



Educate.  
Equip.  
Encourage.

The Timber Times  
December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## School News

### Christmas Program

Thank you to everyone who attended the program, as well as the children, teachers, instrumentalists who helped make this service incredibly beautiful!

### Basketball

Please see the google calendar for the game schedule. Dismissal times and locations are all included! You can also find it on the sports page on our website.. If you are interested in running concessions for our home games, please reach out to Miss Rosenbaum. Also if you would like to run the clock or keep the book for home games, please let Miss Rosenbaum know.

### Night at the North Pole

Laura West has helped organize this event happening at Deer Park High School TONIGHT. Please view the flyer to the right for more information!

### Last Day — TOMORROW

Due to sickness, we will be canceling school Friday. Please refer to the remind message from earlier today (12/18) or call/text Mr. Biebert (715) 402-0114 if you have any questions. Thank you.

Also, all after school activities will be canceled for tomorrow (Thursday).

### Christmas Break

Reminder that after Friday we are off school until classes resume on January 6<sup>th</sup>. God Bless your Christmas and New Year's!

### Advent Worship

This evening is our last Advent worship service after school. We hope to see you there!

### Junior Choir National Anthem

The Junior Choir will be singing the National Anthem for the Chiefs hockey game on January 20<sup>th</sup>. It will be here before we know it! Order tickets [here](#) or by using the QR code on the flyer on the next page to support the kids and come watch the Chiefs!

### Food Drive

Please drop off any food items you have for the drive with your child's teacher. Thank you!

### Another Call Update

Pastor West has received a call to Omaha, NE. Please pray for him during this especially busy time of extra special church services as well as the extra communication with the calling congregation.

### Holiday Recipes

Our long-awaited recipe book is ready! It will be sent as an attachment with the weekly email! Let us know if you try any of the delicious recipes!

### Junior Choir

Junior Choir will meet on January 6 @ 3:45 pm in Mrs. Most's classroom.

## Upcoming Dates

### December

- 18 Advent Worship 3:45PM — Potluck to Follow
- 19 Basketball Practice — A Team (4:00-5:30) / B Team (4:00-5:10)
- 20 Last Day Before Break! Christmas Parties K-8
- 12/23-1/3 Christmas Break

### January

6 Classes Resume

Get merch by clicking [here](#) or use the code! Start the new year off with new swag!



**DECA's**  
Night at the  
North Pole

**DEC 18, 2024**  
**FROM 6-8PM**

Join us for a **FREE** night of Christmas spirited fun at Deer Park High School (800 S Weber Rd) on December 18th. Santa will be there from 6:30-7:30. Come and take pictures with Santa, play games, and receive free presents! Grades K-5 welcome!

# 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)

What an amazing week we are having before our Christmas Break!! Our preschool classes have had a ton of fun making so many ornaments for our trees at home and finishing our parent presents!! And what better way to wind down the week, but with a PARTY!! Today and tomorrow, we have our classroom parties - lots of fun party foods and cookies to decorate!! We also have a beautiful gift exchange . . . a game of hot potato and gift opening!! What a great way to end our fantastic 2024 year!!

We have a new book in our Listening Center: "Bear's First Winter". A little bear doesn't want to hibernate because he will miss out on all of the fun of winter!! A GREAT book for the kids to listen to!! We also have an amazing Nativity set in our Science Center. The children can recreate the night that Jesus was born!! We have an angel, Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus, shepherds and wise-men to complete the entire Christmas Story!! A great center that the kiddos can move the pieces around and have a ton of fun with play!! Our Drama Center still has our HUGE felt tree for the kiddos to decorate, but we also have a felt Nativity scene for the children to re-enact Jesus's birth!! The Christmas Story is coming to life for your child in preschool!!

A HUGE thank you to all of you who shared in our awesome Christmas program last Friday!! SO many parents, grandparents and families attended - SO COOL!! The children told our Christmas story to all of you in such a beautiful way!! What a joy to be able to sit back and just enjoy their amazing message and their amazing songs!! YUP - you caught me crying through most of their songs!! I was blessed with a box of tissues, so I was well prepared!! I truly believe there wasn't a dry eye in the house!! Thank you for all of your support with the transportation to practices and the work that you parents put in to help with the memory work for your kiddos!! You guys are the BEST!!

THE NEW YEAR IN PRESCHOOL:

**Christ Light Bible Story:** "God Leads the Wisemen to Jesus"

**Bible Memory Verse:** Luke 11:28 "Hear the word of God."

**Theme:** Winter/Polar Bears

**Letter of the Week:** "Mm" - Another week!!

**Snack Person:** 3's AM Colette 3's PM Penelope 4's AM Hallie 4's PM Dayz

**Upcoming Events:** Dentist Field Trip TBD

Jan. 6 Classes Resume

Jan. 13, 14 Gray/White Day

Jan. 17 No PM 3's Preschool - Curriculum Study

Jan. 20 No School - MLK Day

Jan. 23 Moms and Muffins

Have a blessed Christmas with your family!! See you in 2025!!

