



Educate.
Equip.
Encourage.

The Timber Times
April 24th, 2025

School News

Upcoming Youth Group

Next youth group is scheduled for Sunday, May 4th from 4-5:30PM. We are heading to Eagles Ice Arena to do some ice skating! Please pay Mrs. Metzger or Mrs. Foxall \$10 by Wednesday, April 30th in order to get the group rate discount. Thank you!

Softball/Track & Field

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped at the first track meet. The second track meet is planned for May 7th at Spokane Falls Community College from 5:00-7:30. Softball has a game today at Holmberg Park vs. Faith Christian at 3:30. Kids are dismissed at 2:55. Please communicate with your child's teacher if you plan to take other siblings out of school for the game. Thank you!

Miss Taasaas Meal Train

Miss Taasaas has surgery coming up next week. Several of you have asked what we can do to support her — look no further than [this](#) meal train! Please sign up for a meal as you are able. Thank you!



Science Competition Results

If you haven't spoken to your kids about last week's science competition, please ask them! We had such a fun time all morning long watching everyone test out their projects!

Thank you so much to all the volunteers that helped the morning run smoothly. A special shout out to Mr. Andy Zanto who put together [this video](#). We echo your sentiment, Andy — science at St. Matthew really IS cool!



Pokemon Club

The Pokemon club's next meeting will be tomorrow, Friday, April 25th from

3:45-5 pm. Please bring either your 60 card or 30 card decks or both for more possibilities. If the church doors happen to be unlocked, please make sure Mrs. Most or Mrs. Gaulke is in the church basement before leaving your child to attend. Please watch for a note or a text message about our End of the year Pokemon Tournament. More details to follow.

Last Call — Rummage Sale!

This is your last chance to donate items for The Vine's rummage sale! Pastor Schultz will be picking up all items on Monday, April 28th.

DC Hot Lunch

The DC kids are bringing back a fave amongst the students for their first May hot lunch — PIZZA! In order to get your piping hot pizza next Friday, please submit form (going home today) and payment by Wednesday, April 30th.

Grades 3-4 Sing in Church

Grades 3-4 sing in church this Sunday at 10AM! As an additional bonus, yours truly is also teaching Sunday school that morning!:) Run, don't walk, to church this Sunday for beautiful worship, wonderful kids, and a mediocre Sunday school hour! And don't forget about the snacks after church — St. Matt's has the best fellowship spread in all of Spokane!

Junior Choir

Our next scheduled rehearsal is on Monday, April 28th from 3:45-4:30 pm. Due to a scheduling conflict on May 7th, the date was able to be changed to May 8th for singing the national anthems at the Spokane Indians baseball game. The game begins at 6:35 pm and we will sing around 6:30 pm. We will probably meet at Avista Stadium at about 6:00 pm.

25-26 School Calendar

The Board of Education recently approved the 25-26 calendar! Please find that on our [website](#) in case you need it for planning purposes.



Upcoming Dates

April

- 24 Softball Game vs. Faith Christian 3:30PM
- 24 Track & Field Practice 3:50-4:50PM — Sky Prairie Park
- 25 Grades 5-6 Field Trip — Fairchild Air Force Base
- 25 Pokemon Club 3:45-5PM — Church Basement
- 26 Church Frisbee Golf Outing
- 27 Grades 3-4 Sing in Church 10AM
- April 28-May 2 MAP Testing
- 28 Junior Choir 3:45-4:30PM — Mrs. Most's Room
- 29 Softball Game vs. Lake City 3:30PM
- 29 Track & Field Practice 3:50-4:50PM — Sky Prairie Park

