

St. Matthew's Messenger

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Volume 61

AUGUST 2021

Number 8

Dear People of God:

When I was teaching I spent two years working exclusively with at-risk youth. They had behavioral issues that made school difficult for them, but the struggle intensified in the days leading up to Christmas and summer break. The common wisdom was that kids got so excited for these vacations, it was hard for them to wait patiently. The story was different for our students: they began to dread losing the structure and safe support of school. Many of them experienced food insecurity in their families, so before breaks they would grow anxious anticipating hunger and other challenges at home.

We are in the middle of the lectionary's five week series on John's Bread of Life discourse. Nowadays we may have dozens of options when we go to a grocery store, but for Jesus and his contemporaries, bread was fundamental sustenance. It would have been unimaginable for the people to whom John was writing to live without bread. This is why the metaphor for Jesus being the Bread of Life is so powerful: it should be unimaginable for us to live without Jesus.

Trusting in a God whom we cannot see, especially if we have been hurt, betrayed, or disappointed by those whom we can see, goes against our human nature. Sometimes it feels as if Jesus is not walking beside us but is far away and out of reach. Like my former students, we may be anxious about even surviving, let alone thriving, without sustenance for our spirit. But God is not just possibly available to us; God has come to dwell with and within us, even when we struggle to perceive that divine presence.

Psalm 23 was appointed for the Sunday readings a few weeks ago. Most versions of it say, "Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life..." But translating "follow" instead as "pursue" more accurately captures that relationship. God knows that we are anxious, lost, and hungry on our own, so God relentlessly pursues us to sustain us with God's own self, all the days of our lives. What a relief to know that we will always be given more than enough Bread.

Pastor Traci

Worship Schedule for August

In August, we will offer two Sunday services each week except Sun., Aug. 29, 2021 Sunday, August 29, 2021 will be at the Kreider Farm at 10:30 a.m.

- **9AM Worship Outside**—Full Sung Liturgy of Word & Sacrament (Communion) In case of rain, the service will move to the Fellowship Hall and will be a spoken liturgy.
- **10:30AM Worship in the Sanctuary**—Full Spoken Liturgy of Word & Sacrament (Communion) This will be the recorded and live-streamed service.
- **Inside or outside**, masks are optional for those who are fully vaccinated and required for those who are not fully vaccinated.



Thanks 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.



I am so very appreciative of the generous gift of \$1000 from the Third Century Fund for my 2021-2022 tuition at Juniata College. Even though the Coronavirus Pandemic changed our world, I was able to attend in-person classes during my first college year which led to a very meaningful, educational experience. I am looking forward to returning to Juniata in August to begin the second half of my sophomore year and will be pursuing studies in prelaw. Again, thank you for the munificent scholarship to continue my undergraduate education. Olivia Day \mathcal{C}

Your dedication to our mission is clearly demonstrated by your financial support of Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries. Please know we appreciate your donation of \$502.50.

Patricia Savage, President/CEO $\sim \sim \sim$

Martinsburg Food Pantry

Volunteers from the Martinsburg Mennonite Church will be helping to distribute food on Thursdays, August 5 and August 19 from 9:00 until 11:00a.m. along with the regular volunteers. If any of you harvest more vegetables or fruit than you can use, please share with the Food Pantry on the dates it is open. When you are shopping, remember we are collecting school supplies, which can be placed in the school box in the narthex.

Items most needed for August: Beverages, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Pasta Sides, Paper towels. *Many thanks for your donations!*



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 "<u>school bus</u>" 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)

Change of Address

Bonnie Casey & Cora & Wyatt Sweinhart 152 Park Place Rd Loysburg, PA 16659-9632

Rev Anamae Storbeck

306 W Allegheny St Martinsburg, PA 16662-1421

From the Evangelism Committee:

Evangelism, of course, can point outward to those outside of church, but it can also point inward to our own members. The Evangelism committee is currently taking a closer look at the inward-pointing vector, but we are not ignoring the outward-facing one.

