



Saint Matthew
LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. Matthew's Messenger

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

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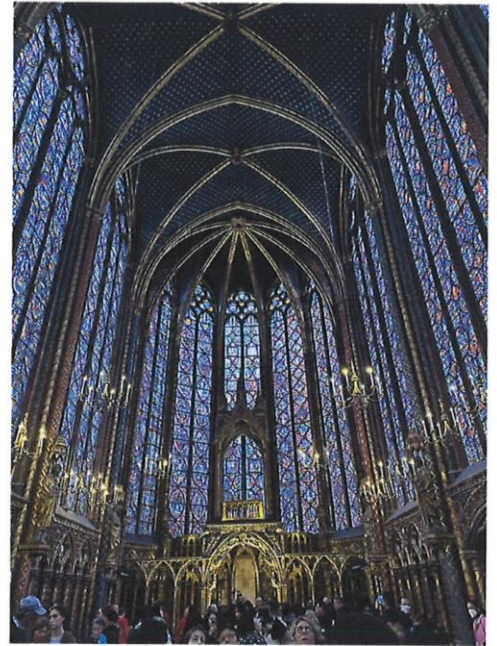
Greetings People of God:

On vacation I visited Sainte-Chapelle, which though smaller than the neighboring Notre-Dame, is also a few years older. We waited in line for about 15 minutes and spent about \$15 to see the gorgeous stained glass windows, which date to the mid-1200's. The chapel is breathtaking, and it is a kind of spiritual experience to stand where saints prayed almost 800 years ago. But for a number of reasons, it didn't feel like church. No worship was happening; dozens of tourists were, like us, milling around taking pictures; we needed tickets to get in; there was a gift shop on the way out.

One of the first things I did when I came home was attend the funeral of a dear friend's mother—an unexpected death of a relatively young woman. The nave of her church was nowhere near as fancy; in fact, they don't have any stained glass windows. But the friends, family, and congregation members who gathered to hear a word of hope and be fed at the table felt very much like church.

Although nowadays you'll find tourists wandering through these beautiful historic churches as if they were museums, they all started out like any other church—a place for the faithful to worship. As inspiring as the sculptures, paintings, and stained glass may be, the true beauty of any church comes from the people who gather around word and sacrament to then go share God's love with others. *How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news. [Isaiah 52:7]*

+Pastor Traci





Martinsburg Food Pantry

The Food Pantry will be open for distribution of food on Thursdays, May 4 and May 18 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

Those helping on these Thursdays will be those from the Martinsburg Church of God besides the regular volunteers.

Following are items most needed for May:

Scalloped Potatoes, Macaroni, Tomato Sauce, Fruit and Cleaning Supplies.

Many thanks for your monetary gifts, food and other items donated to the Food Pantry!

Linda K. Smith



Many thanks to everyone who helped with the preparation and distribution of the Wednesday evening Lenten meals to our shut-ins. Some were delivered Wednesday evenings while others were delivered Thursday mornings. The recipients were very appreciative of not only the meals but the visits from those who delivered those meals. On average nine meals were delivered each week.

Thank you to Kaye Burket, Peggy Steinfurth, Lottie Ebersole, Connie Lamborn, Beth Garner and Pastor Traci.

Social Ministry Committee

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A Stewardship Minute May 2023

An article in the May issue of *Stewardship* focuses on the importance of faith and the wonderful results we discover when we take faith seriously. The author confesses that for some years faith was not always a serious matter for her. But the time came when faith became her top priority and life took on a whole new perspective. Instead of worrying and finding daily life a burden, the writer discovered that living by faith brought meaning and joy; that to have a partnership with God throughout life brought guidance, hope and strength to handle the many decisions, worries, and woes which came her way.

Think about the following: However intelligent we are, we need the wisdom and guidance of God in our lives. To live life solely on our own, going our own way, doing as we please without the guidance of God available to us surely would not be wise, would it? Especially, when one considers the indescribable intelligence and wisdom of our Creator, which is available for us when we humbly ask and faithfully follow it.

