest would send eager and willing workers into the harvest field.

Thank you for keeping my family in your thoughts and prayers, especially over the last few weeks. The outpouring of kind words was certainly undeserved, but they were appreciated. Forgive me for the times that I have taken the care and support my family receives and for this wonderful ministry for granted.

I am very excited to see what God has in store for St. Matthew moving forward. I will leave you with a message from Hebrews 10:22-25: "Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."-The harvest is waiting!

Classroom News

Preschool News

Miss Donna Lindsay(509.638.5361)

New Theme!! New Centers!! Of Course!!

For the entire month of November, we are focusing on Thanksgiving: Pilgrims, Indians, Turkeys and, most importantly, giving thanks to God!!

We still have our dress-up clothes in our Drama Center. Now we can put feathers on some turkeys in our Math Center, bingo dot some pages in our Art Center and we can scoop cranberries out of water in our Sensory Center. What FUN!!

In preparation for our Thanksgiving Feast, some of the classes this week made Indian necklaces, sponge painted their Indian vests, made a Pilgrim hat and collar, and even made some candy corn name tags. Lots of crafts!! Lots of fun!!

I have a sign-up sheet for our Thanksgiving Feast. Please look for it when signing your child in. Our Feast will be on Monday, November 23 and Tuesday, November 24.

This week, I sent home a portion of our Christmas program. I would love for you parents to work with your child(ren) on these words at home. I will work with them during the school hours, also. The Christmas program is quickly approaching and I am panicking already!! HAHA!! I will give you all of the details of our Christmas program in a week or so – still planning it out!!

This is a crazy time of year, but let's be sure to sit back and count our blessings!! We can be in school and we can be face-to-face!! How cool is that!!

I know I send home quite a bit of homework each and every day. I want you to know, parents, that this isn't just "busy work". These homework pages are important. We are working on preschool skills: cutting, matching, writing, phonics, etc. I just can't cover all of these important things in the 3 hours I have your child in our classroom. Please work WITH your child on these homework pages. Ask them questions! Have them name the letters or numbers on the homework pages! Anything you can do at home will only create a HUGE foundation for future learning. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!!

Bible Verse next week: "Call upon me in the day of trouble." Psalm 50:15

Letter of the Week next week: "I".

Have a blessed weekend!! Stay safe!! Stay healthy!!

K-1st Grade News

Miss Rachel Taasaas(360.271.5201)

Homework

Kindergarten

- Read 20 minutes (or more) each day. Fill in your time on your Book it! calendar.
- Practice Christmas memory work.
- I will be sending home sight word flashcards in your child's yellow folder tomorrow for you to practice with your child. These belong to the school, please make sure they do not become lost or damaged. Return them on Monday, November 23. We will have a sight word test on Tuesday, November 24. Your child will need to be able to write the words as well as read them.

First grade

- Read 20 minutes (or more) each day. Fill in your time on your Book it! calendar.
- Lightning Words are due tomorrow, November 13.
- Reading books will go home tomorrow. Please have your child read their stories to you once or twice over the weekend. Sign their bookmark and make sure they return it on Monday, November 16 for full credit.
- A spelling list is going home in your child's yellow folder. Please practice these words with your child. The test for these words will be Friday, November 20.
- Practice Christmas memory work.

Memory Work

Please check the memory work sheet I sent home on Monday. Let me know if you need an extra copy.

Book Orders

Book orders will be going home tomorrow in your child's yellow folder. These will be the last book orders before Christmas. Books are always a great gift!

Classroom News

2nd-4th Grade News

Mrs. Michelle Most (832.212.9102)

Word of God - We are wrapping up learning about Joseph and moving on to Moses. Through Moses we learn from God's Word that God moves in mysterious ways to perform his wonders.

Memory Work - We are working on all of the Christmas program (December 12 & 13) memory work in class everyday. The recitations will be assigned memory work after Thanksgiving break.

Math - Congratulations to Alex. for passing his addition facts last week!! Please continue to work on math facts of addition and subtraction at home either with flashcards or Xtramath. Knowing these makes math procedures a lot easier.

Social Studies - We are taking a break for a week to do some catch up in Science.

Science - We are back to learning about soil and working our way towards weathering and erosion. We have a fun lab coming up next week on weathering and erosion, plus I'll be bringing in my rock tumbler to show them how rocks and minerals are polished.

Reading/Phonics - The third and fourth graders have been a new book, Sarah, Plain and Tall. They have all picked a project to work on while reading the book. The second graders are reading through some Thanksgiving books and working on summarizing them. Next week they will be reading The Thanksgiving Story on their own and working on some comprehension activities.

