



**Saint Matthew**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**St. Matthew's Messenger**  
**St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
115 E. Penn Street, Martinsburg, PA 16662-1127



Phone 814.793.2413 • Fax 814.614-4003 • e-mail [stmatthewluth@aol.com](mailto:stmatthewluth@aol.com) • web: [www.stmatthewlc.com](http://www.stmatthewlc.com)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stmatthewlc](http://www.facebook.com/stmatthewlc)

Volume 62	<b>APRIL 2022</b>	Number 4
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**Greetings People of God:**

We're just about to enter the high point of the church year, Holy Week and Easter. Although Christmas sounds like it should be the principal festival for Christians, quite literally nothing beats the Resurrection.

I have often heard resurrection compared to the natural transformations that happen around this time of year (for those of us in the Northern Hemisphere, anyway): the return of warmer, lighter days, the blooming of trees which appeared barren all winter. But those are normal, predictable cycles. In the depths of winter, we may feel as though we'll never see spring again, but spring has never yet failed to get here...eventually.

Resurrection is really quite different; instead of a foreseeable or recurring part of a cycle, resurrection breaks the cycle. The trees in winter may look lifeless, but we know they'd be better described as sleeping. We expect dead things to stay dead, but resurrection brings new life out of death in ways we would never expect. Resurrection doesn't wake us up to resume business as usual; resurrection ushers us into a whole new way of life.

Resurrection promises that not only something more, not only something better, but something new awaits us on the other side of death. The resurrected Jesus walked through walls—that was new! But resurrection is part of this life, too, not in the predictable cycles of weather or plants but when we're surprised by something new and beautiful: broken glass that becomes mosaic art; abandoned railways that become bike trails; organizations that, having outlived their mission, gift their resources for a new community service.

Many times, when something breaks, a repair or a restoration is sufficient. But sometimes only resurrection will do. This Easter may we celebrate the God for whom nothing—not even death—is beyond the hope of a new and beautiful life.

*Pastor Traci*

***Holy Week Schedule***

<u><b>April 13</b></u> Lenten Meal at 6:00 p.m. Lenten Service at 7:00 p.m.	<u><b>April 14</b></u> Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m. Service	<u><b>April 15</b></u> Tenebrae Service 7:00 p.m.	<u><b>April 17</b></u> 8:30 a.m. Service Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Easter Sunday 10:30 a.m. Service
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### St. Matthew's Website [www.stmatthewLC.com](http://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](http://www.facebook.com/stmatthewlc)

### Prayer Vigil



Scheduled at St. Matthew Lutheran Church on Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 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 items on Thursdays, April 7 and April 21. The pantry will be open from 9:00 until 11:00 a.m., and other times by appointment.

**Following is the "Wish List" for April:** Sunny D (medium size) bottles, Ravioli, Pineapple, Pasta Sides and Cleaning Supplies.

These or any other donations can be placed in the box at the church marked "Food Pantry". Thank You!

*Linda Smith*



**April 2022**

Giving is an adventure that makes one feel good about life. So why wouldn't every one choose to be givers? Giving our energy, talent, time and financial resources to serve as God directs us can provide untold happiness!

A Phoenix newspaper recently carried the story of a successful businessman named Jim Pierce. He was born to a couple who were both alcoholics. During his youth, he was abused in too many ways to mention. Yet, he said, "When you're beaten, a lot of times you have an out-of-body experience." In his pain, he called upon God and one day he made a vow, saying "God, if you send help, I promise when I grow up, I will help others." Over time help came. Good stewards like caring teachers, concerned relatives, and church people ministered to him.

It seems unbelievable how his life evolved. He became a sensible, well-balanced person and went to one of the finest business schools in America, became an accountant, and eventually became a leading executive of a successful business.

He also fulfilled his pledge to help prevent child abuse and was honored by being given the Heart of Compassion Award by Childhelp, an organization dedicated to the prevention and treatment of child abuse. He said, "I felt the award was God's way of telling me that I held up my end of the bargain I made many years ago." As a dedicated steward, Jim has participated in an adventure that made him feel good about life and he has experienced happiness in good measure. For more on this story, please refer to the April issue of *Stewardship*.

**Prayer:** *Loving God, prevent us from failing to be good stewards in our time on earth. Stir us up to be ready at all times to say, "Gracious Lord, use me in whatever way you choose. May I always serve you well." In Christ's name. Amen*

## The Knotty Ladies are back!!

For those who may have forgotten our mission, or for new members not familiar with this group of ladies, we are St. Matthew's blanket group. We make knotted blankets that we send to New Windsor, MD. From there they are distributed around the world.



