

WORSHIP NEWS

July 2009

St Matthew Worship at 8:30 Immanuel Worship at 10:30

July 5 – **Joint Worship Service w/Holy Communion @ St Matthew @ 10:30 am**

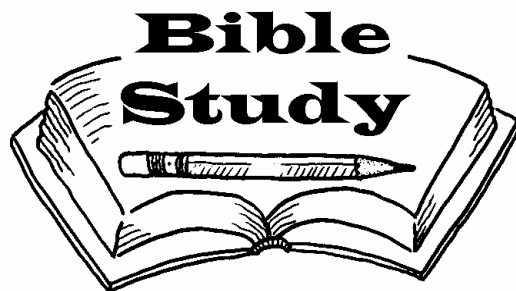
Sunday School @ St Matthew 9:30 am

July 12 – Worship Service of Word and Prayer
Sunday Schools @ 9:30 am

July 19 – Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
Sunday Schools @ 9:30 am

July 26 - Worship Service of Word and Prayer
Sunday Schools @ 9:30 am

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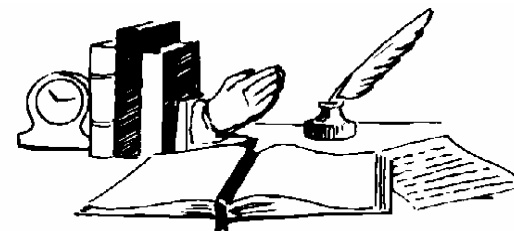
Bible Study

Mondays- July 6, 13 and 27 - 1:00 pm at Immanuel & at the home of Clint and Winnie Boriack on Monday June 6, 13, and 27 at 7:00 pm.

We will be studying the book of Acts, using the study guide "**Acts for Everyone**" by N. T. Wright.

Teaching Tuesdays on Prayer

Will meet on June 30 and July 7. Two nights on prayer. The lessons will resume again in August.



the Pastor's Notes

The Power of Together!

In the last month I have been reminded in two ways, at two big events about the power that comes from working together.

First - the Synod Assembly. There is a formal report in the newsletter. But what struck me is the power and hope that comes when more than 300 Lutherans gather and say together: "It is time to move forward, time to focus on something important, and time to start working together to share the good news that God cares about all. And it is our job to take that Good News outside the walls of our churches to the people who need to hear it. So let's get going!"

Second - VBS - There is no way two or even three of the churches that took part could have accomplished so much without the others. Sharing the work and the joy made a powerful impression on both Kids and Adults.

Peace

Jim

Members in Nursing Homes or shut in...

Margaret Heideman Lorena Randermann Ella Buerger
 Louise Bell Loesch Ruth Koester Harold Strang
 Mary Helen Cade Bob Eccleston Alfred Gaskamp
 Nelda Gaskamp

Those seeing doctors, continuing treatments and/or recovering from surgery...

Nina Ellermann Trenton Stewart Elwood Wehring
 Sylvia Dannhaus Leeroy Kramer Barbara Hollis
 Bernice Sommerfeld Judy Kieke Mildred Moehlmann
 Ella Buerger Theckla Hofschneider Erich Oberhoff
 Amy Hodges Don Bolenbarr Mary Helen Cade

In our extended family...

Evelyn Wodrich
 Lily Vines & Ruby McLain – Aunts to Barbara Kramer & Dorothy Schulte
 Ollie Newmann – Roxanne Buro's aunt
 Henry Roesse – Roxanne Buro's father
 Connie Hetzel – Friend of Frances Scheffer
 Jeannine Schwartz – Wife of Rev. John Schwartz
 Fritzie Jaehne - friend of Sherry Mahlmann
 Malet Weatherby – friend of Scheffer & Mahlmann families
 Brenda Meadows – friend of many
 Robert Terrian – son-in-law of Ed & Sylvia Dannhaus
 Lauren Davis – friend of many
 David Ryan Fuller – friend of Pam Schroeder
 Doris Jankowiak – friend of many
 Johnny Jongebloed - friend of Alice Petty
 Shawn Presnell – Barbara Hollis' daughter
 Ray Goehring – Barbara Hollis's brother
 Carolyn Finley – mother of Dwayne Brown
 Elsie & Leroy Boenker – cousin of Renee Lambert
 Gregory Rybarski – brother of Christie Schroeder
 Michael Danford – nephew of Doris and Bob Burk
 Levi Luvaas – father of Marlene Randermann
 Frank Dickschat – uncle of Renee Lambert
 Keith Eickenhorst
 Hortense Rhodes – sister of Marjorie Heckman and Gerdine Blome
 Dolly Krause – step daughter of Erma Luetge
 Viola Giese – mother of Wayne Giese & friend of Erma Luetge
 Donald Carter – son of Barbara Hollis
 Charles Steele – brother-in-law of Oscar Fuelberg
 Garrett Allen – grandson of Don & Glenda Bradley
 Al Radke – friend of Don & Glenda Bradley
 Ken VanGonten – Son-in-law of Ed & Edna Weiss

