



Educate.
Equip.
Encourage.

The Timber Times
December 5th, 2024

School News

Christmas Practice Reminders

We still have 2 more practices at the Naz Gym before our service next Friday, December 13th. We will be practicing **Monday 8:30-10 and Friday 1:30-3:30**. Please be aware and remember to drop your child off or pick them up in the appropriate location. Thank you!

Basketball

Practices are finally underway. Please make sure to continue to communicate with Miss Rosenbaum if your child is in need of a ride to practices. Stay tuned for a game schedule in the next few weeks.

Advent Calendar

Looking for a super fun way to spice up your Christmas preparations? Melissa and Doug make a fantastic advent calendar with magnetic tree decorations. There is one decoration for every day leading up to Christmas. I have access to a set of biblically sound devotions that correspond with each ornament. These devotions are all Christmas themed and tie in the ornament to the real meaning of Christmas. We have been using this calendar with our children for the last few years, and we couldn't be more pleased with them.

The calendar is called **Melissa & Doug Countdown to Christmas Wooden Advent Calendar - Magnetic Tree, 25 Magnets , Orange**

It costs \$29.95 on Amazon. If you purchase the calendar and are looking for access to the devotional that goes with it, then please reach out to Mr. Biebert and I will give you that portion for free.....that's two things for the price of one! Wow! A Christmas Miracle! Hurry now, because we are already 5 days into December!

DC Fundraiser — Cards for a Cause

The DC kids are taking orders for awesome greeting cards now through December 13th. Please take a look at the flyer on the next page for more detailed information. Thank you!

Advent Services

More opportunities to worship! Yay! On Wednesdays (12/11 & 12/18) we will have Advent worship at 3:45PM. This is a perfect opportunity to refocus on Jesus during the holiday season, and it's conveniently right after school on Wednesdays! We look forward to having many of you join us. We also have a soup supper directly after the service — YUM!

Food Drive

Our church does a food drive every year between Thanksgiving and Christmas. If you would like to donate items, please drop any pantry items off with your child's teacher or here in the office. Thank you so much!

Lost & Found

Please check the lost and found for any items your child might be missing — it is located by the water fountain by Miss Taasaas' room. Thank you for checking!

More Call Updates

Here is where things stand:

- Mr. Metzger has returned his call to Milwaukee and will continue to serve at St. Matthew.
- Mrs. Most received a call to teach grade 4 in Appleton, WI. Please pray for her during her deliberation as well.

Thank you for your many thoughts, prayers, and input.

Holiday Recipes

We are still taking recipe submissions! Please submit your favorite holiday recipe by next Friday! We will put all the recipes together in one convenient location for your family!

Pokemon Club

Please return the form and money if you are planning on attending and participating in the Pokemon Christmas Party and Tournament (Dec. 21) no later than tomorrow, December 6. Thank you!

College Bound Scholarship

Attention all 7th-8th families!!! Please look into this "College Bound" program that offers tuition money for college! Since you attend a private school, the

Upcoming Dates

December

- 5 Drama Club Meeting @ Naz stage 3:45PM
- 5 Basketball Practice — A Team (4:00-5:30) / B Team (4:00-5:10)
- 7 Night w/ the Chiefs 6:05PM
- 9 Christmas Practice — Naz Gym 8:30-10AM
- 9 Junior Choir — Mrs. Most's Room 3:45-4:30PM
- 10 NO Basketball Practice
- 11 Advent Worship 3:45PM — Potluck to Follow
- 12 Basketball Practice — A Team (4:00-5:30) / B Team (4:00-5:10)
- 13 Christmas Practice — Naz Gym 1:30-3:30PM
- 13 Children's Christmas Service 5:30PM
- 17 NO Basketball Practice
- 17 Piano Recital 5:30PM
- 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

guidelines are a bit different, but you may still qualify! What an amazing opportunity!!! A general guideline sheet will be attached to the weekly email, as well as passed out to all kids in grades 7-8.

Junior Choir

The next rehearsal will be Monday, December 9th, from 3:45-4:30.

Get merch by clicking [here](#) or use the code! These items make AWESOME Christmas gifts...hint, hint!



ST MATTHEW DC TRIP 2026

GREETING CARD FUNDRAISER

**BOXES CAN BE PURCHASED IN CHURCH LOBBY
DECEMBER 9TH AND 10TH, 3:15-4PM**

**Cards for a Cause
FUNDRAISER**




Offer boxed sets of 30 beautifully embellished cards with matching envelopes to help your organization reach their fundraising goals.

1. All Occasion #1 Box #645985
2. All Occasion #2 Box #645992
3. Thanks & Blanks Box #646005
4. Kid's Birthday Box #646012
5. Holiday Box #644353 (50 cards*)

*Holiday Card Collection Box includes 50 cards and envelopes.
Product images are provided for your general information and may change without notice due to availability.

