

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

1505 Dover Street, Worthington, MN

June 2026 Newsletter



May 24-September 6
We will have One
Worship Service on
Sundays at 9:00 AM
with Holy Communion
every Sunday.

One exception to the Summer Worship Schedule is:

Join us for a wonderful
worship service and
picnic at Chautauqua
Park on July 12!



We will join for worship in the bandshell area (time to be announced.) *You may bring lawn chairs if you do not want to sit on the benches provided. Due to the service being in the park, Livestream will NOT be available. In case of rain, we will meet at the church. Following the service, we will gather at the shelter house for a delicious catered meal. More information will be available in next month's newsletter. Mark your calendars and plan to invite a friend or neighbor to join us for this lovely time to worship our Lord and enjoy fellowship!*

If you would like communion on this Sunday, Pastor Hahn will do a brief confession/absolution and communion service at the church at 8 a.m. (not a complete worship service).

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we move into the month of June, we also move into what is often called the long green season of the Church Year, the Sundays after Pentecost. Following the great festivals of Easter and Pentecost, the Church now enters a season marked by growth, endurance, and faithful living. The color green reminds us of life, renewal, and the steady work of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of God's people. While this season may seem less dramatic than Christmas or Easter, it is a rich and meaningful time in which we learn what it means to live each day as disciples of Jesus Christ.

During these Sundays after Pentecost, our Scripture readings draw our attention to the teachings of our Lord, the life of His Church, and the calling we have received as His baptized people. We hear of repentance and faith, mercy and service, steadfastness in trial, and the fruit that the Spirit produces in Christian lives. In other words, this is the season in which the Church reflects on how we walk with Christ in the ordinary, ongoing rhythms of life. It is a helpful reminder that the Christian life is not lived only on festival days, but also in the daily hearing of God's Word, in prayer, in acts of love toward our neighbor, and in faithful worship together.

As we gather for worship this June, the Sundays after Pentecost invite us to rejoice in the simple but powerful gifts God continues to give His people. Week after week, He gathers us around His Word and Sacraments to forgive, strengthen, and sustain us. May this green season be for each of us a time of renewed growth in faith, deeper trust in Christ, and joyful service in His name.

In Christ's love,

Pastor Hahn

June Worship Service and after Worship Fellowship Schedule

For those of you who have been asking for just one Sunday Morning Worship Service, (*so that we can all worship together as one Church family*), the month of June has four opportunities for you. We are now in the Summer Worship Schedule of Sunday Morning (blended) Worship Service at 9AM followed by an after-service fellowship and devotion time in the lower level fellowship room.

Sunday, June 7th (2nd Sunday After Pentecost) – 9am (Blended) Worship Service
Hosea 5:15-6:6 - Romans 4:13-25 - Matthew 9:9-13

Sunday, June 14th (3rd Sunday After Pentecost) – 9am (Blended) Worship Service
Exodus 19:2-8 - Romans 5:6-15 - Matthew 9:35-10:8

Sunday, June 21st (4th Sunday After Pentecost) – 9am (Blended) Worship Service
Jeremiah 20:7-13 - Romans 6:12-23 - Matthew 10:5a, 21-33

Sunday, June 28th (5th Sunday After Pentecost) – 9am (Blended) Worship Service
Jeremiah 28:5-9 - Romans 7:1-13 - Matthew 10:34-42

***New for the Summer!* Adult Small Group Sunday Morning Bible Study**

This summer I would like to do something a little different than having a formal Sunday Morning Bible Study. I would like to build upon our fellowship time following the 9AM Worship Service. ***The Vision of St. Matthew Lutheran Church is to help you grow in your relationships with your family, with the members and staff, and, most of all, with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*** This would be a wonderful opportunity to follow through with our vision. So start thinking about who you would like to invite to join you for fellowship following the Worship Service on Sundays. There is always coffee and goodies to snack on. We'll also throw in a little devotion or song for you to chew on.

Tuesday Morning Lectionary Bible Study

Every Tuesday morning at 8:30AM there is a Bible Study that follows the Church Lectionary Series (*The Scripture Readings we use for the Sunday Morning Service*), that meets in the Church Conference Room. This is open to anyone who would like to attend. We also use ZOOM if anyone would like to join us from home. Contact the Church Office if you would like to consider using ZOOM. Below are the Scripture Readings we will be studying this month.