Thanksgiving for Improvements

Gladys Schwarze Ronson Muegge Susie Kramer
 Carole Cokera Bubba Brewton Corene Niemeyer
 Dallas Mahlmann Richard Hollis

In Christian Sympathy to Family and Friends of

Larry Peters – father of Michelle Lampe
 Jeannine Schwartz – Wife of Rev. John Schwartz
 Mabel Fuelberg - sister-in-law of Oscar Fuelberg
 Gilbert Weiss – Ed Weiss' brother

Immanuel Council Highlights

Minutes: of the May meeting and financial reports for May were approved.

Old business:

- Playground equipment is finished. We put pea gravel underneath. Thanks to Colton Coghlan and everyone who helped. It was enjoyed by the Bible School children.
- Constitution Committee. Still working on this. Constitution committee will meet again at 6pm before next council meeting. Anyone else on Council is invited to come.
- New Church Directory: Pictures taken and in making. Anyone with pictures for directory needs to submit these by July 15th.
- Move Sound System Equipment. Doug got a bid from Bobby Hohlt for electrical work \$1,437.36. Still need cabinet. Could cost around \$3,000.00. Talked about using Memorial Money for this.
- Jerry Kieke has bids on carpet cleaning and floor cleaning and waxing of all floors.

1,182.06	for carpet
<u>137.50</u>	for other floors
1,319.56	Total

Jerry Kieke will pay for all this. A big thank you to Jerry.

New Business:

- Camp at Lutherhill. 9 going from Immanuel, 3 from St Matthew. Each child will pay \$100.00 and church will pay rest.

Immanuel - Second Saturday

The Immanuel church council invites everyone to "Second Saturday" at 8:00 am Saturday, July 11.

Breakfast provided.

We will have time for fellowship.

A signup sheet is in the parish hall for anyone interested in making/bringing breakfast

Volunteers Serving in the Community

Lay Visitors – Immanuel – Delivering bulletins

Please support these disciples and our shut-ins with your prayers. Erline Wellmann and Virginia Tappe are serving in July.

Senior Meals - Those delivering meals for Washington County Healthy Living Association from both Immanuel and St Matthew are Pastor Abbott and Louise, Larry & Florine Allen, Edna Schroeder, Alice Petty, and Ruth Kelling and Barbara Kohring.

IT'S TRIPLETS

Congratulations and Thanksgiving to Steven and Adrienne Siemsglusz on the birth of triplets : Addison Laverne, Bryce Alan, and Collin David.

Pastor Abbott on Vacation

Pastor Abbott will be on vacation from July 14 through July 23. For Pastoral Care call Pastor Mike Button of Christ Lutheran, 836-5585.

Guest Pastor on July 19

Lisa Burroughs will be Guest Pastor for services on July 19.



New Church Pictorial Directory

If you were not able to have your picture taken in June, you may submit pictures until July 15. Please submit the pictures to Stanley or Ann Sommer at St Matthew or to Erma Luetge or Pauline Hodges at Immanuel.

St Matthew Answering Machine

St Matthew once again as a telephone answering machine that will be checked several times a week.

Summer Devotional Guides

The Summer Devotion guides for July, August and September are available to be picked up at church.

Nursing Home Visits

Thursday, July 9 join Pastor for services at Brenham Rest Home @ 10:30 am.

Join Pastor on Sunday, July 26 for Nursing Home Services at Gazebo Terrace @ 2:30 and Argent Court @ 3:30pm.

Thanks

Thanks to Harvey Wellmann for mowing pasture next to Immanuel Church grounds.

IMMANUEL

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR JULY

Captain: Pauline Hodges

12th – Kim Hodde
19th – Kim Hodde, Wade Wellmann
26th – Chase Coghlan, Colton Coghlan

SCRIPTURE READERS FOR JULY

12th – Jerry Kieke
19th – Ronnie Bothe
26th – Kaley Joswiak

FLOWERS FOR JULY

12th – Barbara Kohring
19th – Janie Wellmann and Deborah Hupe
26th – Edna & Edwin Weiss

ACOLYTES FOR JULY

12th –
19th – Raleigh Wellmann
26th – Alexis Chaudron

ST MATTHEW

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR JULY

Roger Ellermann, Captain (836-3875)

Jerry Watson
Wesley Westerfeld
Dwayne Brown

Billy Scheffer – Communion Assistant

SCRIPTURE READERS FOR JULY

5th – Corene Niemeyer
12th - Stanley Sommer
19th – Dwayne Brown
26th - Ruth Kelling

