



*Educate.  
Equip.  
Encourage.*

*The Timber Times  
September 9, 2021*

## School News

### Mission Offering

So far our chapel total stands at \$270.11. Today's chapel message from Pastor West reminded us that Jesus doesn't desert those who are feeling lost and overwhelmed—he takes care of us always. Just a note that ALL chapels during September are at 8:45AM. We will start alternating AM/PM chapels next month. Parents—you are more than welcome to join us for chapel at anytime! :)

### Welcome Preschool!!!

Preschool has officially started here on campus! We are so grateful for all the new and returning wonderful families! Blessings to each and every child as you learn and grow with your teachers in grace and knowledge—closer to Jesus all the way! Preschool families—Miss Lindsay has weekly preschool newsletter additions found in "Classroom News" on page 2.

### No AM4 Preschool 9/16

Preschool parents, don't forget that next Thursday, September 16, the AM4's class will not be in session. Throughout the year, Miss Lindsay uses these times to visit other preschools and continue to develop her curriculum.

### Camping Deadline

The deadline for our camping outing on October 8-10 is **TOMORROW!** Please turn in your forms and payment to the office tomorrow if you have not already done so. Preschool families, a note will be sent home about camping today, and please return as soon as possible if you are interested in the camping trip. We hope many of you are able to join us for this trip!

### Soccer

Thank you to those that have turned in the athletic forms and signed up for the Remind app! Grades 3-8 started practice this week. They will continue to have practices Tuesday and Thursday from 3:45-5:00 (unless

notified). Please make sure to have your child bring a water bottle, shin guards, and cleats to every practice. We should know more about the schedule for games by next week!

Grades K-2 will be starting their first practice next week 9/14 from 3:35-4:20. For those participating in K-2, make sure to bring a water bottle, shin guards and cleats/tennis shoes to practice.

### St. Matthew Camping Outing

Please remember to fill out and return your half sheet for the camping weekend by **next Friday, September 10**. The camping weekend is being held at Riverview Bible Camp on October 8-10. If you have questions, please speak with Mrs. Biebert (715)402-0114.

### Bible Class with Pastor West

Pastor West's spiritual growth class begins this Monday, September 13 at 6:30PM. Additionally, the BIC class (4 week long Bible information class) is beginning Friday, September 24 at 8:45AM. Please reach out to Pastor if you would like to join either of these classes! (509)217-9617

### Map Testing

Beginning September 20, our K-8 classes will be starting their first round of MAP testing. These tests are on the computer, and are used to get an idea of how the students test, as well as where they are at the start of a new school year.

These tests are just one of many assessments for your child, and they are only used as a guide. No grades will be recorded from the tests. Please help your child prepare for these by making sure they get a good night's sleep, and have a nice breakfast in the morning. Testing can be very stressful on kids (and adults!!), but try to relieve any anxiety in your child by reminding them that we do not expect anyone to be perfect, and these tests will not impact any grades. If you have questions about MAP testing, please speak with your child's teacher, or Jacob (715)402

### 9/10 Cleaning

**Biebert/Taasaas/Boys:** Abate  
**Most/Rosenbaum/Girls:** Martin

-0094.

### Social Media

We are asking that you please be extra cautious about what you share on your social media platforms. While we at St. Matthew agree in your freedom to do what is best for your child and family regarding masks and Covid, not everybody else does. Unfortunately, posting pictures on social media of students inside the buildings without masks on may cause us to be forced to change our policy. We would hate for that to be the case—we desire to respect your wishes and do our best to keep your kids safe, happy, and healthy, and create a learning environment that encourages growth in all aspects of life.

Due to the fact that we have already received a complaint regarding this matter, we feel it is pertinent to address this difficult subject. It is truly heartbreaking to see Covid divide people so substantially, but we continue to pray every day that we are making the best choices for our students, families, and our faculty. Please feel free to reach out to Mr. Biebert (715)402-0094 if you have any concerns.

### Early Release—Look Ahead

Our first early release day is on Friday, September 24. Please mark your calendar for this day, and prepare to pick your child up at NOON. They will eat lunch at home that day.

### September Calendar—UPDATE

Our September calendar is available to view [here](#). There were a couple errors (sorry!) regarding chapel and the auction meeting, so please make note of those!

### School Pictures

Heads up that school pictures are coming quickly! September 30 is the date for PreK4-Grade8, and October 1 for PreK3.

*General School News  
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**School Music—UPDATE**

Our September 26 singing date in church has been updated. Due to the lack of space in church, we are switching the singing for just Grades K-8. Preschool will be singing in October.

