



Greetings, People of God!

This year the beginning of April coincides with the beginning of the most important time of the Christian year, Holy Week and Easter. Those of us who live in the Northern Hemisphere are used to meteorological conditions mirroring our liturgical calendar. We expect the weather to change from cold to mild, the days to lengthen from dark to light, and nature to switch from bare to bloom just as Lent moves into Easter and the cross gives way to the empty tomb.

If we have always been part of the church, we are no longer surprised the news of Jesus' resurrection. When we hear "Christ is risen!" we automatically respond "He is risen, indeed" without really thinking about it. It seems as natural as the change of seasons. It's hard for us to hear the astonishment in the Easter gospel of the women gathered around the empty tomb.

Yet, the resurrection makes the shocking claim that the impossible is not only possible but has happened! The dream we couldn't even imagine has already come true! As you invite family, friends, or neighbors to join us in worship this Easter, remember that we gather to celebrate the gift that only the resurrection can give: hope.

Peace, Pastor Traci

Holy Week Schedule

<u>April 5</u> No Meal No Lenten Service	<u>April 6</u> Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m. Service	<u>April 7</u> Tenebrae Service 7:00 p.m.	<u>April 9</u> Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Easter Sunday 10:30 a.m. Service
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**Camp Sunday:
April 30, 2023**

Sunday, April 30th
we'll welcome Hanna
Weimer, Sequanota's
Programming
Coordinator, for a

special day of camp-style worship. Wear
your camp shirt and get ready to clap along.



Pastor Traci 's Vacation

Emergency contacts while Pastor Traci is on
vacation is as follows:

Pastor Drew McCaffery - 814-538-9036
Pastor Marty Jo Stellabotte – 814-934-9941



St. Matthew's Website

www.stmatthewLC.com

Have you checked out the website lately?

- ❖ You can find a monthly calendar of events
- ❖ Weekly copies of the Sunday Bulletin
- ❖ Monthly copies of "The Messenger"
- ❖ Links to ELCA important sites
- ❖ Online giving options
- ❖ And so much more

We also are on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/stmatthewlc



Prayer Vigil

Scheduled at St. Matthew Lutheran Church on Friday, April 9th, from 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Members are asked to commit one half hour to pray for any concerns of a personal, church, or worldwide nature. We hope to have enough participation to fill a twelve-hour time period with continuous prayer. The sign-up sheet is located on the **bulletin board in the Narthex**. This is an excellent way for you to enrich your spiritual and prayer life. If you would like to participate and can't come to the church to sign up please call the church office at 814-793-2413.

Martinsburg Food Pantry

Volunteers from Clover Creek Church of the Brethren will be assisting with the regular volunteers to distribute food on the following Thursdays, April 6 and April 20. The Pantry will be open from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m., and other times by appointment.

Following is the most needed food items for April: Cereal, Ravioli, Mashed Potatoes, Kidney Beans, Canned Peaches. These or any other donations can be placed in the basket marked "Food Pantry" at church. Many Thanks! *Linda Smith*



Breaking Bread

April 3, 2023

5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Martinsburg Church of God

123 Market St., Martinsburg, PA 16662

Menu: Lasagna, Salad, Italian Bread, and Desserts!

Cost: FREE, Just like God's Love!



April 2023

In this month's issue of *Stewardship* there is a story of a lady who had difficulties speaking clearly. So, when she was asked to be a greeter and welcome worshippers on Sundays, she wanted to say no.

Her thinking led her to the story of Moses. She remembered that when God called Moses to lead the Jews out of Egypt, he tried to dodge the responsibility. Moses reminded the Lord that he had a speech impediment and could not properly carry out what God desired him to do. God told Moses that he wanted Moses to do the job and that he would help him to achieve the task. The lady, who was asked to be a greeter, decided that she would give it a try. After all, even if she were totally mute, she could communicate lovingly by a winsome smile and a warm handshake.

Her story is a reminder God can use each of us in one way or another. Christian stewardship means being willing to use any and all of the gifts God has given us or will give us to enhance the kingdom of God on earth.

Jesus gave us his mandate in the 5th chapter of Matthew: "You are the light of the world. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel, but on the lamp stand and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

Prayer: *Loving God, giver of every good and perfect gift, help us to use the light you give us to repel the darkness of sin and evil and to make our world to be as you desire it to be in our Lord's name, Amen.*

A **Stewardship Minute** is available to subscribers of **Stewardship** at www.parishpublishing.org.



Your faithful support makes sure we can put plans into action this year – spring, summer, and fall. Bible Camp will return to the Artic in October. Many thanks for the \$1,315.50 donation to OEW's.

Rev. Lesley Hand
Executive Dir. Of On Eagles Wing's

Thank you to the volunteers involved in the Lenten lunch program. I have been hospitalized the last couple of weeks and the meals have been greatly appreciated!

Dawn Alexy

Many thanks for the delicious lunches that were brought to me from the many volunteers and committees during Lent. The meals have been greatly appreciated!