English/Writing - We are wrapping up learning about nouns this week. We have finished our rough drafts this week with learning how to write an introduction with a hook and a concluding sentence or paragraph.

Spelling - Tests are on Friday (tomorrow).

EXTRA NOTES

Book orders for the months of November and December went home today. Please return them by Wednesday, November 18th. This will be the final book order before Christmas to ensure all books are here in time if wanting to give some as gifts.

I signed every child in our classroom up for Epic books. It can be used on the computer, tablet, or phone. There are thousands of books, some of which are in our classroom library, for the children to read. It is just another option for reading materials. I like to have Conrad use it when we aren't at home for him to get his 20+ minutes of reading in a night. There are high interest books, audiobooks, and videos on how to build different things out of legos. Each child gets 2 hours free a week. You can pay for more time, if you like it, and want them to have more time. They can also take comprehension quizzes on it to help if your child struggles with comprehension.

Please remember to return your child's Turkey in Disguise by Wednesday, November 18th. I can't wait to see all the creativity!

Have a blessed week in the Lord!

5th-8th Grade News

Mr. Jacob Biebert (715.402.0094)

Having a day off in the middle of the week has really been playing games with my head. I am clueless as to what day it is. Thursday felt like a Monday! However, it is all worth it in order to slow down and think about the service of the wonderful men and women for our country. So, thank you Veterans! Thank you for the time, effort, and sacrifice that you put forth so that we can live in the wonderful country that we do. I pray that all of you had a happy Veterans Day.

Here is next week's memory work:

Christmas Program Memory Work!

The 7-8th grade history class will be taking a test next week Wednesday on the Renaissance. Study guides will be sent home Monday.

The 5-6th grade history class will also be taking a test next week Wednesday on early peoples and their cultures.

We continued our study of matter this week. The focus this week was identifying if the law of conservation of matter is accurate or just a hoax. The students designed experiments to try and find out where the loss of mass occurs when you burn paper.

Your children have been working hard to learn their Christmas parts at school. Please help them at home as well. It certainly takes time to learn all the different parts of the service.

I hope all of you have a blessed week!

GUESS THAT BABY!



MAXWELL
ROWLAND



TAKE A GUESS
AT THE NEXT
BABY BELOW!



Take a guess as to which student this is!
First person to correctly guess will win a
prize!

*Must tell Mrs. Biebert in the office to be eligible
for prize*

Students cannot guess themselves

STUDENT INTERVIEW

Name / Grade: Corban Benson / Grade 6

Favorite food?

Spicy Egg Sushi Rolls

Favorite hobbies?

Working on Cars

If you could go anywhere, where would you go? Why?

I would go to San Diego because it is where I was born, and I have really good friends there.

What job will you have as an adult?

An engineer or architect.

What do you love most about school?

I love the type of teachers you get.

Who do you admire? Why?

Mr. Biebert and my mom because they are hard working people and they help me a lot.

What is your favorite bible passage?

Romans 3:1-2—What advantage, then, is there in being a Jew, or what value is there in circumcision? Much in every way! First of all, the Jews have been entrusted with the very words of God.



Weekly Message

Honor the Service

Today many countries celebrate their military veterans. Whether it's called Remembrance Day, Armistice Day, or Veterans Day, it's a time to honor all those who have served their country in war or peace, dead or alive, although it's largely intended to thank living veterans for their sacrifices.

Christians honor Jesus for a similar reason. He was willing to sacrifice himself in order to win a great victory for us. Ever since the creation of the world, Jesus wanted us to live with him forever in heaven. It didn't look good since we were going to be born sinful and could not enter a perfect heaven that way. But Jesus took care of that by being born without sin and then remaining sinless throughout his life until he sacrificed himself and took the punishment for our sin. He volunteered to serve in this way, even though he was King over the entire universe. That was quite a sacrifice!

Many veterans make the sacrifices they do so that their families and communities can remain in peace and safety. They know that peace is won in this world only with blood and sacrifice.

Jesus won peace for us with his blood and his sacrifice. He did all that so that he could say to us on judgment day, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Take your inheritance. Come with me to heaven. Live in eternal peace and safety."

Prayer:

We honor your service for us, Lord Jesus, today and every day. Amen.

Then the King will say to those on his right,
"Come, you who are blessed by my Father;
take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for
you since the creation of the world."

Matthew 25:34