Tuesday, June 2nd (2nd Sunday After Pentecost)

Hosea 5:15-6:6 - Romans 4:13-25 - Matthew 9:9-13

Tuesday, June 9th (3rd Sunday After Pentecost)

Exodus 19:2-8 - Romans 5:6-15 - Matthew 9:35-10:8

Tuesday, June 16th (4th Sunday After Pentecost)

Jeremiah 20:7-13 - Romans 6:12-23 - Matthew 10:5a, 21-33

Tuesday, June 23rd (5th Sunday After Pentecost)

Jeremiah 28:5-9 - Romans 7:1-13 - Matthew 10:34-42

Tuesday, June 30th (6th Sunday After Pentecost)

Zechariah 9:9-12 - Romans 7:14-25a - Matthew 11:25-30

MUSIC AND WORSHIP NEWS

“God came to us then at Pentecost, His Spirit new life revealing. That we might no more from Him be lost, All darkness for us dispelling. His flame will the mark of sin efface, And bring to us all His healing.”
LSB 503 vs. 4

The season of Pentecost begins on Pentecost Sunday, which is 50 days after Easter, and lasts until Advent. It is the longest season of the church year, encompassing 23-28 Sundays. The readings during Pentecost often emphasize the teachings of Jesus and the work of the Holy Spirit. To symbolize growth and life in faith, the color green is used for the altar paraments for all of the Sundays following Pentecost Sunday and Holy Trinity Sunday. (with the exception of Reformation Sunday, All Saints Sunday, and Thanksgiving Eve)

The season of Pentecost is a time for reflection on the mission of the Church and our call to share the Gospel: (Jesus) said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.” (Mark 16:15 ESV)

So let this season of summer and Pentecost be a season of spiritual growth for you and your family. Come to our blended service each Sunday at 9:00. What a wonderful opportunity for us to connect with all of our brothers and sisters at St. Matthew as we join together in one single service for the next few months! Join us each Sunday as we hear God’s Holy Word, confess our sins and receive God’s gracious forgiveness, sing our praises to Him, and receive the very body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in, with, and under the bread and the wine. Then, after being strengthened in your faith through our time of worship together, go forth into the world to share Christ’s love and be a light to a world that so desperately needs it.

Enjoy your summer—but also share the joy of worshipping together!
Lorenda Glade, Director of Music

ALTAR GUILD NEWS

Serving in June will be Sandy Meyer and Jan Quiring. If you would like to be a part of the Altar Guild, please contact Velma Cortright, 376-5600 or Sandy Meyer, 376-6290.

HUMAN CARE/PARISH NURSE & CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

By Roxann Leckband

WOW, June is upon us and yes, VBS is right around the corner! You have been hearing about it for the past several months. We have a lot of fun things planned - from crafts to games and Bible stories. You will have fun with your friends as you learn about God through His Word and all the activities that reinforce the Scripture lesson. You can start now by learning the Bible verse of the day! They are:

- Day 1: "Praise the Lord, everything he has created everything in all his kingdom." Psalm 103:22
Bible Story: God creates the world. (Genesis 1)
- Day 2: "O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me." Psalm 139:1
Bible Story: David celebrates all God knows. (Psalm 139)
- Day 3: "Then I pray to you, O Lord. I say, "You are my place of refuge." Psalm 142:5
Bible Story: David hides from Saul. (1 Samuel 23-24)
- Day 4: "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever." Psalm 156:1
Bible story: Jesus dies and comes to life to show God's love. (Luke 22:39-24:12)
- Day 5: "But we can praise the Lord both now and forever! Praise the Lord!" Psalm 115:18
Bible story: God gives John a vision of heaven. (Revelation 7:17; 21-22)

Dr. Flutterby is looking forward to seeing you as he anticipates making this a very fun and exciting week. Keep your eyes open for Tango, Casper, Dottie, Seymour, Tia, and Howie as they will reinforce the Bible verse of the day! **See more details about registration for our VBS in this newsletter.**

HUMAN CARE MINISTRY:

- **Widows' Group** will meet at Perkins Restaurant on Monday, June 1st at 12:30 p.m.
- **Widows' Group** will also meet on Monday, June 22nd at 5:15 p.m. in the Fireside Room at church. Please bring a side dish to share if you are able.
- **Women in the Word** will be on June 3rd, 10th, and 24th from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. Note, we will NOT meet on June 17th due to VBS.
- **Noon Fellowship** will be on Monday, June 8th with the main entrée of shredded BBQ pork sandwiches, baked beans, and chips. Please bring a dish to share if you are able.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:

- **Moms and Jesus' Lil' Lambs** will meet on Friday, June 26th at 10:30 a.m. for a Bible story and craft and then over to the new play equipment at Millard Walker Park. Moms will have a time of fellowship.
- **Attention 7th grade youth going into 8th grade Confirmation:** on June 21, July 26 and 27 at 10AM, Roxie is available to help with getting the assigned material caught up for the start of 8th grade Confirmation. Please contact Roxie with any questions or to set up a time to meet with her if these dates and times do not fit into your schedule. Note: Roxie will be out of town for the HS mission trip from July 18-July 25.

