

Rev Nathan Thompson**Office Phone:**

Office: 320-986-2514

Cell: 651-210-8014

Becky Meyer**Secretary****Office Phone:**

320-986-2024

messiah@runestone.net

Succession Planning Team (Call Committee) – The Messiah Succession Planning Team has completed their work. The team is pleased to have Pastor Mark Mathews starting his new ministry at Messiah on September 18th. There were four prospective pastors interviewed for the Messiah position. A special thanks to Val Arnquist, Jen Hermes, Sylvia Swenson, Marisa Sabolik, Heidi Johnson, Jon Winter and Ken Johnson for their efforts on the call committee.

Pastor Mark Mathews – As we prepare for Pr. Mark to lead Messiah's ministry into the future we should reflect on two important items. The first one being the ministries and great friendships Pastor Mark and his family have developed in their current congregations and communities. We know his ministry has been very important to these congregations and they will be missed greatly. Second is the many paths that Pastor Nathan has helped Messiah and our congregation travel. A true spiritual journey through a Jesus filled life. We are extremely excited for Pastor Mark to begin his ministry. Please continue to pray for our new pastoral leadership. God's blessings on Mark and his family as they move into our community, settle in and get to know us all. Thank you Nathan and welcome Mark.

100 Day Transition Plan – One of the tasks of the Vision Team is to develop what we refer to as the "100 Day Plan". In a nut shell this is a way to welcome Pastor Mark and his family into our church, schools and communities. Changing jobs is stressful, helping relieve some of this stress for a new minister and his family can be very helpful. We can all help with this. The Vision Team will be reaching out to the various committees and teams to have them included in the plan. Installation Sunday for Pastor Mark is scheduled for Sunday October 8th. Stay tuned for more information.

**COUNCIL AND
COMMITTEE
MEETINGS****Sunday—17**

10:30 am

Outreach Team

Friday 22

8:30 am

Executive Team

TBA

Education Comm.

Wednesday—27

7:00 pm

Council meeting



Pastor Mark Mathews Biography

Hello! I'd like to give the Messiah congregation an introduction to my biography as well as my family.

I grew up in Brainerd, Minnesota and graduated there in 1981. My home church growing up was Bethlehem Lutheran Church on the East side of Brainerd, but I was baptized at the Methodist church in Staples, Minnesota. I attended college at Hamline University in St. Paul. I graduated in 1985 with a degree in psychology and religion. I ended up going to Luther Seminary as a United Methodist student. After graduating I was assigned by the United Methodist Church to two small churches on the Minnesota/Iowa border. Unfortunately I developed a public speaking phobia and left the ordained ministry for 17 years. In the time between stints as a pastor I worked at Mills Fleet Farm and was very active in my local churches in leadership.

In 2002 I married my wife, Rebecca (Reba), and we settled in St. Joseph, MN. In 2004 we both became very active members at Resurrection Lutheran in St. Joe. I lead/taught our adult education program and class at Resurrection. I was a member of the church council, I was on the Stewardship committee, and by the end of my time at Resurrection I helped out with supply preaching. I still had a call to ministry so at my wife's suggestion I started attending Toast Masters meetings to work on my public speaking. I enjoyed the Toast Masters program so much that within a year I became the president of the Granite City club. I am forever grateful for veteran members of the club that were an inspiration and a support of me in the path forward to regaining the confidence of effective public speaking. By 2006 I entered the ELCA ordination process and was approved for internship in Staples, MN which I completed at the end of the summer of 2008. I completed a "Lutheran Semester" in the fall 2008 and in January of 2009 I completing a rural ministry immersion in Southern Minnesota. I received a call to Bethel Lutheran church in Greenbush, MN in the fall of 2009.

I've been at Bethel since 2009. In the years I've been at Bethel we entered into contracts for pastoral services with two other churches—Faith Lutheran, Rural Badger (2011) and First Lutheran, Middle River (2015). We've enjoyed eight years of partnership in mission and ministry in an area of demographic decline. I've also guided the churches and the area through some of these challenges by serving the last four years as a very active Conference Dean. I've spoke at churches throughout the area on the need for cooperation and shared ministry while forging relationships with many people both within the congregations I serve as well as many people outside those congregations.

