

# St. Matthew's Lutheran Pioneers

## MISSION STATEMENT

Lutheran Pioneers is a Youth Ministry that exists to reach out and nurture the youth of the world with the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

## ORGANIZATION

In September 1951 St. John's Lutheran Church in Burlington, Wisconsin formed the first Train of the Lutheran Pioneers. In September 1971 St. Matthew's became Train 284. From 1971 until 1987, boys in fourth grade and older took part in the St. Matthew's Pioneer program. In 1988 St. Matthew's added the Buckaroo program which involves boys in first through third grade. In January 1994 St. Matthew's added the Trooper program for advanced Pioneers.

## MEETINGS

Buckaroos, Recruits, Campers and Troopers will meet every 2nd, 4th and 5th Tuesday of every month from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M. Buckaroos will normally meet in the church basement and the Recruits and Campers will meet in the school gym or Loft. There may be special dates and times for events like campouts, field trips, etc. Parents will be informed by a schedule or special notes sent home. Parents are asked to come into the meeting areas at 8:00 P.M. to pickup their children.

## DUES

Yearly dues are \$12.00 per boy with a maximum of \$36.00 per family. The dues may be paid at the first meeting or special arrangements may be made with the Pioneer Treasurer. The dues are split with approximately \$5.00 going to the National Pioneer Office and the remaining \$7.00 remaining in the St. Matthew's Train treasury. An explanation of exactly what the dues are used for will be explained at the orientation meeting.

## ACHIEVEMENT

All boys are expected to fulfill certain requirements each year. Buckaroos have a schedule-paced program at which the boys progress while Pioneers have a self-paced program. For Recruits and Pioneers to participate in certain events, three chapters need to be completed by approximately May 1st. To help the boys achieve these goals, we will have handbooks for home study and use at meetings. We also have videos and live demonstrations illustrating a specific topic. Certificates and awards are earned for successful achievement.

## DISCIPLINE

Normally discipline is not a problem; but if it arises, the boys' Leaders will address it. If a problem continues, the Trainmaster will address it with parents present.

## PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

We all live in a very fast-paced world and it is sometimes difficult to find special time for our children. Why not stay at some of the meetings with your son or offer a special talent you may have? We appreciate the help. But the one who appreciates your involvement more is your very own child. You are your children's most important role model, please come and join us and lead by example.