**VIEW CARD BOX
OPTIONS HERE:**



**\$30 PER BOX,
OUR STUDENTS EARN
\$13 PER BOX SOLD!**

Classroom News

Preschool News

Mrs. Donna Driesbach (509.638.5361)

Welcome back to preschool!!! I hope you all had a great Thanksgiving Break!! What a week we have had!! Christmas is all around preschool!!! Handprint turkeys are coming down and Christmas trees are going up!! But wait . . . we had fun this week creating our Countdown to Christmas - Christmas chains!!!! Your kiddos are amazing at building beautiful chains!! SO COOL!!! Please have them cut/tear one loop off of their chain every day!! Then, we are one day closer to Christmas Day!! They don't have to ask you how many days until Christmas!! They can see with their own Christmas chains!! You're welcome!!

We had fun painting Christmas trees this week, too!! We painted a green triangle, a trunk, and then had fun painting ornaments and a star on top of the tree!! Check out these amazing trees in our classroom!!! It is beginning to look a lot like Christmas in preschool!!

We have brand new centers in our classroom to help celebrate our Christmas Theme. We have a life-size felt tree in our Drama Center that the children can decorate and redecorate with beautiful felt ornaments. There is also a plastic Nativity set in our Science Center that the children can recreate the birth of our Savior in Bethlehem!! What fun things we have in preschool to make Christmas come alive and be SO meaningful!!

Please keep working with your kiddos on their Christmas memory work and the songs for our Christmas program!! Every little bit that you do at home helps us even more in school, too!!! Thank you!!!

Our Preschool Bookstore is open now for Christmas gifts!! Please purchase a book for our Christmas book exchange. \$5 for each book!! Thank you!! Cash or checks can be made out to me!! Thank you!!

Please watch for our Christmas Party sign up sheet!! We sure would love your help in providing a special snack item to make our party extra fun!! Thank You!! It will be on my red cabinet next week!!

- * **Christ Light Bible Story:** "God Has a Special Message for Mary"
- * **Bible Memory Verse:** Luke 1:31 "Give him the name Jesus."
- * **Theme:** Christmas
- * **Letter of the Week:** "L"
- * **Snack Person:** 3's AM Benjamin 3's PM Damian 4's AM Zeke 4's PM Camilla
- * **Upcoming Events:** Dec. 9 Christmas Program practice 8:15 - 10:00 am
Dec. 12, 13 Green Day
Dec. 13 Christmas Program practice 1:15 - 3:30 pm
Dec. 13 Christmas Program - Naz church 5:30 pm
Dec. 19, 20 Christmas Party!!
Dec. 23 - Jan 3 Christmas Break
Jan. 6 - Classes Resume

Have a magical weekend with your family!!

Kindergarten News

Miss Rachel Taasaas (360.271.5201)

Christmas Party- Please check the classroom door to see if there is anything you can help donate to our class Christmas party.

Nightly homework:

- Read with you for 20 minutes. Fill out the Book it calendar. The November calendar is due Monday, December 2.
- Practice Memory Work. I have extra sheets if you need one.

1st Grade News

Mrs. Kelly West (509.362.4916)

Hi First Grade Families!

In ChristLight we are learning the exciting stories of Moses and the 10 Plagues and the Passover.

In Reading we are learning about some silent letters at the beginning of words, like w in wrap and wrist, and k as in knock and knit.

In Math we are learning about fact families and how addition and subtraction are related.

In Music we are learning about rhythm.

There is a sign up sheet on the door for items for our Christmas party lunch on Friday, December 20th. Some items are juice boxes, fruit, dessert, plates, and napkins. Pizza will be provided for free for the students on that day as well.

For our Christmas gift exchange, we are going to do a stocking stuffer. There are 12 kids in our class. So please buy 12 of some small item, such as fun pencils, bubbles, stickers, little toys, candy, etc. (Dollar Tree or Hobby Lobby would be great for this!) Your child will give one to every child in the class, so instead of one larger present, everyone gets several small things. Please let me know if you have any questions!

Kiersten Emerson has kindly offered to buy stockings for everyone and put their names on them, so don't worry about getting a stocking. Thanks, Kiersten!

God's blessings to you all and your family! Have a restful weekend!

2nd Grade News

Miss Erika Rosenbaum (269.326.5437)

Christlight/ Memory Work

- No memory work until after Christmas break.
- Please read the Bible stories from this week (The Plagues; The Passover) with your child during the weekend.

Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day. Add your minutes to your December Book-It Calendar.
- Spelling: will resume after Christmas break.