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I strongly believe in the mission of the church and outreach of all kinds. I put a great deal of emphasis on preaching as well as Bible study. In the time I was at Bethel we have always had a Bible Study that I led on a weekly basis and I attended our Women's Bible study on a monthly basis. I started a Men's Bible study at Faith that met once a month and drew some men from Bethel as time went on. I've been active with the youth in meetings/events, in fund raising, in youth gatherings and trips, and I taught confirmation. I'm very active in visitation of sick/dying/home visits.

My wife Reba worked in day care for seven years and in the last year worked as a Paraprofessional at the Middle River Elementary School. Her hobbies include woodworking, crafts, DIY projects, and motorcycle riding. Reba grew up in California for the first 13 years of her life before her mom moved the kids to the Brainerd area in 1985. She played softball for my dad (Hint: One of the only reasons I got a date with her: "Your dad was a good guy. I will give you a chance.") Before she met me, Reba worked as one of the youngest and few female Loss Prevention Executives in the Target Corporation chain. Reba was so accomplished at her job she was moved often to stores in need of her skills to get things turned around (A big thanks to Target for this by making Reba unavailable to date by moving her every year!). She also did a stint at Kohl's Corporation in the same capacity. Our sons are Jonathon (19), Parker (12), and Chase (7). Jonathon graduated from Greenbush- Middle River in 2016 and now lives in Little Falls. He is newly employed at Radio Shack.

My hobbies include following Major League Baseball, working out, and reading history/philosophy/theology/Bible. If you are wondering-- I DON'T drive a motorcycle because four wheels are challenging enough for me!

I look forward to being your partner in ministry at Messiah and to the world.

Two trivia pieces: (1) I was an All State cross country and track runner in high school at Brainerd and a three time All-America distance runner in cross country and track at Hamline. (2) I was at the time (2007) one of the very few students at Luther Seminary to score 100% on what is known as the Biblical Proficiency Test (BPT) which students are required to score at least 85% on.

In Christ's Grace and Love,
Pastor Mark Mathews

PASTORAL ACTS:**BAPTISM:** 8-6-2017 Emmalynn Holloway (Born 4-27-17)**LIVESTREAMING SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY**

Each week Messiah's worship service is livestreamed all over the U.S. and the world! All you need is a computer and internet access, and you can watch! If you would like to sponsor our services for a month in honor or memory of a loved one(s), the cost is \$50. Please stop in the office and talk to Becky if you are interested.

**Remembering the Saints in Light**

Recognizing members who have gone before us during the month of their passing

Eugene Eiken	09-03-07
Hazel Anderson	09-04-09
Donna Torgerson	09-08-07
Gordon Larson	09-10-10
Agnes Auslund	09-13-14
Oscar Lindgren	09-19-14
Corrine Mattson	09-20-15



Happy Birthday!



5

Emily McGee	9-3	Jennes Swenson	9-15	Savannah Swenson	9-22
Ava Strittmatter	9-3	Rhonda Peterson	9-16	Chayla Hohn	9-23
Jim Hanson	9-4	Dennis Saurer	9-16	Brooke Anderson	9-24
Amber Fritz	9-5	Vonnie Brittin	9-17	Kesha Trink	9-24
Troy Andreasen	9-6	David Sanstead	9-17	Grant Beuckens	9-24
Michelle Martinson	9-6	Piper Sanstead	9-17	Royce Aasness	9-25
Tanya Winter	9-6	Marissa Braaten	9-18	Jordan Beuckens	9-25
Mark Torkelson	9-7	Gene Rollofson	9-18	Blake Strittmatter	9-25
Amy Winter	9-8	Ardis Stark	9-18	Gabrielle Strittmatter	9-25
Brenda Onstad	9-10	Steve Strunk	9-18	Polly Hedstrom	9-26
Howard Anderson	9-13	Robert Spaulding	9-19	Paul Mahoney	9-26
Emily Strunk	9-14	Mandy Korzendorfer	9-20	Damon Sanstead	9-28
		Kaia Frank	9-22	Jelene Backman	9-29

WORK SERVICE GROUP FOR OCTOBER

If you are in the October/April group (listed below) please sign up at the Welcome Center for a duty in October. If you do not sign up, a duty will be assigned to everyone to fill the spots needed. This is your chance to choose a date that works best for you. **You can also call the church office to sign up.** Thank you for your help.

PLEASE SIGN UP. IF YOU DON'T, A DUTY WILL BE ASSIGNED TO YOU.

