

*A Family of Believers*  
grounded in, growing in and reaching out in  
*Christ*



# April 14th, 2024

## THIS WEEK AT ST. MATTHEWS

**Pastor: Marty Mably**

[pastor.marty@stmatthewsesko.org](mailto:pastor.marty@stmatthewsesko.org)

### Today

8am Worship  
9:15am Education Hour  
9:30am "My Savior Lives"  
Worship, KBJR Channel 6  
10:30am Worship (also available  
on Facebook Live)

### Monday, April 15th

8:15-11:45am LELP  
2pm LELP Board Meeting  
6:30pm Soul Sisters in FSR

### Tuesday, April 16th

7am Men's Bible Study in FSR  
8:15-11:45am LELP  
8:25-1:15pm FEET in basement  
9am Coffee with the Pastor via  
Facebook Live  
3:30-5pm T3 (7-12th Graders)  
7:15pm Finance Committee  
Meeting in FSR

### Wednesday, April 17th

8:15-11:45am LELP  
2:30-5pm Confirmation  
5-6:30pm Youth Group  
5:30pm Girlfriends  
7pm Choir Practice

### Thursday, April 18th

8:15-11:45am LELP  
10am Constitution & Bylaw Mtg  
in FSR  
1pm Book Discussion Group in  
FSR  
6pm Experience Recovery in FSR

### Friday, April 19th

8:15-11:45am LELP  
7pm 7-12th Grade Lock-In Starts

### Saturday, April 20th

6am 7-12th Grad Lock-In Ends

### Sunday, April 21st

8am Worship w/Communion  
9:15am Education Hour  
9:30am "My Savior Lives"  
Worship, KBJR Channel 6  
10:30am Worship w/Communion  
(also available on Facebook Live)  
3-6pm FLC in Use

### Office Hours:

**Monday 8AM-3PM**

**Tuesday 8AM-3PM**

**Wednesday 8AM-5PM**

**Thursday 8AM-2:30PM**

**Friday 8AM-3PM**

### April Altar Guild:

**Cindy Purcell**

**(218) 879-2769**

### Church Address:

4 Elizabeth Ave  
Esko, MN 55733

### Church Website:

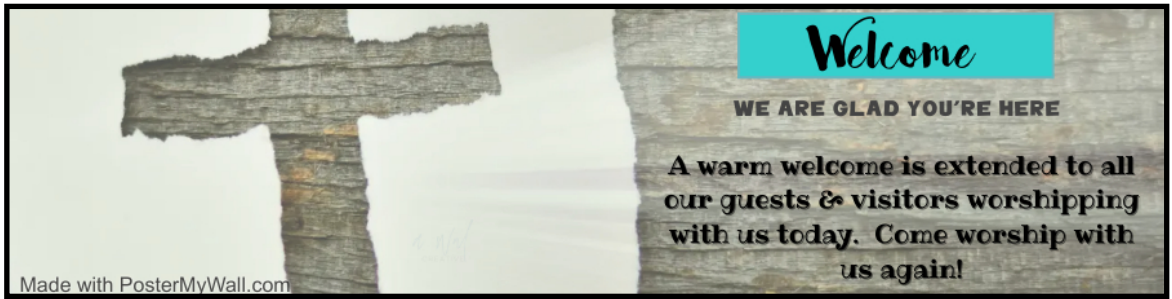
[www.stmatthewsesko.org](http://www.stmatthewsesko.org)

### Church Phone:

(218) 879-3510

### Office Email:

[stmattsesko@aol.com](mailto:stmattsesko@aol.com)



### **Military**

Emma Peterson, Dylan Klatte

### **We Pray for...**

Dick Anderson, Keith Baxley, Dan Bodell, Easton Brown, Johnny Eng, Marge Harms, Steven Hill, Deb Hustad, Diana KaPala, Noreen Kersting, Family of Marlys Kilen who's funeral was yesterday, Alice Kloepfer, Abby Knox, Terry Koskela, Autumn Loge, Zealand Leuch, Greg Mattinen, Bob Murphy, Eleanore Norbie, Dick Okerlund, Jim Oesterreich, Mellie Peach, Verna Puline, Carol Putnam, Deb Radosevich, Deb Rock, Billy Ruhnke, Kaye Ryan, Janae Sjodin, Terry Smith, Ron Stanius, Jeff Stephenson, Susan Stokes, Candice Straub