FLOWERS FOR JULY

5th – Keith & Sherry Mahlmann, Dallas & Grant, in memory of
Taylor
12th – Henry Al & Nina Ellermann, Mark & Rachel Niebuhr &
Mattie
19th – Patsy Schroeder
26th – Johnnie, Debbie & Trevor Eckert

Fill cups for Communion: Sharon Eccleston &
Alice Petty

Wash Communion ware: Carol Koch & Annie Mae Studhalter

St. Matthew Lutheran Church
July Baptisms



Nina Ellermann	2
Elwood Wehring	3
Karen Lauter	8
Dallas Mahlmann	10
Mark Schwartz	12
Matthew Randermann	14
Jimmy Studhalter	20
Krystal Glaeser	21
Pam Muegge	23
Chelsea Kettler	24
Johnny Ulrich	24
Sarah Scheffer	26
Nelda Schroeder	27

St. Matthew Lutheran Church
July Birthdays



Grant Mahlmann	4
Albert Duch	6
Ann Sommer	7
Dallas Mahlmann	10
Michael Wehring	11
Morris Brewton	16
Dale Moehlmann	17
Bruce Kettler	19
Maria Sommer	19
Abby Sefcik	21
Theckla Hofschneider	23
Pam Muegge	23
Jeanelle Kelm	24
Roxanne Buro	30
Michael Busby	30
Rudy Dana	30
Sandra Duch	31

Immanuel Lutheran Church
July Baptisms



Michael Bothe	1
Doris Burk	1
Delvin Wellmann	7
Shane Winkelmann	7
Louise Belle Loesch	8
Sarah Rau	11
Roy Steinfield	13
Edna Petzolt	14
Leeroy Kramer	17
Frances Eilers	19
Stephen Maurer	19
Amanda Wellmann	25
Lance Bosse	27
A.A. Hodde	31
Meghan Maurer	31

Immanuel Lutheran Church
July Birthdays



Darla Vesper	8
Alvera Siemsglusz	9
Pam Bothe	10
Ronnie Bothe	10
Neeleigh Wellmann	10
J.R. Sommerfield	11
Jerri Maurer	14
Estella Delcoure	18
Jackie Eickenhorst	18
Diana Wellmann	21
Frances Eilers	23
Shirley Dreyer	25
Kelcie Maurer	25
Heidi Steinfield	28
Madisyn Maynard	29
Erma Luetge	30
Dorothy Zuehlke	31



Independence Day Parade St Matthew's Float

St Matthew join us on Friday, July 3 at Dayton Wodrich's studio @ 9am to decorate the St Matthew float for the Independence Day parade.

St Matthew Sunday School will participate in the parade.

The Youth will do a fund raiser after the Independence 4th of July Parade. They will do the Moon Walk. Join us at the Moon Walk until the music begins.

Special Joint Services July 5

**St Matthew Lutheran Church
10:30 am**

**Special Music by "One Voice" gospel trio
Meal provided by St Matthew to follow**

St Matthew members are asked to bring a dessert

A sign up sheet for those who plan on attending is at church so that we can get an idea of how much food is needed-- if you can't sign up call St Matthew 836-8894 and leave a message



I would like to thank everyone who called and sent food after my recent accident.

Thank you for your prayers, for they were answered and everything turned out ok. Much love goes out to those who helped clean the church for a few weeks.

May God bless you all. Love from, Corene Niemeyer



Choir Notes-St Matthew 2009

will meet at 8:00 a.m. on July 12, 19 and 26. We will not meet on July 5 as we are having a joint worship service at 10:30 am.

St Matthew WELCA

July 12, 9:30 A.M. WELCA Bible Study on Mary: Kinships, friendships, and holy encounters - Leader: Marilyn Sommer

July 28, 9 - 11:30 a.m. Quilting

Honoring Katherine Von Bora (Luther's wife)

Your LUTHERAN WOMAN TODAY for June has information on pages 40 and 41 about Katie's Fund.

You are urged to read and participate!

Lutheran World Relief

St Matthew WELCA will be collecting School Kits in July and August.

Supplies needed:

1 thick 8 x 10 tablet (150-200 count)

1 eraser (2-1/2 inch)

1 pair blunt scissors

1 box 8 crayons

1 small pencil sharpener

1 - 12" ruler with metric

6 unsharpened pencils

12 sheets construction paper



VBS is for KIDS! and the Kids who came this year had a great time!

Using stories about Jesus and the disciples, especially Peter, the kids learned how we are Accepted by Jesus, Protected by Jesus, Saved by Jesus, and how we can live for Jesus.

For the third year in a row, a number of churches from Washington County banded together to make VBS a big success. Led and held this year by Immanuel (Wiedeville), we were joined by St Matthew (Sandy Hill), St John (Prairie Hill), St Peter's (Gay Hill), Zion (Zionsville), and Friedens UCC (Washington). Each congregation did part of the program and all pulled together in a way that can only be described as the work of the Holy Spirit.