OCTOBER/APRIL GROUP

Elmer & Jeanne Anderson, Darlene Christensen, Jared & Tracy Frykman family, Russ & Delores Gabrielson, Jerry & Carol Hulzebos, Ken & Joan Johnson, Muriel Krusemark, Charleen Lesnau, Matt & Liza Long family,

Vernal & Marlene Nelson, Heidi Nygard, Carmen Peterson, Vonnie Brittin, Dennis & Wanda Saurer, Marilyn Schoepfoerster, Donna Soderholm, Arlyn & Lynn Swenson, Mark & Laurie Torkelson, DeanTravland, Bud & Suzie Zeimer

Messiah Lutheran Church Council
Wednesday, July 19, 2017 – 6 pm (picnic at Samuelson's)

Present: Pastor Nathan, Jacki Anderson, Jared Frykman, Jen Hermes, Ken Johnson, Brian Randt, Marisa Sabolik, Duane Samuelson, Curt Stark Absent: Jim Hanson

- I. Call to Order by Marisa
- II. Devotion by Pastor Nathan – thankfulness.
- III. Approve agenda with flexibility – motion by Curt, Jen seconded, motion carried.
Secretarys report – motion by Brian, Jen seconded, motion carried.
Treasurers report – motion by Jacki, Brian seconded, motion carried.

Pastor's Report – Camilla will be putting on an outdoor concert on Saturday, August 19 at 5:30 pm. Pastor Nathan will be serving Messiah part-time (roughly 20 hours/week) until September 17 and Pastor Mark will begin September 18. After that Pastor has accepted a part-time position at Calvary in Alexandria. Vision team is starting to organize the “100 Day Plan” for the new pastor to help welcome and integrate him into Messiah and the Hoffman community.

Committee Reports:

Youth and Family (Jacki) – Addie currently leading youth position. Will wait to hire until new Pastor is in place. Youth Gathering 2018 is in Houston.

Executive Committee (Marisa)– Met to set agenda for council meeting.

Outreach Committee (Jen) – Farmers Market in June collected \$422 – motion by Curt, seconded by Jen to put the money toward a drinking fountain in the church. Two more services at the fire pit. Outreach will be serving food at the September 8 Join the Celebration event.

Property Committee (Brian) – Brian has purchased two digital signs. Looking to use one for both Zion and Messiah to advertise upcoming events.

Memorial & Bequest Committee – nothing to report.

Education Committee (Jared) – VBS set for July 31-August 3 – still need more volunteers. A new curriculum for Sunday School has been purchased. September 8 is the Join the Celebration with Outreach Committee serving the food.

Stephen Ministry (Pastor) – They are using Chip Ingram's Book “The Real God – How He Longs for You to See Him” includes DVD and workbook.

Vision and Task Force (Marisa) – A small group met with Calvary to talk about potential joint ministry. Conversations will continue in the future. Discussed 100 day plan and what it may look like.

Technology (Curt) – met July 17. A smaller group will be meeting August 7 to update web-site.

OLD BUSINESS

Farmers Market – Farmers Market in June collected \$422 – motion by Curt, seconded by Jen to put the money toward a drinking fountain in the church.

Succession/Call Committee – The congregation will vote on July 30 on whether or not to call Pastor Mark Mathews. Pastor and his family have been in the area looking at homes and also toured the WCA school. If vote goes through and he accepts, his first day would be September 18.

NEW BUSINESS

Assisted Living – Approval by Minnewaska Home to build the assisted living facility on the north end of Messiah's property.

Compensation Package – Ken walked us through the compensation package.

Transition Team – We'd like to gather a group of volunteers to help with some projects as we transition between Pastor Nathan and Pastor Mark. These projects include painting Pastor's study, helping Pastor Mark, wife Reba, and their family move. Prior to their move we will need to help clean and paint their new house. On moving day we'd like to serve a meal for all who help. We need to decide if we should order some new office furniture and a computer for Pastor Mark.

August Executive Meeting – August 9 or 11, 8:30 am

August Council Meeting – Wednesday, August 16, 7 pm

Adjourn – motion by Jared; Duane seconded. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Jacki Anderson

ONE PIANO LEFT!

The Janssen piano and bench, located in the Northeast Sunday school room is still available to anyone interested—**FREE!**
Spread the word.

If interested contact Becky at the office or Stan Stark .



