

ST. MATTHEW'S
REFORMED CHURCH
4575 Maiden HWY.
P. O. Box 739
Maiden, NC 28650
"A Faithful and Welcoming Congregation"

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Volume 47 Issue 1

The Grapevine

January 2021

Consistory Corner

There have been a number of people involved in making sure our Sunday services continue as close to normal as possible. We have been able to find very credible guest speakers--some outside the Church and lay speakers within the Church. The Revs. Ken Clapp, Greg Richard, and Larry Shrum have assisted with messages, special services in addition to Holy Communion. Lay speakers Frank Snider, Bud Michael, Buddy Funderburk, and LaDonna Goodson have given thought-provoking messages for our reflection. Jean Funderburk has been dedicated to work out the hymns for each Sunday and to practice with each group of singers. Chris Barger and Burl Shrum have worked with the sound to be sure that the congregation can hear what is taking place in the service. Lora Rice has been faithful to help with prayers and

scripture. A number of people have written down names of people attending in case that should be needed.

You have seen a few items in the Fellowship Hall relocated in an effort to provide the best service possible. If you have any suggestions for improvement, please share them. If you would like to deliver a Sunday message, you may be put on the list; however, the month of February is filled.

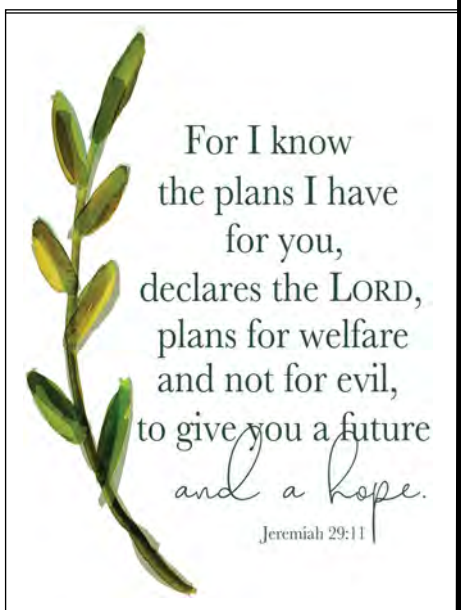
You, the congregation, are why these people and others commit their time and talents to maintain a degree of normalcy in this peculiar time. From the time we began group worship, our attendance has ranged from the 50's to nearly 100. Usually, there are around 50-60 people participating in our services. Your faithful attendance is greatly appreciated.

Last year we started "Live Streaming" services in the Arbor in March, which is just around the corner. Some ele-

ments of the service to be added back, especially when we can go back outside, are the Apostles' Creed and the Lord's Prayer. These key components are missed.

When it is warm enough, we hope that we will be able to return to a more normal pattern of worship.

Again, if there is someone who would like to participate in some way in our Sunday services, we will find a place.



St. Matthew's Reformed Church Consistory Meeting minutes December 13, 2020

In attendance: Libby Herman, Walter Rice, Candace Carpenter, Chris Barger, Ronnie Bumgarner, Ken Hawn, Matthew Hawn, Gina Chandler, Ruth Haynes, Faye Painter, Wanda Snider, (Chris Carpenter, chair of Sanctuary committee)

*President Libby Herman called meeting to order.

*Adjusted agenda approved—motion by Ronnie Bumgarner, second by Ruth Haynes.

*Prayer to begin meeting by Libby Herman.

**At this time, Chris Carpenter reported on Sanctuary renovation.

*****Congregation will decide what to do with old pews. Continued communication with congregation during renovation is vital, seeking approval as needed.

*****Handicap ramp through the old choir room to be under the scope of the general contractor — Property committee to take the lead on this. Motion to this effect made by Ken Hawn, second by Matthew Hawn. Approved.

*November minutes approved. Motion by Chris Barger, second by Walter Rice.

*Financial report approved—motion by Ronnie Bumgarner, second by Ruth Haynes.

Committee reports

**Sanctuary (given at beginning of meeting)

**Property — written report provided by Ronnie Bumgarner.

*Permit from Lincoln County Health Dept. for 1500 gallon septic tank. No word on bids yet.

