



THE CARILLON
ST MATTHEW LUTHERAN
CHURCH

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

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Believe LIKE MARY
trust
like joseph
hope
like shepherds
like
wise
men
love
like JESUS



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.

Classes will start in January.

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

Practices are on **Wednesdays at 6pm.**
Contact Rod Larson or Ken Young, 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

Dec 3rd First Wednesday in Advent

*Dec 7th Second Sunday in Advent
Matt. 3:1-12*

Dec 10th Second Wednesday in Advent

*Dec 14h Third Sunday in Advent
Matt. 11: 2–15*

Dec 17th Third Wednesday in Advent

*Dec 21st Fourth Sunday in Advent
Intergenerational
Christmas Pageant
Matt. 1: 18–25*

*Dec 24th The Nativity of our Lord
Christmas Eve
Matt. 1:18-25*

*Dec 25th The Nativity of our Lord
Christmas Day
John 1:1-14*

*Dec 28th First Sunday of Christmas
Matt 2:13-23*



**Is on a pause until
after the holidays**



**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
CLASSES IN DECEMBER**

ST MATTHEW BOOK CLUB

**December 8th
At 2pm**

in Fellowship
Hall

Bring a treat
to share and
Book gift
exchange



Family Bible Study & Dinner **Tuesdays at 6pm**

in Fellowship Hall. Bible Study & Dinner . Interested
in attending, RSVP Sign up sheet in Narthex or talk
with Tim Robertson.

**ANNUAL
Christmas
GIVING TREE**



**We are collecting gifts for 2 Families with children.
Please help these families have a magical Christmas. Gifts
need to be wrapped, tagged & returned by
December 10th.**



December 21
10 am

**During worship
Service**

INTERGENERATIONAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Come hear the whole story of Christmas and

Celebrate—the Birthday of Jesus

"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." "Isaiah 7:14

**Any children that are wanting to participate talk
with Kathy Smith.**

IMPORTANT DATES:

December 7th: FULL REHEARSAL of all participates
after worship service.

December 14th: PICK UP COSTUMES if you don't
already have them

December 21st: PAGEANT arrive by 9:30 am
in costumes & wait in little chapel

Confirmation Class



Signing up for classes
starting in **JANUARY**

Talk with Pastor or Kathy

WEDNESDAYS AT 4 PM

AGES 11-14

CHRISTMAS POTLUCK



All Ladies welcome!

**Annual LWML Christmas
Party Potluck & Gift
exchange.**

December 11th

Noon

Lynn Vernon's Home

Contact Lynn for address

Bring a dish to share

Salad, Dessert or Appetizer

The Meaning of Christmas Decorations



Evergreen Tree

The evergreen tree points to Heaven.
Its needles remain green all year,
a symbol of God's gift of eternal LIFE,
and a reminder of Jesus' living presence.

(1 John 5:11-12)

Stars

Star ornaments and decorations symbolize
the star of Bethlehem. *(Matthew 2:1-10)*



Angels

Angels announced Jesus' birth to
Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds. *(Luke 1 & 2)*



Lights & Candles

Jesus said He was the "Light of the world." *(John 9:5)*

Red Decorations

Red symbolizes God's LOVE and
the love of Jesus who died for us on the cross.

(Mark 8:31)



Gold Decorations

Gold symbolizes the Kingship of Jesus.

(Revelations 1:5)

Gifts under Tree

Gifts remind us of the gifts of the Wise Men,
and of the greatest gift of all—Jesus.

(Matthew 2:1-12)



HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Thank you to everyone who helped out with the Christmas Bazaar! It was a huge success!



Holiday Bazaar Committee

Peggy Romero, Janis Deverter, Kathy Peterson,
Robin Sonnenberg and Jan Edmunds



ST MATTHEW PRESCHOOL Children's Christmas Pageant

**Friday
December 19th
11am in Sanctuary**

All church members welcome

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

**Fridays 10 am - 11:30am
February 20, 2026 - May 22, 2026**

**St Matthew Lutheran Church
132 E. 13th St., Port Angeles WA 98362**

Your contact is: Sondya Rose 360-808-3262

DECEMBER 28th
Congregational
MEETING

*New Year's
Eve*
CANCELLED
SERVICE

CHURCH COUNCIL



St. Matthew Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes, October 9, 2025

(Follow-up actions are *italicized*)

