

St. Matthews Lutheran Church

A family of believers grounded in, growing in and reaching out in Christ.

Tom Brinkley, Pastor

brinkley57@yahoo.com

4 Elizabeth Avenue, Esko, MN 55733 · (218) 879-3510

February 28, 2021



THIS WEEK AT ST. MATTHEWS

TODAY

8am Worship

9:15am Adult Bible Class
via Zoom

9:15am Youth Bible Study

9:15am Sunday School
(Family Life Center)

9:30am "My Savior Lives"
Worship, KBJR Channel 6

10:30am Worship

(also available on Facebook Live)

Tuesday, March 2

7am Men's Bible Study

9am "Coffee with Pastor" via
Facebook Live

10am / 6pm Grief Share

3-5pm T3

6pm Call Committee Mtg.

Wednesday, March 3

8:30am Worship Committee Mtg.

3:45pm In-Person 7th & 8th
Grade Confirmation

5:30pm Women's Bible Study

6:30pm Lenten Worship

7:15 Choir Practice

Thursday, March 4

9:30am Women's Bible Study

6pm Experience Recovery

6-7:30pm Youth Group

Friday, March 5

Saturday, March 6

Next Sunday, March 7

9am Worship w/ Comm.

(also available on Facebook Live)

9:30am "My Savior Lives"

Worship, KBJR Channel 6

10am Congregational Meeting

OFFICE HOURS

Monday 8:00 - 3:00

Tuesday 8:00 - 3:00

Wednesday 8:00 - 5:00

Thursday 8:00 - 2:30

Friday 8:00 - 3:00

Office

Phone: 218-879-3510

Church Email:

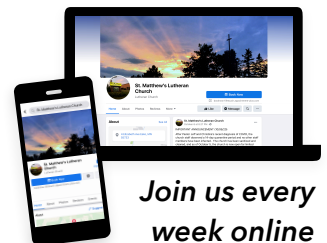
stmattsesko@aol.com

Church Website:

www.stmatthewsesko.org

February Altar Guild

Joy Skifstad - 879-3792



Join us every
week online
at Facebook Live



**St. Matthew's
Lutheran Church**

Mark your calendar!

**In-person Congregational
Meeting 3/7**



A WARM WELCOME is extended to all our guests and visitors worshipping with us today. Come worship with us again!

We Pray for...

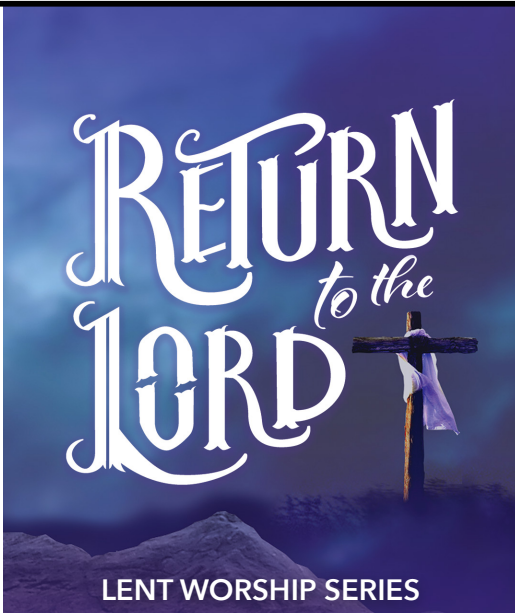
Amanda; Arylen; Bob; Norm & Judy
Burshten; Cheryl; Danielle Dressel; Dylan;
Marjorie Harms; Joyce Haugland; Jim
Hongisto; Janelle; Jodi; Dorcas Johnson;
Margie Thorson; Kim Overlie; Kathy
Peterson; Don Pykkonen; Bill Ruhnke; Afton
Schmidtke; Sherrill; Galen Schultz; Trevor
Spindler; Jerry Toman; Travis; Carol Trevena;
Vicky; Julie Weiler; Christina Walther &
family; Gary Young; Zach; Linda Zeen;
Nicole Pierre; John Severson

Homebound & Nursing Home

Margaret Colberg; Wayne Francisco;
Dorothy (Pixie) Kesti; Doris Naslund;
Deb Radosevich; David Riley; Carol
Trevena



Lenten Services start February 17 **Wednesdays at 6:30pm**



**No matter your sin.
No matter your fear.
*He calls you to return.***

As sinners, we have turned away from the Savior, who gives forgiveness and salvation. This promise of salvation is fulfilled through God's Son, Jesus Christ, and His death at Calvary. He paves a way for His people to run away from sin and repent, coming back to the one who is "gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love" (Joel 2:13).

