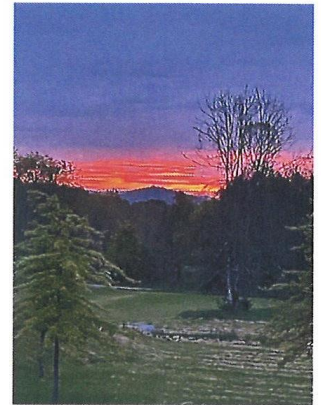


## Peace & Preparation, People of God!

As we approach the very shortest days of the year, I find myself walking Otto when the morning is still dark as midnight, not even a hint of light on the horizon. But in the time it takes us to loop the neighborhood, the sky brightens to day, even before the sun peaks over the mountain. What surprises me is not how fast the dawn breaks but that the light often reveals clouds in what I had thought was a completely clear sky. Before the sun comes up, with a scattering of stars, the sky looks deep, dark, and cloudless. Many mornings, it turns out to be anything but.



In Advent we decorate liturgically in the rich blue color of the pre-dawn sky, waiting for light to dawn on our weary world in the coming of the Son. The light drives away darkness, but it also reveals what is clouding our vision and keeping us from living out God's good intentions for us and for our world. Advent preparation begins with recognizing what obstructs the way of Jesus, including what we may not have noticed, even though it was right there in front of us all along.

In this season of eager anticipation, may we have clear eyes to see all that so desperately needs redemption and restoration in ourselves, in our community, and in our world. Then we may truly rejoice as the One in whom we hope arrives with healing and wholeness, Emmanuel, God With Us.

*Peace,  
Pastor Traci*

## December Bible Study – Dreaming of Christmas

We'll study a different dream from Matthew's Christmas story each Tuesday at 4PM on Zoom; the Zoom link will be sent out by email.

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| December 6:  | Joseph's First Dream (Matthew 1:18-25)                    |
| December 13: | The Magi's Dream & Joseph's Second Dream (Matthew 2:1-13) |
| December 20: | Joseph's Third Dream (Matthew 2:16-23)                    |

## Worship Schedule for December

**10:30 AM Worship in the Sanctuary**—Full Spoken Liturgy of Word & Sacrament with Communion every Sunday

**Christmas Eve Service: December 24** - will have a Candlelight Communion Service at 7:00 p.m.

**Sunday, December 25** - service of the Lessons & Carols at 10:30 a.m.

# Happy Birthday

## Celebration

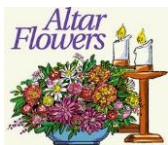
Come join the celebration of  
**Janet Kreider's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration.**  
St. Matthew's Fellowship Hall  
Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> 1:00-3:30 p.m.  
Her birthday is actually December 16<sup>th</sup>.  
All are welcome!



### Mitten Tree

Our Mitten Tree is available to be decorated with mittens, hats, gloves, scarves, socks and earmuffs near the entrance to the Sanctuary until Sunday, December 18. Any donations of money to can be placed in a pew envelope marked with "MITTEN TREE".

All these items will be distributed to needy children at the local elementary schools before Christmas. Help a child have a warmer winter!



The 2023 Altar Flower chart is posted on the Narthex bulletin board. Altar Flowers are a perfect way to remember loved ones. Please sign up now for the Sunday you wish to place flowers on the Altar. Price - \$40.00.

### Change of Address

**Jacob Orczeck**  
3936 Snyder Rd Apt 326  
Kodak, TN 37764

**Dale & Anna Weaver**  
507 Summit St  
Everett, PA 15537-3440  
Cell 814-348-1247

New  
Address!

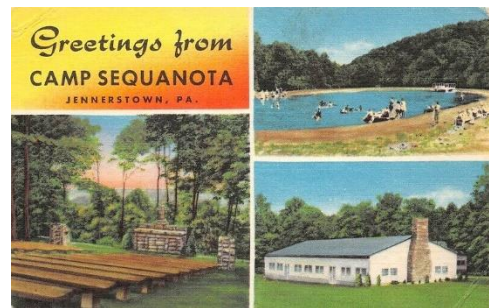


## Announcing our 2022 Annual Congregational Meeting

The meeting is set for Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> the conclusion of the Worship Service. The agenda includes adopting the 2023 Proposed Budget, which is enclosed with this Messenger, and election of 2023 Council Members.

President	VACANT
Vice-President	Greg Haffling
Secretary	VACANT
Nominating Com.	1. Connie Lamborn 2. VACANT

**NOTE:** There will be a question and answer session on the Proposed 2023 Budget at 9:30 a.m. worship on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>.



## Winter & Spring Retreats for Everyone in 2023

Check the website for more information  
[www.sequanota.com/events/descriptions](http://www.sequanota.com/events/descriptions)

### IGNITE -- January 21-22

Overnight winter retreat for youth in grades 2 - 8

### SNOW CAMP -- January 27-29

Weekend winter retreat for youth in grades 6-12

### SUSTAIN -- February 24-26

Weekend retreat for all adults. Free childcare is available.