**Junior Choir**

Junior choir is set to begin Monday,

September 13<sup>th</sup>. All students in grades 1-8 are allowed to participate in Junior Choir. Practices will be Mondays from 3:45-4:30 (unless notified of a change). The children will meet in Mrs. Most's classroom for practices. Children will be working on fun songs, and songs to sing for church and chapel. Forms were sent home today with those that

were interested at orientation. If your child is interested, but didn't get a form, please ask your child's teacher for an extra or Mrs. Most and we will get one to you. Forms need to be returned by Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please speak with Mrs. Most or email her at [michelle.most@stmatthewspokane.org](mailto:michelle.most@stmatthewspokane.org)

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## Classroom News

**Preschool News**

Miss Donna Lindsay(509.638.5361)

WOOHOO!! Our first week/day of preschool is behind us!! What an amazing time we have had in this short week together!! The children had fun reading the book, "The Kissing Hand", with me. We did a project together with a hand and a heart sticker after reading this amazing book. We also had fun painting our hands this week! You will see your child's "star" and their beautiful faces on our bulletin board in the next few days. We are going to Shine Like Stars for Jesus this school year!! A good portion of this week was spent learning our school rules. Your children are amazing listeners - this is going to be a great year!!

Next week, our four-year old classes will start show 'n' tell. A note went home this week explaining the show 'n' tell procedure. Please have your child bring something to school next week that starts with the letter "A".

Every week, we will also learn a bible verse. This week's verse was "God is in heaven" (Psalm 115:3). The four year old classes had an art project focusing on this verse. Next week, our bible verse is Genesis 1:1 "God created (made) the heavens and the earth." Please practice these verses at home with your child. We will do the same in school.

Tuesday and Friday next week, we have our first field trip - our Fall Walk to Linwood Park. Parents, please get a background check if you would like to join us on this walk. Just send your email address to Mr. Biebert and he will forward you the background check information. It is literally a 5 minute process!! I would love for all of you parents and siblings to join us!! What a fun day this will be!!

Next week, we will be talking about Apples. Our Centers and crafts will focus on this theme - great fun in preschool is just around the corner!

Have an amazing weekend!! I look forward to next week with you and your children!! Thank you for entrusting your children in our preschool with my aides and me!! This is going to be an amazing school year. We are off to a great start this week!! God's blessings to you and your family!!

**Kindergarten News**

Miss Rachel Taasaas(360.271.5201)

**Homework**

- Read 20 minutes each night with your child. They need to hear what a fluent reader sounds like as well as be reading to you. This week we have been discussing the 3 ways to read a book. Your child knows they can 1. Read the pictures (make up their own story) 2. Read the words 3. Retell the story. Please encourage them by having them read to you for at least 10 minutes each night.
- Memory Work- practice a little each night so it's not so overwhelming to them.

**Morning Jobs**

Your child has 4 jobs when they come to school:

1. Hang up their coat and backpack
2. Put their snack in their white bucket
3. Fill up their water bottle and place it on their desk
4. Use the bathroom

You may stick around while they do their jobs but constantly reminding them to do their job or telling them what to do next is **not helpful**. They need to do their jobs on their own. If I notice a job is not done I will remind them.

**Donations Needed**

If you are able to donate Costco baby wipes it would be greatly appreciated. We go through lots of wipes each day cleaning hands, faces and tables. Thank you!

**Memory Work**

September 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. John 3:16

**Appropriate Clothing**

Please make sure your child has closed toe shoes to wear at recess. This is mentioned in the handbook and is for your child's safety.

It is starting to get cooler in the mornings so please send a light jacket to school with your child so they can wear it at first recess if necessary. If it is too cold and they are not dressed appropriately students will have to stay inside for recess.

**Scholastic Book Orders**

I sent home book orders last week in your child's yellow folder but I don't think I ever mentioned when they are due. Sorry about that! Please order online or submit your order in person by tomorrow Friday, September 10. If you order online there are more book options available to you. If you order using the paper order form please write a check to **Scholastic Book Orders**.

**1st-2nd Grade News**

Miss Erika Rosenbaum(269.326.5437)

**Memory Work/Christlight**

- September 14 - The Fourth Commandment
- September 16 - 1 John 1:29b
- Please read the Bible stories from this week with your child this weekend and sign and return the bright orange sheet.