Ash Wednesday: "A Call to Return" (Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21)

Midweek 1: "Return to Prayer" (Matthew 26:36-46)

Midweek 2: "Return from Betrayal" (John 18:1-11)

Midweek 3: "Return from False Witness" (Matthew 26:57-68)

Midweek 4: "Return from Denial" (Luke 22:54-62)

Midweek 5: "Return to the Kingdom of God" (John 18:28-38)

Congregational Meeting
March 7, 2021
In-Person after 9am Worship Service

From the Call Committee:

After having two amazing interviews with Seminarian Rob Schrader, the call committee unanimously passed a motion to schedule a congregational meeting on March 7th following a 9:00 am church service to vote on extending a call to Rob Schrader. You should have received a letter in the mail outlining the details of this meeting and information on this candidate. We also sent out an update regarding the congregational meeting at the end of this past week. All of this information is available to review on the welcome center in the narthex. Please reach out to any of the call committee members with any questions you may have. We pray that the Lord will continue to guide us as we search for our next shepherd.

- | | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| • Pat Johnson | • Scott Prachar | • Sue Wischnewski | • Ron Eng | • Chris Nelson |
| • Isaac Wisted | • Deb Haugen | • Jen Prachar | • Joe Klatt | • Chris Schultz |
| • Dave Haugen | • Dan Heikkinen | • Brenda Hall | | |

Easter Flower **ORDER FORM**

Help us beautify the church to celebrate this Easter!

Order flowers for Easter Sunday from the list below (or bring others). The deadline to order plants is **Sunday, March 7th, 2021**.

Please make checks payable to LWML and put order sheets in an envelope. Orders can be put in the offering box, or left with the church office. Thank you!

Enclosed: \$ _____ From: _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

As a Gift to the Glory of God _____

_____ Easter Lily \$12.00 _____ Chrysanthemum \$19.00

_____ Cyclamen \$19.00 _____ Begonia \$19.00





Please send contributions c/o:
Mount Olive Lutheran Church
 2012 East Superior Street
 Duluth, MN 55812



LCMS Service of Worship

Every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. on KBJR Channel 6, Duluth

MY SAVIOR LIVES NORTHLAND LCMS SERVICE OF WORSHIP for the Duluth region televised by KBJR Channel 6. "MY SAVIOR LIVES NORTHLAND" is a locally produced, regionally recognized TV program with a message for the world. The service includes a 30-minute worship service led by participating pastors of the Minnesota North District of our LCMS, along with a 30 minute remastered program called "This is the Life" from Lutheran Ministries (starting at 10:00 a.m.). My Savior Lives Northland is broadcast every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Central time on KBJR Channel 6 NBC and cable and satellite systems carrying these stations.

TODAY: District President Pastor Don Fondow - Brainerd, MN

March 7: Pastor John Bonk - Shepherd of the Lake - Two Harbors, MN

CONFIRMATION CLASS



In-Person!