### YOUNG ADULTS -- March 24-26

This weekend is targeted to those 19 to 35

### LOVE YOUR MOTHER - April 22 or April 21-23

Earth Day Retreat -- For individuals, youth groups, & families  
Stay all weekend or just one day.

## Sign up for emails

We are updating our database. Please help us make sure we have your current contact information by submitting a form on the website. [www.sequanota.com/update](http://www.sequanota.com/update)



## 2023 Offering Envelopes

Everyone who is a confirmed member or is a visitor and has requested envelopes receives

Offering Envelopes.

**The Offering Envelopes will be MAILED directly to your homes monthly. January 2023 Offering Envelopes will be mailed in December 2022.**

**Please do not use the “Initial Offering Envelope” until 2023.**

The other options for offering or tithing are below:

### Ways to Support St. Matthew

**Offering Envelopes:** These are mailed to our contributors at their homes monthly.

❖ if you would like to use the “**Simply Giving**” online program of automatic bank drafts from your checking account. (*Forms are in the church office. Please see Lori.*)

**Giving Online:** St. Matthew is excited to announce that you can now manage your giving online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions 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 “**Give**” button, (on the top white banner)
- 3) Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.

**Mobile Giving:** Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions. Electronic giving offers convenience for individuals and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation. Simply follow these easy steps:

- 1) Visit “**Play Store on your mobile device**”
- 2) Find the “**Vanco Payment**” app (this is free)
- 3) Click on the “**Install**” button
- 4) Open the app on your device
- 5) Follow the onscreen instructions to schedule your one time contribution or recurring contributions.

## Nominating Committee Looking for Council Nominees



The nominating committee is seeking St. Matthew members for several Council positions. Have you been looking for a way to serve at St. Matthew? One of these offices may be just the position for you!

We are in need of a President, Secretary, and Nominating Committee Member.

**The President** presides at all monthly Council meetings following a prescribed order of business and

conducts annual and special meetings of the congregation.

**The Secretary** keeps written minutes of the meetings of the congregation and Council.

These offices are for two-year terms, with eligibility to serve a maximum of two consecutive terms.

**A Member of the Nominating Committee** works with others to recruit a slate of nominees for the next years’ open Council positions to be voted on by the congregation at its annual meeting.

The term is two years and the position is not eligible for consecutive re-election.

Please contact the nominating committee for more information:

Martie Gilbert (Chair) 814-793-4461

Peggy Steinfurth 814-515-6205

Peggy Freyer 814-327-0291

Ruth Marshall 814-793-3107



## Longest Night Dinner & Worship

People have celebrated the winter solstice since they first recognized the darkest time of year and therefore the beginning of a return to longer, brighter days. In recognition that this season can be difficult, especially for those who feel loss more keenly during the holidays, we will be gathering for dinner at 6PM and worship at 7PM on Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> to spend the longest night together in community.



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



On behalf of our Board of Directors and myself, thank you for your \$200.00 contribution to Scarlet Dragon Back Packs Fund!

*Jodi Cessna, Exec. Director*

Many thanks to all that helped with our dad's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration! Although it wasn't a surprise some of the people it was a surprise to see. The food and volunteers were great!

*The Ed Harshbarger Family*

### Did you know...

While the Advent wreath and it's five candles did bring light to churches, it was not to illuminate the interior as much as to symbolize the coming of Christ. The Advent wreath began in the time of the Protestant reformer Martin Luther!



#### The Meaning of the Advent Wreath Candles:

- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Candle | Candle of Hope       |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Candle | The Bethlehem Candle |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Candle | The Shepherd Candle  |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Candle | The Angel Candle     |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Candle | The "Christ Candle"  |



### A Stewardship Moment DECEMBER 2022

The Stewardship Minute and the Stewardship Bulletin insert is no longer an option from Parish Publishing.

You can now find the Monthly Stewardship Pamphlet on the website under "Helpful Links" at [stmatthewlc.com](http://stmatthewlc.com).

If you would like a paper copy notify the church office so one will be provided for you.

A **Stewardship Minute** is available to subscribers of **Stewardship** at [www.parishpublishing.org](http://www.parishpublishing.org).

### Martinsburg Food Pantry

We will be open for distribution of food on Thursdays, December 1 and December 15 from 9:00a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Volunteers from Redefined Community Church will be assisting in the distribution of food with the regular helpers. There are 12 churches that help each month at the food pantry.

**Holiday Foods will be the focus in December:** Beverages, Canned Meat, Potatoes, Stuffing Mix, Vegetables, Fruit.

Please place any of these foods in the basket at church. Many thanks to all who generously gave all year to the Food Pantry! It is greatly appreciated! *Linda Smith*

### Eternity Candle and Stand

On Sunday, November 6, 2022 a new Eternity Lamp was dedicated in memory of Rev. Paul & Mrs. Luella Keller given by their family, Mary Lou Hinish, Joe Keller, and Susanne and Don Good. A stand for the Eternity Lamp was handcrafted by Keith McGraw which was dedicated in memory of his friend, Stephen Hinish.