Committee reports approved—motion by Gina Chandler, second by Chris Barger.

Old Business

*Water line update—Candace Carpenter provided handout with additional bids. It was agreed that a special meeting with some of these contractors for explanation of bids would be helpful. Property Committee will take the lead on this.

*Inside Worship protocol—no need for changes at this time

New Business

*Staff Christmas bonuses—Four employees to receive \$100 bonus—motion by Ruth Haynes, second by Chris Barger. Approved. (Susan, Joan, Lealta, Faye to receive)

*Christmas Eve candlelight service at 7pm

*Christmas Fund to receive excess benevolence up to \$500 to aid struggling, low income churches—motion by Ken Hawn, second by Gina Chandler. Approved.

*Advertising/soliciting music director—decided by consensus for personnel committee to develop an up to date job description.

*Media status—Motion to move ahead with new website by Matthew Hawn, second by Gina Chandler. Approved. Candace Carpenter will facilitate. Discussion included making sure an updated, positive image of St. Matthew's is presented on the

website. Some congregants are missing the streaming services. Possibly contact Dwayne Burke about this.

***Motion to adjourn by Ken Hawn, second by Walter Rice.!

***Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting: January 20, 2021, 6:30 pm

***Vote by phone approved Maiden Grading and Septic Tank Repair to install new septic tank.

Respectfully submitted,
Wanda Snider, Secretary

CHURCH OFFICERS 2021

President.....Libby Herman
Co-Vice Presidents..Frank Snider
and Matthew Hawn
Secretary Lora Rice

*"For all those who
exalt themselves
will be humbled,
and those who
humble themselves
will be exalted."*



LUKE 18:14, NIV

Prayer list**Please Pray For . . .**

Judy & Joel Campbell

Emma Grace Minter

Lyda Hawn

Melissa Woodring

Joyce Bradshaw

Arthur McGahan

Joseph Haithcox

Jonathan Painter

Dwight Hoyle

Ellen Roads

Kristen Sipe

Kenny Campbell

Dwight Shrum

Brandi Gilbert

Greg Fulbright

unspoken request

Adrian Lemmond

Pastor Search Committee
and Church Leadership**Homebound Members:**

Shirley Martin

Lucille Shook

Ann Bost

Dot Mathis

Please contact Libby Herman or
Lealta Smith to help keep the
Prayer List up-to-date.

Sufficient for the day

John Newton (1725-1807), author of "Amazing Grace," wrote: "We may easily manage if we will only take, each day, the burden appointed for it. But the load will ... be too heavy for us, if we carry yesterday's burden over again today, and then add tomorrow's." This maxim might be easy to dismiss unless we knew about Newton's troubled life.

Having been pressed into naval service and then slavery, Newton was finally rescued but became a slave-ship captain. He faced abuse, contemplated murder-suicide, suffered a stroke and was caught in a storm. When he cried out to God, the waves subsided, prompting a spiritual conversion for Newton, who became a priest and abolitionist.

We never know how God will transform our sinful past into future good, but we can trust he will. That adds power to Newton's advice, which echoes Jesus' words: "Sufficient for the day is its own trouble". (Matthew 6:34, ESV).
-Newsletter/Newsletter publication-

Volunteers needed . . .

Christian Ministry of Lincoln County has many volunteer positions available at this time. If you are able to volunteer in the Soup Kitchen, serve as a Packer, a LINC Meal Driver, or help in the Clothes Closet, please call Mitzi at 704-732-0383 or go on-line to:

www.christianministryoflincolncounty.gov



All Sundays on the February calendar are available for flower sponsors. Please confirm any date you wish to provide altar flowers; otherwise the Sundays will be taken care of by a rental. Feel free to call Lealta Smith at (828) 428-8327 or email: smithlea@charter.net.

— Thank you —

Our thoughts and prayers to members and friends who have lost a loved one in the past few weeks. Also, to those who are having medical problems, or have loved one with a medical condition. We pray that things will improve in the coming days.

Anger

James 1:19-20 (NIV)

"Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires."

Bible Quiz

The precise number varies depending on the Bible version, but roughly how many times does the word "love" occur in the Old and New Testaments combined?