HEALTH MINISTRY:

- Health Cabinet members will be presenting health topics and assisting with our VBS.
- No Health Cabinet meeting in June.
- June is Brain Health Awareness Month. **Please go to this website, alz.org/healthyhabits, for "10 Healthy Habits For Your Brain" and other information.**

LADIES CIRCLE MEETINGS & LWML NEWS

The Hope Circle and the Sarah Circle will NOT meet during the summer months. They will start again in September. Also, the LWML will not have monthly meetings during the summer. Please watch the weekly worship service bulletins for any updates and for the Fall meeting date.

The Sarah Circle will host the June 21st Coffee Hour. All proceeds will be given to our Seminary Student, Isaac Hedstrom.

YPOG NEWS (Young People of God) By Alexie Cross

Hello Everyone,
Youth group has officially come to an end for this school year. I cannot believe how fast this year has gone. To celebrate the end of the year we had one last fellowship event in Sioux Falls at Thunder Road and finished out the night at Olive Garden.

We wrapped up the year with our annual Senior Breakfast and Quilt blessing on May 17th, marking a special milestone for our graduating seniors. I feel truly blessed to have spent this year with such an amazing group of young people. Thank you all for making this year so meaningful.

Below is a picture of those that attended the special Graduate Breakfast. Front Row: Paige Barber, Zoie Chantharath, Natya Khamphanh, Nina Freking, Mersaydes Marten. Back Row: Aidan Van Der Brink, Tavin Miller, Alaina Feit, Anna Gordon, Madison Sieve, Tethlouch Gach. Not pictured, but attended the worship service blessing: Alaya Markus.



Upcoming Dates:

June 10th- Mission Trip Mandatory Bible Study
July 1st – Mission Trip Mandatory Bible Study

ATTENTION CONGREGATION MEMBERS:

Our Mission Trip to Colorado in July is coming up fast! **We kindly ask for donations of work**

gloves in all sizes. If possible, the mechanic/farm type gloves. We will have a donation box available in the Great Hall. Thank you in advance!

CHURCH RECORDS:

New Member – Verna Wiertzema

Transfers/Releases - TJ Ostrem to Platte, SD; and Jack Edwards to Custer, SD

Financial Snapshot: April Income: \$39,392.32

Monthly Budget: \$44,271.00

Year-To-Date Income: \$136,021.52

Year-To-Date Budget: \$177,084.00

Highlights of the April 26, 2026, Voters Meeting

There were 44 voters present. Income for the first quarter of 2026 was \$96,554.00 with expenses of \$122,523.30. This left a shortage of \$25,969.30. Balances as of March 31, 2026 were: General Fund \$111,627.78; Memorial Fund \$59,055.70; Momentum 1 (Scholarship Fund) \$837,757.76; Momentum 2 \$315,277.60; Youth Account \$22,615.04.

Pastor: The six month in-person attendance average was 181 per week. The previous six months was 173. YouTube views remain constant. Services are available on our YouTube channel and may be accessed at any time. Current subscribers of our channel increased from 395 to 402. The past 6 months statistics: 6 children were baptized; 9 deaths, and several new memberships are in process. Our partnership with Santuarios Del Monte Sinai renting our Chapel for their worship services is going well, with the only issue is their music is quite loud. Thanks to all those that have volunteered and encourage other members to volunteer to be involved with church activities. Thank you to staff: Roxie, Bev, Lorenda, Tammy, Andy, Alexie, David, & Louise, all willing volunteers, and to God for the blessings that St. Matthew Lutheran Church has received.

Roxie: Widow's Group, Women in the Word, Noon Fellowship have been well attended. Have done some home visits. Have helped with youth where needed. Confirmation class teachers & helpers were: Deb Kallemeyn, Julie Place & Tasha Schultz, Roxie & Laurie Waldner, Pastor & David Cross. Philip Lorch assisted wherever his assistance was needed.

Lorenda: October through April are always the busiest and most involved for the music ministry here at St. Matthews. We had Reformation Sunday, All Saints' Sunday, Recognition of Veterans, Christ the King Sunday, Thanksgiving Eve, Advent Services, Children's Christmas Programs, Christmas Services, Ash Wednesday & Lent Services, Palm Sunday, Holy Week & Easter Services. All of these services require a great deal of thought and planning. But all of the planning done by our staff would be of no use without the countless volunteers who step forward each week. We have musicians, people serving in technology, altar guild, ushers, elders, people who decorate our sanctuary & church, provide coffee, teach others, greeters, serve as scripture readers, acolytes, keep the church in good repair, the list goes on and on. Thank you to each of you who serve us here at St. Matthews. A special thank you to Linda Lang, Rebecca Hahn, and Brenda DeSmith for filling in for me during my recovery from surgery. Also thank you to Paulette Olson, who has begun to help out with playing organ preludes and postludes.