### **Homebound & Nursing Home**

Deb Radosevich; Nancy Seppala; Nancy Peterson; Dee Sprenger



### **Operation Christmas Child**

Starting in January, Operation Christmas Child will be collecting items monthly throughout the year. **For the month of April we will be collecting small stuff animals, dolls and plastic animals, dinosaurs and action figures (items need to fit inside a shoebox).**

Donations can be put in the box marked "Operation Christmas Child" which is located under the church mailboxes. Thanks for being so

**Thank you** for all the well wishes, prayers and cards during my recent surgery and recovery. It was a blessing to me and my family. ~Terry Koskela



A streaming library of more than 20,000 Bible study videos for leaders to share with their people.

We've purchased unlimited access to thousands of Christian videos and are giving free access to everyone in our church. Text "SMLC" to 49775 and you will receive a link to activate your FREE account.

**\*\*\*\*SERVING IN APRIL & MAY\*\*\*\***

**Greeters:**

**April 14th**

8am-Don Juntunen  
10:30am-Mitch &  
Hannah Rosendahl  
Family

**April 21st**

8am-Jim & Marilyn  
Sorenson & Brooklyn  
10:30am-Ryan & Shawn  
Stewart Family

**April 28th**

8am-Paul & Karen  
Sample  
10:30am-Dave & Shari  
Reuer

**Ushers:**

**April 14th**

8am-Joe Wischnewski  
10:30am-Jim & Joyce  
Christian

**April 21st**

8am-Dan & Beth  
Heikkinen  
10:30am-Lim Lovstad  
& Ryan & Angie Lick

**April 28th**

8am-Bob DeCaigny &  
Tim Lindquist  
10:30am-Keith & Reta  
Baxley

**May 5th**

8am-Don & Judy  
Juntunen  
10:30am-Paul & Terry  
Koskela

**Communion**

**Servers:**

**April 21st**

8am-Boyd Hanson  
10:30am-Dave Reuer

**May 5th**

8am-Boyd Hanson  
10:30am-Scott Prachar

**May 19th**

8am-Chris Nelson  
10:30am-Ross  
Peterson

**Acolytes:**

**April 14th**

8am-Addison Johnson  
10:30am-Vivian  
Halvorson

**April 21st**

8am-Gabrielle Hill  
10:30am-Ella Gerard

**April 28th**

8am-Colin Jutila  
10:30am-Aubree  
Kern

**LOOKING FOR GREETERS!**

If you would be willing to be a greeter before worship services, please sign up on the clipboard on the welcome table.

We would love to have some more individuals/families added to our greeter list. Thanks!

**Fellowship  
Treats**



**If you are willing to bring in 3 dozen treats for Sunday mornings, there is a sign-up on the bulletin tower.**

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**Fellowship Treats**

**April 14th**

1. Chris Pirila
2. Klatts

**April 21st**

1. Licks
- 2.

Please bring 3 dozen treats by 9am Sunday. There are trays in the kitchen to put treats on if you need. If you are unable to be here at that time, please have your treats at the church by 2pm on Friday for Jen to put out. Thanks for your willingness to help!



**Portals of Prayer**

devotions books are here for April-June. If you would like a copy, you can find them on the table by the mailboxes under the bulletin board.



# Stewardship Update

April 11, 2024

\*1 out of 4 weeks

\*\*5 Sunday Month

Giving Last Year To-Date: \$341,595

	Given	Budget	Over/(Under)
July	\$36,100	\$38,200	(\$2,100)**
August	\$30,884	\$38,200	(\$7,316)
September	\$35,710	\$38,200	(\$2,490)
October	\$37,030	\$38,200	(\$1,170)**
November	\$34,236	\$38,200	(\$3,964)
December	\$45,061	\$38,200	\$6,861**
January	\$33,010	\$38,200	(\$5,190)
February	\$31,951	\$38,200	(\$6,249)
March	\$38,974	\$38,200	774**
April	\$11,868	\$38,200	(\$26,332)*
Total	\$334,824	\$343,800	(\$47,176)

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.