Members Present:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Pete Pettit | President |
| 2. Leroy Peterson | Vice-President |
| 3. Kathy Smith | Treasurer |
| 4. Mary Heller | Recording Secretary |
| 5. Bill Hermann | Chair, Board of Elders |
| 6. Kay Hermann | Chair, Human Care |
| 7. Lynn Vernon | Chair, Stewardship |
| 8. Dan Smith | Chair, Trustees |
| 9. Jan Edmunds | Chair, Preschool |
| 10. Pastor Roger Sonnenberg | |

Members Absent:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Carl Deverter | Co-Chair, Evangelism |
| 2. Janis Deverter | Co-Chair, Evangelism |
| 3. Peggy Romero | Chair, Fellowship |
| 4. Tim Robertson | Chair, Youth & Education |
| 5. Vacant | Chair, Information Technology |
| 6. Vacant | Chair, Finance |

Guests:

None

Meeting was called to order by President Pete Pettit at 6:03 pm. Pastor Sonnenberg opened with prayer.

Approval of minutes: The minutes of the September 11, 2025 Council Meeting were read. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as read. Motion was approved by voice vote.

Pastor's Report: No report

Council Reports:

President's report (Pete Pettit): No report

Vice-President's report (Leroy Peterson): Luke 2 preschool fund raiser. Leroy has received orders for 38 or 39 t-shirts and sweatshirts, but 50 were needed to receive the discount. However, Messiah Lutheran Church in Grand Junction, Colorado, has offered for us to combine our order with theirs in order to receive the discount. Further, a member of Messiah has volunteered to pay for the entirety of our order in the amount of \$1,296, as a generous gesture of support of our preschool program. *Pastor recommended a letter of thanks be written in grateful recognition of this donation.*

Board of Elders (Bill Hermann):

A poster with elder names and photos remains in progress.

Octoberfest will be on Friday, October 24. The preschool is hosting and will receive free-will offerings from this event.

A question has been received if a person can be a member at St Matthew without being baptized. Pastor affirmed this is possible.

Leroy has agreed to serve as head usher.

Worship services without communion will be held on Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 26.

There will be four persons baptized on Sunday, October 19.

The church secretary's workload has become excessive for the number of hours Kathy is authorized to work. The elders are authorizing and encouraging Kathy to say "No" as necessary to additional work and service requests.

Bob Edmunds has requested to serve as ad hoc IT advisor, without being elected as the official Council IT chairperson.

CHURCH COUNCIL



St. Matthew Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes, October 9, 2025

(Follow-up actions are *italicized*)

Trustee (Dan Smith):

A new exterior sign will be installed in approximately four weeks. The new sign will be similar in design to the existing worn and weathered sign.

The 118 rental house recently received a housing authority inspection. Two items were found to require attention: five new GFI outlets, and upgraded smoke detectors.

New hard flooring will be installed in the sanctuary beginning Monday, October 13.

Leroy is installing a new shelf in the wiggle room for a sanctuary speaker.

Youth & Education (Kathy reporting for Tim Robertson):

Additional Sunday School volunteers are needed.

Tim will pause regular game nights for now, electing instead to organize individual special events.

Fellowship (Peggy Romero): No report

Human Care (Kay Hermann): *Fire department CPR training is being checked on.*

Treasurer (Kathy Smith):

Kathy handed out graph reports of Income and Expenses, restricted fund balances, and average Sunday attendance and giving; also the first quarter Budget Update report.

The new sanctuary flooring expense will be paid from Special Projects Fund, and the new exterior sign will be paid from the Trustees budget.

If January 1 salary adjustments are chosen to be made, a budget amendment will need to be approved by the congregation. The only required salary adjustment will be to accommodate the upcoming Washington State minimum wage increase. Kathy is recommending all salary adjustments except the minimum wage requirement be postponed to the start of the new fiscal year, July 1, 2026. *The elders will discuss and decide.* It was questioned if any other budget adjustments might be required on January 1, but Kathy replied that other new year increases have already been planned for in the existing budget.

Evangelism (Carl and Janis Deverter): No report

Stewardship (Lynn Vernon):

The next new member dinner will be the first week of November, with approximately seven or eight persons expected.

Lynn continues to call and write encouraging notes to guests and inactive members. Teresa has given Lynn a box of beautiful cards for this purpose.

Subcommittee Reports:

Preschool (Jan Edmunds):

The Trunk or Treat event is pending additional volunteers. We need a minimum of eight cars to move forward.

A CPR class is scheduled on November 3, requiring a minimum of five persons at a cost of \$70 per person.

CHURCH COUNCIL



St. Matthew Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes, October 9, 2025

(Follow-up actions are *italicized*)

Unfinished Business:

There is a concern about the stability of the new grey chairs in the fellowship hall.