## Birthdays for December

02	Chris Cronrath	10	Andrea McGraw	18	Larry Irvin
	Alexis Hicks	11	Mace Baker	19	Tonya F. Walter
	Kyla Paul		Leah Park	21	Tyson Rodgers
03	Cathy Henzler	12	Samantha Tremmel	27	Beth N. Snyder
	Norah Kuster	14	Jennifer Metzler	28	Noah Metzler
05	G. Devin Baker	15	Emily Gunnett	30	Carlos A. Lamborn
06	Gloria Guyer		John Russell	31	Ian Haffling
	Katherine Orczeck		Rev. Anamae Storbeck		
08	Elizabeth Bithell	16	Janet I. Kreider		
	Beth Garner	17	Russell G. Dickson		
	Joshua W. Gilbert		Ed C. Kreider		

## Anniversaries for December

13	Mark & Debra Guyer	24	Dennis R. & Barbara A. Brown
19	Glenn & Elaine L. Diehl 30 <sup>th</sup>	26	James A. & Janet F. Stewart
		30	Adam & Ashley Zanfino



### Sunday, December 11

- Congregational Meeting during worship

### Sunday, December 18

- Youth Sunday during worship

### Sunday, December 18

- Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

- Holy Communion Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

### Monday, December 19

- Dr. Adam Smith Sequanota Benefit Concert at St. Matthew 7:00 p.m.

### Saturday, December 24

- Traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Holy Communion Service at 7:00 p.m.

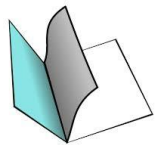
### Sunday, December 25

- There will be NO Sunday School

- Service of Lessons & Carols 10:30 a.m.

## The Lutheran Magazine

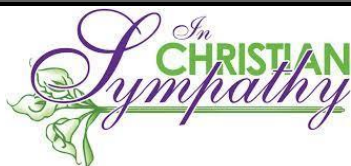
The Lutheran is where members find news and views on faith, Scripture, mission, advocacy and more impacting daily life. The magazine is a resource for education, outreach and evangelism while providing a forum for discussion on issues of the day. If you would like to make a donation towards your yearly subscription you may do so by marking "Lutheran" in the other position on your offering envelope or on a pew envelope. The yearly subscription is \$8.95.



May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child this Christmas Season.

*Heavenly Father, continue to make our faith grow stronger and stronger in our ministry together*

*From the staff of  
St. Matthew Lutheran Church:  
Pastor Traci, Lori, Laura, Phil, Adam, Camden,  
Mary and Jay.*



**Prayers and Christian Sympathy are asked for ...**

The family of Verna Blough upon her death on Saturday, November 26, 2022.

# Snow Camp 2023

"Come to the Table"

Friday-Sunday, January 27-29  
Camp Sequanota, Jennerstown PA  
6th - 12th Grade

Games, Crafts, Food, Sledding, Worship, & Learning  
Accommodations in Sequanota's Winterized Cabins  
Register from December 15 to January 20 at [www.sequanota.com](http://www.sequanota.com)

\$80-includes food, lodging, materials  
Families are asked to pay \$10; St. Matthew will cover the rest.

Please contact Pastor Traci with any questions.

**\*\*Adult Helper(s) Wanted!\*\***



Dr. Adam Smith, Piano

## AN ADVENT CONCERT

7PM - Monday, December 19th  
*St. Matthew Lutheran Church*  
115 East Penn Street, Martinsburg  
Free Admission - Free Will Offering to Benefit  
*Camp Sequanota*

### Advent Concert

Dr. Smith has graciously offered to share his musical gift in an Advent concert, Monday, December 19 at 7PM, followed by cookies and cocoa, with a free will offering to benefit Camp Sequanota. If you are interested in supporting Camp in advance through this event, please note "Sequanota Concert" on your donation and specify how you want your name to appear in the program.



**St. Matthew now has a new email address:**

**[stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com](mailto:stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com)**

Please send all correspondence to this address. We will no longer use AOL.

### 2022 National Youth Gathering Christmas Candy Sale

We are offering our famous:

\_\_\_\_\_ White Chocolate Peppermint Bark for \$6.00 per half pound

\_\_\_\_\_ Dark Chocolate Peppermint Bark for \$6.00 per half pound

**Orders will be accepted through Friday, December 9, 2022**

**All proceeds benefit youth attending the 2022 National Youth Gathering.**

Payment is due at pick-up Sun., Dec. 18, 2022.

Checks made payable to: St. Matthew Lutheran Church

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please place this form in the offering plate, or return it to the office.**





## 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: office@oneagleswings.us  
Website: oneagleswings.us

Dear Friends,

*"The backpacks were spoken for right away. They were all gone within an hour. They loved them! Thank you so much for this gift. Thank you to everyone who contributed. One little boy who didn't get one was crying and said, 'I really want one with Jesus in.' So his sister shared with him."*—Rosie, Ft. Liard

"I really want one with Jesus in." This little boy's comment sums up the **desire for Jesus' presence** that we encountered this Summer. Whether we were on a Bible Camp team in a community or hearing about how Bible Camp in a Bag backpacks were received, whether there was a large crowd of kids or two or three gathered in Jesus' name, the desire for Jesus' presence and to **learn and grow in faith** were the same. Thank you for generously enabling us to be present to northern children and their families this year—and always! **You are making a difference** in the lives of northern families as they SMiLE (Share My (i) Love Everywhere) with each other.