Mary Jane Allison

Thank you to all those who prepared and delivered the Lenten meals, they were delicious and appreciated. It's great to be remembered. Wishing everyone well and many prayers.

Ginny Sell



Sequanota Events

April 21-23: Love Your Mother Retreat)

We all need to be outside more Whether it is after the pandemic, or a new year's habit – nature tells us who we are and whose we are. Join us for the benefit 5K. Enjoy nature as it springs to life, Bible study, tree planting and an engaging session on how we play a role in caring for our home. Please RSVP – 814-629-6627 or www.sequanota.com or contact@sequanota.com.

April 22: 5K Benefit

Run or walk at home or choose one of two marked courses at Sequanota Watch the website and Facebook page for more information.

April 27: Adult Day Bible Study

9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. We will be exploring the Gospel of Matthew, which is the gospel read most Sundays this year. Cost: \$10 includes lunch @ Bowersox Center.

Prayers and Congratulations



go to Elaine Buchart and family upon the birth of a great grandson, Russell James Buchart, on Tuesday, February 21, 2023.



NOTE!
ADDRESS CHANGE

Jacob Orczeck

3636 Snyder Rd, Unit 326
Kodak, TN 37764

Alzheimers & Related Dementia Support Group

Thursday, April 27, 2023

2:00 p.m. in the Club Room at Homewood
(3rd floor of Northview Apartments)

Come and share your stories and advice with others who have a loved one with dementia.

Contact Erin Weaver, Social Services, with questions at 814-793-1338 or eeweaver@hmwd.org

Pvt. Bradley Lester Buchart, 18, of New Enterprise

graduated from the United States Marine Corps boot camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island on February 23, 2023. Pvt. Buchart successfully completed 13 weeks of intensive basic training as one of 54 recruits in Training Platoon 4006. While in recruit training Pvt. Buchart accomplished the following: expert rifle, was a series guide flag holder for a period of time and graduated as a squad leader and a platoon artist.



Local Man Graduates United States Marine Corps Boot Camp

Pvt. Buchart is the grandson of Elaine Buchart and the late Lester Buchart. Pvt. Buchart is the son of Gunnar Buchart, brother of Brandon Buhcart and the nephew of Matthew Buchart. Pictured with Pvt. Buchart is Bailee Gorman his niece.

THIRD CENTURY FUND (ENDOWMENT FUND)

ENDOWMENT FUND



The Third Century Fund had a good earnings year in 2022 and as a result has \$6,056.37 for distribution in 2023. You or your committee may request funding in writing by contacting David Lehman, chairperson, or committee members Allen Kuster, Laura Orczeck, Beth Garner or Pastor Traci.

Deadline to submit a request is Sunday, May 28, 2023. Funds will be distributed in June 2023.

The following is from the by-laws of the Third Century Fund and outline the guidelines for fund requests.

PURPOSE

The St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund is established to encourage responsible Christian stewardship and to promote the mission of the congregation. In response to God's love and mercy, the Endowment Fund seeks to enhance and expand the mission outreach objectives of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Members and friends of St. Matthew congregation are encouraged to practice responsible Christian Stewardship by making contributions to the Endowment Fund. There are a variety of ways such gifts can be made such as, Cash, Securities, Bequests through wills or living trusts, Life insurance policies, charitable gift annuity and Life estates.

The Endowment Fund provides financial support for the church in a manner that is separate from the expenditures normally funded by the annual operating budget of the congregation.

USE OF THE FUND

All contributions to the St. Matthew Lutheran Church Endowment Fund will be undesignated and added to the principal balance of the fund. The Endowment fund principal balance will be retained and only the dividend income will be used for annual disbursements.

Consideration for awarding fund requests will be given using the following guidelines.

1. Youth of all ages - scholarship support of congregational members and their children; for youth events, for church camps or similar Christian programs and education.
2. Christian outreach ministries and missions of St. Matthew Lutheran Church, its members and the ELCA.
3. Worship and Music - support for the worship of St, Matthew.
4. Capital Projects - major renovations or building projects of St. Matthew.

SERVING GOD AND US April 2023

Date	April 2 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	April 9 <i>Easter Sunday</i>	April 16	April 23	April 30
Acolytes	Gavin Kuster	Jeffrey Hoenstine Max Baker Mace Baker	Calleigh Wright	Jay Hoenstine	Gabby Decker
Lectors	Kaye Burket	Steve Oswalt	Youth	Destarta Carberry	Mary Baker
Altar Guild	Jackie Lightner Tina Harclerode Jane Fagans	Jackie Lightner Tina Harclerode Jane Fagans	Jackie Lightner Tina Harclerode Jane Fagans	Jackie Lightner Tina Harclerode Jane Fagans	Jackie Lightner Tina Harclerode Jane Fagans
Assist. Min.	Melissa Fetzer	Jane Fagans	Youth	Jean Sinal	Mike Lamborn
Offering Counters	Beth Garner Jim Barley	Beth Garner Jim Barley	Beth Garner Jim Barley	Beth Garner Jim Barley	Beth Garner Jim Barley
Audio/Video	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster
Ushers	Stanley Smith	Ed Kreider	Paul Decker	Tina Harclerode	Steve Oswalt