May

- 1 Softball Game @ PCA 4:00PM
- 2 Track & Field Practice 3:50-4:50PM — Sky Prairie Park
- 2 DC Hot Lunch — Pizza!
- 2 Pokemon Club 3:45-5PM — Church Basement
- 5 Junior Choir 3:45-4:30PM—Mrs. Most's Room
- 6 Softball Game @ Lake City 3:30PM
- 6 Track & Field Practice 3:50-4:50PM — Sky Prairie Park
- 7 Track & Field Meet 5:00PM @ SFCC
- 8 Softball Practice 3:45-5PM — Holmberg Park
- 8 PreK-1 Musical 5:30PM
- 8 Junior Choir Sings Anthem @ Avista 6:30PM
- 9 PreK-1 Musical 5:30PM
- 10 Pokemon Club — End of Year Tournament 10AM-NOON

Teacher Appreciation Week

Teacher Appreciation Week is just over 1 week away!!! Please, please take a look at our website [here](#) for ALLLLL the details you could ever need for the week! We always come together to make the teachers feel special throughout the week, and I have faith that this year will be no different. Please reach out to Kayla (715)402-0114 if you have any questions surrounding this special week.



More news
on the next
page!

Carnival of Thanks

Please save the date for our end of the year "Carnival of Thanks!" We are so grateful for all of you amazing students and parents, and we want to send of this school year in style! Please see the flyer below for more details, and [RSVP here](#).



Call Update

We recently called Mr. Tim Pingel to serve as our 1st grade teacher for next year. Mr. Pingel has a heart for outreach, and currently serves at a WELS school in Georgia. Please keep him and his family in your prayers as he considers where he can best serve Christ.



You are invited to...

A CARNIVAL OF THANKS
Thursday, May 29

3:30-4:45 - Games
4:45-5:30 - Food
5:30-6:00 - Outdoor Concert

Activities	Food
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• concert• lawn games• prize giveaway• bouncy house	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• hot dogs• chips• apples• popcorn

Please RSVP online by May 9

Classroom News

Preschool News

Mrs. Donna Driesbach (509.638.5361)

Jesus Christ is Risen!! He is Risen Indeed!! Hallelujah!!

Welcome back to preschool!! Our focus this week is on Jesus' resurrection. Before Easter Break, each class was able to build their own Resurrection Garden. We gathered treasures from our backyard to decorate the Garden, we laid Jesus in the tomb, and of course, we placed a rock at the opening of the tomb, so no one could get in and no one could get out. We came back to school after Easter and we now can see just what happened after 3 days of Jesus being in the tomb!! Our Resurrection Gardens have been transformed!! The grass has grown, the stone is rolled away and the tomb is empty - "He is not here!! He is alive!!" What a beautiful Resurrection Garden we now have!! What an amazing visual for the children to see and understand our beautiful Easter story!!

This week, all of the classes were able to create an Empty Tomb project. Every child was able to "roll" the stone away from the tomb and say, "Where is Jesus? He is not here!! He is alive!" What beautiful words for our children to always remember!! Our classes were able to marble paint crosses last week. This week, we are able to put a frame around each one and add the words, "Jesus Has Risen!" They will be hanging in our classroom!!!! What a beautiful Easter reminder!!

We are still focusing on Easter, so some of the classes will be creating a little chick popping out of a chalk-colored egg. SO much fun!!

Our Centers have remained the same. The Art Center has some pictures of Springtime things that the children can bingo dot. Always a fun art project!! Our Reading Center is chock full of Spring and Easter books for the children to read. We still have our black beans and flowers in the Sensory Center so the children can create pots of colorful flowers. Just dump them out and start all over again!!

It's another Color Day today and tomorrow!! Think BLUE!!! You know our routine. We have fun wearing blue and/or bringing something blue to school. Hiding and finding blue ovals in the classroom makes it a great BLUE day celebration!!

May 8 and 9 are the dates for our upcoming musical, "BUGZ!" We have been working extremely hard on our songs. Your child has picked their bug for this musical and a note has come home regarding costume suggestions for your child. I have a few costume pieces available for your child's costume – first come, first served.

NEXT WEEK IN PRESCHOOL:

Christ Light Bible Story: "Jesus Helps Thomas Believe."

