

St. Matthew's Good News

Pastor's Message

Pastor Lori Pilatzke

Dear Beloveds,

First things first ... just to catch you up!

Aug - Youth Camp 2024 - *Is there anyone you know in the photo?*



November 2024 v.7



Contact Us

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Do you know who is missing? YOU!!! MY 'er St Matt's Youth!

Mark your calendars now for Aug 24-29, 2025

Youth heading into grade 6 and older Camper (grd 6 +) to Counsellor (16 Yrs +)

Advent Cafe - Wed's Dec 4, 11, 18 @ 2pm

Taking Time for Tea & A Treat ~ a social time of sharing stories and memories
We will gather in the parlour

Advent Devo's - Wed's Dec 4, 11, 18 @ 7pm

'Joy of Heaven, Here on Earth'

Grab a tea, your cozy slippers and join us via zoom. *(the same link all 3 weeks)*

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81481169721> Meeting ID: 814 8116 9721

Advent Sunday Worship

Sun Dec 01 - 10am - Advent 1 - Blessing of the Greens & Potluck Lunch

Sun Dec 08 - 10am - Advent 2

Sun Dec 15 - 10am - Advent 3 - Children's Pageant "Just A Little Christmas"

Sun Dec 22 - 10am - Advent 4

Christmas Eve

5.30pm Family Worship 7.30pm Candlelight Worship (times subject to change as per survey)

Christmas Lessons & Carols

10am Sun Dec ~ 10am

In peace, in Christ ... Pastor Lori+

“Knowing You, Knowing God”

Submitted by Pastor Lori +

“On Sunday October 27th, Connor Davis, Isabella Edgecumbe, Tristan Josephson and Gavin Lantz publicly affirmed their baptism. On that same day, we, the baptized joined them in confessing the faith of the church and renewing our commitment to continue in the covenant God made with us in Holy Baptism. So what did we promise we would do?

to live among God’s faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord’s supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth

And we all promise we will support them in their journey. Now I believe we believe that - but honestly, I don’t believe we really do. Because if we did know how to support one another, we would not be consumed with declining attendance, budgets we can no longer afford and crumbling buildings? Which begs us to ask ourselves if we have been raised in the church, or raised in the faith? How? How do we live out the good news of God in Christ through word and deed? How do we serve, following the example of Jesus? How do we strive for justice and peace? How do we bring Christ’s love to a hurting world? And how do we witness that for Connor, Isabella, Tristan and Gavin and our young ones coming along behind them?

One lyricist writes, “I wanna know my blessed Saviour, and love Him like I’ve never loved before. I wanna feel the power of the resurrected Lord ... cause religion isn’t working anymore.”

There’s been a shift in how people will come to know Jesus. The majority of us who have been a part of a worshiping faith community for most of our lives, know about Jesus because someone brought us along. And because we stopped bringing others to the faith, there are many folks who have no clue who Jesus is, because no one told them.

When I addressed the confirmands, my message began by giving them a mantra for their mission to live out the good news - maybe this mantra will serve you, as you serve others. “Live your life in such a way that those who don’t know God, come to know God because they know you.” It all starts with you, with you knowing God. The intimate, personal relationship each one of us has is lived in, with and through, all that we say and all that we do. Living life in such a way that others will know God because they know us. Maybe this is the way we witness to Gavin, Tristan, Isabella, Connor and all this saints that are still to come.



Co-class with St. Peter’s Brant
Left to right: Pastor Lori, Gavin Lantz, Tristan Josephson, Connor Davis, Nathan Albrecht, Ben Albrecht Pastor Catharine, Finn Heaney. Missing from photo - Isabella



Left to right: Connor Davis, Gavin Lantz, Pastor Lori, Tristan Josephson, Isabella Edgecumbe

St. Matthew's Youth Council hold their first meeting!

Submitted by Pastor Lori

Please hold our young people in prayer as they discover their place in our faith community.

Abby Davis, Gavin Lantz, Nolan Leggo, Scott Pieman, Council Rep - Heidi Leggo, Advisors Grandma Norma & Pastor Lori

The youth are taking the lead on organizing a float for St Matthew's in Hanover's Christmas Parade on Sat Dec 07 @ 7pm.



