

# Good News From New Road

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, God's Family in Service

August 2024

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

### Council Notes

- The balance in the checking account at the end of May was \$166,862.35
- Repair of the digital sign was discussed, and the part needed for the repair has been ordered.
- Currently looking into participating in a community service event

### Finance Update

For the month of June income was \$26,626.37 with expenses of \$25,882.67. Year-to-date income was \$162,794.24 with expenses of \$168,334.34.

We have paid \$35,430.30 in principal payments on the money we have borrowed as of June 30, 2024. The balance is \$62,827.70 as of June 30, 2024.



### W-ELCA NEWS

**No Circle meeting** in the month of August. Circle meetings start again in September.

### Helping The Community

Hebrews 13:16 And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

St Matthew will again participate in **Mission Waco's Christmas Toy Store**. A volunteer-run toy store gives parents the opportunity to purchase brand new toys and gifts at an 80% discount off the retail price. Each year the **Toy Store** gives over 500 children quality affordable gifts making their Christmas holiday a very joyful one! In addition to bringing your toy donations to church, you can also volunteer to help at the **Toy Store**. Mission Waco's website has a list of toys to donate. Be sure to leave the price tag on the unwrapped gift.

They have asked that our donations do not include school supplies or stuffed animals. When the parents are leaving the **Toy Store**, they are given the chance to select a stuffed animal from Mission Waco's supply of stuffed animals. More information will be coming soon including the details on the motorcycle riders that come to our church to collect the toys.

Our **Blessing Box** helps many of the people in our area who are in need. During the summer heat, bottled water is a good addition to what we already stock during the rest of the year. Please pick up a little extra when you are grocery shopping to **help stock** our **Blessing Box**.

WELCA is donating **34 school kits/backpacks** this year. The supplies were purchased by a Thrivent grant received by Linda Heyde. The Quilters made and donated the backpacks.



Everything is boxed and ready for shipment. **Great Job!**

### Upcoming Fundraiser

During our last General Meeting we agreed our upcoming fundraiser would be "**Cookie Jars**". The mason jar cookie kits will be available sometime in November. We plan to accept orders the first 3 Sundays in October. A grant from Thrivent will help pay for all the supplies and ingredients. **We are planning on offering 5 kinds of yummy treats including of course chocolate chip! Samples** will most probably be available on the Pre-Order Table.

### August General Meeting – Date Change

Please plan to attend the **August General Meeting** on **August 24th at 10:30 a.m.** in the Church Fellowship Hall. Our speaker will be Renay Swarts giving a talk on the Beloved Gallery in Marble Falls that featured artist and poetry prodigy Akiane Kramarik (website is [www.akiane.com](http://www.akiane.com)). At 8 years old she painted the portrait of Jesus, Prince of Peace, from her recurring heavenly visions.

Her portraits of Jesus remain the most recognized face of Jesus across the world today. If you are interested, you can view her artwork at The Beloved Gallery free of charge. Reservation for the exhibit is required and can be made online at the Gallery's website. This is the only public exhibition of Akiane's work in the world. After the presentation of Akiane's work, we will have a salad luncheon and a short business meeting.

If you have a charity WELCA could help, please bring it up at this meeting.

Summer Lunch Time at George's

All Circle members are invited to meet for lunch and fellowship the **second Monday of the month at George's in Hewitt at 11:30**. If you are interested in attending, please contact Kim Brown at 254-709-2417 to sign up. Thank you Kim for organizing these opportunities for us!

Altar Flowers Ministry

Our altar flowers are taken to shut-ins to help brighten their day. If you would like to brighten someone's day, please contact Rosemary Fielder at 254-776-4472.



Building Community - Membership Spotlight

The Nourishing Vocation Project team is beginning an initiative at St. Matthew called Building Community. Since the pandemic the congregation has changed, as we have grieved those who have died, and welcomed new faces. We want to be intentional about creating a community within St. Matthew so that we can better engage the greater Waco community. One way we are going to start, is by having Member Spotlights before worship. The idea is that one member will introduce another member with a few simple facts and interests and so on. Our hope is that we can begin building connections through common interests.

**Coffee and Conversation**

On Sunday mornings throughout the summer we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for **coffee and conversation**.



**Stephen Ministry Meetings**

The Stephen Ministry meeting times have **changed**, we will meet on the third Thursday every January, April, July, and October. Our **next meeting** will be on **October 17**, at **6:00 p.m.** If you have any questions or want more information, please ask Bill Abright, Peggy Tooker, or Carol Linda.



women's fellowship

**Fellowship for Single Women**

Fellowship for Single Women will be meeting on August 27th at 10:00 a.m. at Cafe Cappuccino. For any questions, please contact Rosemary Fielder ([fielderatwaco@aol.com](mailto:fielderatwaco@aol.com))

**Friday Quilters Meetings**

Friday Quilters meet in the Fellowship Hall on Fridays at 8:30 a.m. We usually finish up around 10:30 a.m.