Bible Memory Verse: John 20:29b "Blessed are those that have not seen and yet have believed."

Theme: Ocean

Letter of the Week: X

Snack Person: 3's AM Monroe 3's PM Austyn 4's AM Sydney 4's PM Dayz

Upcoming Events: May 8 & 9 PreK-1 Musical 5:30 PM

May 22 4-Year Old Graduation 5:30 PM

May 23 3-Year Old Graduation in Class

Have an amazing weekend with your family!! Please stay safe and healthy!!

Kindergarten News

Miss Rachel Taasaas (360.271.5201)

Work of the Week: excess. Ask your child to tell you what the word means and the sentence that they wrote in their journals.

Sewing- Thank you to everyone who helped us with sewing! The kids did a great job!!

Spring Musical- Please work with your child on memorizing their lines and speaking CLEARLY AND SLOWLY. Students need to know their lines by tomorrow.

ABC Countdown- I am looking for someone who would be willing to donate Pop Rocks and Zebra Cakes for our countdown. This is a surprise so please don't mention this to your child.

Nightly homework:

- Have your child read with you for 20 minutes.
- Memory work
- Memorize lines for the play
- XtraMath

1st Grade News

Mrs. Kelly West (509.362.4916)

Hello, First Grade Families!

I hope you had a wonderful Easter! How wonderful that Jesus has risen!

In ChristLight this week we learned about God giving King Solomon the gift of wisdom, and also how later kings of Israel turned away from God.

In Reading we are learning about adding plural endings to words with an -es, as in peaches, and how we need to change y to i and then add -es as in bunnies.

In Math we are practicing adding up the value of coins.

In Science we learned that living things reproduce, or make more of themselves, and they also grow and change. In Social Studies we are learning about putting things in order and a little about Canada and Mexico.

Our play practice is going really well! Please have your child practice their lines with you! Thank you! Also, our class is bringing treats to the play on Thursday, May 8, so please bring along some cookies or something to the performance. Thank you!

Our Memory Work for next week is Matthew 11:28 Come to me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

God bless you and your family! Have a good weekend!

2nd Grade News

Miss Erika Rosenbaum (269.326.5437)

Christlight/ Memory Work

- 4/29 - John 14:6
- 5/1 - Philippians 4:13
- Please read the Bible story from this week (Elijah and the Prophets of Baal; Naboth's Vineyard; Elijah Goes to Heaven) with your child during the weekend.

Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day.
- Spelling: we will be working on the combination of ow, and ou. These are the words for next week: cow, house, town, shout, down, mouse, found, loud, brown, ground, pound, flower, out, now, towel, and pounce. The test will be on Friday, May 2.

Extra Notes

- Math - this week we learned about cups, pints, quarts, gallons, centimeters, ounces, pounds, and meters. We then introduced perimeter. Wow, do we have a lot of ways to measure items!
- Reading - this week we continued to review some skills we have talked about throughout the year - setting, character, problem and solution, sequencing, and compare and contrast. Then we talked about the first, second, and third person point of view.
- Writing - we learned about cinquain poems. This poem is a 5-line poem; it talks about the topic noun; it follows a poem pattern; and it includes an onomatopoeia.
- Science - We talked about animal life cycles, what animals need to survive, and how plants and animals rely on each other.
- Social Studies - we started talking about special holidays that are celebrated in the United States. This week, we talked about Easter, Christmas, and New Year's Day.
- Our classroom is in need of baby wipes and paper plates. If you are able to donate something, we would gladly appreciate it. Thank you in advance!

3rd Grade News

Miss Avery Broyles (208.995.3465)

Christlight/Memory Work

- 4/29 - John 14:19b & The 7th Petition of the Lord's Prayer
- 5/1 - Job 19:25-27
- 5/2 - A Portion of the 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed
- Please read these Bible stories with your child (Ahab and Elijah & Naboth's Vineyard)

Homework

- Read 20 minutes a day
- Work on spelling words
- Xtramath practice

What are we learning?