St. Matthew's Church Council

Submitted by Kathy McBride

St. Matthew's Church Council continues to meet regularly to support the work and finances of the church committees and the work of community organizations. We work with Pastor Lori to coordinate the ministry of the congregation and provide support and direction to church staff as necessary.

With generous donations from members, Council supported the installation of our new chair lift at the auditorium entrance as well as guidelines for its use. Council is excited to work with our new Visioning Committee to guide the future of St. Matthew's and our place in the community.

In 2025 we will need new members on council to replace those who are retiring. Please look into your hearts and consider taking a position on Council next year as we need a lot of support from our church members. If you have any questions please contact Kathy McBride or any Council member for information.



St. Matthew's Finance Committee

Submitted by Bob Farrow

The Finance Committee is comprised of Shirley Breig (Treasurer) Derek Ashton, Ron Davis and Bob Farrow (Chair). The Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month except for the months of July and August.

The purpose of the Finance Committee

- monitor the income, expenses and investments and report to Church Council monthly
- advise Council of any concerns
- adjust the investments as needed. For example renew GIC's when due and allocate the interest income
- recommend to the Executive Personnel Committee any increases to paid employees based on cost of living and Synod guidelines.
- work with members of other committees to host the "Time and Talents Auction"
- prepare a summary of activities for the Congregational Annual Report.

All of the above are things that we do to insure the financial well-being of our congregational family in order that we can continue God's good works in our community.

The Visioning Committee

Submitted by Bob Farrow

Summary of re-visioning meeting: September 30th, 2024.

On Monday September 30th the re-visioning committee met to review the notes and comments that resulted from the 2nd Community Round Table held on Wednesday September 18th.

The participants were divided into groups with a facilitator and a recorder at each table. They were asked to answer the following 4 questions:

1. We heard at the first roundtable that food insecurity, housing and transportation are the top priority concerns in our community. Other concerns are mental health and addiction services, domestic violence and timely access to services. How does your organization provide support to the community in any of these areas?

2. What does your organization need to better support the community to address food insecurity, housing, transportation, mental health and addiction services, domestic violence and timely access to services?

3. How can St. Matthew's assist your organization to provide support related to food insecurity, housing, transportation, mental health and addiction services, domestic violence and timely access?

4. What are the next steps St. Matthew's should work on to improve support related to these aforementioned issues?

There was a great response to these questions from the various groups and agencies in our community. All the information was given to Angela Yenssen who then condensed it into a 12-page report which we reviewed at our meeting on the 30th. We are very grateful for Angela's hard work and continued support. A printed copy of her report is available in the Church office for viewing.

So where do we go from here?

- Our committee plans to talk to those people who are vulnerable, marginalized and in need to hear first-hand what their needs and concerns are.
- We are going to gather demographic projections for the future of Hanover to identify who the future citizens might be and their needs. They could be different from what we see now.
- Keep the lines of communication open to all those who attended the meetings and reach out to those who could not attend or who were not invited.

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Properties Committee

Submitted by Leroy Dietz Properties Chairperson

Just to let you know what we have been involved in over the past few months in addition to the small repairs that were required.

On August 23, 2024 our caretaker walked into a flooded kitchen. Water from a leak in the water tank had leaked through conduit holes in the floor under the island cupboard. This in turn flooded the dropped ceiling in the Resource Room which then flooded that room and the hallways. Fortunately we were able to turn off the water supply source before the water reached the Scout Room and the floor containing asbestos.

Thanks to a quick response by First General Property Restoration, in less than 30 minutes, water was being vacuumed up, baseboard moldings were removed to expose the base of the walls and prevent water from being absorbed.

Since there was a possibility of asbestos in the ceiling, a series of holes were cut to accommodate input and suction air. These were attached to heating fans (approximately 8) to dry out the ceiling cavity and around the base to remove any moisture in the walls. This process took about a week to complete to the desired humidity content of the walls and ceiling.

Test results on ceiling material came back positive for asbestos as we thought they would, but did not require special treatment.

Restoration is scheduled to begin Nov. 5, 2024 and will include wall repairs, priming and painting of walls and suspended ceiling where required and replacement of baseboard moldings.

A chairlift to the auditorium has been installed to make it more accessible for a handicapped person, thanks to some generous donations.

