



Saint Matthew
LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. Matthew's Messenger

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

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AUGUST 2023

Number 8

Greetings, People of God!

This time last month I was in Sarasota, FL with some of the youth from our congregation and synod, working on relief efforts in the wake of the massive destruction from Hurricane Ian. We also spent some time at the local beach both for recreation and for a worship service led by the pastor of our host church—a service which turned out to be an incredible witness to the other beach-goers. Still, as I'm starting to pack for a week at Sequanota, the Florida trip is beginning to feel like a distant memory.

Except for the sand. Now, the beach is never my first choice of vacation destinations. I get sunburned really easily. I don't love being sticky from the salt water, sandy from the beach, or sweaty from the heat. I prefer not to swim where I can't see what else might be swimming with me. Even after nearly a month of unpacking and doing laundry, I still feel like I haven't gotten rid of the sand. My beach bag—still a little sandy. My shoes—still a little sandy. My sunscreen—still a little sticky...and sandy.

Jesus describes the kingdom of God using metaphors similar to that sand: start with just a little bit of it, and soon you find that it is everywhere. Just like sand can be an irritant, Jesus describes the kingdom as being a little irritating, too. The gospel comforts, but then sometimes it calls us to do work that takes us outside of our comfort zone.

As we study scripture together, I hope the good news of God's love brings us the peace that passes all understanding. I also hope that as the gospel sticks with us, every once in a while we come across an irritating little bit that motivates us to better help the world know that same love.

*Peace,
Pastor Traci*

Study on the ELCA Social Statement on Civic Life & Faith

The ELCA addresses contemporary social issues and seeks to offer theologically informed guidance regarding the questions of modern life through documents called *Social Statements*. The whole church helps author these statements through studies and feedback gathered as they are being written; social statements are then adopted by the Churchwide Assembly. We are currently in the study and feedback phase of a social statement that will speak to the intersection of the Church and civic life. What are our responsibilities as Christian disciples in a democracy?

Please join Pastors Traci, Amanda, and MartyJo and the area Lutheran churches for this six-week study on Civic Life & Faith. We will meet on Thursdays at 7PM with light refreshments:

August 17th: Christ, Claysburg
August 24th: St. Matthew, Martinsburg
August 31st: St. Luke, Roaring Spring
September 7th: Newry Lutheran
September 14th & 21st: Location To Be Announced

If you can't attend every week, please join us for the weeks you're available. At the end of our study, we will provide feedback to the Churchwide task force.



Thanks you so much for the generous donation of \$500.00 from the 3rd Century Fund to Camp Kesem. The camp helps many children deal with emotions of a loved one having or dying from cancer.

The Tremmel Families

I deeply appreciate the generous scholarship of \$1,000.00 from the St. Matthew Third Century Fund for my final undergraduate year at Juniata College. Again, I will be pursuing studies in law and sociology during the 2023 to 2024 term. Presently, I am preparing to take exams for entry into law school and will be applying to various juris doctorate programs this fall. Again, thank you for your generosity and support during my undergraduate studies.

Gratefully, *Olivia R. Day*

I can't say thank you enough for the generosity of St. Matthew ELC and the Third Century Committee! I am so grateful for your funding and continued support as I further my education. Thank you so much for your investment in my future.

Elizabeth Haffling

Endowment Committee and People of St. Matthew, Thank you for the monetary gift from the St. Matthew endowment fund to assist with my college expenses at St. Francis University. I truly appreciate the congregation's ongoing support of my academic and athletic endeavors. I am blessed to be part of such a wonderful church family. *Jeff Hoenstine*

To the Congregation of St. Matthew:

Many, Many thanks for your partnership and prayerful support of the Breezewood Trucker Traveler Ministry. Your recent Easter envelope collection of \$1,032 is such a blessing to us for your generous giving! Your involvement helps us to offer the love and care of Christ among the highway community: truckers, travelers, and local staff.

Each new week and season brings opportunities to share the riches of the gospel in this busy highway!