Youth, David & Alexie Cross: Have completed several fundraisers, in addition to serving Palm Sunday breakfast and a Lent meal. The youth have met their goal to fund their summer mission trip. Thank you to congregation members for your support. We will be going to Luther Valley Ranch in Woodland, CO July 18-25. There will be 22 youth and 6 adults.

Elders: Keep using the suggestion box, we do look at them every month. Staff evaluations are done. Communications was identified as an important area for improvement. Need more volunteers to assist in worship services, especially with the tech area. Several area churches are having difficulty staying open and Rushmore has already closed. We are offering support to area churches in any way we can.

Trustees: Basement carpet was completed. Have noticed a musty smell and working on trying to find a solution. Balcony Update: still working with the company on a date that works with them and us to install system. A new phone system is needed. Current system malfunctioned and is 19 years old. Elevator will need some major work before next inspection to be able to pass. This will be a major expense.

Continued on next page.....

Board of Education: Christmas Program was held on December 21. Kids sang during Palm Sunday service on March 29. Kids will sing during both services on May 10. Last day of Sunday School will be May 17. VBS will be June 15-19 and will be same format as last year. Could use 9-12 volunteers.

Ministry Planning Board: Spent \$800 on decorations and banners. Planning Service in the Park on July 12, 2026. Organizing Greeter’s Schedule. Anyone willing to greet, please contact Lynn Dierks, Becky Strand, Gail DeGrote, or Gabe Dorschner.

Current Business: Election of Officers for July 1, 2026-June 30, 2028 term. Ballot was presented with not all positions having enough candidates to fill them. Those on the ballot: President – Nathan Holt (incumbent); Vice-President – vacant, no nominations at this time; Elders – David Cross & Paul Kallemeyn (incumbents), need 3 so 1 open position yet; Trustees – Daeng Khamphanh & Cory Greenway (incumbents) and Jason Sieve, need 3. No further nominations received from the floor. Voting proceeded and all were elected as presented. Motion to make it a unanimous ballot was made and passed.

Also, Pastor Hahn and Craig Edwards will be St. Matthew’s Congregational Synodical Voting Delegates to attend MN South District Convention.

Next regular Bi-Annual Voters Meeting will be held on October 25, 2026 with the time TBD.

Highlights of May 18, 2026, Church Council Meeting

Meeting was postponed from May 11, 2026

Minutes were not available at the time of the typing of this newsletter.

Next Council Meeting will be June 8, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

ONE Worship Service at 9AM. Please arrive early so you are ready to light the candles 15 minutes before the service starts. THANK YOU!

<u>Date</u>	<u>9:00 a.m.</u>
June 7	Jaxon Grimmus
June 14	Jordan Raudenbush
June 21	Sawyer Reese
June 28	Aubree Sandersfeld
July 5	Dominic Leckband

If you are unable to fulfill your scheduled time, please find a replacement and then let the church office know about the change. Thank You!



REMINDER

Our NEXT church Newsletter will be a combined July & August Newsletter. Since these are both slower months for the church. Deadline to submit items for that newsletter is June 15. The Newsletter will be mailed out the last few days of June or early July, to ensure we get all of the July & August information included in it.



COME TO VBS!

June 15-19th 9am-12pm

We are limited to 80 kids!

Registration deadline extended to June 8th - we still have spots available!

Registration forms are available on the “information table” in our Great Hall, may be printed from our church website, www.stmattheworthington.com, and are in the rack hanging beside the main office door.

The ages of children that may attend are those children who are ages Preschool (3 years old) through those who have completed 5th grade (preschoolers must be potty trained). *A note regarding the ages listed: you as parents/guardians will need to decide if your child is age appropriate for VBS activities. If a child is very young and the staff feels he/she is too young, we will observe and contact the parent or guardian if needed.*

The theme for this year’s VBS is “Rainforest Falls: Exploring the Nature of God” Kids will discover who God is and how much he loves them! We are looking forward to a lot of fun doing memorable Bible-learning activities, singing catchy songs, collecting Bible Memory Buddies, and experiencing one-of-a-kind Bible Adventures! Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called “God Sightings.”

Parents, please note: on Friday, June 19th we will meet at Pioneer Village. Children are to be dropped off and picked up there.

**“Praise the Lord,
everything he has created,
everything in all his kingdom.”**
(Psalm 103:22)