**Reading**

- 1st grade parents - there is a letter in your child's PINK label folder explaining the plan for 1st grade reading and what is expected to be completed each weekend.
- Please work with your child to get them to read 20 minutes a day.

**Extra Notes**

- It is so nice to see the improvements the students are making throughout the week!
- This week, we have been working on remembering what we did in school and what we can share with our family at home. Please ask your child so they can share what he/she has learned.
- We have been working on learning the song "Shine Jesus Shine" for when we sing in church on September 26th. The kids sound wonderful.
- Thank you to those who returned their book orders!
- Thank you to those who contributed baby wipes to our classroom.

**3rd-4th Grade News**

Mrs. Michelle Most (832.212.9102)

Welcome to our new classmates, Miles and Claire!

**Reading**

-The 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are reading Stone Fox. Why grandfather not feeling well? What will Little Willy do? Ask a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader to find out the answers!

The 4<sup>th</sup> graders are reading The Mouse and the Motorcycle. How is it that a boy and a mouse can communicate with one another? How does the motorcycle move on its own?

**Science**

What does M.E.L.T.S. have to do with the Forms of Energy? The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades are finding out this week.

**Social Studies**

Who knew the geography of Washington state was so amazing? The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders are learning just how amazing Washington state is this year. Do you know which river is the largest tributary to Washington state's longest river, the Columbia River, is? Or how lakes Washington has and which is our largest natural lake?

**Extra Notes**

- Graded Papers envelopes need to be returned on Fridays. Some have already gone missing.
- Please ensure that your child is using the classroom door to enter and leave the classroom.
- Thank you to those who have returned the questionnaire. I have enjoyed ready about your child. Please continue to return these if you haven't done so.
- I am impressed with how responsible the children have been in handing in their daily assignments and homework! Way to go! Keep it up!

Have a blessed week in the Lord!

**5th-8th Grade News**

Mr. Jacob Biebert (715.402.0094)

Well, we aren't a well-oiled machine yet, but we are squirting WD40 on the classroom every day. Getting into a new school year, new routines, new expectations takes time, a little extra time, and a whole lot of love. If you feel like the year has gotten off to a rough start.....we'll get there! However, it has been a joy working with each and every one of your children. There is nothing else I would rather do.

Here is next week's memory work:

Monday 9/13: 1 Corinthians 12:3b; Wednesday: 9/15-Old Testament Books of Bible up through Esther; Thursday: 9/16-Shine Jesus Shine; Friday: 9/17- Galatians 3:26, Hebrews 11:1

Mr. Biebert's News  
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The 5-6<sup>th</sup> graders wrapped up learning about all the new mapping skills that they are going to learn. Next week Wednesday we will take a test on the map skills. I will send home a study guide for the material that will be on the study guide. This is something that the students can study off. It is not required that they fill out everything on it. We will move on to learning about our diverse, yet united country next week.