Areas that will require future repair or replacement

All wood wall paneling throughout the entire building, especially the entrance ways, front of stage and stage floor, outdoor painting, exterior brick pointing, flooring in old basement portion, interior window painting and aging equipment

For the years 2021, 2022 and 2023 a comparison of expenditures by Property Committee shows the average weekly expenditures excluding any special projects or personnel salaries was as follows;

2021 year (645.00 a week a total of 33,540 per year)

2022 year (665.00 a week a total of 34,580 per year)

2023 year (736.00 a week a total of 38,272 per year)

Space rentals help offset some of the cost of operation. The negative side is there is more wear and tear on our facility, equipment and furnishings.

Where do we go from here for the Property Committee's future planning? Given the prognosis by Synod some 2 years ago for our District, in 5 to 7 years down the road some very difficult decisions will need to be made.

St Matthew's Stewardship Fund Applications

Submitted by Sue Seifert

The Stewardship Committee is welcoming applications to help St Matthew's further meet their stewardship goals. Do you have an idea to support local groups/organizations or Lutheran Relief efforts? Maybe you want to help support Christmas meals for local residents, enhance local outreach opportunities for mental health support, support breakfast clubs or food knapsack programs for local children, assist local seniors in some way, support a CLWR program abroad etc. There is a significant amount of money available this year, so let your creativity and heart guide your wish to support others. To qualify, you must be associated with a registered charitable organization. We look forward to hearing from you by December 8. Applications will be available via St Matthew's church office stmatthews@wightman.ca

Lunch on 9th Street

Submitted by Sue Seifert

This was the fifth summer that St. Matthew's reached out to the community through Lunch on 9th .

In Hanover, Light on Main is a program in the community which provides a hot lunch every Wednesday from September to June. Lunch on 9th fills the gap during the summer months. For eleven Wednesdays, from mid-June until the end of August, we prepared and offered healthy bagged lunches to the community. The lunch included a sandwich, raw vegetables with dip, fruit, dessert and a bottle of water. Everyone was welcome and there was no charge. Donations were gratefully accepted from those who wished or were able to give. We served lunch to an average of 65 people each week. Over the summer we served 713 lunches. This is 100 more than last summer.

Some who attended took their lunch to eat elsewhere. The majority stayed to eat in the auditorium and enjoy each other's company. Those who come to enjoy the lunch express much appreciation for the meal. Each one is an individual and shares their smiles, their laughter, and sometimes their tears. Each one of the volunteers gives of their time with a joyful heart which adds to the positive experience of everyone involved.

Thank you to the 15 committed volunteers (some from St. Matthew's and some from the community) who made this ministry possible. We also gratefully acknowledge the contribution of Serenia Life for an Action Team grant to help cover expenses.



Alzheimer's Coffee Break

Submitted by Elaine Dippel-Baetz

On October 20, St. Matthew's held its annual Alzheimer's Coffee Break. Highlights of a video prepared by Sandra Hong, Public Education Coordinator of the Alzheimer's Society of Grey-Bruce were shared. Topics included "The 10 Warning Signs of Dementia," statistics on people who go missing, as well as information on the "Finding Your Way" program.

Resource pamphlets entitled "What is Alzheimer's Disease", "What to Expect" and "Reducing Caregiver Stress" were also available to take home.

St. Matthew's once again set another high record with donations totalling \$710.00 in support of the Alzheimer's Society of Grey-Bruce. Thank you everyone for your generosity!

Thank you also to our bakers, and Nan and Charlie Van Sickle for their work in the kitchen as well! All was so much appreciated!



Thanksgiving Food Drive

Submitted by Elaine Dippel-Baetz



St. Matthew's initiated a Thanksgiving Food Drive with donations being collected for the Food Bank. Recent statistics indicate that one out of four families will need to access the Food Bank.

On October 15, Nan and Charlie Van Sickle packed and delivered these food items to the Salvation Army.

Through out the summer and fall, St. Matthew's has donated many food items in support of the community. Thanks to Nan and Charlie Van Sickle for their dedication and support in making these deliveries for St. Matthew's!

Good Food Box

Submitted by Karen Farrow

What a great response we've had to this new initiative. Our first delivery took place on October 24th with almost all the volunteers coming out to help unload the truck, get the produce down the elevator or stairs to our sorting area along the hallway and in front of the Heritage Room.

