



Educate.
Equip.
Encourage.

The Timber Times
November 29, 2018

School News

Mission Offering

No chapel last week because of Thanksgiving, so our chapel offerings for the year are still at \$132.99. Thank you for your giving hearts! We are continuing to learn about "peace," so make sure to ask your children about the chapel message!

Thanksgiving Break

We hope everyone had a safe and blessed Thanksgiving Break! If you are anything like me, your Thanksgiving Break was filled with relaxation, plenty of good food, family time, clinging desperately to the shingles for fear of falling while hanging icicle lights, and trudging through the woods looking for that perfect Christmas tree! What a great way to spend some time off!!!

Box Tops

Our Box Tops competition is quickly coming to a close with the deadline **next Tuesday, December 4**. If you have been holding out for the very end, now is the time to turn in those Box Tops!!! The winner will be announced in next week's newsletter, so be on the lookout.

K-1: 239

2-4: 114

5-8: 143

St. Matthew Apparel

Please remember, if you are wanting some St. Matthew items from the online store, the deadline is **December 5**, which is **NEXT WEDNESDAY!** You can find the store by going to school.stmatthewspokane.org, and looking under the "Resources" tab. Please check it out; there are some awesome items for sale!

Basketball

Our basketball season is almost here! We will be starting practices on **Tuesday, December 4**. Practices will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00PM-5:00PM. Please speak with Mrs. O'Haver if you would like to play! The schedule for the season is on the website, so be sure to check that out.

Christmas Scrapbook Paper

Miss Taasaas is looking for donations of Christmas-themed scrapbook paper for an art project the children will be working on! If you have any you would be willing to donate, please bring it in by **Tuesday, December 4!** No Santas please! Thank you!

Giving Tree

This Christmas season, we will have tags on our Christmas trees for Shepherd of the Hills, Las Vegas Pre-school. You may have heard of this

Upcoming Dates

December

- 4 Basketball Practice 4:00PM-5:00PM
 - 5 **St. Matthew Apparel Orders Due!!!**
 - 6 Basketball Practice 4:00PM-5:00PM
 - 8 Christmas for Kids—St. Matthew 10:00AM-12:00PM
 - 11 Basketball Practice 4:00PM-5:00PM
 - 12 Preschool Christmas Program Practice 12:00PM
 - 12 Advent Service 7:00PM
 - 13 Basketball Practice 4:00PM-5:00PM
 - 14 Public Reading of *Finding Scrooge*—St. Matthew 6:00PM
 - 14 **Giving Tree Gifts Due!!!**
 - 16 Preschool Christmas Program 2:30PM
 - 16 Grade School Christmas Program 4:00PM
 - 16 D.C. Trip Bake Sale—11:00AM (after church) 1:30PM (before PreK Christmas Program) 5:00PM (after Grade School Christmas Program)
 - 18 McLaughlin's Providing Hot Lunch 12:00PM
 - 18 Basketball Practice 4:00PM-5:00PM
 - 19 McLaughlin's Providing Hot Lunch 12:00PM
 - 20 PreK 4 Christmas Parties
 - 20 Basketball Practice 4:00PM-5:00PM
 - 21 PreK 3 Christmas Parties
 - 22 Grade School Christmas Parties PM
- December 24-January 4
NO SCHOOL—CHRISTMAS BREAK**

January

- 7 Classes Resume

church before, as it is also the church where our mission offering is going this year! They are a mission church and pre-school. The preschool is just getting off

General School News Continued
on p. 2. →

**THE GREATEST GIFT
THE WORLD
HAS EVER KNOWN**



**CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS
NEXT SATURDAY!!!**

11/30 Cleaning

Upstairs: Patterson

Downstairs: Patterson

General School News – Continued

the ground, and they are in need of many supplies. Each classroom has a tree with tags on it, as well as a list to write down which tag you took. Please consider taking one (or more!) tags to help out another school in need! Thank you for the many people who have already taken tags! Your kindness is truly appreciated. All the gifts will go directly to Shepherd of the Hills Preschool to use in their classroom. Gifts do not need to be wrapped; we will be shipping them altogether in a box. All gifts must be brought back to St. Matthew on **Friday, December 14. THANK YOU!!**