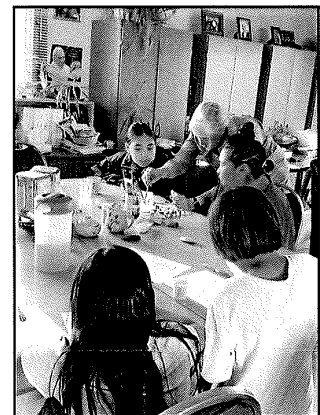
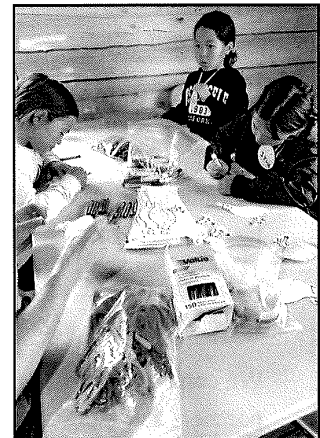
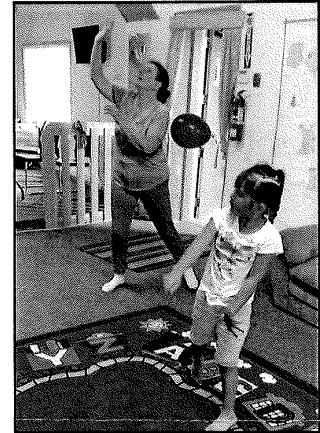
Presence made a huge difference in Tuktoyaktuk as the team and local leaders SMiLEd in unforeseen ways this Summer. In addition to teaching the SMiLE Bible Camp stories and activities to 19 children, the team **responded to the need for healing** and mental health in the wider community. Two suicides in three weeks left the community, especially the young people, bereft and grieving. The Bible Camp team rose to the challenge and joined Sr. Fay, the local pastoral leader, to host an open house for young people. A **safe space to talk, cry, pray, and create** was a small step towards healing. As team member, Laura, describes:

*A local elder came with his guitar to jam with the youth. Several mental health and other helping professionals, as well as interested adults from the community, were also present. We offered rock painting and beading activities. All told, Sr. Fay could name 35 in attendance at our impromptu youth gathering.*

Will you help us to continue SMiLEing in more communities this Fall and Winter? With in-person Bible Camps in Kugluktuk and Cambridge Bay still to come, as well as community visits, **your gifts are especially important and appreciated**. We know that rising prices make everything more expensive for you. Yet, **even the smallest gift makes a big difference**. Will you help us make Jesus presence more tangible through our dedicated volunteers? Thank you again for your generous support of northern communities.

In love, faith, and gratitude,

Rev. Lesley Hand, Executive Director



From top: "Bopping quails" game in Inuvik; Bible crafts in Ft. McPherson; rock painting with youth in Tuktoyaktuk.

**SERVING GOD AND US**  
**December 2022**

Date	December 4	December 11 Congregational Mtg.	December 18 Youth Sunday	December 24 Christmas Eve	December 25 Lessons & Carols
<b>Acolytes</b>	Lucy Lightner	Jay Hoenstine	Calleigh Wright	Jeffrey Hoenstine Max Baker Mace Baker	
<b>Lectors</b>	Shawn Orczeck	Greg Haffling	Youth	Jeffrey Hoenstine	Jane Fagans, Martie Gilbert, Elaine Smith, Linda Smith
<b>Ushers</b>	Stanley Smith	Ed Kreider	Dennis Smith		Greg Haffling
<b>Assist. Min.</b>				Jane Fagans	
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Jackie Lightner Jane Fagans	Jackie Lightner Jane Fagans	Jackie Lightner Jane Fagans	Jackie Lightner Jane Fagans	Jackie Lightner Jane Fagans
<b>Offering Counters</b>	Jim Barley Beth Garner	Jim Barley Beth Garner	Jim Barley Beth Garner	Jim Barley Beth Garner	Jim Barley Beth Garner