Our Police Chief, Chris Knoll, Library Branch Manager, Alex Taylor and United Way's, Robin Cork and Graeme Harris, community volunteer all pitched in.

The selection of fresh vegetables and fruit was incredible!



Norma Ruhl greeted all of the 36 people who purchased a Good Food Box and some of our volunteers helped with directing people to the boxes. Scott Peiman helped anyone who needed assistance getting their bags up the stairs and into their cars.

All in all it was very successful with special mention to our volunteers. Barb Fleming, Elaine Dippel Baetz, Sue Seifert, Nan & Charlie Van Sickle, Jan Deratnay, Fay Hill, Normal Ruhl, Ed Fyfe, Scott Peiman, Donna Bender, Marianne Jacklin, Anita Rody, Marina Schaus, Jen Macklin, Eileen Mac Donald and Karen Farrow.



Coats for Families

Submitted by Elaine Dippel-Baetz

The Outreach Committee continues to collect coats, hats, mittens, scarves, boots, snow pants, hoodies and vests for the community.

Volunteers, Nan and Charlie Van Sickle have packed and delivered over 70 coats to the Salvation Army Thrift Store throughout the summer and fall. Thank you Nan and Charlie!

Winter is coming, so please continue to support this Outreach initiative.



Sunday School

Submitted by Elaine Dippel-Baetz

Sundae Sunday

Our 2024-2025 Sunday School kicked off the year on September 15, with our annual "Sundae Sunday." This year in addition to the delicious sundaes, the congregation was also treated to barbecued hotdogs.

Thank you to all the volunteers who made this event such a great success!



Orange Shirt Sunday

The Sunday School acknowledged "Orange Shirt Day" on September 29. After a lesson on the significance of their names and that of the name of "Jesus," the kids participated in a team game which required planning, communication and cooperation. Much fun was had by all!

Please mark your calendar everyone for these important events being planned by our Sunday School.

December 1, 2024-first Sunday of Advent.

The Sunday School will be introducing a global fundraising event for the month of December. Stay tuned for all the details of our campaign on December 1.

December 15, 2024-Sunday School Christmas Pageant.

Join us for our "Just A Little Christmas" skit! You are sure to enjoy this Christmas Story!



Lutheran Manor

Submitted by Sandy Ermel

We thought we would give you some insight into the beginning stages of our Lutheran Manor.

It was originally our intention to purchase three properties. So in January of 1990 , offers were presented to three property owners . They were; Mr. Fidler, Mr.&Mrs. Karl and Mr. Goetz's property.

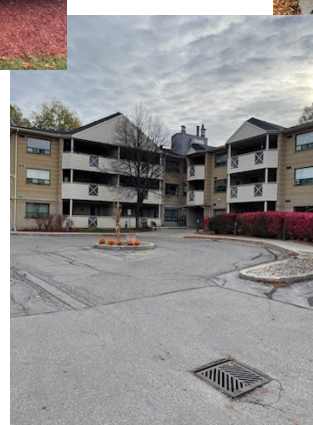
There was a meeting with most of the neighbours to explain what the plans were. Applications for re-zoning were made and soil tests were ordered. In October of 1990, the Board discussed buying a fourth property to make the building into 48 units instead of the original 41. That property was purchased in January of 1991.

The housing unit is to house seniors, physically challenged and units geared to income families.

The sod turning was done on Reformation Sunday, October 27 1991. Construction began with many delays which put the project behind at least 6 months. There were many issues that needed to be addressed and the first contractor was replaced on 1993.

St. Matthew's Lutheran Manor opened its doors on March 1994 with our Grand Opening on May 15 1994.

Sandy Ermel President of the Manor Executive



Friday Cards

Submitted by Karen Farrow

FRIDAY CARDS – 1:30 until we're finished!

Our Friday afternoons in the auditorium is filled with fun and laughter and sometimes serious card players. Our little group consists of solo players and euchre players. We have between 15 and 20 people who attend weekly.

We would love to see that number double or even triple so please pass the word around the community. We start in September and end in May. It costs \$2 to play and, if you wish, \$1 to purchase a 50/50 ticket.