In Christ Service,

Bruce Maxwell, Chaplain

Martinsburg Food Pantry

Volunteers from the Martinsburg Mennonite Church will be helping to distribute food on Thursdays, August 3 and August 17 from 9:00 until 11:00 a.m. along with the regular volunteers. If anyone harvests more vegetables or fruit than can be used, we will welcome it on the dates it is open! When you are shopping, the Food Pantry is providing school supplies, again, which can be placed in the school box in the narthex.

Items most needed for August: Juice, Peanut Butter, Spaghetti, Tomato Sauce, Fruit. Many thanks for all your donations!

Many thanks for your donations! Linda Smith

Supplies for Food Pantry (K-5)



We'll be collecting school supplies to give children going back to school in August and September. Please look for items when you shop and place them in the "school bus" at church in the Fellowship Hall.

- Crayola Crayons (24 colors)
- 12 pack of #2 pencils & large erasers
- Crayola washable markers (10 colors)
- Crayola colored pencils (24 color set)
- Highlighters (yellow, pink & green)
- Elmer's large glue sticks (.77 oz.)
- 8½x11 spiral notebooks (3 hole punched)
- Elmer's washable school glue (4 oz bottle)



**Lutheran Day at the
Altoona Curve**

Sunday, August 13, 2023

Game begins at 6:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$7:00 each

**Register with the Synod Office
by Friday, August 1, 2023**



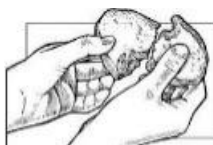
A Stewardship Minute AUGUST 2023

An article in the August issue of Stewardship reminds us of our duty to respond to God's goodness. For example, the article states that no portion of "our time" is really our time ... it is all God's "time" and we should be grateful for the days and years God gives us to live here on earth. Likewise, since our bodies, minds, and spirits are gifts to us from God, we have the responsibility to use them all to honor God. If we misuse our minds, our bodies, or our talents, we are not being good stewards of what God has given us; we are ignoring the Source of our existence and thus cheating both God and ourselves.

In the fifth chapter of Matthew we find Jesus saying: "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can it be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but it is thrown out and trampled underfoot." Are we good "salt" striving to give a wonderful flavor to this world through our stewardship or are we simply living for ourselves without trying to serve God? If we are to be effective "salt," doesn't this mean that we must live as God's people striving to be good stewards of our time, talents, and whatever resources God has given us? Surely Christ's desire for us as his servants is to work to bring love, peace, hope, and service to the entire world!

Prayer: Help us to live our lives being worthy stewards, dear Lord, that we may ultimately enjoy eternal fellowship with you. **Amen.**

A Stewardship Minute is available online: at www.parishpublishing.org.



Breaking Bread

August 14, 2023

5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Martinsburg Church of God
123 Market St., Martinsburg, PA 16662
Cost: FREE, Just like God's Love!

Ways to Make Donations to St. Matthew

Giving Online: Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. Simply follow these easy steps:

- 1) Visit the church website at "www.stmatthewlc.com"
- 2) Click on the "Giving" button, (at the left side of the main screen)
- 3) Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.

QRCode Offerings:

- 1) Hold your mobile phone in the camera position over the "QR Code"
- 2) A link will pop up on your phone and tap the link
- 3) Follow the instructions on your phone.



Share the Harvest



The "Share the Harvest" table is up and running. In the months to come, if you have extra fruit or vegetables to share with members of the congregation, please bring your items and place them on a table in the Narthex. Members will be able to help themselves to items as desired. Any remaining produce after Sunday morning will be given away at the discretion of the donor.

"Let us share God's harvest with others."

St. Matthew Lutheran Worship/Church Picnic

Sunday, August 20, 2023

11:00 a.m. at Ed Kreider's Farm

Chicken, table service, and beverage will be provided. Bring a covered dish to share, sides, salads, and desserts.

Bring a chair and come join us. All are welcome!