And what should be our response to the amazing grace and goodness of God? It is to be a responsible steward of all that our loving God has given and will give to us throughout life. That means to offer our all to be used by God; our hearts, minds, bodies and souls ... our resources of whatever sort. For what do we have that God has not given to us to use as God's stewards and the fulfillment of our lives?

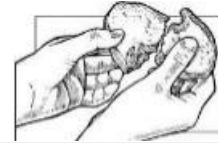
Prayer: *Dear God, you but open your loving hands toward us and shower us with all that we truly need in life. We humbly thank you. In the name of Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord. Amen*

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**You can now find the Monthly Stewardship Pamphlet on the website under "Link" at [stmatthewlc.com](http://stmatthewlc.com).**  
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Annual Directories

Are done and in a box on the table in the Narthex.
Please take your copy home with you. If you know
a sick or shut-in please take their copy to them.



Breaking Bread

May 8, 2023

5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Martinsburg Church of God
123 Market St., Martinsburg, PA 16662

Cost: FREE, Just like God's Love!

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.



Birthdays for May

1	Les Loomis	7	Kathryn A. Panek	19	Elaine L. Buchart
	Travis P. Smith	8	Joshua A. Smith		Blake Peese
2	Shanda Imler	9	Phil Claar	20	John L. Snyder
	Nelson Lamborn		Greg Haffling	21	Michael T. Panek
	Mary N. Nelson		Bonnie Ross		Joel M. Smith
3	Melinda F. Miller	13	Dan Sinal	22	Connor Johnson
4	Linda J. Brown	15	Kevin Smeltzer	26	Colin Guyer
	Travis S. Hoover	17	Alyssa Clark		Dottie Stahl
	Marjorie A. Replogle		Robert M. Kensinger	27	Jenna L. Lenhart
5	Marjorie Detwiler	18	Rev. Traci Marriott	28	Mark Johnson
	Michael B. Panek			29	Deborah McGregor

May Anniversaries

1	Ed & Kara Bennett	17	Robert F. & Patricia J. Winston
2	Shari Gilbert & Carrie Lively	18	Stephen & Kimberly Oswald
7	John & Nell Snyder	22	Joshua & Mandy Smith
11	Larry & Catherine Irvin	24	Jason Close & Jessica Orczeck
	Ronald & Robin Robison		Whitney & Emily Smith 10 th
15	Michael & Joanna Sutton	27	Shawn & Laura Orczeck

Knotty Ladies

Submitted by Peggy Steinfurth for "The Courier" (Allegheny Synodical Newsletter)



St. Matthew in Martinsburg has had a group of quilting ladies in the church for over 30 years. The women, called “the Quilting Women,” were from a group of Women of the ELCA. They started by sewing two quilts a year but decided to make the blankets in a different form realizing that so many people in the world needed to have these quilts for warmth. They renamed themselves “Knotty Ladies” and began making knotted quilts because they could finish many more in a year.

One of the women who has been a member of the group almost since its inception is 90-year old Ruth Marshall. Ruth has macular degeneration and has come to the point where she cannot even read the newspaper. When asked how she contributes to the project Ruth replied that she knots. She says “I can tie my shoes so I can make knots. Ruth says that two of St. Matthew’s quilts have been pictured in *Living Lutheran Magazine*. Her fondest quilt memory is when an African bishop was visiting the synod, she met him and gave him blankets for his two children.



Allegheny Synodical Women’s Organization 2023 Triennial Gathering

Phoenix, AZ

September 2023

Stay Connected: 1-800-638-3522 ext. 2730 or

womenoftheelca.org

or women.ELCA@elca.org



Faith-Informed Learning & Community

June 22-25, 2023

We are excited to invite you to Sequanota's Well Festival, an event that celebrates creation, wellness, social justice, and community. This unique festival offers a range of activities and events that promote physical, mental, and spiritual well-being, as well as an opportunity to enjoy the beautiful surroundings of Sequanota.