We are very much concerned about strengthening people's relationship with God, improving our ministry to new members, and reaching out to members who are suffering loss, illness, or other hardships. One of the simple things we can do for each other is to use name tags to reacquaint ourselves with each other as we slowly regather from covid isolation.

The committee's discussion on reaching those outside the church has been one of how to better present Christ to those who have little knowledge, understanding, perhaps patience, in finding the riches of a relationship with our Lord Jesus.

Regards, Mike



A Stewardship Minute August 2021

When Jesus saw someone who needed help, he did something about the situation. Jesus saw and healed lepers and blind people, a man who was mentally ill, a mute man, and he ministered to one person after another. But we aren't Jesus. What can ordinary Christians do to offer help to someone or something in need? None of us can do everything, but we can almost always do something:

• If we can't drop everything to meet a need we see, we can contact someone who can.

• If we can't tithe money for the church or a mission project, we can pray for its success and tithe our time to help the matter succeed.

• If we can't directly help the homeless, the unemployed, the hungry or the sick, we can offer prayer, comfort, encouragement, and helpful advice. The point is that Jesus never failed to help in a needy situation and we should try our best to do likewise. That would be worthy stewardship.

Recently, a newspaper in Phoenix told the story of a woman jogger running by a canal early one morning. Suddenly she saw a car in the water. As she looked carefully she saw an older woman trapped in the driver's seat. She ran to a nearby highway. She flagged down a car. She told the young man driving about the problem. The fellow parked, ran to the site, jumped into the water, and helped the 77-year-old lady escape her entrapment. So be it!

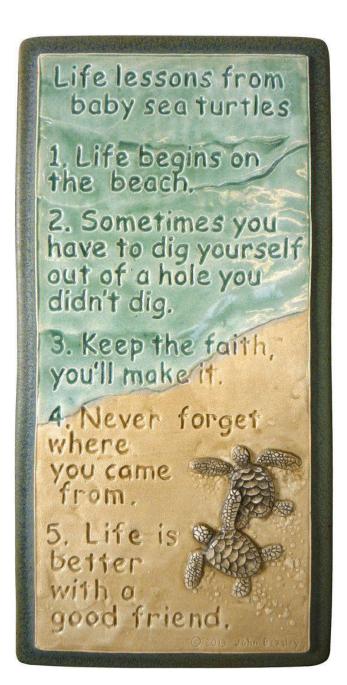
Prayer: Lord, please help us to have the courage and the strength to serve you through total stewardship. As did our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen**

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Prayers and Christian Sympathy are asked for...

The family of Donna Gearhart and family upon her death, Monday, July 26, 2021.



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 "Give" button, (on the top white banner)
- 3) Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.

Barcode Offerings:

- 1) Visit "Play Store on your mobile device"
- 2) Find QR Code (this app is free)
- 3) Click on the **"Install**" the app
- 4) Open the app on your device
- 5) Scan the Barcode: (follow the prompts)

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."

Anniversaries for August

- 04 Chris & Michelle Cronrath
- 06 Russell & Anita Hoover
- 07 Jason Close & Jessica Orczeck
- 08 Jay & Mary Baker
- 18 Michael & Catherine Corcoran21 Matthew & Heather Nelson
- 25 Les & Sandy Loomis

11 Jimmy & Lori Reimer

26 Richard & Cindy Snyder

Birthdays for August

- 15 Jaelynn Tremmel
- 16 Dennis Brown Steve Oswalt
- 17 Verna Blough
- 19 Linda Smith
- 20 Peggy Steinfurth
- 21 Erica Kaurudar
 - Dr. Lanny Ross

29 Carlos & Amanda Lamborn30 John E. & Doris L. Waddick

- 24 Anita Hoover
- 26 Connor Neely
- 27 Calleigh Wright
- 28 Gunnar Buchart
- 30 Tina Harclerode Matthew Parks
- 31 Rachel Bithell Jamie Richardson Dorothy Ross