Extra Notes

- Math - we have shifted from addition to subtraction. We have been working on the concept of borrowing/regrouping in subtraction. We will be wrapping up this chapter next week.
- Reading - the kids got to read the story "Schools Around the World". We talked about comparing and contrasting our school to other schools throughout the world. We focused on the phonics skill of the vowel team ea.
- Science - we are continuing to look at solids, liquids, and gases. We talked about flexibility and properties of matter. We also worked on observing and classifying different solids and liquids.
- Writing - we took a look at possessive nouns and pronouns. We briefly started to talk about verbs - action and linking. We will continue our study of verbs next week.
- Social Studies - we had a great discussion about needs vs. wants.
- We can always use more paper plates and plastic utensils for our classroom. If you are able to donate some for our class, we would greatly appreciate it! Thank you!
- Our Christmas program is next week Friday, December 13. Please plan to attend as the kids have been working so hard on these throughout the past month and a half. You won't want to miss it.
- November book it calendars were due this week. Thank you to those who turned in their calendars.
- Our Christmas party is coming up quickly (December 20). There is a sign-up sheet for items in our classroom. A note about our Christmas party was sent home this week about our gift exchange that will happen during our class party.
- Thank you to everyone who is helping transport children either to the Nazarene church or back to school. We appreciate the help.

3rd Grade News

Miss Avery Broyles (208.995.3465)

Christlight/Memory Work

- 12/10 - Christmas recitations or Ephesians 2:8,9
- 12/12 - Christmas recitations or 2 Timothy 3:16
- 12/13 - A Portion of the Conclusion to the Ten Commandments
- Please read the two bible stories with your child (God Feeds His People in the Desert & Water From a Rock and Victory in Battle)

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 dividing and writing out equations.
- In social studies we are working on our states and capitals flashcards for the South. The next test will be Monday.
- In reading we have started an I Survived book, the kids are really enjoying it.
- In writing we have been working through two sentences a day in which the students have to change the sentences to be correct.

Extra Notes

- The 3rd graders are participating in a book exchange for our Christmas party on December 20th. Please buy gently used or new books (no more than \$10). Please keep the book at an appropriate reading level. We will wrap the books in school, so please bring them no later than December 16th.
- If your child has their November calendar completed, please turn it in ASAP.
- The Christmas party sign up is by the door, please sign up for whatever you can!

Have a great weekend!

4th Grade News

Mrs. Michelle Most (832.212.9102)

In the Classroom:

Word of God - Through reading about Moses and the Israelites, we have learned God provides for all the needs of his people. We saw how the Israelites were stubborn and didn't trust in God's promises to provide for their needs and that at times we

are the same way, especially when we want things done in our way and time and forget that God has our best interest at heart as our heavenly Father.

Reading - We are using our reading notebooks to write the answers to our focus question/s for each chapter. We are using the acronym R-A-C-E to help us remember how to answer them completely. R=Restate the question, A=Answer the question, C=Cite the evidence, and E=Explain how the evidence supports your answer. I am seeing such amazing work using RACE in our work. Sometimes we need a second try at it, but overall I am seeing great improvement in our answers.

Math - Multiplication concepts for the week are Multiplying with 3-digit numbers, Problem-solving: working backwards, mixed review, chapter review, and a test. Transformations: Slides, flips, and turns are the geometry concepts of the week.

Science - We are working on learning about the planets of our solar system. Students have chosen a planet to work on with a partner to teach the rest of the class about.

Social Studies - We just wrapped up our learning in chapter 3 about all the explorers that came to the Pacific Northwest either by land or sea, or because of the fur trade.

Extras

- Please check out the sign up sheets for our Christmas Party on Friday, December 20. I'll have it outside the door at pick up and just inside the door in the morning at drop off.
- A note was sent home on Wednesday (yesterday) about our stocking gift exchange. If you did not receive one, please stop by and I will give you another one.
- Please send a small (5x7 or so) Christmas gift bag to school with your child by next Friday, December 13. Thank you!
- The snow is flying! Please make sure your child has a coat, gloves, and boots available to wear for recesses. Please only send snow pants only if there is enough snow to play in. We have limited space in our hallway for hanging all the outer-wear. Also, if they don't have a pair of slippers/crocs etc. for inside the classroom, please send them with some.

5th-6th Grade News

Mr. Glenn Metzger (734.788.4637)

Our students message of the week comes from Camrynn who says: "It's better to try, fail, and learn, than to cheat and get it right, because then you don't learn." Thanks Camrynn!

In our classes this week, we are studying the plagues in Exodus, as well as taking an assessment on the 3rd and 4th Commandments. In Math, the 5th grade students are working with common multiples and common denominators, while the 6th grade students are completing a short chapter on integers. In Science class, we are learning about inertia by spinning eggs and completing other "physics" demonstrations. In English class, we are combining sentences, and in Reading class, we are hitting the middle of our novel, *Esperanza Rising*. There has not been Social Studies class this week due to the special class schedule.

