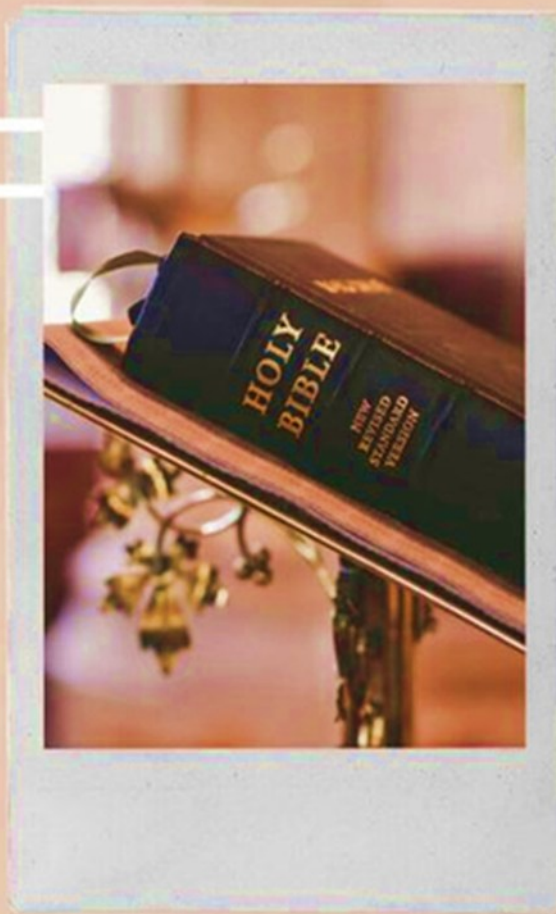


**THE CARILLON  
ST MATTHEW LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

*Our mission is to be...  
The living evidence of the  
mercies of Christ.*

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**HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR  
2025**

MAY THE GRACE OF GOD SHINE UPON  
YOU IN THE COMING YEAR, FILLING  
YOUR LIFE WITH JOY AND BLESSINGS.



# GOING ON NOW

## Confirmation Classes

This instructional course on the basic tenants of the Christian faith is made available for any child ages 11-14. If you have a child or know of a child that would like to enter into Confirmation, contact the Pastor.

## Praise Team

The Praise Team currently provides most of the instrumental pre-service music for our Sunday services. If you have any questions regarding the Praise Team, please contact Ken Young or Dan Morrison.

## Lutherans Women's Mission League (LWML)

We meet **Each Month, dates change per the event.**  
Come contribute to Lutheran Missions Worldwide!  
**All women are welcome!**

## Altar Guild

Since the morning of Christ's resurrection, as the women approached to prepare the body of Christ for burial, ladies have gathered before the Sunday service to prepare the body of Christ for communion. If you are interested in helping with this sacred task, contact Lillian Holttum.

## Free Community Dinner!

Community free dinner served every **Wednesday at 5pm.** If you are interested in joining this ministry contact our Human Care Chairman, Kay Hermann.

## Choir

**Choir is on a Break. Will resume in Fall.**

Contact Rod Larson, if interested in joining.

## New Member's Class

Anyone interested in becoming a new member, please contact Lynn Vernon or the church office.

360-457-4122.

# UPCOMING SERVICES

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <i>Jan 5th</i>  | <i>Second Sunday after Christmas<br/>Luke 2:40 -52</i>     |
| <i>Jan 12th</i> | <i>Baptism of Our Lord<br/>Luke 3:15-22</i>                |
| <i>Jan 19th</i> | <i>Second Sunday after the Epiphany<br/>Luke 2:1-11</i>    |
| <i>Jan 26th</i> | <i>Third Sunday after the Epiphany<br/>Luke 4:16-30</i>    |
| <i>Feb 2nd</i>  | <i>Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany<br/>Luke 4:31-44</i>   |
| <i>Feb 9th</i>  | <i>Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany<br/>Luke 5:1-11</i>     |
| <i>Feb 16th</i> | <i>Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany<br/>Luke 6:17-26</i>    |
| <i>Feb 23rd</i> | <i>Seventth Sunday after the Epiphany<br/>Luke 6:27-38</i> |
| <i>Mar 2nd</i>  | <i>The Transfiguration of our Lord<br/>Luke 9:28-36</i>    |