- In math we have our test Friday and will be starting long division next week.
- In social studies we are looking at different parts in the west region.
- In reading we are finishing our figurative language booklets and then will be starting our last novel of the school year.
- In science we are recording our weather reports and then will be learning about fossils.

Extra Notes

- If your child is looking for something extra to do at home, they can be practicing their cursive writing. We have a final write coming up in the next couple of weeks.
- Please continue to check with your child about any homework they have to complete.
- New spelling words will be in your child's Friday folder.
- The 3rd and 4th grade sing April 27th at 10am, please plan to attend.
- I will be out of town from May 1st- May 4th, please text Mr. Biebert with any questions or anything that comes up during Thursday and Friday.

Enjoy your weekend!

4th Grade News

Mrs. Michelle Most (832.212.9102)

In the Classroom:

Word of God - Our lessons for this week are 7A - "Ahab & Jezebel" and 7B - "Naboth's Vineyard." We've been looking at how these tie in with our memory work for the week (1 Peter 5:8, Sixth Petition of the Lord's Prayer, & the Ninth Commandment) and to our lives, as we ask God to help us share his Word with unbelievers.

Reading - Conform & perfidy are two big words that we are looking at to help us understand what is happening in book 1 of A Tale of Despereaux.

Math - Our new chapter in math covers adding and subtracting fractions. We are investigating improper fractions, mixed numbers, and hopefully catching when we need to simplify fractions.

Science - We are now looking at the world around us, after taking a closer look at the plant kingdom, we are moving on to the animal kingdom and the students will be working on a powerpoint presentation to share with the class about a division of the animal kingdom and how they have adapted to their environment.

Soc. St. - We wrapped up our WA state reports, and are now working on our Washington state book that they will be bringing home at the end of the year. Along with this, we'll also use some of our time to work on our trifolds for our "National Park Tour" day towards the middle to end of May. Your child may dress up as a park ranger while they speak to the class and the school about their national park.

Writing - We are working on our last big writing assignment of the year, informative writing. They will be using the information they received from the national park each student wrote to back in February to write our paragraphs, but we will also use this for our "National Park Tour" day towards the middle to end of May. Each child was to bring home a paper with the national park and the subtopics they would like to write about for you to sign. This was so you could help them find any information they could use in their writing.

Extras

- Please mark your calendars, grades 3-4 will be singing in church this Sunday, April 27 at 10:00am.
- We could use a few more kleenex boxes and wet wipes to help us make it to the end of the year. We are out of kleenex other than what we have in the classroom right now. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated! Thank you in advance!

5th-6th Grade News

Mr. Glenn Metzger (734.788.4637)

Between the day off on Monday and the field trip on Friday, we did not have Faith Foundations this week, but in Christ Light we wrapped up the "Golden Era" of Israel's kings and took an assessment on the books of Samuel and Kings. In Math class, the 5th grade students are starting a unit on metric measurement, while the 6th grade class is coming up on their test for proportions. In Science, we are switching our study of organisms from animals to plants, keeping a focus on creation vs. evolution viewpoints. In English we are continuing our study of adjectives, and in Reading we are working our way through the early part of the book while practicing using evidence to support inferences, determining meaning of words based on context, and developing the central ideas of a text. Finally, in Social Studies we are finishing our investigation into the fall of the Qin Dynasty and will be moving on to early American civilizations soon.

Please remember that next week is MAP testing. Students should be here well rested, well fed, and ready to take their tests.

Thank you to the chaperones who signed up for the field trip on Friday. Please remember to send children with close-toed footwear, clothes for being outside and inside, and a lunch they can eat at the park.

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>

When we have a shortened week, we don't have Bible class instead we watch an episode of the "Chosen". This past Wednesday we did just that.