Participation was great - with an average of 70 kids each night and at least 35 adults, the crowd was just right! The number of kids from each church was very well spread out, with several churches at 13 per night over the week, and no church less than 10 on average.

THANKS to all who helped to make this VBS a time of fun and growth in Christ. Special thanks to Pauline Hodges, Pam Bothe, and Larry Allen, and to the many, many people who brought, and served the food for the week.

Grant Money Available

The Rotary Club of Washington County and the Brenham Rotary Club have established a grant program that provides financial assistance to Washington County residents who stay overnight at Jesse H Jones Rotary House for evaluation and/or treatment of cancer at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

Washington County patients who stay at this hotel are eligible for grants to help with hotel costs. The guidelines for the grant are:

Only cancer patients from Washington County and/or their family members are eligible.

All grants are for \$50 per night, not to exceed \$350 for each calendar year.

To receive a grant a patient or family member must send copies of their Jesse Jones

Rotary House receipts to: Rotary Housing Assistance
P.O.Box 75

Brenham, Texas 77833

For more information, please call 979-830-7297 or visit

www.WCRotaryClub.org

Jesse H Jones Rotary House is a full-service hotel adjacent to the Cancer Center. Owned by M.D. Anderson, the hotel is managed by Marriott International. At the Rotary House, guests are made to feel completely comfortable, as the staff is familiar with handling their special needs.

JOINT IMMANUEL - ST. MATTHEW MOTHER - DAUGHTER - FRIEND SALAD SUPPER

AUGUST 16, 5 - 7 P.M. AT ST. MATTHEW

All women of the church are invited to bring a friend!

Speaker: Suzanne Bathe, Cypress: "Living My Christian faith"

Synod Assembly Report

The 22nd Assembly of the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod of the ELCA was held May 28-30, in Sugarland, Texas.

Stanley Sommer was the lay delegate from St Matthew and Rich and Jana Ahlers were lay delegates from Immanuel. Pastor Abbott was our clergy delegate.

At the 2008 synod assembly the delegates gave a clear message that the top three priorities for our churches should be evangelism, spiritual growth, intergenerational worship (attracting people of all ages from children through adults to worship).

Therefore, this assembly spent about 80% of our time together focusing on evangelism. We had four keynote speeches and two workshops about evangelism. The focus is on congregations working together to connect with their surrounding community, to find places where the church can be God's hands. No congregation will be forced to participate, but those that do will be given guidance and help.

Our assembly approved a resolution on justice in congregations, a resolution on becoming a Community of Respect and a resolution affirming our position of being open and welcoming to immigrants and refugees in our midst. These are resolutions about how we as a synod are going to behave, what we are going to do.

The assembly also sent "memorials" to the church-wide assembly that will meet in August in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Stanley Sommer is one of the delegates from our synod to the church-wide assembly. A memorial is a resolution telling the church-wide assembly how we - the synod - feel or what we think. It is like writing your congressman - they have to read it, they may or may not follow your advice. The power to make decisions rests entirely with the delegates elected to the assembly as they vote on resolutions that are put before them.

One item that will be voted on at the church-wide assembly is a social statement on sexuality. Social statements are guides for teaching and proclamation. They are a public statement of what the ELCA will teach and encourage about a topic. A task force of lay people and clergy have been working on this statement since 2002. Social Statements must receive a two-thirds majority of votes at a church-wide assembly to be adopted. The TX-LA Gulf Coast Synod Assembly passed a memorial encouraging the adoption of the proposed social statement on sexuality. The vote in favor of sending a memorial to the church-wide assembly was 198 in favor, 66 opposed.

The second item that will be considered at the church-wide assembly is a change in policy with regard to homosexual persons who are in life-long, monogamous, publicly accountable relationships. For any change to be made, the church-wide assembly will have to consider four resolutions, in sequence. A vote of no at any stage stops the process. At each step, a simple majority decides the question. So first, the assembly must decide to even begin the process of changing the policy. The possible changes in policy all include a recognition that at no time will a congregation, synod, or bishop be required to act in any way that is against their "bound conscience." The TX-LA Gulf Coast Synod Assembly passed a memorial encouraging the adoption of the proposed recommendation on ministry practices. The vote in this case was 149 in favor and 110 opposed. - A clear majority, but not a "mandate."

Copies of the Executive Summary of both the Social Statement on Human Sexuality and the Report and Recommendation on Ministry Policies are available from Pastor Abbott.

Remember, memorials from synod assemblies are advice to the church at large and to our delegates, but are not binding. Either of these documents may be amended at the church-wide assembly. We ask you to trust the work of the Holy Spirit and the sound judgment of our delegates.