The Well Festival will take place on June 22-25 at Sequanota, and we would love to have you join us. We strive to live authentically as God’s people. Over the generations, people have found that it is easier to live and strive when we do it together. This is what the Well Festival is all about - living, learning, and loving together.

A key component of the event is to simply provide open space for participants to engage one another. The idea is for spiritual explorers to gather to find community and support as we engage in a wide range of conversations.

The festival is designed to offer different “tents” or learning experiences to provide opportunities for conversation. Maybe the conversation is new to you, or maybe you are a seasoned veteran on a topic, but this weekend is created to provide the space to discuss and explore together.

ENDOWMENT FUND



Third Century 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 one of the committee members: Beth Garner, Allen Kuster, Laura Orczeck, 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 MAY 2023

Date	May 7	May 14 <i>Mother's Day</i>	May 21	May 28
Acolytes	Lily Lightner	Calleigh Wright	Lucy Lighter	Jay Hoenstine Gavin Kuster Ben Decker
Lectors	Greg Haffling	Janet Stewart	Youth	Jeff Hoenstine
Altar Guild	Elaine Buchart Janet Stewart	Elaine Buchart Janet Stewart	Elaine Buchart Janet Stewart	Elaine Buchart Janet Stewart
Assist. Minsters	Martie Gilbert	Tina Harclerode	Youth	Elaine Smith
Offering Counters	Beth Garner Jim Barley	Beth Garner Jim Barley	Beth Garner Jim Barley	Beth Garner Jim Barley
Ushers	Melissa Fetzer	Randy McGraw	Dennis Smith	Greg Haffling
Audio/Video	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster

45 Lessons

Written by Regina Brett, 90 years old, of the Plain Dealer, Cleveland, Ohio. "To celebrate growing older, I once wrote the 45 lessons life taught me. It is the most requested column I've ever written:



1. Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
2. When in doubt, just take the next small step.
3. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone.
4. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends and parents will. Stay in touch.
5. Pay off your credit cards every month.
6. You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagree.
7. Cry with someone. It's more healing than crying alone.
8. It's OK to get angry with God. He can take it.
9. Save for retirement starting with your first paycheck.
10. When it comes to chocolate, resistance is futile.
11. Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.
12. It's OK to let your children see you cry.
13. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
14. If a relationship has to be a secret, you shouldn't be in it.
15. Everything can change in the blink of an eye. But don't worry; God never blinks.
16. Take a deep breath. It calms the mind.
17. Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful or joyful.
18. Whatever doesn't kill you really does make you stronger.
19. It's never too late to have a happy childhood. But the second one is up to you and no one else.
20. When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.
21. Burn the candles, use the nice sheets, wear the fancy lingerie. Don't save it for a special occasion. Today is special.
22. Over prepare, then go with the flow.
23. Be eccentric now. Don't wait for old age to wear purple.
24. The most important sex organ is the brain.
25. No one is in charge of your happiness but you.
26. Frame every so-called disaster with these words 'In five years, will this matter?'
27. Always choose life.
28. Forgive everyone everything.
29. What other people think of you is none of your business.
30. Time heals almost everything. Given time.
31. However good or bad a situation is, it will change.
32. Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does.
33. Believe in miracles.
34. God loves you because of who God is, not because of anything you did or didn't do.
35. Don't audit life. Show up and make the most of it now.
36. Growing old beats the alternative -- dying young.
37. Your children get only one childhood.
38. All that truly matters in the end is that you loved.
39. Get outside every day. Miracles are waiting everywhere.
40. If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back.
41. Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need.
42. The best is yet to come...
43. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.
44. Yield.
45. Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift."



Sequanota Events

May/June 2023

Spring Benefit Dinner – May 5, 2023

Time: Camp Tours at 4:45 PM; & Appetizers at 5:30; Dinner at 6:00 PM; Program at 6:45 PM
Cost: A \$55 donation is suggested. Please call the office to reserve your spot and meal choice.