- 01 Laura Webb
- 05 Tracey Dennis
- 06 Destarta Carberry
- 08 Christopher Bush Anna Klepser
- 09 Sabrena Beyer
- 12 Benjamin Decker Jacob Russell
- 13 Isaac Russell
- 14 C J Gahagan Austin Replogle

2021 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. Assis	t. Laura Orczeck	224-1208	Evangelism	Mike Lamborn	793-4212
President	Melissa Fetzer	793-2735	Stewardship	Greg Haffling	793-9827
Vice President	Peggy Steinfurth	515-6205	Finance	Jim Barley	793-4623
Secretary	Elaine Smith (434) 981-0560	Social Ministry	Peggy Freyer	614-4552
Treasurer	Beth Garner	793-3966	Worship & Music	Jane Fagans	793-4401
Financial Secretary	Anna Klepser	793-2094	Staff Support	Kaye Burket	224-5224

HIGHLIGHTS BY COUNCIL IN JULY

- 1. Mike Lamborn was appointed chair of the Evangelism committee.
- 2. Communion services may be resuming at the retirement facilities in September.
- 3. Offerings continue to run behind the budget and giving of previous years.
- 4. Plans continue for Rally Sunday and a Sunday School Coordinator is needed.
- 5. Council reviewed the endowment fund disbursements totaling \$5,437 for submitted requests from the congregation.
- 6. Stewardship temple talks will resume and online giving will be promoted.
- 7. The evangelism committee is generating ideas for outreach activities.
- 8. Worship for July and August will be held at 9:00 a.m. outdoors and at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. If weather is inclement, the 9:00 service will be held the fellowship hall. Discussions continue on when it is safe to return lectors, ushers, and other worship elements to the service.
- 9. The property committee is working on ongoing projects.
- 10. The fellowship committee will be meeting to discuss funeral meals and a possible fellowship event later in the year.

	Giv	ing	
2021 June	9	Year to Date as of 6/30/	/2021
Current	\$11,456.70	Current	\$75,022.84
Benevolence (Synod)	\$681.00	Benevolence (Synod)	\$6,953.50
Youth and Camping	\$725.64	2nd Qrt. Youth & Camping	\$2,350.14
2020 June	<u>,</u>	Year to Date as of 6/30/	/2020
Current	\$12,974.70	Current	\$95,097.30
Benevolence (Synod)	\$1,548.00	Benevolence (Synod)	\$10,776.00
Youth and Camping	\$1,020.00	2nd Qrt. Youth & Camping	\$3,605.50
2019 June	9	Year to Date as of 6/30/	2019
Current	\$16,075.65	Current	\$97,227.76
Benevolence (Synod)	\$1,773.50	Benevolence (Synod)	\$9,296.55
Youth and Camping	\$1,192.50	2nd Qrt. Youth & Camping	\$3,976.50
	2021 Income vs	s Expenses	
Current	June	Year to Date as of 6/	<u>30/2021</u>
Actual	(\$3,983.92)	(\$21,155.85)	
Per Budget	(\$7,123.63)	(\$36,459.16)	
Benevolence			
Per Commitment to Synod	(\$1,485.67)	(\$6,046.50)	
	There were 4 Sundays i	in June, 2021 and 2020	

There were 4 Sundays in June, 2021 and 2020

There were 5 Sundays in June, 2019



On Eagle's Wings

Katzman Centre 10072 164 Street NW, Edmonton, Alberta T5P 4Y3 Telephone 780-440-6594 Toll Free 1-866-441-6594 Email: oneagleswings.north@gmail.com Website: www.oneagleswingsnorth.org

25th June 2021

Dear Friends,

"Bible Camp in a Bag! What a cool idea!" exclaimed a donor recently. I am also very excited about this year's Bible Camp ministry. But first, I must **thank you** for your continued support of northern ministry—the communities and families.