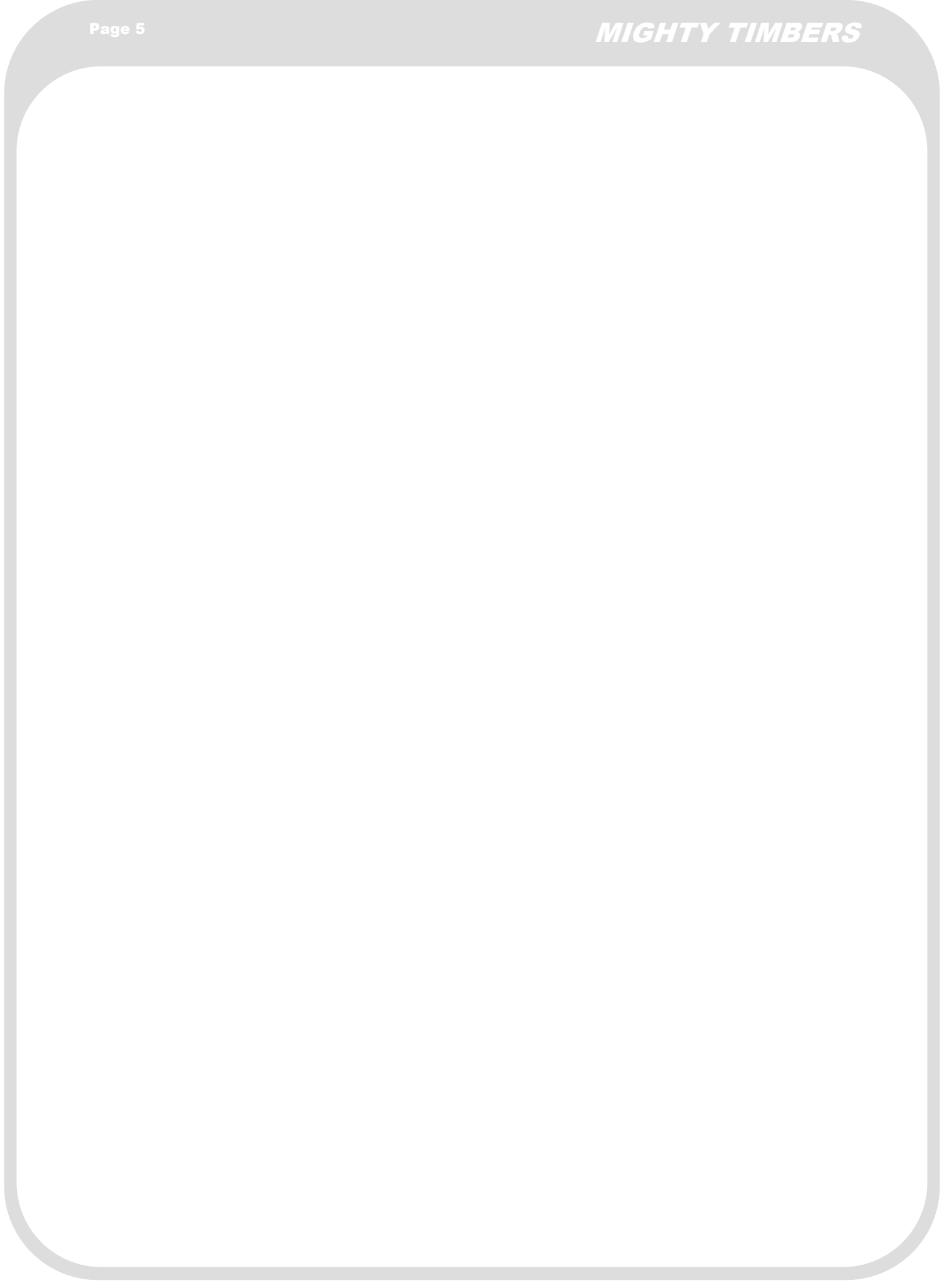
The 7-8<sup>th</sup> grade history class has been identifying what it means to be a sovereign nation in regards to the Native Americans in Washington State. We identified what authorities they have, as well as the limitations that they have under the government of Washington State and our Federal government.

"Those magnificent men and their flying machines, they go up to the up up." An annoying song that I can't get out of my head. We used the song to take a look at early flying machines and comparing them to modern day airplanes.

I pray you all have a wonderful and blessed weekend. Go Badgers! Go Bears!



Look at all those students!!!  
Such a blessing to have a filled church for chapel today.



## Weekly Message

### Run

“This foe is beyond any of you. Run!” In the first *Lord of the Rings* movie, Gandalf shouts those words to his companions. They have just defeated many enemies in battle, yet this new enemy is on a different level. So, they all flee. Not even mighty wizards or warriors could stand up against that powerful foe.

With this verse from the Bible, God is reminding us that our evil foe is no ordinary enemy. Satan is not flesh and blood like we are. He rules the evil spiritual forces that are arrayed against us. This foe certainly is beyond any of us. We are no match for the devil, and in countless places, the Bible encourages us to flee—to run from this powerful enemy.

Yet, there are times when we fail to realize the seriousness of the situation, times when we figure we can handle the devil’s temptations on our own. Our over-confidence gets us into trouble. So to the times when we fail to take our enemy seriously. In any case, we are over-matched, and we fall to the devil’s attacks. We so easily give in to temptation.

There is One who faced off against Satan and came out victorious. Jesus came into this world and did battle as our Savior. He succeeded in fending off every one of the devil’s attacks. Jesus never fell into sin. His power was more than enough to conquer our ancient enemy. And even as Jesus hung on the cross to pay for our sins, when it looked like the devil might win, Jesus removed all doubt when he rose from the dead. In his resurrection, Jesus has forever defeated the devil for us.

We are no match for the devil, but we need not fight

him alone. Jesus, the victor, is on our side and will defend us through his Word. When we turn to him in prayer and trust in his Word, Jesus will fight for us, and it will be the devil who flees.

#### Prayer:

Dear Jesus, you are all powerful and Satan is no match for you. When temptation comes, help me always to run to you and to trust in your Word. Amen.

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

**Ephesians 6:12**