Directions: From Martinsburg, take 164 East to Fredericksburg. Turn **left** on Clover Creek Road and follow for 2¾ miles to Kreider Lane on the right.



SERVING GOD AND US AUGUST 2023

Date	August 6	August 13	August 20 <i>Kreider Farm 11:00 a.m.</i>	August 27
Lectors	Linda Smith	Melissa Fetzer	Steve Oswalt	Jean Sinal
Altar Guild	Tonya Walter	Tonya Walter	Tonya Walter	Tonya Walter
Offering Counters	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
Ushers	Randy McGraw	Dennis Smith	Greg Haffling	Jeff Garner
Assist. Min.	Jane Fagans	Greg Haffling	Elaine Smith	Jim Barley

Anniversaries for August

04 Chris & Michelle Cronrath	11 Jimmy & Lori Reimer 5 th	25 Les & Sandy Loomis
06 Russell & Anita Hoover 35 th	15 Barry & Carla Brumbaugh	26 Richard & Cindy Snyder 45 th
07 Jason Close & Jessica Orczeck	18 Michael & Catherine Corcoran 10 th	29 Carlos & Amanda Lamborn
08 Jay & Mary Baker	21 Matthew & Heather Nelson	30 John E. & Doris L. Waddick

Birthdays for August

01 Laura Webb	14 James Negley	24 Anita Hoover
05 Tracey Dennis	Austin Replogle	26 Connor Neely
06 Destarta Carberry	15 Jaelynn Tremmel	27 Calleigh Wright
08 Christopher Bush	16 Dennis Brown	28 Gunnar Buchart
09 Sabrena Beyer	Steve Oswalt	30 Tina Harclerode
12 Benjamin Decker	19 Linda Smith	Matthew Parks
Jacob Russell	20 Peggy Steinfurth	31 Rachel Bithell
13 Isaac Russell	21 Erica Kaurudar	Jamie Richardson
14 C J Gahagan	Dr. Lanny Ross	



Sight and Sound Bus Excursion to see *Moses!*

Join the Martinsburg Boosters for this exciting excursion to see Sight & Sound live on stage production of Moses on Wednesday, October 4th, 2023. **Price per individual will be \$160.**

From the banks of the Nile River to the depths of the Red Sea, MOSES is a spectacular entertainment experience for the whole family! Set adrift as a baby, he is an unlikely hero—until God calls him to lead His people out of Egypt and into the Promised Land. Journey with Moses as he ventures through the wilderness, encounters God at the burning bush, and ascends to the top of Mount Sinai. Experience one of the Bible's most epic stories as MOSES comes to life with massive sets, special effects, and live animals in this original stage production.

Reservation Deadline:

- August 20, 2023

Payment:

- Check payable to Duane Bordell or Cash

For More Information

See the bulletin board in the Narthex

Or

Contact Duane Bordell, Raystown Transit Service at 814-944-2585
1117 Logan Blvd., Altoona, PA 16602

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	Elaine Smith	(434) 981-0560	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			

NO HIGHLIGHTS BY COUNCIL, THEY DIDN'T MEET IN JULY.

Join Lutheran Women friends at a Day of Renewal on August 26 from 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the beautiful Altoona Grand Hotel at 1 Sheraton Drive, Altoona. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with coffee and pastries. Keynote speaker is Pastor Rebecca West from Moxham Lutheran Church. Activities will include paint pouring, easy exercises, crafts, and assembling kits for Lutheran World relief. After the sessions, enjoy lunch. Dress is casual. Please register by August 16. Send a \$10.00 check or money order to Donna College with the registration form on the right.

ASWO Day of Renewal

ALLEGHENY SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION

DAY OF RENEWAL

The Altoona Grand Hotel, 1 Sheraton Drive, Altoona, PA
Saturday, August 26, 2023

REGISTRATION FORM

(Please complete a separate form for each person attending. Make copies as needed.)