MESSIAH WOMEN'S CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER, 2017

Mission of the Month: Salvation Army

Mission Items to bring for September – New Born Kits

Sunday	3	Fellowship Coffee – Group 3
Thursday	7	Quilting Mission, Fellowship at 1:30 PM
Monday	11	Martha Bible Study at 7 PM (Date changed because of Labor Day)
Thursday	14	Mary Bible Study at 1 PM
Thursday	14	WELCA General Meeting at 2 PM Important! Plan to attend.
Friday-Saturday	14-15	30 th Annual Convention to the Northwestern Minn. Synodical Women's Organization at Fair Hills Resort near Detroit Lakes
Thursday	21	Quilting, Mission, Fellowship at 1:30 PM

WELCA news and notes from Arlou Swenson and Sylvia Swenson:

Where has the summer gone?? We are preparing for our Fall schedule and it is exciting to be welcoming Pastor Mark Mathews and his wife, Rebecca, and their sons, Jonathan, Parker and Chase. They will be such a wonderful blessing to our church family.

The cool nights are a reminder that fall is approaching and in September we begin the projects that we have set aside in the summer and resume working on for the entire winter and spring. We will begin quilting on September 7th. We have several quilts ready to be tied so please consider joining us for a fun afternoon of quilting and fellowship. We will also take some time to go through materials that have been brought in and organize our bins of items for quilting. We need many hands for organizing the bins, making quilts and even rolling bandages for missions. If you are available to come that afternoon and help it would be greatly appreciated.

Our Mission items to bring for September are for the New Born Kits. These items are listed in your women's booklet. They include: 1 bath towel (thinner type,) 1 washcloth, 1 bath size bar of Ivory soap, 1 newborn (small) stocking cap, 1 baby cotton blend or flannel shirt/kimona (short sleeves) (length only to waist as babies do not wear diapers,) 1 receiving blanket. We know September is not the month we collect for school kits but it is the best month to purchase the items for that kit. School supplies are on sale now and can be purchased very cheaply. If possible you can pick them up now and we will store them for packing later on.

Thursday, September 14th, there will be a general meeting for all the church women. We are hoping as many as possible can attend as we have many decisions to be made. Come with opinions and ideas on that afternoon. We will share information on donations to LWR and Global Health; Christian Nurture Committee; the financial status and commitments of the church women; bible study groups; mission and quilting projects; and dates and projects for 2018. We also need to review our groups as some have lost some members this last year but we have also gained new ones that need to be put into groups. We would like to review some of the names on the volunteer "Second Mile" group to see if it is still accurate. Please look it over ahead of time and let us know of names to be removed or added. Also, some groups may have names of members who should be on the inactive or honorary list. Let us know who they might be also. We will also be looking at our groups and the leaders to see if they need updating. If you have other topics you would like added to the agenda please let us know by Sunday, September 10th.

Other Fall activities get underway in September for Messiah Women. The Synodical Women's Convention is in Detroit Lakes at Fair Hills Resort on September 14-15. Check out the poster on the kiosk for more information. It would be wonderful to have someone attend, at least for one session. Ask Becky Meyer or Arlou Swenson for details. WELCA will pay for your registration.

The Fall Cluster gathering which is now called the Conference 8 group is in October. Cluster 10 is now called Conference 8 and includes churches from Parkers Prairie, Miliona, Eagle Bend, Clarissa, Browerville and Long Prairie. More information will be coming on that next month.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at the September 14th General Meeting!

We close with the theme for the NWMN Synodical Women's convention: "Be Kind, the power of Kindness can change the World."



Messiah Youth- Seek....Connect....Impact....

Seek-

WANTED! We are looking for adults age 9th grade and older to sign up for a fun, short four week Sunday School rotation between mid-September to end of April. All the work is done for you, just come, facilitate and have fun! Board is up by the welcome desk!

We need volunteers to help with our 3rd annual "Join the Celebration" on Friday, September 8th. Contact Becky at office or any of the education team!



Connect-

Save the Date- 3rd Annual Join the Celebration for all ages! Friday, September 8th. From 5:30-7:30 p.m. we will have a free supper, free entertainment, and DJ. Please come join us for a family fun night! Rally Sunday is Sunday, September 10th! Gear up for Sunday school! Invite neighbors, cousins, friends!

Impact-

Thank you to the 75 youth in our area for attending our VBS week the end of July/early August. A huge thank you to all the volunteers, and to our church members for making this special event happen!

Want to help with any of our education events? Contact us to find out how!