# CHURCH COUNCIL



## St. Matthew Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (Follow-up actions are *italicized*)

### Members Present:

1. Pete Pettit	President
2. Cindy Schlaffman	Treasurer
3. Mary Heller	Recording Secretary
4. Rod Larson	Chair, Board of Elders
5. Carl Deverter	Co-Chair, Evangelism
6. Lynn Vernon	Chair, Stewardship
7. Kathy Smith	Chair, Finance
8. Jan Edmunds	Chair, Preschool
9. Kay Hermann	Chair, Human Care
10. Dan Smith	Chair, Trustees
11. Tim Robertson	Chair, Youth & Education

### Members Absent:

1. Leroy Peterson	Vice President
2. Janis Deverter	Co-Chair, Evangelism
3. Bob Edmunds	Chair, Information Technology
4. Peggy Romero	Chair, Fellowship
5. Pastor Roger Sonnenberg	

### Guests:

None

Meeting was called to order by President Pete Pettit at 6:02 pm. Tim Robertson gave an opening prayer.

### Approval of minutes:

The minutes of the October 10, 2024 Council Meeting were read. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as read. Motion carried by voice vote.

Pastor's Report: No report.

### Chair Reports:

**President's report (Pete Pettit):** No Report.

**Vice-President's report (Leroy Peterson):** No report.

**Board of Elders report (Rod Larson):**

Elders have a busy serving schedule in December with Advent and Christmas services.

The next Remember with Thanksgiving recognition will go to Chris Glas.

**Trustee's report (Dan Smith):**

The remaining issues with the pipe organ will be taken care of tomorrow.

The window repair has been completed. With Dan doing the installation, the final cost was half the original estimate.

We had a recent sink back-up which has been resolved, and should not recur.

The owner of the house at 113 E 13th has offered his house for possible sale to the church. It has two bedrooms, one bath, currently a rental, offered at approximately \$300,000. Discussion points included:

We have some funds available that could be put toward this;

At the right price, it could be a good investment with good rental income;

There are not enough volunteers in general and we likely would need additional volunteers if we were to acquire this house;

It was suggested that without the full purchase price on hand, we should decline the offer. This was agreed to by consensus.

**Youth & Education report (Tim Robertson):**

All current programs are going well. Tim continues to work on starting Sunday School.

# CHURCH COUNCIL



## **St. Matthew Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024** *(Follow-up actions are italicized)*

**Fellowship report (Peggy Romero):** No report.

**Human Care report (Kay Hermann):**

We have two families to sponsor for our Christmas Giving Tree. Kay will try to have the tree up and ready by Sunday. All gifts need to be back by December 10.

The Christmas bazaar went very well, with current proceeds of \$6,200. Many volunteers made this a success, but special thanks to Peggy, Robin, and Janis for their work. Many positive comments were received on the decorating. One man attended and didn't buy anything but donated \$500 to the Wednesday night dinner.

**Treasurer's report (Cindy Schlaffman):** No report.

**Finance report (Kathy Smith):** No report

**Evangelism report (Carl Deverter):**

Trunk or Treat Trunk or Treat was fun and successful. Next year we need to plan for more community publicity.

**Stewardship report (Lynn Vernon):**

There will not be any new member dinners until after Christmas.

Lynn has been calling inactive members to encourage attendance. Lynn inquired if this is acceptable, and the grateful consensus was to continue.

**Preschool report (Jan Edmunds) :**

The teachers are doing a fantastic job and working hard with their young students, and happy with their progress.

We lost one student but gained one, so the student count remains at eight. The one student who left may try again in January.

Thanks to all for the bazaar support. These fund raiser monies keep the program going with a low tuition rate. As our reputation grows, we may need less supplemental funds.

Maureen is moving away this weekend but will continue for the time being as preschool treasurer by remote.

**Information Technology report (Jan Edmunds reporting for Bob Edmunds):**

Bob is unable to volunteer with much for now and others will start substituting in his place. Austin is performing some duties. We expect Austin to continue for now but is a high school senior and his future plans are unknown.

Bob's list of duties will be used to recruit new volunteers. Sound quality and volume remain trouble spots. There is a new sound board in the sound room with Austin operating it.

We would like to emulate what is in place at Pastor Lovejoy's church, which includes multiple camera angles, split screens, superior sound system, etc. Pete suggested a committee to work through IT issues, especially video and sound upgrades. It is unknown if our internet capacity is adequate to support everything that is connecting.