**April 14th-Rev Arleigh vonSeggern April 21st-Rev Robert Franck April 28th-Rev Brad Felix**

## CHURCH MAILBOXES

The mailboxes have been updated. Please let the church office know if you do not have a mailbox and we will get one added for you.

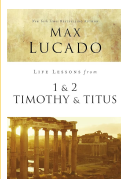
**Members often ask** how we are paying our bills when our offerings are often short of our budgeted needs. The short answer is that we need to budget for all expenses we are obligated to pay for. Please check out the financial board in the church entry to see how our offerings are actually being spent. Any surplus funds at the end of our fiscal year (June 30) will be discussed with the congregation at the annual budget meeting. The remaining mortgage is \$14,871 as of 3-31-24.

# BIBLE STUDIES & SMALL GROUPS

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Join the Adult Bible Study as we study the book of Revelation.

For most people, it is likely the most confusing and misunderstood book of the Bible. It can spur questions & even cause many to fear. Understood correctly, though, the book of Revelation brings confidence & peace as we live in these 'gray & latter days.' Come explore the last book written in the Bible & be comforted by its message that despite the anti-God & anti-Christian forces that are loosed in the world, God ultimately will be victorious & give victory to his saints.



## Girlfriends Bible Study

Girlfriends is Wednesdays at 5:30pm in the fireside room. All women are welcome to join!

Our current study is Life Lessons from 1 & 2 Timothy & Titus. Contact Kelly Eng if you would like her to order you a copy.



## Experience Recovery

For Every Hurt, Habit or Hang Up  
Every Thursday at 6 pm in the  
Fireside Room

We are watching a 10-week study that walks us through the 12 steps to recovery. Please join us!



Please contact Deacon Johnny at  
(218) 310-1385 with any questions.

An illustration of a man with a beard and a hat, wearing a green vest and blue shorts, holding a fishing rod with a large fish on the line. The background is a light blue sky with clouds.

## Men's Fishing Retreat

May  
17-19

Where: Lutheran Island Camp on East Battle Lake, near Henning, MN  
What: a weekend of fellowship, fishing, friendship & fun  
How: contact Jason Rice @ (218) 451-1903  
Cost: TBD-usually around \$100-\$130  
• BONUS •  
Saturday morning we will be having the 4th annual Dr. Rev. Jeff Walther Memorial Bass Tournament

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# YOUTH NEWS

What's Up 4 Youth @ St Matthews

Totally Terrific Tuesdays  
**NOW OPEN**

Grades 7-12

Join us after school

Every Week  
from 3:30-5 in youth room

- Visit - Play games -
- Do homework -
- Have a Snack -
- Hang Out



Sunday Bible Study  
Grades 10-12  
9:15 am

Join us in the FLC  
for Bible Study on  
Revelations  
Grades 7-9 Meet in the Cave

Youth Group  
5:00 - 6:30

Grades 7-12

Apr 17th  
May 8th

Supper, Games &  
Devotion  
In Family Life Center

The youth are collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. There is a collection basket under the youth board in the gathering space.



Kwik Trip Car Wash Cards  
Selling from April 1 to April 21

\$36 per card



1 Card = 5 washes

Order from youth or  
the church office.



Thank you to everyone that made the Easter Breakfast a success. Especially to Jen & Christy for leading it this year. And thank you to everyone who made a free will donation. This will help our youth with their Youth Gathering expenses. Staci & Cherri



APRIL 17TH  
5-6:30 PM

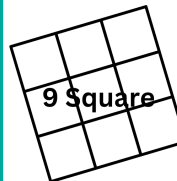
YOUTH GROUP



GAMES: PIZZA SUPPER

\*OUTDOOR GAMES

DEVOTION



Lock - In

Grades 7-12

St Matthews Family Life Center



Drop off - April 19 @ 7 pm

Pick up - April 20 @ 6 am

Service Project





## Preschool News

The preschool Open House held April 9 was an overwhelming success! The room was buzzing with parents and children. Sybil and Mae didn't know in advance how many people to expect and attendance in recent years has been very low, so this was quite a surprise. Both the teachers and board members who helped were excited by the prospect of having much fuller rosters than the last few years. Many of the families registered or took home registration information. Praise God for His faithfulness and provision for Little Esko Lutheran Preschool.