The seventh-grade math class will have learned about angles pairs, parallel lines and transversals, congruent angles and line segments and finally line constructions. They learned how to use a compass to construct those line.

The students have completed their study of India and have been reviewing for the test. Once the test is done, they will continue their studies by looking at "China and the West".

Because of all the afternoon activities before Easter we were unable to have Science class. So, this week in science class the students have been going on line and viewing the different habitats of zoo animals and comparing them with their natural habitats. They have several categories of animals they are researching – reptiles, birds, mammals, amphibians, and aquariums.

In English class the students have begun their study of plural nouns and their uses.

After the Easter break, the class will begin to read "The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe". This should be an exciting book to end the school year.

FYI, book reports are due April 28th.

Quote for the week – Christ is risen! He has risen indeed! Alleluia!

Mr. Z

Principal Thought you Probably Didn't Want :)

A note from Jacob (715.402.0094)

Staffing and other updates

I hope you all had a marvelous Holy Week celebration as we rejoice in the eternal victory that our Savior has won for us. As we

make a final push towards the end of the year and even start to look towards next year, I wanted to give you a few updates.

Calendar Update: The 2025-2026 calendar is up on our website to access and view. We will also be sending a hard copy home in the summer for you to have. Please pay close attention to all events that apply to your child and their grade.

Staffing updates: We issued a call to Mr. Timothy Pingel. He is currently serving at Sola Fide Academy in Lawrenceville, Georgia. While you maybe don't remember his name, some of you would likely recognize his face, as he helped lead our VBS a few years back. We pray that the Lord would lead him to accept the call, and if not, we trust that the Lord will provide for us. The plan is still to ask for a graduate if Mr. Pingel returns the call to serve here.

One other staffing update to take note of is that Mrs. Sue Zabel has agreed to serve as the administrative release teacher for the 5-6th grade. She will be allowing me to get some release time to fulfill principal duties. We feel very blessed that we have a trained teacher within our church to fulfill this role, because this is a very important job both for my sanity and for the growth and function of the school. Details are still being worked out between her and me, but I believe the plan will be to have her do some teaching in the afternoons while I get administrative work done.

I pray you all have a blessed weekend enjoying the beautiful sunshine that God has been blessing us with.

The Tomb is Empty

The women came to anoint the dead body of Jesus on Sunday morning. Instead, they found the stone rolled away and the tomb empty. Confusion clouded their minds. Their first thoughts were that someone had taken Jesus' body.

If Jesus' body had been stolen, who would have taken it? The Roman authorities had no reason to remove it; they wanted to keep order and suppress any claims that Jesus had risen. The Jewish leaders certainly would not have taken it; they had asked for a guard to ensure the body stayed in the tomb. And the disciples? They were hiding in fear, devastated by their master's crucifixion.

An empty tomb alone does not prove a resurrection, but it's a good start. Add to the empty tomb the undeniable fact that Jesus' body was never found, the eyewitness testimonies of his disciples, and the radical transformation of those who saw him alive.

The resurrection was confirmed by multiple eyewitnesses. Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene, Peter, the disciples, and more than five hundred at one

time. These were not hallucinations. Hallucinations are individual experiences, yet Jesus appeared to groups of people, spoke with them, ate with them, and invited the disciple Thomas to touch his wounds.

Skeptics suggest alternative explanations, but none hold up under scrutiny. If the disciples had fabricated the resurrection, why would they suffer and die for it? If Jesus had merely swooned on the cross, how could a severely wounded man roll away a massive stone and escape unnoticed?

The simplest, most reasonable explanation is the one the Bible gives: Jesus truly

rose from the dead. His resurrection is not just an ancient claim—it is the foundation of the Christian faith and the promise of resurrection to all who believe in Jesus. Because the tomb is empty, we know that death is not the end. Because he lives, everyone who trusts in Jesus as their Savior will also live.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, send me your Spirit to help me believe more and more in the certainty of Jesus' resurrection. Amen.

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



They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

Luke 24:2,3