### Kindergarten News

Miss Rachel Taasaas (360.271.5201)

**Christmas Present-** The snowman gift from your child is not sealed/weather resistant, please be careful if you place it outside. It is best to keep it in a covered area.

**Christmas Break-** I pray you all have a wonderful/healthy break! May you take time to remember the true reason for this Christmas season! God bless you all and see you in January!

**Nightly homework:**

- Read with you for 20 minutes. Fill out the Book it calendar.
- Memory work will start back up on January 9. Please let me know before Christmas break if you need a copy and I can give you a new one.

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

Mrs. Kelly West (509.362.4916)

Mrs. West has been sick this week, so we do not have an updated newsletter from her. Thank you for understanding! God Bless your Christmas Break!

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

Miss Erika Rosenbaum (269.326.5437)

**Christlight/ Memory Work**

- 1/7 - Matthew 4:10b
- 1/9 - Revelation 2:10b
- Please read the Bible stories from this week (God Gives the Ten Commandments; The Golden Calf) with your child during the weekend.

**Homework**

- Read 20 minutes a day. Add your minutes to your December Book-It Calendar.
- Spelling: will resume the week of January 13.

**Extra Notes**

- Math - we started chapter 6 which is our geometry chapter. The kids have been reviewing cones, cylinders, rectangular prisms, cubes, spheres, and pyramids. We then looked at each shape and talked about edges, faces, and vertices. We briefly started talking about lines of symmetry and congruent shapes.
- Reading - the kids got to read the story, "Officer Buckle and Gloria". We talked about cause and effect which tells how one event makes another happen. The kids learned about humorous fiction which is a story where the author wants to make the reader laugh. We focused on the phonics skill of compound words.
- Science - we are wrapping up our unit on states of matter. This week focused a lot on changing matters. The kids got to make ice cream in a bag to show how a liquid can turn into a solid.
- Writing - we are working on adjectives this week. We also talked about adjectives that compare. Then we wrapped up the week talking about articles - a, an, the.
- Social Studies - we wrapped up talking about U.S. symbols. We talked about Mount Rushmore, Statue of Liberty, Liberty Bell, bald eagle, the American flag, and the Lincoln Memorial.
- January book it calendars will be going home in your child's orange folder.
- Thank you for helping donate items for our Christmas party and helping your child bring a gift for our gift exchange.
- I hope you all enjoy your Christmas break! I can't wait to hear about everyone's break when we return to school in the new year!

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

Miss Avery Broyles (208.995.3465)

**Christlight/Memory Work**

- 1/7 - Romans 6:23
- 1/9 - The Conclusion to the Ten Commandments
- 1/10 - The Conclusion to the Ten Commandments
- Please read the two bible stories with your child (God's Rules for Worship & The Day of Atonement)

**Homework**

- Read 20 minutes a day
- Work on spelling words
- Xtramath practice
- Add minutes to the December 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.
- We have been doing a Christmas escape room that allows the students to practice their math skills as well as working with each other.
- In writing we have been working on steps on how to make hot chocolate. At our Christmas party, we get to enjoy hot chocolate!
- The students have really been improving their cursive writing skills.

**Extra Notes**

- Thank you to everyone who has helped bring in Christmas party supplies and those that have volunteered to help. I really appreciate you!
- Please return December calendars the week we get back from Christmas break.

Merry Christmas to you and bless you and your family with peace and joy for the year to come!

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

Mrs. Michelle Most (832.212.9102)

**In the Classroom:****Extras**

- Please look online for any work your child is missing. Everything, except math, is up-to-date for those that haven't been out with absences. I will be updating it over the Christmas break also. Those that have been out due to absences please have work completed over break and I will assist with any questions you may have once we return in January.
- Book -it is due on Monday, January 6. I will also hand out January's Book-it calendar then.
- We will be working on learning how to play the recorder in music class once we return to school. Please remind your child to be practicing as often as possible. We are working towards the special concert in May when we will be performing alongside the Spokane Symphony.

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

Mr. Glenn Metzger (734.788.4637)

Our student message of the week comes from Emilee who says: "Don't fail your tests!" (me: anything else?) "And get good grades!" (me: anything else?) "Nope." (me: want to say Merry Christmas or anything?) "Nuh uh."

In our classes this week, we finished up studying the plagues during the time of Moses, as well as finishing up our study of the 5th commandment. In Math classes, both classes took a mid-chapter test so that we wouldn't have an assessment too soon after our Christmas break. In Science class, we wrapped up our study of Newton's Laws of Motion, and are looking forward to doing a lab with magnetic forces after break. In English, we are nearing the end of our sentence study and will soon be jumping into the main parts of speech. In Reading, we are continuing our practice with explaining metaphors and interpreting the thoughts, words, and actions of characters to determine how the characters are feeling. Finally, in Social Studies we are learning about the early civilizations of the Fertile Crescent.