**Come join us.** If you can tie a knot you can help us assemble the quilts. We have a great fellowship time.

**Sound Volunteers**



Help during worship doesn't always look like reading or serving up front, sometimes it means helping in the back behind the scenes. If you are interested in learning how to run our sound and help with the live-stream please reach out to the church office. A guide is being prepared to help to make it as simple as possible.

**Emergency Fund**

Through your generosity, St. Matthew now has an Emergency Fund available to members of the St. Matthew community for up to \$250 per year. This fund is to assist individuals/families with immediate needs related to, but not limited to, food, housing medical costs, job loss, and other emergent situations. Hard copies of the applications are available in the church office. If you would like to contribute to this fund you may do so by indicating "emergency fund" on your offering envelope or write it in the memo line of your written check.

**Members with Prayer Concerns:**

Rita Bruer, Cora Gillespie, Ty Henrichs, Jean Moeller, Stephanie Partin, Denise Self, Tammy Vickrey, Sharon Peterson, Farrel Bolte, and Robert Krienke.

**Those for whom prayer is requested:**

Melanie, Charlotte Sperfslage, Elizabeth Dale, Mary Gower (Beth Pristash)  
 Rodney Roller, Patrick Dalton, Wanda Brinegar, James Hurst, Carolyn Hurst, Janice Byrd, Rich Buchner, Barbara Bradshaw, Jerry Mars, Ralph Sparks (Terry Roller)  
 Jimmy Moore, Alleyson Stanley (Ross & Kim Browne)  
 Pam Brady, Max Rash, Dawn Jock, Bryce Breedlove, Brigit Cescean, Kimberly Terrell (Mary Herring)  
 Ty Croford, Wanda Stanford, Cory Stanford (Linda Stanford)  
 Rhonda & Shane Owens (Denise Self)  
 Vicki Terry, Vikki Dzamba (Carol Linda)  
 Jeff Ford, Devin Jackson (Bradley Linda)  
 Paula Barfield Unger (Rilla Vieregg)  
 Patsy & Curtis Forrester (Bill & Diane Jones)  
 Frank Simons, Ruthie Simons, Kris Braswell, (Colleen Early)  
 Octaviano Estrada Jr., Abby Peters (Meridith Sellers)  
 Janell, and Rose Janke (Arlene Schwarz)  
 Renlee Montgomery, Glen Howell, Edward Grant (Marcyl Howell)  
 Bryan, and Zoe Cruse (Lee & Marilyn Cruse)  
 Sherlon Dyer, J.J. Williams, "Red" Tiner, Gina Grisham, Pete Anderson (Del & Sue Hensel)

Roy & Florence Anderson  
 The Ronnevik Family  
 Johnnie Bradshaw Family (Bobby Rawlings)  
 Kristen & Caleb Mably, Sarah Castillo, Albert & his family (Tammy Bush)



Thank you for keeping members of the congregation, and their friends and family in your prayers. **Please contact the church office with any additions or removals.**

**August Birthdays**

DeAnna Beard	8/02
Daniel Evans	8/03
Donna Gustafson	8/04
Meredith Sellers	8/07
Elizabeth Vanderkinter	8/07
Jerry Cureton	8/14
Cynthia Frey	8/22
Lauren Roller	8/24
Bill Gillespie	8/25
Alison Herzberg	8/25

**August Anniversaries**

Joe & Cindy Hutyra	8/01
David & Deborah Evans	8/02
Phil & Carolyn Van Auken	8/11
Roxann & Charles White	8/19
Kevin & Jane Reiske	8/24

Newsletter

The monthly newsletter deadline is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month. Please send submissions to

[cvanauken@grandecom.net](mailto:cvanauken@grandecom.net) or place your handwritten information and thank you notes in the wooden box near the entrance of the workroom. Thank you!



**Blessing Box**

**Thank you for your continued donations to the Blessing Box. It is often the case that we fill it one day and it**



**is nearly empty the next. We are certainly filling a need in the community. *Water and hygiene products are always needed.***

# August 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					2 9:00am Quilters	3
4 9:30am Worship Service	5	6	7	8	9 9:00am Quilters	10 9:00am Calligraphy Guild
11 9:30am Worship Service	12	13	14	15	16 9:00am Quilters	17
18 9:30am Worship Service	19	20	21	22	23 9:00am Quilters	24 10:30am WELCA General Meeting
25 9:30am Worship Service	26	27 10:00am Fellowship for Single Women 11:00am Domino (42) Group	28	29	30 9:00am Quilters	31