It is very frustrating to not be able to hear well. Mary will bring information about a system to connect the sound system to hearing aids by bluetooth to next council meeting.

All computers are new and functioning well with good software. Jackie (the bookkeeper) may be able to help with some computer support.

# CHURCH COUNCIL



## St. Matthew Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (Follow-up actions are *italicized*)

### Unfinished Business:

Pastor is out of the hospital and still recuperating.

Member list update is on hold for now.

Treasurer and IT positions: To date, there has been no volunteer response. The treasurer position is now quite streamlined since a bookkeeper has been hired.

The issue of council member burn-out and fatigue was brought up. A suggestion was made to meet less than monthly; however, that was decided to be probably inadequate for necessary business.

### 2025 Budget

Cindy will have a meeting on December 5, 6:00 pm to finalize the draft budget. Cindy requests all council members submit their figures to her by December 3 in order to get everything prepared for the December 5 meeting.

Spending on the rental houses has been higher than budgeted but this is not expected to be an issue in 2025.

Youth and Education will need to be higher in 2025 due to a more active program and the start of Sunday school.

Cindy provided actual income and expenditures for 2024 to date. We have expended slightly more than income but our savings has been adequate to cover.

Rod commented that District has provided a recommendation that pastors and church workers receive a 3% cost of living pay increase for 2025.

Rod recommended we develop a master plan with a forward facing vision for the future, so we are prepared to respond to ministry opportunities.

Rod described his recent visit to Evergreen Lutheran Church in Seabeck. Their services include a zoom option with end of service recognition of those attending by zoom. Technology advances are a part of ministry, however, in person attendance is vitally important for the health of the person and the congregation. Quality IT services require more than a Sunday morning volunteer.

### New/Current Business:

Kathy asked for clarification of procedure if Pastor is suddenly out sick or otherwise unavailable. Kathy was advised to call Rod with any issues. *The elders will discuss at their next meeting.*

### Closing:

A motion was made and seconded for meeting adjournment. Motion adopted by consensus, and meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary Heller Recording Secretary

### Recap of follow-up actions:

*Mary will bring information about a system to connect the sound system to hearing aids by bluetooth to next council meeting.*

*The elders will discuss issue of unexpected unavailability of pastor at their next meeting.*



## **WE NEED A TREASURER, COULD IT BE YOU????**

The Finance Section of our Church Council is made up of a Treasurer, Financial Secretary and paid Bookkeeper.

Our current Treasurer Cindy Schlaffman has given notice to resign from the position ASAP but will stay on until the first of January 2025. She will help train the new treasurer.

The responsibilities of the position have changed over the past two years with the creation and hiring of a paid Bookkeeper position.

The Treasurer is responsible for the financial well-being of the congregation and oversees all aspects of the work.

### **Weekly duties include:**

1. deposit of monies received from any church service
2. Review of payroll before it is input into the payroll system.
3. Review of all payables prior to payment by bookkeeper.
4. Audit of monthly bank statement from First Federal.
5. Assistance to Financial Security in preparation of annual operating budget.
6. Sign and approve payment of all expenditures.
7. Mail all checks.
8. Audit financial system (Quick Books) as needed,
9. Attend monthly Council Meetings

The time involved for these actions is approximately 2 hours a week.

Please contact Pete Pettit or Kathy Smith if you are interest in the position. Cindy Schlaffman will be glad to give further information on the needs of the job.



# PREsCHOOL

Hello Congregation,

Our students have been working hard all month! They made several Christmas-themed crafts including a cute paper Angel magnet. They also made a gift for their family, and decorated paper stockings to hang on our "Fireplace".

We have also been working hard getting ready for the Christmas Play! We appreciate everyone who was able to come and watch them perform! We are proud of our students for their hard work and bravery in going upfront and putting on this play!

Our Bible lesson for this past month was about the birth of Jesus.  
Our Memory Verse "...And you shall name him Jesus." Luke 1:31

Thank you for your continued support of our preschool,  
Please continue to pray for our teachers, students, and families.

The Preschool





**LWML**  
Lutheran Women *in Mission*

**All Ladies of St Matthew Are Welcome!**

Please join us January 30<sup>th</sup> at Noon in the Fellowship Hall  
Bring your calendar! We will review upcoming events for the new  
year & discuss our

Spring Mission Outreach Project

(remember “Drops in a Bucket” & “Sock It To ‘em”?)