The LIGHT (Live In God's House Together) curriculum has become **Bible Camp in** a **Bag, a home and family-based activity** packed into an *On Eagle's Wings* backpack (that is the 'bag' part of Bible Camp in a Bag!). Each backpack contains five kits—one for each of the five Bible stories in the curriculum. The kits are self-contained; they include: the Bible story, prayers, craft instructions and supplies, a colouring sheet, and a word search puzzle. The kits also include a thumb drive or DVD with 30 videos recorded by volunteers. The videos tell the Bible stories, give craft tutorials, and songs.

In the LIGHT curriculum, **children will discover how God shows his love in different kinds of houses**. The LIGHT shines on everyone, everywhere, and reveals God's love to all people. Children will also explore how our senses help us to experience the LIGHT in many ways; each story will also focus on one of our senses. As Solomon builds the Temple, children will smell the fragrance of incense and flowers. Children will hear a special Message from God given to Moses. They will taste foods Jesus may have eaten at the Banquet with Simon. Doubting Thomas will help them understand that even though we can't touch Jesus in person, Jesus is still with us. Finally, the beautiful purple cloth of Lydia will let them see the beauty of God's love.

Northern communities are **embracing Bible Camp in a Bag!** 428 backpacks have been requested by 21 northern communities. An important aspect of the backpacks is that communities can easily distribute them and **use them in the way that best meets their needs**. As Sr. Fay in Tuktoyaktuk remarked after the 2020 CLAP! virtual Bible Camp, "This is creating good memories for the children that will last a lifetime. ... The children are a sign of newness of life and hope and the virtual Bible Camp is helping. *On Eagle's Wings* helps to raise children in faith in a fun and non-threatening way. **On Eagle's Wings is the biggest contributor to building faith in Tuk, and has been for many years."**

We deeply appreciate your faithful support in the past. And we need your help again this year. Producing and shipping 428 Bible Camp in a Bag backpacks is a mammoth task. Would you give a gift to help make this possible and ensure that God's LIGHT continues to shine and build his house among northern families? What a fun way for families to engage all their senses in experiencing Jesus' love for them over the summer, and for a lifetime! Every gift, no matter how large or small, will help make sure that all 428 families receive backpacks of faith-filled fun. Thank you!

In gratitude and faith,

Rev Lesley Hand, Executive Director









Top two: Siblings in Resolute Bay explore the story of Ruth and Naomi in 2020. Bottom two: kits are previewed and prepared for distribution in Tuk.

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	115	St. Matthew Lutheran Church 115 E Penn St., Martinsburg, PA 16662-1127 814-793-2413	hew Lutheran Churc Martinsburg, PA 166 814-793-2413	h 62-1127	BACK TO SC	BACK TO SCHOOL
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	9	7
9:00 am Worship in the Yard (or FH)		6:30 pm Social Ministry Mtg., FH		9:00 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St		
10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary						
		Pastor away. In ca	Pastor away. In case of emergency call Pastor McCaffrey at 814-224-4116.	McCaffrey at 814-224-411	6.	
8	6	10	11	12	13	14
9:00 am Worship in the Yard (or FH)		6:30 pm Council Mtg., Zoom	1-4 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga			
10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary					Pastor's Sabbath	
15	16	17	18	199:00 am Food Pantry,	20	21
9:00 am Worship in the Yard (or FH)			1-4 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga	Allegheny St. and 5:00pm		
10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary					Pastor's Sabbath	
		Lor	Lori is on vacation.			
22 0.00 cm Wombin in the Vond	23	24	25	26	27	28
	6:30 pm Christian Ed. Mtg., FH		1-4 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga	September Messenger Deadline		
10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary				10:00 am Employee Mtg. CE	Pastor's Sabbath	
5-6 pm Catechism Bike/Hike						
29	30	31		FH—Fellowship Hall -	CE-Christian Ed Office	
10:30 am Worship at the Kreider Farm		6:30 pm Staff Support Mtg., FH	IJ	1 case of emergency, Pastor Tra 814-935-9267	In case of emergency, Pastor Traci maybe reached at 814-935-9267	
			Lori or L	aura will be in the Office	Lori or Laura will be in the Office everyday from 9:00 am-12:00 pm	2:00 pm