The third and final fundraiser for the preschool has started. Once again, LELP families will sell certificates for the Fig Tree Greenhouse in Cloquet. LELP will receive \$8 for each certificate sold. LELP hopes to sell at least 200 certificates, which would match last year's efforts.

The preschool board is looking for a few board members. We are specifically in need of someone who can take responsibility for all of the publicity and advertising activities. This would include writing the Sunday bulletin and monthly newsletter announcements, advertising direction with the Pine Knot News and other media, creating and distributing posters throughout the community and other small tasks. For a high school or college student interested in gaining writing experience, this would be an excellent resume-building opportunity. If you know of someone, please contact the preschool at [lelpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:lelpreschool@gmail.com).

### Flower Basket Fundraiser!

Little Esko Lutheran Preschool is selling certificates for 12" Fig Tree hanging flower baskets. Each basket is \$37. Please make checks payable to LELP.

Order from a preschool family or St. Matthews church office.  
218-879-3510

### PRAISE TEAM

The praise team is looking for singers and musicians. If you would like to share your musical talents with the church, please contact Jason Rice or the church office. We would love to get the praise team going again soon!

### Greetings from the Community of Hope 2:16 Donations Team!

We wish to thank you and your congregation for your continued support through the donation box. We feel blessed to have an abundance of hygiene products that we can now distribute as the need arises.

The unfortunate situation we continually face is the lag time between, needs being identified, those needs getting updated through the churches, then the collections reflecting those new requests. In order to address requests promptly we are asking if you would consider an occasional special offering to support COH financially. This would allow us to purchase items as needed. Also the ability to purchase fuel gift cards as many un-housed are living in their cars. We also would like to provide "Dial-a-Ride" vouchers and Maytag Laundry gift cards.

These offerings would be documented through the church if desired then condensed and a check payable to COH could be processed. COH is a 501.c non-profit so contributions are tax deductible. Thank you for considering this request. If you have any questions please contact me. Tom Ochocki 218-348-3353



## ASK THE PASTOR

Do you have a Biblical or religious question you are seeking the answer to? Search no more...instead, ask the pastor! You can put your question in the box located on the table just outside the sanctuary. Keep your eye out for answers in the weekly bulletin.

### What is the rule for using capital letters for the pronouns of the Trinity? Another great question!

Unfortunately, there is no specific rule on whether to capitalize a pronoun when it is used for any person of the Trinity. I have heard people debate this from both sides. One side says that rules are rules and God does not want you to 'break' a grammatical rule for him (or is it Him? - 😊). Others say that God is God and the rules don't apply to him (or is it Him? - 😊). So, it is really your preference. Personally, I go back and forth on this.

Relatedly, Christians do capitalize God when referring to any person of the Trinity, where 'god' refers to any false god.

## 2024 North District Convention Information

The 31st Biennial District Convention of the LWML Minnesota North will be held June 3-5 at Cragun's Resort in Brainerd, MN. The theme is "Walking as Children of Light" Ephesians 5:8. Convention registration and more information may be found in the 2024 Spring issue of the *Minnesota Northern Light* newsletter and on the LWML Minnesota North District website: [lwmlmnn.org](http://lwmlmnn.org). We look forward to seeing you. Mark your calendar to attend!

Room reservation and meal package registration needs to be made through Cragun's online registration through May 3. Registration instructions may also be found online and in the spring packet received at the Spring Rally. Here is the Cragun's web link: [https://craguns.formstack.com/forms/lwmlr\\_2024](https://craguns.formstack.com/forms/lwmlr_2024)

We will meet at St. Matthews' parking lot at 9:30am and ride share.

## LWML Spring Rally

April 27

Christ Lutheran Church  
230 North 28th Street East  
Superior, Wisconsin

Register 10-10:30, \$5  
Rally 10:30-1:00pm  
Lunch included

**"Jesus said, 'Go!' "**  
**Mark 16:15-16**

Pastor Robert Pfeil will tell of his work  
as a missionary in South-Central Asia.