Find Mighty Timber

MT is back at it! His hiding spot this week is OFF CAMPUS!!! Many local businesses have graciously offered to find Mighty Timber a hiding spot among them, so now the hunt is really on! Take a look at the next page for

Christmas for Kids

Our Christmas for Kids will be taking place **next Saturday, December 8** from 10:00AM-NOON. This year, we ask that a parent attend this event with their child (ren), so the parent is aware of the lessons as well as to encourage family time during the holidays! The registration form is available on our website school.stmatthewspokane.org under the "Resources" tab. We also sent out an email to school families that includes the registration form. We look forward to seeing you there!

Advent Service

I'm sure all of you are aware that the Christmas season is rapidly approaching. A term that is a little less familiar is "Advent." The days leading up to Christmas is called "Advent." Advent literally means "coming." in the weeks leading up to Christmas, we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Savior. As exciting as this time is, it is even more exciting as we take the time to remember what we are truly celebrating, God's fulfillment of his promises of a Savior: all wrapped up in a tiny babe in a manger! At St. Matthew, we will hold a special Advent service on **Wednesday, December 12 at 7:00PM**. We hope many of you can join us in preparation of Jesus' coming!

D.C. Trip Bake Sale

The upper graders who are planning on going to Washington D.C. next year are holding on bake sale on December 16 in order to help raise money for the trip! They will have their items for sale after church on Sunday at about 11:00AM, again before the Preschool Christmas Program at 1:30PM, and once more after the Grade School Christmas Program at about 5:00PM. This sale will be in our church basement, which you can access through the door by the basketball court.

Scrip

This week we have Bath & Body Works scrip available! Stock up on your favorite lotions and body wash before the holidays!

Book Reading

Jason McDonald, who attends our sister church The Vine, has written a sequel to *A Christmas Carol* called *Finding Scrooge*, written in the style and spirit of the original. He will read the book in its entirety, taking about an hour, on **Friday, December 14 at 6:00PM**. This event is open to the public and has been advertised in the Spokesman Review. You will have the opportunity to buy copies of the book for \$20.03 after taxes. We are fortunate to have such an author in our midst and that he will use our venue for the reading, introducing our facility to many new people.

December Calendar

The December calendar is attached to this week's newsletter, and can also be found online at our website.

Meal Train

If you would like to make a meal for Mr. Dave Sauer (upper grade math teacher and former principal) please go to the Sauer's meal train at <https://mealtrain.com/wyw751>. Mr. Sauer underwent open heart surgery yesterday, and will spend the next several weeks recovering.

"Two weeks of giving out these riddles,
so this week I went to go find a fizinG riddle
of my own."



BRIA DANNS

ELI MCBRIDE



GRADE: PreK-4 AM

GRADE: PreK-4 AM

FAVORITE HOBBIES/THINGS TO DO:

Go to ice cream, go to Mimi's, spending time with my family, jumping on the trampoline.

FAVORITE HOBBIES/THINGS TO DO:

Play soccer, play "cops and robbers," and barbies with sissy.

WHICH ANIMAL WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO BE?

Control lightning, because I want to be like God.

SUPER POWER:

Super gigantic strength to throw bad guys on the ground.

WHICH ANIMAL WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO BE?

Panda, because I love them so much.

WHICH ANIMAL WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO BE?

Cheetah because they run fast.

FAVORITE THING ABOUT SCHOOL:

Playtime.

FAVORITE THING ABOUT SCHOOL:

Learning and play at centers.

IF YOU WERE PRESIDENT, WHAT WOULD BE THE FIRST THING YOU WOULD DO?