**Giving**

2022 October		Year to Date as of 10/31/2022	
<b>Current</b>	<b>\$15,651.79</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>\$130,615.32</b>
<b>Benevolence (Synod)</b>	<b>\$1,907.00</b>	<b>Benevolence (Synod)</b>	<b>\$13,476.50</b>
<b>United Lutheran Seminary</b>	<b>\$1,467.00</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Qrt. Lutheran Seminary</b>	<b>\$1,467.00</b>
2021 October		Year to Date as of 10/31/2021	
<b>Current</b>	<b>\$18,065.96</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>\$132,835.34</b>
<b>Benevolence (Synod)</b>	<b>\$1,881.00</b>	<b>Benevolence (Synod)</b>	<b>\$12,170.00</b>
<b>United Lutheran Seminary</b>	<b>\$1,233.50</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Qrt. Lutheran Seminary</b>	<b>\$1,233.50</b>
2020 October		Year to Date as of 10/31/2020	
<b>Current</b>	<b>\$14,698.81</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>\$146,243.50</b>
<b>Benevolence (Synod)</b>	<b>\$1,424.00</b>	<b>Benevolence (Synod)</b>	<b>\$17,534.50</b>
<b>United Lutheran Seminary</b>	<b>\$1,101.00</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Qrt. Lutheran Seminary</b>	<b>\$1,111.00</b>
2019 October		Year to Date as of 10/31//2019	
<b>Current</b>	<b>\$14,228.52</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>\$157,327.46</b>
<b>Benevolence (Synod)</b>	<b>\$1,728.00</b>	<b>Benevolence (Synod)</b>	<b>\$16,230.05</b>
<b>United Lutheran Seminary</b>	<b>\$1,285.50</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Qrt. Lutheran Seminary</b>	<b>\$1,285.50</b>
2022 Income vs Expenses			
<b>Current</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>Year to Date as of 10/31/2022</b>	
Actual	(\$971.05)	(\$40,073.07)	
Per Budget	(\$2,667.79)	(\$52,580.51)	
<b><u>Benevolence</u></b>			
Per Commitment to Synod	(\$259.67)	(\$8,190.17)	

There were 5 Sundays in October 2022 and 2021.

There were 4 Sundays in October 2020 and 2019.



## 2022 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 Orzeck	224-1208	Stewardship	Rev. Ed Harshbarger	650-5584
President	Melissa Fetzer	793-2735	Finance	Jim Barley	793-4623
Vice President	Martie Gilbert	793-4461	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			

### HIGHLIGHTS BY COUNCIL IN NOVEMBER

1. Approved the proposed 2023 budget. The proposal will be available for the congregation to review in the bulletin and Messenger. The congregational meeting to vote on the budget will be held after the 10:30 service on December 11, 2022.
  2. The Christian education committee is planning to make candy in December as a fundraiser for the youth gathering.
  3. Approved Ventures in Faith Local Needs disbursements from first quarter offerings.
  4. The stewardship appeal continues with weekly temple talks and bulletin and Messenger articles.
  5. A commitment card and letter will be sent out later in November encouraging members to return them by the December 11 meeting.
  6. The Chrismon tree and Advent decorations will be put up before the first Sunday in Advent. Dr. Adam Smith is giving a concert to benefit Camp Sequanota on Monday, December 19 and a shortest day service is planned for December 21. Plans are underway for a Christmas Eve service at 7 p.m. and a service of lessons and carols on Christmas day, December 25.
  7. The property committee is considering proposals for a lift for better mobility into the fellowship hall from the main level.
  8. A viable offer has been received on the house in Williamsburg that was a bequest from the Fred Smith estate. Council made plans to call a special congregational meeting for Sunday, November 20, 2022, to get congregational approval to sell the property.
- The nominating committee is preparing a slate for Council positions and nominating committee positions for 2023. Candidates are still needed for president, secretary, and a nominating committee member. The congregation will vote on the candidates at the December 11 congregational meeting.



#### St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Stewardship Commitment Card for 2023

For Envelope Number \_\_\_\_\_

Mission in the Parish (Current Expenses) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ / (week or month)

Mission in the World (Synod & ELCA Support) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ / (week or month)

Ventures in Faith (local, youth, missions, seminary) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ / (week or month)

Building Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_ / (week or month)

**Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ / (week or month)**

**Total for Year \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

*Please return this part in the offering plate or to the church office on or before December 4th.*

#### St Matthew Lutheran Church Stewardship Commitment for 2023

Mission in the Parish \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Current Expenses*

Mission in the World \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Synod & ELCA*

Ventures in Faith \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*local, youth, missions, seminary*

Building Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Week or Month Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Goal for the Year \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Please keep this part for your records



**Dear Members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church:**

The 2022 Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. Here in, and for your review, is a copy of the 2023 Ministry Proposal (Congregational Budget) for St. Matthew Lutheran Church.

The budget process begins with all committees providing their budget requests to the finance committee, who then review the individual proposals and ultimately agree on a budget. The Finance Committee unanimously approved the 2023 Budget at their meeting on October 26, 2022. Church Council then reviews the budget, and in this case, approved it at their November 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**The congregation will also be asked to approve the following 2023 recommendations for Venture in Faith, which are the same as 2022:**

- 1) The first quarter will go to local needs.
- 2) The second quarter is for Youth and Camping
- 3) The third quarter will go to On Eagle's Wings & Holy Family Lutheran Church & Rocky Boy Ind. Res.
- 4) The fourth quarter is for the United Lutheran Seminaries both in Gettysburg and Philadelphia.

**The congregation will also be asked to approve the 2023 recommendations for Special Envelopes, which are identical to what was used in 2022:**

- 1) Easter envelopes go to the Breezewood Truck Ministry.
- 2) Special envelopes for Children's Sunday go to Good Shepherd children's home.
- 3) Harvest Home envelopes go to ALSM (ILUMIN).
- 4) The special envelopes for Blanket Sunday go to Lutheran World relief.
- 5) Christmas envelopes are used for St. Matthew's current expense.