Property insurance inspection recommendations:

We are awaiting estimates for parking lot pavement repairs.

Mike is working on installing a needed stairway handrail.

Pete will contact someone about the roof moss remediation.

It was found that the AED batteries are fine, but the pads are expired. The CPR class instructor may be asked to look at this.

The golf course will not approve the addition of "In Honor of Steven Schlaffman" to our existing sponsorship sign. Other alternatives might be to place this on a bench or picnic table at the golf course. Information and pricing from the golf course is still pending.

New Business:

We are having microphone issues in the sanctuary. Jan recommended developing a long range audio-visual plan, with special consideration to those with hearing issues. *Pete will speak with Bob about possible options.*

Bible verse cards are being added to the Wednesday dinner to-go boxes as a spiritual encouragement to the recipients.

Future Business: None

Closing: Meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm with closing prayer by Pastor Sonnenberg

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Heller, Recording Secretary

Recap of follow-up actions:

A letter of thanks to be sent to donor at Messiah Lutheran Church in recognition of their generous donation to the St Matthew preschool.

The elders to discuss and decide about annual salary adjustments.

Pete to contact someone about the roof moss remediation on one rental house.

Pete to speak with Bob about options for the sanctuary microphone issues.



Sign up to Host Snacks after worship!

Volunteers needed each month.

Thanks Peggy, Fellowship



Daily Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries

By Pastor Ken Klaus, Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour

"Weighing the Children"

He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which He commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments.

Psalm 78:5-7

Glen Adsit was a missionary to China. Accompanied by his family, Adsit tried to share the Savior's story of salvation as quietly and secretly as was possible. Apparently, he was not quiet or secretive enough. Adsit was caught and he, along with his family, were placed under house arrest. After some time, soldiers told him he was being deported. They also informed him he could take 200 pounds of stuff. But how do you pick 200 pounds of stuff? For years they had been in China and during that time they had collected precious things, things connected with memories. How to decide what would be left behind? Everything precious was sorted and weighed and then sorted again. Eventually, they managed to reduce the pile of stuff to 200 pounds. Adsit and his family were ready when the soldiers arrived.

"Are you prepared to leave?" the soldiers asked. "Yes." "Have you weighed everything?" an officer wanted to know. "Yes." "Did you weigh the children?" *Weigh the children?* Of course, they hadn't weighed the children!

For Adsit and his wife, the children had been a given -- the children had been taken for granted. In a split second, the officer's question realigned everything. The new typewriter, the valuable vase, the precious picture instantly became trash and were set aside. Bringing their children with them, making sure the children were safe, became the parents' single priority: their chief concern.

Fathers, today I'm asking, have you weighed the children?

Now I know you have many things which weigh on your mind, which call for your attention, which must be accomplished before the sun sets. But the question is "Have you weighed the children?" The truth is, everything else on your calendar, every goal you have set for yourself, pales in comparison to your God-given duties

1. to share the Savior's story of salvation with your little ones;
2. to set an example of how a Christian should conduct himself in an unchristian world.

Now you may be blessed to have a Christian wife, a pastor who is a most remarkable man for the Lord, and your church may be equipped with a multitude of dedicated teachers determined to do all they can to shape your little ones.

But the truth is this: the Lord has placed into your children a desire to emulate you, respect you, be like you. You can't stop it; you can't prevent it. And they will follow a good example or a bad example. In words and living, it is my hope and prayer that you point them to Jesus who gave His life, so they might be forgiven, so they might be saved, so they might spend an eternity in heaven with their heavenly and earthly fathers.

THE PRAYER: Dear Lord, for fathers who have followed the Savior and shown how Jesus can live in the heart and actions of a man, I give thanks. Raise up many more examples. In Jesus' Name, I ask it. Amen.

Jesus Loves the Little Children



Preschool

Hello Congregation,

The Preschool

Our students have been busy! Our unit for this month was Healthy Food and Exercise. We learned about different food groups and where they come from. Our students enjoyed milking pretend cows and made a cute paper pizza craft. They also had fun on the obstacle course we made using chairs, small traffic cones, and blocks. For Veterans Day, our students marched in a parade with maracas and tambourines, while our line leader held the American flag.