Swim in the White House pool.

IF YOU WERE PRESIDENT, WHAT WOULD BE THE FIRST THING YOU WOULD DO?

Do the Pledge of Allegiance.

YOUR FAMILY:

Shannon, Don. I like hanging out with them.

YOUR FAMILY:

Mommy, Daddy, me, my sissy, and Ollie, and all our aunts and uncles. I like to go to special places with my family like Wonderland.

Classroom News

Preschool News

Miss Donna Lindsay(509.638.5361)

I am praying that you and your family had a beautiful Thanksgiving - full of love, laughter and thanks to God for all of His blessings to us.

Now that our Thanksgiving Theme is done, our preschool classroom has been transformed into a Christmas Wonderland!! This week and all of December, we will be focusing on Christmas and Jesus' birth. Our centers have changed and are really exciting! Our Listening Center has the story, "Grumpy Badger's Christmas". Our Reading Center has "ornaments" with letters on them that the children are able to practice tracing. Our Drama Center has a huge felt tree that the children can decorate with felt ornaments, but also a felt Manger scene that the children can retell the story of Jesus' birth. Our Science Center has a plastic nativity scene that the children play with, also. Lots of fun and new activities.

This week, we brought home our "Countdown to Christmas" chains. Everyday, have your child tear one ring off of the chain. When they reach the gold loop, it will be Christmas Day!! This may help to alleviate their asking, "How many more days to Christmas?".

Our preschool classes went on a field trip to Yokes Fresh Market, this week. Vince gave us a fabulous tour of the store. We were able to walk through the backroom of the bakery and see how BIG their ovens are. We got to walk into the milk cooler and peek at the customers through the glass. We learned about recycling and saw him smash cardboard boxes with a huge machine. What a fun field trip!! We learned so much about food and nutrition and how a grocery store operates.

Everyday, we are working on our Christmas program songs. Ask your child to sing, "Away in a Manger" and "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb". They know them!! This week, we are learning "Mary Held Her Baby". Our program is fast approaching. Mark your calendars! December 16 at 2:30 p.m.

Please watch for notes coming home about all of the events happening in December. What a crazy month, but what a beautiful month - the celebration of our Savior's birth!! And that is what Christmas is all about!!

Next week will be our review week for letters F-J. Have your child in our 4's program bring a show 'n' tell item that begins with the letter F,G,H,I or J.

Have a wonderful weekend! God's blessings!!

K-1st Grade News

Miss Rachel Taasaas(360.271.5201)

Homework

Kindergarten

- Read 20 minutes (or more) each day. Don't forget to add your minutes to your Book it calendar. **November calendar is due December 3.**
- Our new Word family is the -am family.
- New sight words: like, and. Continue to work on and practice reading and writing: is, on, in, the, has, not, are.

First grade

- Read 20 minutes (or more) each day. Don't forget to add your minutes to your Book it calendar. **November calendar is due December 3.**
- Reading books will be sent home tomorrow. Please listen to your child read their stories and sign the bookmark.
- Lightning words are due tomorrow, November 30.
- Minus 1 fact cards were sent home on Monday. The test will be tomorrow, November 30.
- Spelling test tomorrow, November 30



Art project

We will be working on an art project for Christmas that requires the use of acrylic paints. I will make sure that your child wears their paint smocks but I am also going to encourage you to dress your child in older clothes that you don't mind if they get paint on them. The first date of painting is December 7. I will keep you updated on the other dates. Please make sure you are signed up for the Remind texts because that is how I will be communicating the other dates.

Scholastic Book Orders

One more set of book order flyers will be sent home in your child's yellow folder tomorrow. They will be due on Tuesday, December 4. This will ensure they arrive before Christmas break.