Thank you to all the parents who helped their children contribute toward the 5th and 6th Grade Thanksgiving Feast last week. The students seemed to enjoy their meal, got to sample a lot of different kinds of food, shared something they appreciated about a classmate, and were a little sleepy the rest of the afternoon.

Our next classroom event will be the class Christmas Party, on the last Friday before Christmas break (12/20). In addition to helping the kids plan out the party, I am hoping to schedule a field trip to go ice skating that morning. Please keep an eye out for more information about that event.

Finally, thank you for all the encouragement and kind words while I was holding a call and since I've returned it. I can be quite awkward about responding to compliments, thanks, and praise, and if I've seemed unenthusiastic or haven't directly responded, please know that I have seen and truly appreciate your sentiments. Sometimes I'm as awkward in returning that emotion as the students I teach, but it means a lot to me that you would take the time to reach out. Thank you!

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 in Bible class we are going through lesson 3 "God helps us control our sexual desires". The key points in this lesson deal with homosexuality, pornography, and tempting situations. They will learn that God commands us to stay away from homosexuality and pornography. God also commands us to avoid situations that can lead us to be tempted to give into sexual desires and deeds.

In Word history we are looking at early exploration via the oceans. They will learn about explorers that traversed the world, made it to new lands, and found new routes to India. The students will also learn about the struggles the explorers had when they met the natives of the new lands.

In science we have been studying simple plant life: mosses, liverworts, vascular and nonvascular plants. We will finish this chapter up this week and begin studying for a chapter test.

The students have exchanged names for our annual Christmas party. They are currently writing their wish lists on the board. The gift exchange amount is between \$8-15. I have class coordinators in charge of food and drinks (Benny and Gracie), games (Maycee and Sage), and a movie (Kade) for the party. They are to have their information ready for me by December 1st. I will put a list together of food and drink items so you know what the students have volunteered to bring.

The 8th grade students have requested to continue the Taco Bell tradition in December. I will be sending a parental permission slip home this week. I am looking at a day during the week of Dec 9th – weather permitting.

We had practice at the NAZ this week. We will practice there on Monday (8:30 am) and Friday (1:30 pm). If you haven't returned your lime green sheet about NAZ transportation, please return it ASAP.

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, and Strawberry, and Cherry Slush; sausage, beef jerky (plain or teriyaki), ect.

Mr. Z

Principal Thought you Probably Didn't Want :)

A note from Jacob (715.402.0094)

College Bound

If you are like me, you may be paying for your college education for the rest of your life.....cue squints from sandlot saying "for-ev-er.....for-ev-er). Well, if you don't want your child's fate to be also pickling the beast that is college tuition, or even worse, be also paying for your child's college tuition on top of yours when you are 100 years old, then the College Bound Scholarship might be a great option for you. I am having a blurb put into the newsletter about the Washington State College Bound Scholarship. While I have never applied myself, this seems like a legitimate and great opportunity to have your child afford a college education from one of the over 65 options within our state. This is a pretty standard procedure for students in the public school, because they are already enrolled in this program. However, students in 7th-8th grade who attend private schools can also apply. You have to meet an income threshold, call in to apply, and be willing to try at school (they call this taking a "pledge"). This scholarship gives students tuition dollars and in some cases even money for textbooks to attend a college within the state of Washington.

As I stated earlier, I don't have all the answers about this, although I have been doing some research as well as have done some email correspondence with people who run the program. If you know more about this program, then please feel free to share with me. I am happy to help get to the bottom of any questions that you have in regards to this scholarship as well. I pray that this scholarship may be a blessing to many of your families as you help your children plan for the future.

God's Blessings on your weekends!

He Comes to Grow Us in Love

There is universal agreement that the world needs more love. Politicians proclaim that we need to show more love to each other. Law enforcement is dismayed by the lack of love in their communities. Families struggle where there is a lack of love.

If we all agree that the world needs more love, why isn't there?

There's nothing wrong with the concept. Showing genuine love to others and receiving it from others is always a blessing.

The problem lies in the execution. We don't carry out what we proclaim. The entertainer who walks off the stage with an "I love you" doesn't even know your name. And if you showed up at her house to get an autograph, likely the response would be less than an embrace and a dinner invitation.

More seriously, we all struggle to do what's needed—more love. Because what is fighting us constantly in showing more love is a sinful nature that inherently will always put itself first.

But there is one who came in perfect love. Only love could cause the purity and perfection of God to clothe himself with flesh. Jesus humbled himself so that he could move from the manger to the cross and to the tomb. Every step that he took on this frail planet was taken in love.

And it is his love that inspires our love. Since God loved us, we have the motive and the example to show God's love to others in how we speak and act.

More love? Absolutely. We all need it. And Christians have the best reason and the best way to show it. Point to the perfect love of Jesus.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, help me always see and appreciate your sacrificial love in being my Savior. And then strengthen me to show and share that love in my life. Amen.

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



May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you.

1 Thessalonians 3:12