In previous years the dollars, through the Outreach Committee, went towards the purchase of therapy cats for people living with dementia in Nursing Homes. This year the dollars, since September, are being used to purchase tokens for the Good Food Box. With the help of the Salvation Army, these tokens will be distributed to families in need of fresh food in the community.

People are loving the chairlift and loving the camaraderie!!!!



Women's Group

Submitted by Sue Seifert

Our ladies had two opportunities in October to enjoy a time of fellowship, discussion, prayer and of course, food. It was so good to be together!





Collection of Creches

Submitted by Laurel Andrews

St. Matthew's is once again planning on opening our doors to the public for our Collection of Creches display.

We are asking everyone who has a cherished nativity to bring them to the church to be part of this display. The display will take place from November 24 until December 1.

You can bring in your nativity (nativities) beginning November 13. Someone will be available to receive them November 13 from 1:00 to 4:00, November 14 from 1:00 to 4:00 and November 17 after service. Additional drop off dates may be added, so check the St. Matthew's facebook for dates and times.

You will be able to pick up your nativity after the display to have it back home for Advent.

We look forward to seeing the many beautiful nativities you share with us. And . . . In addition to asking for your nativities to display, we are also asking for volunteers to help deliver posters; receive nativities; set up the nativities; acting as hosts for the display (which may require you to operate the elevator and/or chair lift; packing up nativities. If you can help in any of these capacities please contact Laurel Andrews at 519-373-4004 or the church office at 519-364-2240.

Thank you!

Community Events

It's in the stores already – Hallowe'en and Christmas decorations together – it seems too early for Christmas!

It's not, however, too early to secure your reserved tickets for the 2024 Grey Bruce Singers concert – Coming Up Christmas Time. The online Box Office opens on Wed.Oct. 16 th with tickets available through www.greybrucesingers.ca . If you wish to use the telephone line – 519-506-6902 – just leave a message and the manager will call you back.

Under the direction of talented Krista Bell and the amazing accompaniment of Yuki Okumoto Stocovaz, the choir will offer both sacred and secular music to celebrate the season. From Celebrate the King to Gordon Lightfoot's hauntingly familiar A Song for a Winter's Night to National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation to the Hallelujah Chorus, there will be something for everyone!

Tickets are \$20.00 per person with children 12 and under only \$5.00. Don't miss the enthusiastic choir and leaders as they open your Christmas season.



**Coming up
Christmas Time**

November 15 - 17, 2024
Friday - 7:30 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday Matinees - 2:00 p.m.

Hanover Civic Theatre
Adults \$20 Child \$5 (12 and under)

Tickets on Sale October 16, 2024
at www.greybrucesingers.ca
Call Box Office 519-506-6902 for information

Like us on Facebook






Hanover Community Players
present

The Sound of Music

Fri. Nov. 29, Thurs. Dec. 5, Fri. Dec. 6
at 7:00 p.m.

Sat. Nov. 30, Sun. Dec. 1, Sat. Dec. 7, Sun. Dec. 8
at 2:00 p.m.

Online tickets on sale Oct. 15th

Group rates available

www.hanovercommunityplayers.ca

Call 519-506-6902 after Oct. 15th if preferred

Community Events



Annual Christmas ART SHOW & SALE

305 Tenth Street, Hanover

Our Christmas Gallery is now OPEN! Choose from paintings, wall art, woodworking, jewelry, glass work, textile art and more!



saugeenartists@gmail.com



www.saugeenartistsguild.com



@saugeenartists



Saugeen Artists Guild



November Hours

Wednesday - Saturday: 10:00am to 5:00pm

Sunday - Tuesday: Closed

December Hours

Monday - Saturday: 10:00am to 5:00pm

Sunday: 1:00pm to 4:00pm



Community Events



THE PAISLEY CONCERT CHOIR PRESENTS

Silent
NIGHTS
Joyful
LIGHTS

22 NOV 7:30
HANOVER
ST. MATTHEW'S
LUTHERAN

23 NOV 2:00
OWEN SOUND
ST. ANDREW'S
PRESBYTERIAN

24 NOV 7:30
PAISLEY
KNOX
UNITED

ADULTS \$20
UNDER 18 FREE

WWW.PAISLEYCHOIR.COM