All grades should be up-to-date by Saturday afternoon, so please check Jupiter Ed to see how your students are doing in class. Please use the two week break to catch up on anything that is missing or needs to be redone. Have a Merry Christmas and enjoy the time you get to spend with your children!

### 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 in Bible class we went through lesson 5 "God Teaches Us to Love". The key points in this lesson focused on the fact that love is more than an emotion, how to appreciate the love God showed us sinner through his Son, and by putting Christian faith into action by doing loving things for God and those we date.

In Language class the students have begun to study "Writing a Narrative Paragraph". They will go through the steps of prewriting, writing, revising and editing before they publish their final paragraph.

In World History the students started a new chapter. Chapter 7 looks into the development of Latin America. They are learning about settling South America, Developing the Colonies, living in the Colonies and Becoming Independent.

They have also begun a new chapter in science. They are learning about the life processes of plants, angiosperm and gymnosperm reproduction.

The trip to Taco Bell went very well. There were a few that overstuffed themselves and complained of a stomach issues.

The kids have asked me to pass along my Christmas list – popcorn tin (the kind that has three different flavors in them), Movie gift cards, Walmart gift card, Dairy Queen gift card, Amazon gift card, John Deere stuff, I like dark chocolate, I am a MN Viking fan, great value Energy drink mix – Acai Blueberry, Strawberry, and Cherry Slush; sausage, beef jerky (plain or teriyaki), ect.

**Finally, I need a bunch of old magazines, or colorful ads for an art project in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade room. If you have any of these items lying around and want to recycle them – please send them to school with your child. I need these items begin in January. Thanks**

From my family to yours – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mr. Z

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

A note from Jacob (715.402.0094)

Christmas Joy

I truly hope all of you have a safe, healthy, and happy Christmas. What a very special time to celebrate with family and friends the special news that we have a Savior. A Savior that was willing to humble himself by leaving the mansions of heaven to come to this earth with one sole purpose: your salvation. I am sure that you have gone out of your way to give up a lot of time, money, and energy for others this Christmas season. But, even if you find yourself disheartened by not finding the perfect gifts, not finishing some craft that you hoped to finish, or disheartened that you spent too much or didn't have enough money this Christmas, none of those things truly matter. The only reason we even have a holiday to celebrate is that we have a perfect Savior to celebrate.

I pray that you find lasting Christmas joy this season celebrating a Savior that did everything to win you lasting life.....eternal life. The cookies will get eaten, the presents will get opened, the tree will be taken down and put back into storage. Those things may leave us feeling empty, but that is because those aren't the things that should be bringing us the Christmas joy we all desire.

As you get together with family this holiday season and enjoy their company, as you open gifts, as you travel, as you enjoy the time off, I hope the amazing grace and peace that our Savior offers stays at the focus of everything we do.

God's blessings on your Christmas break and all that it involves. I hope you all have a very safe and Merry Christmas, and I look forward to seeing you all healthy after break in 2025.

## Real Joy Is Given Because Sin Is Taken Away

Nothing quite illustrates the joy of Christmas like a child waking up to discover a pile of presents under the tree. We picture the joy of Christmas coming through gifts given and received. We might not think of the joy there is when something is taken away, but it can happen. For the one who is suffering, think of the joy that comes when the pain is taken away. For the one carrying a heavy load, think of the joy when that burden is lifted. For the one accused and sentenced, think of the joy when the punishment is taken away.

The prophet Zephania described the joy given when something was taken away. God's people in Zephaniah's day had experienced the consequences of their sin of turning away from the Lord. God used enemy nations to punish and correct his people. However, the Lord had not abandoned his people. They would not experience the eternal punishment their sins deserved, and neither will we.

Our sins deserved God's punishment, not just for time, but for eternity. The load of sin's debt once crippled us, but real joy is

given because Jesus has taken away the punishment we deserved. He took it away by taking it upon himself on the cross. Real joy is given because Christ has taken away your guilty verdict. Real joy is proclaimed because his tomb was found empty after he rose from the dead. This is proof that nothing stands between you and God. Jesus came to take away sin and death by his death and resurrection. Jesus will come again to take away pain and sorrow forever and will take us to experience the greatest joy we will ever know. Real joy is given because of all that Jesus has taken away!

### Prayer:

Lord, fill my heart with songs of thanks and praise that you have taken away the punishment of sin and give the peace of forgiveness in Jesus. Amen.

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



Sing, Daughter Zion; shout aloud, Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, Daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away your punishment, he has turned back your enemy. The LORD, the King of Israel, is with you; never again will you fear any harm.

**Zephaniah 3:14,15**