A. 200-300
B. 400-500
C. 600-700
D. 800-900

Love

Answer: C

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
 <p>FEBRUARY 2021</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>♦ Ashley Turner, Sandy McRee Aven Arruza</p>
<p>7 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY</p> <p>10:00 AM Morning Worship - Fellowship Hall Message: Bud Michael</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>14 TRANSFIGURATION VALENTINE'S DAY</p>  <p>10:00 AM Morning Worship - Fellowship Hall Message: Greg Richard</p> <p>6:30 PM Consistory Meeting</p>	<p>15 PRESIDENTS' DAY</p> 	<p>16</p>
<p>21 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT</p> <p>10:00 AM Morning Worship - Fellowship Hall Message: Dr. Rev. Kenneth Clapp</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>♦ Annabel Barger</p>
<p>28 SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT</p> <p>10:00 AM Morning Worship - Fellowship Hall Message: Greg Richard</p> <p>♦ Courtney Herman</p>	<p>♥ Wedding Anniversaries ♦ Birthdays</p>	

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																										
3 ♦ Emily Michael	4	5	6																																										
10	11 ♦ Joan Campbell	12 ♦ Cindy Shrum	13 ♦ Kim McRee																																										
17 	18 ♦ Jason Goodson	19 ♦ Marilyn McRee, Pat Barkley	20 ♦ Jean-Paul La Bounty																																										
24	25	26	27																																										
<div>There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven...</div> <div> Ecclesiastes 3:1</div>			<div>March 2021</div> <table><tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr><tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			
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NO-SEW FLEECE SCARF



Winter is a difficult time for people in need, so make this scarf to help someone stay warm.

What you need:

- Medium-weight polar fleece, 60" standard width (a 9" portion will make one scarf)
- Scissors
- An adult to help

What you do:

1. Cut a piece of medium-weight polar fleece to the size of 60" x 9". Cut the fabric across its width so the material is stretchy.
2. Trim off the edge binding. To add "fringe" along each end, make a 6"-long cut every half inch.
3. For curly fringe, pull each strand and then let go sharply. Another attractive option is to tie an over-hand knot at the top of each strip.
4. Donate your scarf to a local group that helps people in need. For greater impact, encourage your Sunday school classmates or other friends to make scarves, too.

Puzzle!

Complete each saying below. Then place the words from those blanks in the correct order to complete Proverbs 23:4.

1. When the going gets tough, the tough _____ going.
2. People who live in glass houses should _____ throw stones.
3. If the shoe fits, _____ it.
4. "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is _____ to enter the kingdom of God."
5. Good things come _____ those who wait.
6. When in Rome, _____ as the Romans do.
7. Don't wear _____ your welcome.
8. If you want something done right, do it _____.

Write the unscrambled proverb here:

_____ PROVERBS 23:4

Answer: Do not wear yourself out to get rich. Proverbs 23:4

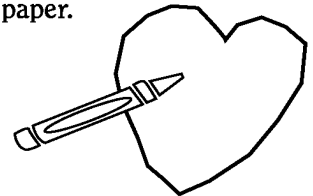
Send an Invisible Valentine to Someone You Love!

Here's what you'll need:

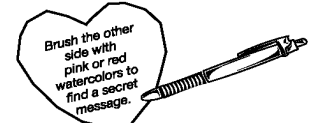
- Scissors
- White construction paper
- White crayon
- Pen
- Pink or red watercolor

Here's how to make an invisible Valentine:

1. Cut a heart shape out of the white construction paper.



2. Use the white crayon to decorate the heart with designs and a message. Press hard!
3. On the back, use the pen to write: "Brush the other side with pink or red watercolor to find a secret message."



4. Give the valentine to someone you love. When the person paints the "blank" side, your secret message will be revealed!

MISSION

To worship God, to provide training and support for discipleship growth, and to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ through word and deed.

VISION

To strengthen our ministry to youth, to provide fellowship opportunities, to grow in membership, to deepen in faith, and to expand the church's outreach to the community.

VALUES

Strive to love and serve God, to love one another and keep relationships healthy, and to welcome and befriend newcomers.