**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO VOLUNTEERED TO HOST SNACKS AFTER CHURCH THIS PAST YEAR. THE SIGN-UP SHEETS ARE ON THE BULLETING BOARD IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR JANUARY THROUGH JUNE. KEEP THE SNACKS SIMPLE OR OFFER MANY CHOICES- ITS UP TO YOU! PLEASE SEE FREE TO GIVE ME A CALL IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR NEED HELP FINDING YOUR WAY AROUND THE KITCHEN, 360-460-1889.**

**I APPRECIATE YOU ALL! PEGGY ROMERO, FELLOWSHIP**



**Ladies Lunch Bunch will meet on  
Thursday, January 23rd at 11:30am  
At Priscillia's Cruise in Café, 2341 HWY  
101, Port Angeles.**

**Mark your calendar and sign up so we  
can call ahead to have a table ready.  
Questions-contact Peggy Romero.**





*Bringing Christ to the Nations and the Nations to the Church*

*The star proclaims the King is here!*



**WA-AK DISTRICT  
JANUARY  
2025**

[lhmdist33.org](http://lhmdist33.org)

### **The Lutheran Hour**

Speaker:

Dr. Michael Zeigler

#### REGIONAL BROADCASTS

All American Christian Network (ACN) stations air at 8:00 am on Sundays in eastern Washington.

Spokane stations KTRW 630 AM and 96.5 FM

Yakima stations KYAK 930 AM and 96.1 FM

#### NATIONAL OUTLETS

##### **SiriusXM**

Sundays, 10 am. EST  
Family Talk channel 131

**iHeartRadio/Spotify/Apple/Google** have podcast on demand  
**Classic Broadcast**  
[lhm.org/sentradio](http://lhm.org/sentradio)

### **Planting Gospel Seeds**

In Scripture, the sowing (planting) of seeds is likened to the spreading of the good news of Jesus Christ (Luke 8). The seeds are the Word of God spread by Christians to every people group, community, and nation. Lutheran Hour Ministries plants Gospel seeds all around the world and does this in Indonesia by providing actual seeds for planting crops. LHM uses this "holistic" approach to share Christ's love by attending to people's physical and emotional needs along side of their spiritual needs. LHM-Indonesia staff shared the Gospel through a unique holistic outreach providing seeds for agricultural communities. Seeds are expensive and difficult to obtain. 4,000 people received vegetable seeds for planting gardens and lessons in English for those who were wanting them. In Mongolia, LHM staff went out to the sheep farms to meet people where they live and work and shared the hope of the Gospel, helping with a camp for 30 children. They also made visits to the homes of the school children, meeting parents who appreciated the camp provided for their children. LHM uses many ways to plant 'Gospel seeds'. God promises to bless those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

### **CONNECTED IN CHRIST**

Consider hosting a Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) Sunday at your church in 2025. February 2, has been designated as Lutheran Hour Sunday but you can celebrate LHM any Sunday of the year. LHM Sunday is a chance to feature the partnership between churches, individuals, and LHM in 'bringing Christ to the Nations, and the Nations to the Church'. LHM has sent a poster and materials for this event to each congregation and ambassador. Talk to your pastor about setting a date for LHM Sunday.

### **BEHOLD! JESUS THE SAVIOR IS BORN!**

"Best Day Ever" is the theme for the Rose Parade on New Year's Day, 2025. Lutheran Hour Ministries will participate again for the 74th time sharing that the best day ever was Jesus' birth-day. LHM gathers volunteers who construct and decorate a parade float each year to share the Gospel message with the thousands of people on the parade route. LHM has the only Christian witness float in this parade. Several TV channels, streaming outlets, and social media platforms televise this parade. Check local listings for the best viewing options. Volunteers are stationed in booths around the parade and float decorating sites to engage in individual spiritual conversations, share Project Connect booklets for adults and children, and hand out souvenir postcards of the float theme. The Southern CA District of the Lutheran Laymen's League (LHM) self funds this outreach. Keep the many volunteers in your prayers as New Year's Day approaches that their Gospel witness may lead many to salvation.