WEDNESDAYS

3:45-4:45 PM

7th Grade in Basement

8th Grade in Family Life Center



Stewardship Update

February 23, 2021

	Given	Budget	Over/(Under)
July	39,700	42,900	(3,200)
August	39,400	42,900	(3,500)**
Sept.	36,500	42,900	(6,400)
Oct.	34,000	42,900	(8,900)
Nov.	48,700	42,900	5,800**
Dec.	29,700	21,500	8,200*
Jan.	36,900	42,900	(6,000)
Feb.	38,400	34,300	4,100*
Total	326,500	334,600	(8,100)

Giving Last Year to Date: \$327,200



Church Operating Expenses Paid

	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Salaries	16,779	16,684	19,234	13,234	9,613	13,392	12,630
Benefits	7,118	7,110	9,835	7,220	873	8,046	6,613
Debt Payments	6,883	6,883	6,883	6,883	6,883	6,883	6,883
District/Synod Support	2,417	2,417	2,417	2,417	2,417	2,417	2,083
Electricity	622	846	693	713	617	890	1,201
Christian Education	340	1,014	100	125	701	0	485
Church Property	438	862	513	816	920	487	751
Office	1,367	1,598	1,317	1,416	1,220	1,611	1,360
Worship	292	617	303	920	241	603	676
Youth	0	0	0	0	0	36	0
HRA	945	49	0	0	0	0	949
Heating Fuel	170	169	168	401	633	953	1,437
Repair & Maintenance	0	611	526	3,802	0	0	0
Outreach/ Missions	0	600	204	0	0	125	0
Conferences	0	59	0	0	0	0	0
Insurance	(81)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	1,933	0	50	0	0	0	0
Total	39,223	39,510	42,243	38,674	24,118	35,443	35,068
Budgeted Needs	42,916	42,916	42,916	42,916	42,916	42,916	42,916

Members often ask how we are paying our bills when our offerings are often short of our budgeted needs. The short answer is that we need to budget for all expenses we are obligated to pay for. At the end of each month we will show how our offerings are actually being spent. Any surplus funds at the end of our fiscal year (June 30) may be used to pay down the church mortgage \$687,628 at 1-31-21.



Currently In-Person Learning

Little Eskomo Lutheran Preschool will be open for preschool on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays beginning September 9 from 8:30-11:45. There will be no extended care at this time. For more information, please contact the church office at 879-3510 or e-mail lelpreschool@gmail.com.

LELP admits students of any race, color and national or ethnic origin.

Little Eskomo Lutheran Preschool is in need of substitutes. Please contact the church office at 879-3510 or e-mail lelpreschool@gmail.com if interested. We are accepting applications.



Chili FEED

SUNDAY
MARCH 14
PICK-UP @
11:30 AM

Place your order by
Wednesday, March 10

\$6 MEAL TO-GO
BOWL OF CHILI
BREADSTICKS
DESSERT



Proceeds support youth attending the
2022 National Youth Gathering

Walmart 
Cloquet

COVID-19 vaccines

Available in select locations based on eligibility.

[Schedule now](#)

Schedule your appointment online at:
<https://www.walmart.com/cp/1228302>

ITEMS NEEDED FOR YOUTH PROJECT:

Do you have any leftover charcoal pieces from grilling this summer? Please consider donating them to the youth for their Spread the Joy project. And...don't forget to nominate someone for us to spread the joy to!

Happening
throughout
January,
February &
March

Sponsored by St. Matthews Youth

*Let's Spread
the JOY*

For \$20 you can nominate an individual or family and the Youth Group will go their house and build a snowman (with a special hat for them to keep) and bring them some goodies! Fill out the nomination form and return it to the church office throughout the months of January, February & March.



Spread the JOY NOMINATION FORM

Please return to the church office during the months of January, February or March.

Today's Date: _____

Name of individual/family being nominated: _____

Address: _____

Nominated by: _____



COORDINATOR NEEDED!

A BIG thank you to Joe Kersting for his time spent coordinating ushers for the past year! We are looking for someone to continue coordinating. Responsibilities would include securing 2 ushers per service each Sunday- one to hand out bulletins and Communion cups, another to record names and phone numbers of those in attendance (For COVID Tracing, if necessary). If you are interested in coordinating, please contact the church office at 879-3510.

BOARD OF CHURCH PROPERTIES



The Board of Church Properties is looking to establish a list of substitute custodians to fill in on an as needed basis while our permanent custodians are either away or on vacation. If you are interested please contact the church office or Robert Westerlund at 730-3840.

LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER PARISH NURSE

Anyone interested in being St. Matthews Parish Nurse? Gerry Paulson, who was our Parish Nurse, has moved out of the area. If you are interested or have questions, please contact the church office at 879-3510. Thank you!

Interested in helping with meals for those with COVID?

Kristi Schultz, call or text 218-689-0853. Leave a message and she will get back to you in the evening!

ATTENTION ALL PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE CHOIR MEMBERS!

If you'd like to be part of leading hymns or sharing special music during Sunday worship, sign-up on our website under Activities and Music. You can also contact our new Choir Director, Sheri Herman, at 908-910-0782.

Romans 1:16 "For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work..."



LOOKING FOR A PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

The St. Matthew's Little Eskomo program is seeking a volunteer position as a Part-time Program Administrator. The duties primarily include tracking pre-school program expenses, maintaining a monthly spreadsheet, formulating an annual budget and writing the teacher contracts.

Experience in school administration, early childhood education, budgeting and basic spreadsheet knowledge is highly desirable.



Operation Christmas Child

Starting in January, Operation Christmas Child will be collecting items monthly throughout the year. **For the month of February we will be toothbrushes and books (items need to fit inside a shoebox). NO LIQUID ITEMS PLEASE!**

Bible Study

Blessings in Disguise

A new Sunday morning bible study has started!

You can find a PDF to follow along on the website, or contact the office for a print out.

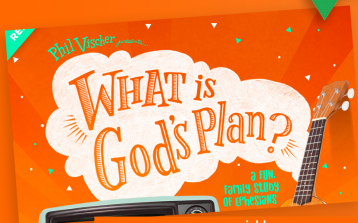
HELP NEEDED

WITH SUNDAY WORSHIP AUDIO/VIDEO!

Contact
Phillip Stephenson
910-459-2219

*New study
on Ephesians*

**STARTING
FEB. 18**



6PM THURSDAYS

Women's Bible Study

New Thursday Morning Bible Study!

9:30-11am, Starting February 11

Please join us in the Family Life Center.

Questions: contact Mary Brinkley @ 218-343-2218

GRIEF SHARE

TUESDAYS 10am or 6pm

Beginning February 9 for 13 weeks

Your journey from mourning to joy.

Help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend.

Grief Share is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life. Karen Sue Williams is facilitating this group. For information or to sign up, contact St. Matthews office at 879-3510 or Karen at (218) 590-1310.

St. Matthews Women's Ministry

Ecclesiastes: Wisdom for Living Well

Women's Bible Study

**also available via zoom*

Wednesdays 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Contact Joni @ 218-391-6720 or jcalverly@gmail.com

St. Matthews
YOUTH GROUP

Grades 7-12



MARCH SCHEDULE

Bible Study **SUNDAY**
9:15 AM
w/Christina
in the Youth Room

T3 - After School Hangout **TUESDAY**
3:30-5 PM
Meet in the Youth Room!

FUNDRAISER, MARCH 14

CHILI FEED

Youth Group **THURSDAY**
6-7:30 PM
Meet in the Family Life Center!

MARCH 20; 1-2 PM

**EXTREME
OUTDOOR GAMES**

FOR EVENT & FUNDRAISER SIGN-UP,
go to stmatthewsesko.org
under Activites then Youth

It's time for...
ANOTHER...

SPRING
2021

MUSICAL

THIS WILL BE PRODUCED ONLINE!
SOME INDIVIDUAL & SMALL GROUP REHEARSALS
PARTS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED IN FEBRUARY!

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED - CONTACT CHRISTINA!

*LOTS OF PARTS FOR EVERYONE: SPEAKING, ACTING, SINGING,
SET DESIGN, PROPS, COSTUMES, LIGHTING.*

ST. MATTHEWS YOUTH MINISTRY
GRADES 7-12



MARCH 13, 2021
1:00-2:00 PM

DON'T LET THE SNOW & ICE
KEEP YOU DOWN!

WE WILL BE OUTSIDE.
DRESS ACCORDINGLY!



CHOIR
WEDNESDAYS
@ 7:15PM



We've got new
PPE Choir masks!