We meet in the basement (Quilt Room) from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday and the fifth Tuesday if there is one starting on April 26. During that time we knot the blankets. There is also opportunity at other times to help with preparations of materials used in the blankets and final binding.

Come join us for this time of service and fellowship. **All are welcome!**



Thank you for all the prayer concerns and cards during my recent illness. All were very much appreciated.

*Shelby Gerrity*

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Thank you for your incredible gift of \$1,962.25. We would truly be lost without the help of your congregation. May each day of 2022 bless you and bring you joy.

*The Congregation of Our Savior's  
Lutheran Church – Rocky Boy*

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I write to personally thank the congregation for the recent check for Mission Support. We are especially thankful for your faithfulness to your original commitment given the challenging times for the church and the world.

*Bishop Paula*



**Prayers and Congratulations** go to Brandon and Alexia (Lex) Meck upon the birth of their son, Maddox Andrew, on Friday, February 25, 2022. Great Grandmother is Linda Smith.



## Events at Sequanota

### April 1-3: Service & Sabbath (trees & Trails)

Forest & logging clean up, bridge building, and land reclamation. Saturday lunch provided. Reserve a cabin for the full weekend, one night, or just come Saturday. Cost: \$50/cabin or BC room. Additional meal package available for \$25/person. Please RSVP – 814-629-6627 or [www.sequanota.com](http://www.sequanota.com) or [contact@sequanota.com](mailto:contact@sequanota.com).

### April 22-24: 5K Benefit Weekend

Grab a sponsor sheet and get family and friends to sponsor you (\$1/km - \$5 donation). Run at home or choose one of two marked courses at Sequanota. Cabins will be available for reservations? Watch the website and Facebook page for more information.

## 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](http://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.



## THIRD CENTURY FUND (ENDOWMENT FUND)

The Third Century Fund had a good earnings year in 2021 and as a result has \$5,705 for distribution in 2022. 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 29, 2022. Funds will be distributed in June 2022.

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.



### Easter Surprise

Easter eggs, Yellow and blue,

Easter eggs, For me and you.

Easter eggs, Candy Sweet,

Easter eggs, Are good to eat.

Easter eggs, Pretty and funny.

But...

WHERE OH WHERE IS  
THE EASTER BUNNY?

## SERVING GOD AND US April 2022

Date	April 3	April 10 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	April 14 <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	April 17 <i>Easter Sunday</i>	April 24
<b>Acolytes</b>	Gavin Kuster	Gabby Decker Lily Lightner Lucy Lightner	NA	Jeffrey Hoenstine Max Baker Mace Baker	Calleigh Wright
<b>Lectors</b>	<b>Andrea Paul</b>	<b>Mary Baker</b>	<b>Jean Sinal</b>	<b>Steve Oswalt</b>	<b>Pat Carnell</b>
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Tina Harclerode Tonya Walter	Tina Harclerode Tonya Walter	Tina Harclerode Tonya Walter	Tina Harclerode Tonya Walter	Tina Harclerode Tonya Walter
<b>Offering Counters</b>	<b>Beth Garner Jim Barley</b>	<b>Beth Garner Jim Barley</b>	<b>Beth Garner Jim Barley</b>	<b>Beth Garner Jim Barley</b>	<b>Beth Garner Jim Barley</b>
<b>Audio/Video</b>	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster	TBD	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster

### 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 Wade T. & Michele M. Smith 30 <sup>th</sup> |
| Bruce & Brandi Ross                   | 30 Hal & Nan Grove                             |
| 25 Jim & Pam Russell 35 <sup>th</sup> |  |

### Alzheimers & Related Dementia Support Group

Thursday, April 28, 2022

2:00 p.m. in the Club Room at Homewood  
(3<sup>rd</sup> 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 [eweaver@hmwd.org](mailto:eweaver@hmwd.org)



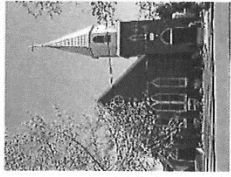
### A Little April Prayer

*TheHolidaySpot.com*

Let us be thankful, Lord, for little things - The song of birds, the rapture of the rose; Cloud-dappled skies, the laugh of limpid springs; Drowned sunbeams and the perfume April blows; Bronze wheat a-shimmer, purple shade of trees - Let us be thankful, Lord of Life, for these!

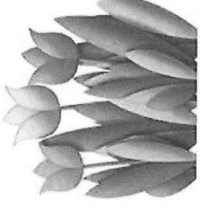
Let us be praiseful, Sire, for simple sights; - The blue smoke curling from a fire of peat; Keen stars a-frolicking on frosty nights; Prismatic pigeons strutting in a street; Daisies dew-diamond in smiling sward - For simple sights let us be praiseful, Lord!