2nd-4th Grade News

Mrs. Kelsey O' Haver (509.570.2023)

I sent home a note on Monday with a lot of important things. Hopefully you read it! Here are some highlights:

- *Book orders are due tomorrow!
- *Book-It Calendars are due Monday, December 3.
- *Your child drew a name on Monday for our Christmas gift exchange. If they forgot who they have, ask me. Bring those wrapped presents to school by December 19. Say who it is from, NOT who it is for.
- *Our Christmas Party is December 21. We will be wearing Christmasy clothes!
- *Your child can wrap their desk with a parent's help anytime beginning next week Monday.
- *Grab a gift tag off of our giving tree right by our classroom door! All items are being sent to Shepherd of the Hills in Las Vegas.

Blessings on your week!

5th-8th Grade News

Mr. Jacob Biebert (715.402.0094)

We need prayers all around. Mr. Sauer went in for heart surgery on Wednesday morning. As of typing this I haven't heard how things went. He plans on being out a month or so. I will be teaching math in his place while he is out. We started our first Christmas practices this week. We have been focusing on getting the flow of the service down and when to stand and sit.

Here is next week's memory work: **Monday(12/3): Luke 11:9,10,Ephesians 3:20;Wednesday(11/5): 1st Article; Thursday(11/6):In The Bleak Midwinter;Friday(11/7):Ephesians 6:1,4, Psalm 103:8,13, Colossians 3:13**

Both history classes have been studying the Native Americans. They have teamed up to report on the Indian Removal Act. This report will be due next Wednesday and Thursday to get all the presentations in.

This week in science we started to study work and energy and are seeing how they both tie in to force. We discussed how many tasks we do every day aren't actually "work" in the scientific sense. We discussed what work is and how you need energy to do work.

I will not be here next week Tuesday as Kayla's family will be in town as we celebrate Josey's first birthday. Mrs. Schultz will be the sub for me that day. I pray that God Bless all of your weekends.

Weekly Message

Find Your Peace this Holiday Season

Did you have a good Thanksgiving? Was the meal perfect? Did you get together with family? Did you spend enough time with them? Did you give enough attention to your children? Did you get all the dishes done? Did you have enough help? Did you get the item(s) you wanted on Black Friday? Did you stay within budget? Were you kind enough to others who had to eat Thanksgiving dinner alone? Did you help those who had no ability to provide a Thanksgiving dinner for themselves or their family?

Oh, and Christmas is coming soon. Will it be perfect? Will the house be clean? Will your decorated home resemble one you might see on a Hallmark Christmas movie? Will everyone stay healthy? Will the Christmas program be ready? Will there be time to make cookies? Will you find just the right gift for everyone on your list? Will anyone find just the right gift for you? Will you set aside enough time for yourself? When Christmas is over, will you be emotionally filled or emotionally exhausted?

What has often been called “The most wonderful time of the year” can, in reality, be one of the most hectic. The season that promises “peace on earth” can, as we go through it, actually fill us with exactly the opposite as we

cycle through the various “Did you ...”s, “Were you ...”s, and “Will you ...”s that are often difficult to answer with any type of certainty.

Scripture gives us a better place to focus our attention each day. Better than asking “Did you ...?” is asking “Did he ...?”

Did Jesus love you enough to die for you, whether or not you burned the turkey? Yes. Did Jesus’ sacrifice declare you perfect to God, no matter what anyone thinks of your gifts or decorations? Yes. Did Jesus rise from the dead to assure you that your home of perfection in heaven is already waiting? Yes. Will he one day come back, look at you, and say “Well done” in front of everyone? Yes. Will

he walk with you this holiday season and provide you with the peace he promises? Yes. Will he cover with his grace your inevitable weaknesses and mistakes? Yes.

Yes. Yes. A thousand times—yes!

This holiday season, find your peace by looking first to Jesus; the only one who can truly give such a precious gift.

Prayer:

Dear Father in heaven, you were faithful in giving us a Savior. May we be faithful in looking for peace first from him this holiday season. Amen.

Grace and peace to you. . . from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

Revelation 1:4b-6