

School News

Mission Offering

Last week, \$47.75 was given for Meals on Wheels. This brings our total to \$201.82. 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!!

Special Thank You

The teachers want to send a special thank you to all of you for your thoughtfulness during this time!!! All the gifts, cards, notes, etc. are extremely appreciated!

Christmas Break

Christmas Break begins tomorrow! As I sit here and reflect on the fact that Christmas seems to have come so quickly (wasn't it just summer break?!), I can't help but feel so extremely blessed by the fact that we have been able to be in school, in person, FIVE DAYS A WEEK! God surely has blessed St. Matthew through each and every one of you! We pray that during this time away from school, you can relax and reflect on the joys that God has showered upon you! The Christ-child is born—what an amazing thing to celebrate!

Small Business Appreciation

Our small business appreciation was so well-received from all of you! Thank you for your amazing love and support! We plan to drop off flowers and a Christmas candy basket to each of the following businesses:

- David's Pizza
- No-Li Brewhouse

- Melting Pot
- Canaan Buffet
- Cole's Bakery
- Satellite Diner
- Little Garden Café

All of these businesses were personally mentioned by members of our St. Matthew family. Please continue to keep these, and all small businesses in your prayers! I will follow up with all of you via email over Christmas Break to let you know how the drop offs went!

Christmas Service

Christmas Services were recorded on Tuesday. We are all anxiously awaiting the link to share with you and your families—hopefully we will have it tomorrow!!! Each year, I am continually amazed with the amount of memorization these children can do! While it may seem monotonous sometimes, these are bible passages that will stick with these kids the rest of their lives! I still remember my Christmas recitations 15-20 years later!

Christmas for Kids AT HOME

Registration is closed for this awesome event! Please remember to pick up your packets on Saturday from 11AM-1PM!

Baby Picture

I am so surprised, but the kids figured out the baby from this past week right away—Mr. Biebert!! Check out the next baby on page four.

12/18 Cleaning

Upstairs: Lyle

Downstairs: Reed

Student Interviews

Hannah Benson is our student of the week this week. Hannah is a fifth grader! Please check out her interview on page five.

Pizza Tomorrow

Just a reminder that we will be bringing in pizza tomorrow from The Boiler Room for all the elementary school kids! No need to bring a lunch, unless you don't like pizza.

Moms and Muffins Registration

If you have not yet done so, please let a teacher know if you plan to attend our Moms and Muffins virtual event! Registration deadline has been extended to Monday, January 11. Those who register by January 11 will receive a ticket to be entered to win a prize! Register by filling out a half sheet, or emailing Jacob Biebert at principal@stmatthewspokane.org.

Apparel

Apparel will be ready for pickup after school today! Please remember to grab items before Christmas Break!



**8
DAYS
LEFT**

Classroom News

Preschool News

Miss Donna Lindsay(509.638.5361)

A HUGE thank you to everyone who made our Christmas program take place!! You parents are awesome and you totally stepped up to make this filming and our program happen!! The children looked so beautiful and performed beyond expectations!! Tuesday was a crazy day, but we all made it work!! Thank YOU for all of your efforts!! WE DID IT!!!!

We still have our Christmas theme in our classroom. This week has been a fun craft week – making plenty of ornaments for our Christmas trees at home. We have our Christmas parties and gift exchange on Thursday and Friday. What a perfect way to end 2020!!

Classes resume on Monday, January 4.

Our letter of the week when we get back will be “Mm”. Please have your child bring a show ‘n’ tell item that begins with M.

Our bible verse is Luke 11:28 “Hear the word of God.”

Have a most blessed and joyous Christmas with your family. Have a happy new year!! See you in 2021!! God bless you and your family!!

GUESS THAT BABY!



MR. BIEBERT



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: Hannah Benson / Grade 5

Favorite food?

Mac n' Cheese

Favorite hobbies?

Gymnastics, Contortion, and Cheer.

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

I would go to Hawaii because I was born there.

What job will you have as an adult?

An interior designer.

What do you love most about school?

The teachers.

Who do you admire? Why?

My mom because she's hard working.

What is your favorite bible passage?

John 3:16—"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."



Weekly Message

Prepare the Way

In the ancient world, VIPs would send their heralds ahead of them to make straight the way—that is, to ensure the safety and travel ability of the road.

John the Baptist's mission was to go ahead of Jesus, preparing the way and proclaiming the King's imminent arrival. He was to blast through sinful pride and self-righteousness, to urge people to repent of their materialism and overconfidence, their lack of priorities and spiritual apathy, to get them ready and eager for the arrival of the One who could save them.

How do we “make straight the way for the Lord” today? By looking closely at our hearts and identifying those sins that clutter them. Are we giving certain sins a comfortable place in our hearts? Are we making excuses instead of getting tough on bad behavior?

The Baptist calls out, “Repent!” “Make straight the way!”

Prepared hearts are hearts that daily loathe the sin within us and celebrate the arrival of our Royal Deliverer from heaven. He comes to us time and again in his Word and sacraments,

bringing gifts most valuable—forgiveness of sins and peace with God. And on the last day, he will come not in simple means, but in awesome power, riding on the clouds of heaven, bringing our ultimate deliverance.

As you prepare for that day, hear and heed John's clarion call: “Repent!” “Prepare!” “Make straight the way of the Lord!”

Prayer: (Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal – 3)
Fling wide the portals of your heart, make it a temple set apart.
From earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.
So shall your Sovereign enter in, and new and nobler life begin.
To God alone be praise for word and deed and grace!
Amen.

Finally they said, “Who are you? . . . John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, “I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way for the Lord.’”

John 1:22,23