ALL REGISTRATIONS ARE DUE August 16, 2023

Name _____
(first) (last)

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Congregation _____

City _____

Registration Fee: \$10.00

Please send check or money order (payable to Allegheny SWO) to:

**Donna College
188 Grabill Road
Osterburg PA 16667**



Blessing of Backpacks and Those Who Carry Them

Calling all backpacks, briefcases, lunchboxes and those who carry them to join us Sunday, August 27th for a special blessing as we begin the new school year.

Sunday, August 27th during the 9:30 a.m. worship service.



2023 ALSM ANNUAL AUXILIARY APPEAL

Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries (ALSM) is celebrating 75 years of service to ALSM residents who have limited funds. The Auxiliary supports ALSM'S senior communities through benevolent care and gifts to enhance the daily lives of residents by funding life enrichment programs. Auxiliary members have contributed more than \$2 million annually in benevolent care to those ALSM residents with limited funds. St. Matthew has always been a significant contributor to this benevolent care program. Any amount of gift will be greatly appreciated. A gift of just \$10.00 provides a meal for a resident. St. Matthew's appeal will run for the months of July and August. Please fill out the form in the bulletin insert and return with your gift (cash or check) to the church office, Martie Gilbert or to ALSM. Additional forms are located at the Usher's Station in the Narthex. Please prayerfully consider giving to this very life sustaining appeal.

To support this appeal, you may also place Cash or **CHECK PAYABLE TO – “ALSM AUXILIARY”** in a plain envelope along with indication and names if this is in “Honor” or “Memory” gift. Please make sure your name is included and give to Martie Gilbert, Key Lady. **(Deadline for donations is Sunday, August 27, 2023.)**

Please accept my gift of:

(check one, please)

___ \$875

___ \$100

___ \$75

___ \$30

___ \$10

Other: \$ _____

Thank You for
helping us touch lives
over the past 75 years!

Allegheny Lutheran
Social Ministries
Attn: Advancement Office
998 Logan Blvd.
Altoona, PA 16602
814.696.4500

Please make your check payable to Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries

My gift is in honor of: (living) _____

My gift is in memory of: (deceased) _____



2023 Annual Auxiliary Appeal



Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip Code _____

Congregation (if applicable) _____ City _____



August 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 CL—Church Lounge WR— Window Room K—Kitchen In case of emergency, Pastor Traci may be reached at 814-935-9267 Lori/Laura will be in the Office Mon.-Fri. from 9:00 am-12:00 pm	CE-Christian Ed Office QR—Quilt Room In case of emergency, Pastor Traci may be reached at 814-935-9267	1	2	3 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St.	4	5
6 10th Sun. after Pentecost 9:30 am Worship in Sanctuary Staff Support Meeting following worship.	7 6:00 pm Worship & Music Mtg., via Zoom	8 6:30 pm Council Mtg., WR/Zoom	9 1-4 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga, FH	10	11 Pastor's Sabbath	12
13 11th Sun. after Pentecost 9:30 am Worship in Sanctuary 6:00 pm Synod Day at the Curve	14	15	16 1-4 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga, FH	17 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St. 7:00 pm Civic Life & Faith, Christ Lutheran, Claysburg	18 Pastor's Sabbath	19
20 12th Sun. after Pentecost 11:00 am Worship at the Kreider Farm Lunch will follow the service September Messenger Deadline	21 10:00 am Employee Meeting, FH 1-4 pm Pastor in Office	22 12:30-3:00 pm Knotty Ladies, QR	23	24 7:00 pm Civic Life & Faith, St. Matthew Lutheran, Martinsburg, Fellowship Hall	25 Pastor's Sabbath	26
27 13th Sun. after Pentecost 9:30 am Worship in Sanctuary Backpack Blessing during worship	28 6:30 pm Social Ministry Mtg., Zoom	29 12:30-3:00 pm Knotty Ladies, QR	30 1-4 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga, FH	31 7:00 pm Civic Life & Faith, St. Luke Lutheran, Roaring Spring		
<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Lori Tremmel is on vacation. Laura Orceck will be in the office from 9:00 am-12:00 pm.</div>						