If, after reviewing the budget and the recommendations for Ventures in Faith and Special Envelopes, if you have questions or concerns, there will be a **question and answer session on Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup> and December 4<sup>th</sup> following the 10:30 a.m. worship service in the Sanctuary.** You may also contact Jim Barley by phone (814-793-4623) or by email (jimbarley@gmail.com).

*In response to God's love, St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
Shares God's word and serves all people.*

*Jim Barley  
Finance Committee Chairperson*

St. Matthew Lutheran Church Proposed Budget 2023

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
	Proposed Budget	Budget	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
<b>MINISTRY OF THE PASTOR</b>							
Base Salary/Housing Allowance	\$ 60,470.00	\$57,350.00	\$57,281.04	\$56,073.12	\$53,815.12	\$10,724.32	\$0.00
Social Security Allowance	\$ 4,626.00	\$4,387.00	\$4,290.00	\$4,198.08	\$4,039.92	\$652.84	\$0.00
Transitional Pastors Stipend						\$24,000.75	\$26,925.00
Total Compensation	\$ 65,096.00	\$61,737.00	\$61,571.04	\$60,271.20	\$57,855.04	\$35,377.91	\$26,925.00
Pension Contribution	\$ 7,812.00	\$7,409.00	\$7,244.52	\$7,088.52	\$6,822.93	\$0.00	\$0.00
Medical	\$ 10,936.00	\$9,878.00	\$9,443.16	\$8,831.46	\$7,817.92	\$2,622.64	\$0.00
Disability and Death	\$ 1,107.00	\$1,358.00	\$1,328.16	\$1,092.84	\$1,535.03	\$9.00	\$0.00
Disability Insurance Supplement	\$ -			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Retirement Support	\$ -			\$413.52	\$397.44	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Benefits	\$ 19,855.00	\$18,645.00	\$18,015.84	\$17,426.34	\$16,573.32	\$2,631.64	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL COMPENSATION &amp; BENEFITS OF THE PASTOR</b>	\$ 84,951.00	\$80,382.00	\$79,586.88	\$77,697.54	\$74,428.36	\$38,009.55	\$26,925.00
<b>PROFESSIONAL REIMBURSEMENT</b>							
Automobile Reimbursement	\$ 2,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$940.46	\$671.95	\$2,269.68	\$317.95	\$400.38
Continuing Ed, Books & Periodicals	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$657.29	\$935.50	\$1,002.74	\$77.16	\$588.53
Assembly/Conference Expense	\$ 600.00	\$600.00	\$40.00	\$25.00	\$461.00	\$143.00	\$426.00
Other Professional Exp	\$ 500.00	\$1,100.00	\$90.96	\$0.00	\$1,397.38	\$18.88	\$12.45
Transition Pastors Mileage and Lodging	\$ -					\$9,243.52	\$10,785.42
<b>TOTAL PROFESSIONAL REIMBURSEMENT</b>	\$ 4,100.00	\$5,700.00	\$1,728.71	\$1,632.45	\$5,130.80	\$9,800.51	\$12,212.78
<b>PARISH ADMINISTRATION</b>							
Parish Administrative Assistant	\$ 33,600.00	\$31,992.00	\$31,897.00	\$31,200.00	\$30,599.94	\$29,618.00	\$26,367.26
Employer's SS Taxes Parish Admin Ass't	\$ 2,570.00	\$2,447.00	\$2,273.44	\$2,227.35	\$2,224.38	\$2,126.44	\$1,847.69
Employee Benefits Parish Admin Ass't	\$ 11,791.00	\$13,867.00	\$13,641.24	\$13,548.30	\$13,093.08	\$14,161.66	\$11,429.07
Assistant to Administrative Assistant	\$ 1,008.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,280.81	\$641.37	\$2,064.51	\$1,697.25	
Employer's SS Taxes Ass't Admin Ass't	\$ 77.00	\$230.00	\$92.57	\$57.23	\$161.34	\$112.45	
Office Supplies	\$ 2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,017.65	\$2,132.07	\$2,956.78	\$2,586.16	\$2,718.75
Postage	\$ 1,300.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,245.65	\$1,034.48	\$1,381.71	\$1,370.16	\$1,587.89
Telephone	\$ 3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,855.97	\$2,957.12	\$2,927.98	\$2,841.07	\$1,997.98
Maintenance and Repairs	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	\$822.06	\$3,366.35	\$1,523.26	\$916.58
Computer Program & Updates	\$ 1,750.00	\$1,750.00	\$1,574.85	\$1,049.47	\$1,627.00	\$1,882.91	\$1,894.09
Copier Lease	\$ 2,604.00	\$2,604.00	\$4,134.60	\$4,134.60	\$4,134.60	\$4,150.70	\$3,960.13
Misc. Expenses	\$ 200.00	\$200.00	\$82.67	\$148.84	\$0.00	\$141.70	\$161.88
<b>TOTAL PARISH ADMINISTRATION</b>	\$ 60,900.00	\$63,890.00	\$61,096.45	\$59,952.89	\$64,537.67	\$62,211.76	\$52,881.32