# Will You Choose Calling Over Comfort

by [LYSA TERKEURST](#) Proverbs 31 Ministries

*"... Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?'"*

*John 21:15a (NIV)*

Have you ever felt God stirring you to do something that's terrifyingly outside of your comfort zone? I confess that left to my own choosing, I want to take the safe and comfortable route. And then a Bible verse like our verse today marches up to my limited perspective and challenges me. A question forms in my heart. One that forces me to stop and reconsider the path that terrifies me: *Do you love Jesus and want Him more than anything else?* It's this question that Jesus asked one of His disciples, Peter, at a crucial crossroad in Peter's life: *"... Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?'"* (John 21:15a).

Peter had followed Jesus for years, but things got hard. Jesus was crucified, and Peter took his eyes off the path of ministry he'd been called to. In John 21:2-3, Peter went back to what felt safe and comfortable: his original occupation of fishing. When the resurrected Jesus appeared in the flesh, He ruined Peter's justifications for playing it safe. Peter's destiny wasn't to be a fisherman for the rest of his life. He was to be a shepherd of God's people. For Peter, loving Jesus *"more than these"* (John 21:15) might have meant prioritizing ministry over the large number of fish he'd just caught. Or *"these"* could have been anything else pulling Peter away from his calling. We all have our own distractions and concerns in life – things we sometimes choose over Jesus.

I believe Jesus saw Peter's potential and wanted to turn Peter from a nitpicky fisherman into a caring shepherd. Fishermen counted and quickly judged the fish they caught. They threw out the small fish because to sell those, they'd have to pay more in taxes than the fish were worth. They would look at the fish and say, "This one's in – this one's out. This one's in – this one's out." But Jesus was calling Peter to finish his season of being a fisherman of fish and start being a shepherd for people.

In the same way, Jesus is asking us to love Him more than the lives we've known. And just like Jesus equipped Peter by sending His Holy Spirit to fill and empower Peter for his calling (Acts 2), Jesus willingly equips us. We have the gift of His Holy Spirit inside us, and we also have His written Word to guide us continually.

Sweet friend, let's not rush past how amazing it is that the Lord wants to work through us – even with all our fears and failings. Let's not allow love of comfort to convince us to stay stuck in our same old ways. Let's simply say to Jesus, *Yes, Lord. I love You more than these ...* and follow where He's leading us.

*Lord, my soul declares "yes" to You right now. Even if my hands are trembling ... even if my feet feel shaky on this new path ... I say "yes" today and I will live for You. Change me. Lead me. I'm Yours. In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

# January

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	<p>1</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>7pm</p> 	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>		
<p>5</p> <p>8:45am Bible Study</p>  <p>10am Worship</p> <p>LWML SUNDAY</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:30 PRESCHOOL</p> <p>6p Fellowship group</p> 	<p>8</p> <p>8:30 PRESCHOOL</p> <p>10am Crratttime</p> <p>5pm</p> 	<p>9</p> <p>8:30 PRESCHOOL</p> <p>6pm</p> 	<p>10</p> <p>8:30 PRESCHOOL</p> <p>6pm</p> 	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>8:45am Bible Study</p> <p>10am Worship</p> 	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:30 PRESCHOOL</p> <p>6pm Fellowship group</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>8:30 PRESCHOOL</p> <p>10am Craft time</p> <p>12:30 LWML</p> <p>Lutheran Women in Mission</p> <p>5pm</p> 	<p>16</p> <p>8:30 PRESCHOOL</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:30 PRESCHOOL</p> <p>9am</p>  <p>QUILTING GROUP</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>8:45am Bible Study</p> <p>10am Worship</p> 	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:30 PRESCHOOL</p> <p>9am</p>  <p>6pm Fellowship group</p> 	<p>22</p> <p>8:30 PRESCHOOL</p> <p>10am Craft time</p> <p>5pm</p> 	<p>23</p> <p>8:30 PRESCHOOL</p> <p>11:30am at Priscilla's</p> 	<p>24</p> <p>8:30 PRESCHOOL</p> <p>6pm</p> 	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>8:45am Bible Study</p> <p>10am Worship</p> 	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:30 PRESCHOOL</p> <p>6pm Fellowship group</p> 	<p>29</p> <p>8:30 PRESCHOOL</p> <p>10am Craft time</p> <p>5pm</p> 	<p>30</p> <p>8:30 PRESCHOOL</p> <p>Noon</p>  <p>Lutheran Women in Mission</p>	<p>31</p> <p>8:30 PRESCHOOL</p> <p>10am</p>  <p>GRIEF SHARE</p>	