Let us be grateful, God, for health serene - The hope to do a kindly deed each day; The faith of fellowship, a conscience clean; The will to worship and the gift to pray; For all of worth in us, of You a part - Let us be grateful, God, with humble heart!



# April 2022

*St. Matthew Lutheran Church*  
 115 E Penn St., Martinsburg, PA 16662-1127  
 814-793-2413



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
FH—Fellowship Hall CE-Christian Ed Office CL-Church Lounge QR-Quilt 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						
3 <b><u>5h Sunday in Lent</u></b> 8:30 am Worship in Sanct. 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanct	4 6:30 pm Christian Ed. Mtg., Zoom 6:30 pm Boy Scouts, FH	5 6:30 pm Stewardship Mtg., Zoom	6 4:45 pm Yoga, Nursery 6:00 pm Fellowship Meal 7:00 pm Lenten Service	7 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St.	1 Pastor's Sabbath	2
10 <b><u>Palm Sunday</u></b> 8:30 am Worship in Sanct. 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanct 11:30 am Evangelism Mtg. FH	11 6:30 pm Boy Scouts, FH	12 6:30 pm Council Mtg., Zoom	13 4:45 pm Yoga, Nursery 6:00 pm Fellowship Meal 7:00 pm Lenten Service	14 <b><u>Maundy Thursday</u></b> 7:00 pm Maundy Ser- vice	15 <b>Good Friday</b> <b>Office Closed</b> 6 am-6pm Prayer Vigil 7:00 pm Tenebrae Ser- vice	16
17 <b><u>The Resurrection of Our Lord</u></b> 8:30 am Worship in Sanct. 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanct <b>May Messenger Deadline</b>	18 <b>Office Closed</b> 6:00 pm Worship & Music Mtg., Zoom	19	20 10:00 am Employee Mtg., FH 1-4 pm Pastor in Office 4:45 pm Yoga, FH	21 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St.	22 Pastor's Sabbath	23 Sequanota 5K—register online
24 <b><u>2nd Sunday of Easter</u></b> 8:30 am Worship in Sanct. 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanct	25 6:30 pm Boy Scouts, FH	26 12:30-3:00 pm Knotty Ladies, QR	27	28	29 Pastor's Sabbath	30

Pastor at Bishop's Convo. Pastor is available by cell phone listed above.

**2022 COUNCIL DIRECTORY AND MINISTRY STAFF**

Pastor	Rev. Traci Marriott	935-9267	Property	Ed Kreider	793-4302
Admin. Assist.	Lori Tremmel	696-3802	Christian Ed.	Jean Sinal	793-9507
Assist. Admin. Assist.	Laura Orczeck	224-1208	Evangelism	Michael Lamborn	793-4212
President	Melissa Fetzer	793-2735	Stewardship	Rev. Ed Harshbarger	650-5584
Vice President	Martie Gilbert	793-4461	Finance	Jim Barley	793-4623
Secretary	Elaine Smith	(434) 981-0560	Social Ministry	Tina Harclerode	317-5312
Treasurer	Beth Garner	793-3966	Worship & Music	Jane Fagans	793-4401
Financial Secretary	Vacant		Staff Support	Kaye Burket	224-5224

Sexton – Phil Claar - 814-215-0885

**HIGHLIGHTS BY COUNCIL IN MARCH**

1. Voted on a motion to allow wearing a mask to be optional during the entire 10:30 a.m. service including during singing. Six members voted yes and six members voted no. The motion failed. Masks will be optional at the 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday evening services except during singing when they will be required.
2. In May the youth will return to active roles such as lectors in the service on the third Sunday of each month.
3. The Stewardship Committee will be educating the congregation on decision-making for giving.
4. The Staff Support Committee is working on revising the St. Matthew Personnel Manual after Attorney Aimee Willett’s legal review.