<b>WORSHIP AND MUSIC</b>										
Supply Pastors Compensation	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$350.00	\$290.82					\$1,063.14	\$1,575.00
Organists' Stipends	\$ 9,420.00	\$8,800.00	\$8,150.00	\$7,785.00					\$3,950.00	\$4,282.28
Adult Choir Dir. Stipend		\$2,250.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,100.00					\$0.00	\$0.00
Organ, Piano, and Carillon	\$ 700.00	\$700.00	\$720.00	\$360.00					\$870.00	\$350.00
Choir Music	\$ 150.00	\$150.00	\$96.34	(\$50.00)					\$34.67	\$107.24
Worship Supplies	\$ 1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$801.50	\$1,841.82					\$1,481.25	\$1,807.78
Devotional Guides	\$ 150.00	\$150.00	\$105.01	\$316.13					\$413.50	\$396.50
Bulletins	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					\$0.00	\$70.90
Flower Fund	\$ -	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$33.40					\$21.95	\$90.00
Journey to Bethlehem	\$ -	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					\$0.00	\$591.86
Audio Tech Person	\$ 1,485.00	\$1,375.00	\$1,325.00							
Employer's SS Taxes	\$ 114.00	\$105.00	\$63.10							
<b>TOTAL WORSHIP AND MUSIC</b>	<b>\$ 14,519.00</b>	<b>\$16,330.00</b>	<b>\$13,210.95</b>	<b>\$11,677.17</b>					<b>\$7,834.51</b>	<b>\$9,271.56</b>
<b>EVANGELISM</b>										
Evangelism Projects	\$ 500.00	\$1,300.00	\$435.93	\$246.07					\$298.20	\$255.43
<b>TOTAL EVANGELISM</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>	<b>\$1,300.00</b>	<b>\$435.93</b>	<b>\$246.07</b>					<b>\$298.20</b>	<b>\$255.43</b>
<b>FELLOWSHIP</b>										
Fellowship Expenses	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$233.07	\$427.58					\$1,179.11	\$1,103.23
<b>TOTAL FELLOWSHIP</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$233.07</b>	<b>\$427.58</b>					<b>\$1,179.11</b>	<b>\$1,103.23</b>
<b>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</b>										
Synod Assembly (2 delegates)	\$ 400.00	\$400.00	\$80.00	\$0.00					\$286.00	\$378.00
SCS Christmas Gifts	\$ 100.00	\$100.00	\$42.37	\$0.00					\$38.02	\$80.07
Vacation Church School	\$ -	\$750.00	\$500.00	\$150.00					\$0.00	\$1,019.41
The Lutheran	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,200.00	\$622.67	\$971.79					\$1,044.98	\$1,071.40
Curriculum & Supplies	\$ 500.00	\$1,000.00	\$480.26	\$403.35					\$538.31	\$812.11
St. Matthew Youth Events	\$ 500.00	\$500.00	\$172.62	\$22.43					\$0.00	\$11.99
National Youth Gathering Advisor	\$ -	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00					\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Advent and Lenten Workshop	\$ 200.00	\$200.00	\$54.23	\$0.00					\$0.00	\$0.00
FBI Background Checks	\$ 100.00	\$100.00	\$119.55	\$35.00					\$61.20	\$16.00
<b>TOTAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</b>	<b>\$ 2,800.00</b>	<b>\$5,250.00</b>	<b>\$2,071.70</b>	<b>\$1,582.57</b>					<b>\$2,968.51</b>	<b>\$3,388.98</b>