Education Committee- Kari Anderson, Tracy Frykman, Liza Long, Kesha Trinkka and Tracy Hedstrom

NEW YEAR OF YOUTH ACTIVITIES!!

Come join us for Food, Faith and Fun

September 13	4th-7th grades	3:45—5	Acts of Kindness (Bring your bibles)
	4th-12th grades	5:00-5:45	Meal for all
	8th-12th	5:45-8:00	Faith (Bring your bibles)
September 27	4th-7th grades	3:45—5	To be announced (Bring your bibles)
	4th-12th grades	5:00-5:45	Meal for all
	8th-12th	5:45-8:00	To be announced (Bring your bibles)

Please sign up to bring meals on the sign up sheet at the Welcome Center

GOD'S PEOPLE IN SERVICE—SEPTEMBER**ACOLYTES**

3 & 10 Ashlee Bruns
17 & 24 Owen Sanstead

If you are unable to serve your assigned spot on any Sunday, please find your own replacement and let the church office know who that is.
THANK YOU!!

COMMUNION PREPARATION

September 3 Rachel Volker
September 17 Sylvia Swenson

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

September 3 Arlou Swenson, Heidi Johnson, Ireland Winter
September 17 Arlou Swenson, Anna Bergman, Ashley Froemming

COMMUNION SERVERS—COUNCIL Jen Hermes**FLOWERS**

Lynn Swenson, Sylvia Swenson

WELCOME CENTER**USHERS/GREETERS**

September 3 Jim & Pat Hanson, Justin & Amy Puchalski family
September 10 Jennes & Arlou Swenson; Paul & Christine Mahoney family
September 17 Courtland & Sylvia Swenson; Russ & Jessica Froemming family
September 24 Mark & Cindy Starner, Jim & Terry Erickson

VIDEO**PROJECTION**

September 3 Emma Swenson Savannah Swenson
September 10 Brooke Anderson Kaitlyn Sanstead
September 17 Jaime Johnson Ireland Winter
September 24 Quinten Winter Krista Randt

ORGANIST**SOUND****LECTORS**

September 3 Bev Yochim Aiden Winter Pat Hanson
September 10 Bev Yochim Nicole Bruns Jennes Swenson
September 17 Bev Yochim Aiden Winter Courtland Swenson
September 24 Bev Yochim Kaitlyn Sanstead Mark Starner

COFFEE

September 3 Coffee by WELCA Group 3
September 10 Coffee by Youth—Lynette Bruns family
September 17 Coffee served by Churchmen— Brian Randt
September 24 Coffee served by Youth— Steve Strunk family

SEPTEMBER 2017

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Church E-mail: messiah@runestone.net

church Web site: www.messiahhoffman.org

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 9:30 Holy Communion 10:30 Coffee by WELCA # 3	4 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED	5 7:00 Stephen Ministry	6	7 1:30 QMF	8 5:30 JOIN THE CELEBRATION At Comm center 5:00 Wedding rehearsal	9 4:30 Brady Erickson/Jenna Krienke Wedding
10 RALLY SUNDAY 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Coffee by Youth 10:45 Rally Sunday Activities	11 7:00 MARTHA Bible Study	12	13 3:45-5 4-7th Yth 5-5:45 4-12th meal 5:45-8 8-12th Yth	14 1:00 Mary Bible Study 2:00 WELCA Gen Mtg <div>NWMN Synodical Convention</div>	15 11:45 Pr at Barrett Care Cnt 5:00 Wedding Rehearsal	16 4:30 Michael Krusemark/Christine McKenzie Wedding
17 9:30 Holy Communion 10:30 Coffee by Churchmen 10:30 Outreach Team	18	19 7:00 Stephen Ministry	20	21 1:30 QMF	22 8:30 am Executive Com	23
24 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Coffee by Youth	25	26	27 3:45-5 4-7th Yth 5-5:45 4-12th meal 5:45-8 8-12th Yth 7:00 Council	28	29	30

Messiah Lutheran Church ELCA
502 Kentucky
P.O. Box 486
Hoffman, MN 56339

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Sunday, September 10, 2017

Time: Friday, September 8th

Location: Hoffman Community Center

Free Supper served from 5:30-6:30

Free Entertainment for All! 5:30-7:30pm

9:30 a.m.

church service

10:45 a.m. -11:30 a.m.

indoor and outdoor games for all youth!