**Giving**

2022 February		Year to Date as of 2/28/2022	
<b>Current</b>	<b>\$10,824.70</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>\$25,246.16</b>
<b>Benevolence (Synod)</b>	<b>\$1,173.50</b>	<b>Benevolence (Synod)</b>	<b>\$2,854.00</b>
<b>Local Needs</b>	<b>\$790.50</b>	<b>1st Qrt. Local Needs</b>	<b>\$2,038.00</b>
2021 February		Year to Date as of 2/28/2021	
<b>Current</b>	<b>\$13,945.99</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>\$25,523.93</b>
<b>Benevolence (Synod)</b>	<b>\$1,637.00</b>	<b>Benevolence (Synod)</b>	<b>\$3,221.50</b>
<b>Local Needs</b>	<b>\$957.00</b>	<b>1st Qrt. Local Needs</b>	<b>\$2,134.99</b>
2020 February		Year to Date as of 2/29/2020	
<b>Current</b>	<b>\$13,576.46</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>\$28,749.84</b>
<b>Benevolence (Synod)</b>	<b>\$2,340.00</b>	<b>Benevolence (Synod)</b>	<b>\$3,879.50</b>
<b>Local Needs</b>	<b>\$1,142.50</b>	<b>1st Qrt. Local Needs</b>	<b>\$2,231.50</b>
2022 Income vs Expenses			
<b>Current</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>Year to Date as of 2/28/2021</b>	
Actual	(\$5,468.84)	(\$7,824.43)	
Per Budget	(\$7,494.88)	(\$11,393.01)	
<b>Benevolence</b>			
Per Commitment to Synod	(\$993.17)	(\$1,479.33)	

There were 4 Sundays in February 2022, 2021 and 2020.

Greetings!

“The single biggest problem with communication is the illusion that it has taken place.”

*George Bernard Shaw*

No truer words have ever been spoken. As we all know communication that is timely and concise is so important. Listening is also part of communication and very often we fail to listen closely.

It has been awhile since I have shared information with you on happenings in and around Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries (ALSM). There is no excuse except that there are so many tasks to accomplish that are out of the ordinary because of the ongoing changes with mandates related to COVID and its variants in addition to added regulations with which we are expected to comply. In addition, staffing challenges continue. Our board of trustees approve increases in wages and no sooner is the “ink dry” on the meeting minutes that there needs to be another review and in some cases, more increases. The number of qualified staff available continues to be a challenge. While ALSM shares the staffing challenge with many other organizations, it does not make it easier. Many of our dedicated staff have been on our team for many years and for that, we are most grateful. The reimbursement levels for our residents who have limited funds do not even begin to cover the costs of care. ALSM is fortunate that people through the years have remembered us in their estate planning so we are financially sustainable. I am sure you have read or heard about the ongoing scrutiny of nursing homes which have been even more highlighted because of COVID. Again, more regulations and state department of health surveyors showing up any time of day or night to review our operations.

We have also had changes in leadership on our campuses and one of the major reasons is related to the stresses related to providing leadership in a time that no one could ever be prepared. Mandates are issued by regulating bodies that need to be complied with immediately with no added funds to do so.

Many senior communities (like Saint Leonard’s Home in Hollidaysburg) have decided as a result of the challenges that it is time to close its doors. We have heard this story multiple times not only in our area but across the country. It is a challenging and stressful time to serve people who are in need of care.

I share this information with you to increase your awareness and also to thank you for your understanding. I ask you for your prayers for our staff and all of those we serve.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at [patricia.savage@alsm.org](mailto:patricia.savage@alsm.org) or at 814-696-4556.

Thank you for your prayerful support.

Sincerely,



Patricia W. Savage  
President/CEO



## Upcoming Youth and Family Events

### Intergenerational Day at Camp Sequanota

*Saturday, May 14th*

**9:30am—4:30am**

*“God’s Great Creation”*

For All Ages—Youth and Youth Groups Welcome with Chaperones

Register at [www.sequanota.com](http://www.sequanota.com)

**\$8/Person Ages 5 and Under—Free**

(Optional Overnight Accommodations Friday Night—\$20/person)

### Confirmation Camp

*Sunday, June 19th—Thursday, June 23rd*

A supplemental week to your confirmation program where Pastors, Youth Leaders, and Lay Ministers join their confirmands for a week of learning in a camp environment.

Go to [www.sequanota.com](http://www.sequanota.com) for registration and pricing information.

### Youth Day at Kennywood

*Friday, July 1st*

7th-12th Graders with Leaders and Chaperones (families welcome).

More information to come!

### Synod Youth Gathering

*In lieu of National Youth Gathering*

*Wednesday, July 20th—Sunday, July 24th*

Washington D.C. and Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp (Fort Valley, Virginia)

More information to come!

### Synod Day at DelGrosso’s Amusement Park

*Monday, August 1st*

**11:00am-8:00pm**

**\$21.95/person**

All ages, young to young at heart are welcome to join us for a day of fun at the park with an afternoon worship service.

More information to come!

### Synod Day at the Curve

*Sunday, August 21st*

**6:00pm Game Tailgate Prior at Synod Office**

**\$7/Ticket**

More information to come!

### Local Synodical Youth Gathering

*For Junior and Senior High Youth*

*Fall 2023*

More information to come!