Enjoy an evening dinner, fellowship, sharing about Sequanota's ministry, and the 2022 annual report. Entrée choices include marinated chicken, grilled steak, or vegetarian options. The spring benefit dinner proceeds will support camper scholarships.



Spring Work Day – Saturday, May 6, 2023

Time: 9:00 AM – mid afternoon Cost: Free and includes lunch



Volunteers Needed! Grab your work gloves and a sturdy pair of shoes to help prepare camp for the upcoming summer camp season. Please contact the camp office or sign-up online to let us know how many volunteers to expect.

Mother's Day Banquet – Sunday, May 14, 2023

Time: 2 seatings: 11:30 AM or 1:30 PM – Reservations required

Cost: Free will donations will be accepted.

Celebrate Mother's Day this year with a lovely buffet style meal without the wait time of a restaurant. Contact the camp office to make a reservation for your group.



Well Festival – Faith-informed Learning & Community – June 22-25, 2023

Come out for our brand-new event, Well Festival. This unique new experience is open to everyone. Come by yourself, bring your friends and family, or invite your whole church! Well Festival is a long weekend of growth and learning designed to bring our community closer together.

As a time of learning, Well Festival offers different "Tents" (areas of learning.) Each of our eight tents will have a different theme for the long weekend teaching different faith-based lessons on topics ranging from the environment to social justice. These lessons will be taught by a wide variety of faith leaders with the main goal of helping you grow your faith in whatever area interests you most.



Our eight areas of faith-based learning are:

- Environment
- Devotional
- Economics, Justice & Advocacy
- Food & Health
- Practical Theology
- Music
- Arts & Media
- Open Space for discussion

Well Festival will truly have something for everyone, so come on out to grow your faith and connect with others in our great Sequanota community. More information at www.sequanota.com/well

Summer Pool Season Passes – Valid June 4 – August 12, 2023 (open daily Sundays – Fridays)

Cost: \$100/individual or \$175/family



The pool will be open from 1:00 - 5:00 PM but will be adjusted for swimming lessons or other events as needed. July 18-22 & July 25-28 the pool will be closed for open swim.



May 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
	1 6:00 pm Worship & Music Mtg., via Zoom 6:00 pm Cub/Boy Scouts, SR	2	3 1-4 pm Pastor in Office 6:30 am Synod Spring Caucus, Lutheran Home Hollidaysburg	4 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St.	5 Pastor's Sabbath 4:45 pm Sequanota Spring Benefit Dinner	6 9:00 am Sequanota Spring Work Day
7 5th Sunday of Easter 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	8 6:00 pm Cub/Boy Scouts, SR 6:30 pm Social Ministry Mtg., via Zoom	9 6:30 pm Council Mtg., WR/Zoom	10 1-4 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga, FH	11 Laura/Volunteers are in the office while Lori is unavailable.	12 Pastor's Sabbath	13
14 6th Sunday of Easter 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary 1:30 pm Sequanota Mother's Day Buffet, call 814-629-6627 for reservations 1:00 pm Fellowship Hall in use	15 6:00 pm Cub/Boy Scouts, SR	16 Laura/Volunteers are in the office while Lori is unavailable.	17 Laura/Volunteers are in the office while Lori is unavailable.	18 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St.	19	20 10:00 am Cub Scout Pinewood Derby, FH
21 7th Sunday of Easter Youth Sunday 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	22 Memorial Day  Office Closed	23 12:30-3:00 pm Knotty Ladies, QR	24 10:00 am Employee Meeting, FH 1-4 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga, FH	25 Pastor's Sabbath	26 Pastor's Sabbath	27
28 Day of Pentecost 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	29 Memorial Day  Office Closed	30 12:30-3:00 pm Knotty Ladies, QR	31 1-4 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga, FH	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 Laura/Volunteers will be in the Office Mon.-Fri. from 9:00 am-12:00 pm		