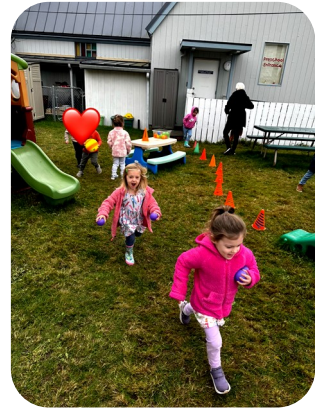
We had a fun time at our Thanksgiving Feast! We decorated paper placemats for the celebration. Each student will bring a dish to share at the feast. Our feast will include chicken nuggets, pumpkin pie, grapes, olives, rolls, and baby carrots Etc. We always have a fun time eating together and learning about the pilgrims!

Bible Study: Jesus is Born! Christmas Story Play

Memory verse: "...And you shall name him Jesus!" Luke 1:31

Please continue to pray for our teachers, students, and families.

The Preschool





Bringing Christ to the Nations and the Nations to the Church

**WA-AK DISTRICT
DECEMBER 2025**



lhmdist33.org

The Lutheran Hour

Dr. Michael Zeigler

Special Guest Speakers

Listen to LHM broadcasts on radio, online podcasts, mobile apps, Sirius XM, Spotify, Apple, iHeart Radio at lhm.org /sentradio for Spanish broadcasts

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father.... James 1:17

A WORLDWIDE GOSPEL IMPRINT

Every day, every hour, someone is hearing the name of Jesus through a podcast, a daily devotion, a radio broadcast, an online Bible Study, a SAT-7 television presentation in the middle east, a mobile THRED conversation, or perhaps they are reading a Project Connect Booklet about PTSD or grandparenting or surviving cancer, or reading a Kid's Booklet to a child about how to pray.

Lutheran Hour Ministries provides all of the above and more to all people around the world. Three new LHM centers will be connecting people to God's saving grace in 2026: In Singapore, Tanzania, and Bolivia. Advent and Christmas brings again the amazing truth of Jesus coming to us where we are and offering himself to be our Savior. In turn, then, we offer him to others who have not heard of his life, sacrifice, and forgiveness.

As people struggle to discover truth for themselves, their loved ones, their nations, God's Word has the "Unchanging Truth" needed by all. Thank you for giving to LHM so all may seek God's Truth. Donations to LHM in December will be matched dollar for dollar. As we give to those we love, let us include gifting so all may hear of the greatest gift given to us in Jesus. LHM.ORG/GIFTMATCH



God in His incomparable love has made a way for us

through the wilderness. He did this by giving us his Son, our Light in the darkness. In Born to You...a Savior, we embrace the Christmas Joy and wonder of Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Daily Devotions from LHM will help strengthen and encourage your faith. Find them online at lhm.org.

NEW FOR 2026! GOSPEL ADVENTURES IS HEADING TO MONGOLIA!

A new online adventure awaits at gospeladventures.org with the details for engaging your family, school, or mid-week class in "How Vast is God's Love".

Learn about the people of Mongolia, their language, culture, games, and food. Through video presentations, songs, craft and food activities your students or family can enjoy learning about the animals, children, and families living in this fascinating country. They are people loved by God and through this Gospel Adventure your family and friends can pray for them and get to know them as global friends who in many ways are just like us in need of Jesus love and forgiveness. Preview and register online today!



DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 8:30 6pm FAMILY BIBLE STUDY	3 8:30 Preschool 10am Craft time NOON WORSHIP 5pm Dinner 6pm WORSHIP 7pm Choir	4 8:30 PRESCHOOL 6pm Elders Meeting	5 8:30 PRESCHOOL 10am GRIEF SHARE	6
7 8:45am Bible Study 10am Worship PAGEANT PRACTICE LWML SUNDAY 2nd Sunday of Advent	8 2pm BOOK CLUB	9 8:30 PRESCHOOL 6pm FAMILY BIBLE STUDY	10 8:30 Preschool 10am Craft time NOON WORSHIP 5pm Dinner 6pm WORSHIP 7pm Choir	11 8:30 PRESCHOOL Noon LWML Potluck @ Lynn's 6pm Church Council	12 8:30 PRESCHOOL	13
14 8:45am Bible Study 10am Worship 3rd Sunday of Advent	15	16 8:30 PRESCHOOL 6pm FAMILY BIBLE STUDY	17 8:30 Preschool 10am Craft time NOON WORSHIP 5pm Dinner 6pm WORSHIP 7pm Choir	18 8:30 PRESCHOOL	19 8:30 PRESCHOOL 11am children's program	20
21 8:45am Bible Study 10am Christmas Pageant 4th Sunday of Advent	22	23	24 7pm Worship Christmas Eve Worship	25 10am Worship Christmas Day	26	27
28 8:45am Bible Study 10am Worship Congregational meeting	29	30	31 2026 HAPPY NEW YEAR	Joy to the world 		