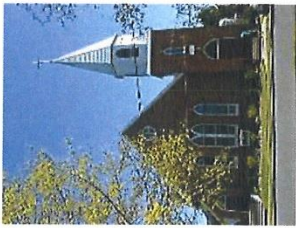
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
	Proposed Budget	Budget	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
<b>PROPERTY MAINTENANCE</b>							
Insurance	\$ 5,000.00	\$5,500.00	\$4,553.00	\$4,589.00	\$4,286.00	\$7,999.45	\$5,119.00
Electricity	\$ 9,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$7,969.55	\$7,882.13	\$12,599.92	\$13,662.03	\$14,254.45
Janitorial Services	\$ 16,443.00	\$15,405.00	\$12,771.78	\$15,411.80	\$14,867.11	\$14,205.00	\$15,361.10
Employer's SS Taxes	\$ 1,258.00	\$1,178.00	\$1,014.60	\$1,187.74	\$1,179.25	\$1,066.53	\$1,150.17
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 2,300.00	\$3,500.00	\$2,469.38	\$595.26	\$2,529.08	\$4,762.68	\$2,787.11
Utilities (Water/Sewer/Gas/Garbage)	\$ 4,000.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,606.22	\$3,106.83	\$2,850.06	\$2,572.30	\$2,081.35
Operating Supplies	\$ 1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,108.71	\$985.90	\$760.23	\$596.35	\$1,074.06
Maint Fees (Snow Plowing & Shoveling)	\$ 1,700.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,072.00	\$516.00	\$1,384.00	\$1,754.25	\$1,205.50
Security	\$ 700.00	\$700.00	\$539.88	\$539.88	\$539.88	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE</b>	<b>\$ 41,601.00</b>	<b>\$42,683.00</b>	<b>\$35,105.12</b>	<b>\$34,814.54</b>	<b>\$40,995.53</b>	<b>\$46,618.59</b>	<b>\$43,032.74</b>
<b>STEWARDSHIP</b>							
Stewardship Education	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$745.20	\$926.52	\$920.91	\$906.47	\$624.37
Offering Envelopes	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$751.50	\$983.85	\$665.41	\$490.03	\$1,964.41
<b>TOTAL STEWARDSHIP &amp; FINANCE</b>	<b>\$ 2,000.00</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,496.70</b>	<b>\$1,910.37</b>	<b>\$1,586.32</b>	<b>\$1,396.50</b>	<b>\$2,588.78</b>
<b>SOCIAL MINISTRY</b>							
Social Ministry	\$ 300.00	\$300.00	\$55.86	\$0.00	\$95.54	\$208.08	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL SOCIAL MINISTRY</b>	<b>\$ 300.00</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$55.86</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$95.54</b>	<b>\$208.08</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>							
Miscellaneous	\$ 500.00	\$500.00	\$1,107.38	\$178.74	\$411.31	\$393.60	\$332.15
<b>TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$1,107.38</b>	<b>\$178.74</b>	<b>\$411.31</b>	<b>\$393.60</b>	<b>\$332.15</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 213,171.00</b>	<b>\$ 219,835.00</b>	<b>\$ 196,128.75</b>	<b>\$ 190,119.92</b>	<b>\$ 202,587.17</b>	<b>\$ 170,918.92</b>	<b>\$ 151,991.97</b>
Average Weekly Needed per Budget	53 Sundays	52 Sundays	52 Sundays	52 Sundays	52 Sundays	52 Sundays	53 Sundays
	\$ 4,022.00	\$4,227.60	\$4,287.77	\$4,299.48	\$4,096.94	\$4,413.40	\$4,181.47
<b>Faith Commitment (Allegheny Synod)</b>	<b>\$ 20,000.00</b>	<b>\$26,000.00</b>	<b>\$26,000.00</b>	<b>\$26,000.00</b>	<b>\$26,000.00</b>	<b>\$26,000.00</b>	<b>\$26,000.00</b>
Note: Faith Commitment (Decrease) is %	23%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Note: Budget Increase (Decrease) is %	-3.03%	-1.40%	-0.27%	4.94%	-7.17%	3.56%	2.50%

**Ventures in Faith for 2023**

First quarter will go to local needs; Second quarter is for Youth & Camping; Third quarter OEW's & Holy Family Lutheran Church & Rocky Boy; Fourth quarter is for the United Lutheran Seminaries (Gettysburg & Philadelphia)

**Special Envelopes for 2023**

Easter - Breezewood Truck Ministry.; Children's Sunday - Good Shepherd Children Home.; Harvest Home - ALSM (ILLUMIN); Blanket Sunday - Lutheran World Relief.; Christmas - St. Matthew Current Expenses.



# December 2022


St. Matthew Lutheran Church

115 E Penn St., Martinsburg, PA 16662-1127

Email: [stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com](mailto:stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com)

814-793-2413



	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>FH</b> —Fellowship Hall <b>CL</b> —Church Lounge <b>WR</b> — 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	<b>CE</b> —Christian Ed Office <b>QR</b> —Quilt Room <b>K</b> —Kitchen					
4	<b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b> 9:30 am Sunday School, 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	5 6:00 pm Worship & Music Mtg., Zoom 6:00 pm Boy Scout, SR	6 4:00 pm Bible Study, Zoom	7 1-4 pm Pastor in Office No Yoga, FH	8 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St.	2 Pastor's Sabbath	3
11	<b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b> 9:30 am Sunday School, 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary Congregational Meeting during worship Candy Making in Kitchen following Worship	12 6:00 pm Boy Scout, SR	13 4:00 pm Bible Study, Zoom 6:30 pm Council Mtg., Zoom	14 10:00 am Employee Mtg., FH 1-4 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga, FH	15 Pastor's Sabbath 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St.	16 7:00 pm Confirmation Trip	17 12-3 pm Janet Kreider's Birthday Celebration, FH
18	<b>4th Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Youth Sunday</b> 9:30 am Sunday School, 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary Following Worship Candy Pick Up in Fellowship Hall	19 7:00 pm An Advent Concert, by Dr. Adam Smith, Benefit Sequanota 6:00 pm Boy Scout, SR	20 4:00 pm Bible Study, Zoom	21 No Yoga, FH 6:00 pm Dinner 7:00 pm Longest Night Service	22 2:00 pm Homewood Communion Service	23 Pastor's Sabbath	24 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
25	<b>Nativity of Our Lord</b> No Sunday School, 10:30 am Lessons & Carols Worship Service 	26	27 12:30-3:00 pm Knotty Ladies, QR	28	29	30	31
<b>Merry Christmas to All! The Office Staff is on vacation this week and the office is closed.</b> <b>In case of emergency please call Pastor Traci's cell phone at 814-935-9267.</b>							