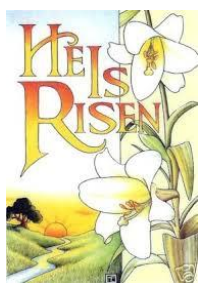
Maundy Thursday, April 6, 2023,
Lector – Melissa Fetzer;

April Birthdays

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Amanda Decker | 5 Jay Hoenstine | 15 Mary Jane Allison |
| Paul Helsel | 6 Wendy McCauley | 17 Michael Lamborn |
| James C. Walter | 7 Abby Carder | James Russell |
| 2 L. Colin Hoover | Camden Kuster | 20 Ruth E. Johnson |
| 3 Rachel L. Kensinger | 12 Robert P. Dickson | 21 Miles I. Lamborn |
| 4 Jane S. Carpenter | Keith A. McGraw | 23 Randy C. McGraw |
| Makaila Tremmel | 14 Elaine Hoover | |

April Anniversaries

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 17 David B. & Linda L. Lehman | 25 Jim & Pam Russell |
| Bruce & Brandi Ross | 25 Wade T. & Michele M. Smith |
| 20 Matt & Samantha Freyer | |



Easter Joy

By Joanna Fuchs

Jesus came to earth, To show us how to live, How to put others first,
How to love and how to give.

Then He set about His work, That God sent Him to do; He took our punishment on Himself;
He made us clean and new.

He could have saved Himself, Calling angels from above, But He chose to pay our price for
sin; He paid it out of love.

Our Lord died on Good Friday, But the cross did not destroy His resurrection on Easter morn That fills our
hearts with joy.

Now we know our earthly death, Like His, is just a rest. We'll be forever with Him In heaven, where life is best.

So we live our lives for Jesus, Think of Him in all we do. Thank you Savior;
Thank you Lord. Help us love like you!

2023 COUNCIL DIRECTORY AND MINISTRY STAFF

All phone numbers start with (814) unless otherwise noted.

Pastor	Rev. Traci Marriott	935-9267	Christian Ed.	Jean Sinal	793-9507
Admin. Assist.	Lori Tremmel	696-3802	Evangelism	Michael Lamborn	793-4212
Assist. Admin. Assist.	Laura Orczeck	224-1208	Stewardship	Vacant	
President	Martie Gilbert	793-4461	Finance	Jim Barley	793-4623
Vice President	Greg Haffling	793-9827	Social Ministry	Tina Harclerode	317-5312
Secretary	Vacant		Worship & Music	Jane Fagans	793-4401
Treasurer	Beth Garner	793-3966	Staff Support	Kaye Burket	224-5224
Financial Secretary	Vacant		Sexton	Phil Claar	215-0885
Property	Ed Kreider	793-4302			

HIGHLIGHTS BY COUNCIL IN JANUARY 2023

We have no secretary on council to post highlights.



April 2023

St. Matthew Lutheran Church
 115 E Penn St., Martinsburg, PA 16662-1127
 Email: stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com
 814-793-2413



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
FH—Fellowship Hall CE-Christian Ed Office CL—Church Lounge QR—Quilt Room WR— Window Room K—Kitchen In case of emergency, Pastor Traci may be reached at 814-935-9267 Lori will be in the Office Mon.-Fri. from 9:00 am-12:00 pm						
2 Palm Sunday 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary with Congregation Mtg.	3 6:00 pm Cub/Boy Scouts, SR	4	5 1-4 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga, FH	6 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St. 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Communion Serv.	7 Office Closed 6:00 am-6:00 pm Prayer Vigil in your homes 7:00 pm Tenebrae Community Serv.	8
9 The Resurrection of Our Lord 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	10 Office Closed	11 6:30 pm Council Mtg., WR/Zoom	12	13	14	15
Pastor Traci on vacation. In case of emergency call Pastor Drew McCaffery at 814-538-9036 from 4/11-4/16.						
16 2nd Sunday of Easter Youth Sunday 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	17 6:00 pm Cub/Boy Scouts, SR	18	19	20 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St.	21 Pastor's Sabbath	22 5K Run/Walk at Camp or at Home
Pastor Traci on vacation. In case of emergency call Pastor Marty Jo Stellabotte at 814-934-9941 from 4/17-4/19						
23 3rd Sunday of Easter 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary with OEW Missionary	24 6:00 pm Cub/Boy Scouts, SR	25 12:30-3:00 pm Knotty Ladies, QR	26 1-4 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga, FH	27	28 Pastor's Sabbath	29
30 4th Sunday of Easter Camp Sunday 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary						