



Saint Matthew
LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. Matthew's Messenger

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

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Volume 62

FEBRUARY 2022

Number 2

Dear People of God:

Our last lectionary reading before Valentine's month is from 1 Corinthians 13: Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

We use the word "love" for many things—maybe too many things: people, but also pets, vacation spots, pizza, pastimes. Most often we use it to refer to the way we feel about something or someone, to name our affection or appreciation. But the kind of love that Paul talks about in his letter to the Corinthians and the kind of love Jesus talks about when he says people will recognize his disciples because they love one another [John 13] is about our actions first, not our feelings. Whether or not we *feel* particularly patient or kind, we are still called to *act* with patience and kindness. After all, who would believe that we feel lovingly toward them if we act hatefully?

Jesus shares some good news about our feelings, too. When he says that where our treasure is, there our hearts will be also [Matthew 6], he promises that we don't have to wait for our feelings to inspire our loving behavior; quite the opposite. If we invest our time, energy, and resources in loving acts of kindness for others, our hearts will follow our actions' lead. It's hard not to care about someone or something to which we have devoted ourselves. The best way to cultivate love as a feeling is to practice love as an action.

This month we will be surrounded with reminders of love. May we remember that God loves us through acts of provision, forgiveness, and mercy, and may our hearts be warmed in love as we act similarly toward others.

Pastor Traci



With sincere gratitude to Council and the members of St. Matthew, thank you for the prayers, concerns, and patience during the illnesses of my husband, Norman and myself. The cards and notes really meant a lot. Many thanks to the numerous volunteers that worked the office in my absence.

Norm & Lori Tremmel



Thank you for the cards, phone calls and prayers to celebrate my 90th birthday. All were very much appreciated.

Ginny Sell



Many thanks for the generous donation of \$300.00 to the Hollidaysburg American Legion Ambulance Service

Hollidaysburg EMS



The Breezewood Trucker Traveler Ministry would like to take this time to thank you for the \$733.00 contributions and your prayers to the ministry this past year. Without your support we would not be able to reach those in need.

Breezewood T/T Ministry



Thank you for your extra donations to the Harvest Home Project and to the Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries Lutheran Home.

**Patricia Savage
President/CEO**



On behalf of our Board of Directors and myself, I would like to thank you for your \$200.00 contribution to Scarlet Dragon Packs Fund of the Central Pennsylvania Community Foundation.

Ginny Sell



On behalf of the American Red Cross, thank you for your generous gift of \$100.00, which was applied to your local chapter.

**Gail McGovern
President & CEO**



Thank you for your generous gift of \$1,000.00, which makes a difference in staff and campers' lives of faith!.

**Rev. Nathan Pile
Exec. Dir./Pastor or Sequanota**

Thank you to Volunteers.

There are many people within the congregation who serve under the auspices of the Worship and Music Committee.

On behalf of the Worship and Music Committee, Jane Fagans offered a sincere thank you to the accompanists, Mary Nelson and Adam Smith; Pastor Ed for his leadership with both the youth and adult choirs and the bell choirs; members of the youth and adult choirs; Camden Kuster and Jay Hoenstine who serve as Audio/Visual Technicians; Jacob Orczeck, who has been instrumental in audio/visual upgrades throughout the church building; Flower Committee co-chairs, Mary Nelson, and Margie Smith and the committee members; Janet Stewart for securing Lectors and all the people who serve as Lectors; Altar Guild members, Acolyte Leaders, Kaye Burket and Elaine Smith and the Acolytes, Usher Coordinator David Lehman and those who serve as Ushers, Steve Oswalt and Shawn Orczeck recorded the Lessons and Carols Service, all those who serve as Worship and Communion Assistants, and, of course, Pastor Ed and Pastor Traci for their pastoral leadership to the congregation.

All the aforementioned people work very well together to provide a grace and joy filled worship experience. Throughout these difficult times over the past several years, the congregation at St. Matthew has had many worship and devotion time opportunities provided by this dedicated team. And thank you, to the members of Worship and Music Committee for their service on the committee.

It does take a congregation to provide worshipful services. THANK YOU!!!

Martinsburg Food Pantry

Volunteers from Salem United Church of Christ, along with the regular volunteers, will be assisting with the food distribution on Thursdays, February 3 and February 17. It will be open from 9:00a.m. until 11:00a.m. and by appointment at other times for emergency food.

The February items most needed are: Tuna, Pasta/Rice Sides, Fruit, Scalloped Potatoes, and Cleaning Supplies.

Many Thanks for all the monetary and food donations! **Linda Smith**



A Stewardship Moment February 2022

I would like to focus your attention on a letter written to the editor in the February issue of the Christian newsletter called *Stewardship*. The writer of the letter gently reminded the editor that articles in the newsletter should not shortchange the Gospel theme of God's love for us.

His point was that we Christians love because God first loved us. Our stewardship should be in response to God's unstinting love and grace poured out on us, in us, and for us. As St. Paul put it in his letter to the church at Rome: "God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us." (Romans 5:5) St. Paul went on to say: "God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8) The cross should always remind us of that.

So, someone may ask, what does God's love for us have to do with stewardship? Well, everything! That's all. Simply everything.

Our lives came from God. Our bodies, our brains, our talents, our time on earth, our ability to be creative, to serve, to work, to earn, to share....are all the result of God's love and our response to that love.

The bottom line regarding our stewardship is how willing we are to use our lives to lovingly serve God in whatever way the Holy Spirit leads us. Whenever we awake each day, our first prayer should be to thank God for the life and the blessings God has given us. And then to ask for guidance and the strength to do whatever service God wishes for us to do.

I close with another quote from St. Paul, this one found in Romans 12:1: "I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship."

Prayer: *Dear Lord, keep reminding us that we belong to you and will find our greatest pleasure in loving and serving you in all things. Amen*

A **Stewardship Minute** is available to subscribers of *Stewardship* at www.parishpublishing.org.

Volunteers Needed

Worship and Music Committee is looking for a volunteer to serve as Head Usher. Responsibilities include scheduling ushers for worship services; maintain a current List of volunteers for ushers; and mentoring ushers on new procedures, etc. Please contact Jane Fagans at 793-4401 or text at 327-0786 if you would like to fill this vacancy.

Since it has been several years since ushers were needed for worship, the committee thought perhaps it might be a good time to generate a new list of usher volunteers. If you would like to continue to volunteer or if you would like to sign up as a new volunteer, please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. Thank you for your service as usher in St. Matthew's ministry.

Worship and Music Committee will soon begin to have one usher available in the Narthex for the 10:30 a.m. worship services. Primary responsibilities will include greeter, handing out bulletins, and offering assistance with communion elements and name badges when necessary.

David Lehman has resigned his long-standing position as Head Usher after diligently serving in this capacity for more than 35 years. Thank you, Dave for your dedication, your willingness to serve whenever needed, and your generosity in giving your time to St. Matthew's ministry.

Synod Director for Evangelical Mission

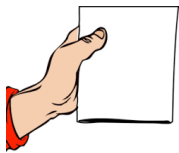
The Allegheny Synod publicly announces that Pastor Kevin Shock has been called to serve as Director for Evangelical Mission and Assistant to the Bishop for the Allegheny Synod. Pastor Shock was called on Saturday, January 15 at the regular meeting of the Allegheny Synod Council. He will begin his service in the Office of the Bishop on March 1, 2022.

Birthdays for February

1 Samuel L. Stahl	9 Loy C. Replogle	19 Barbara Moorhead
2 Brian Brumbaugh	10 Gabrielle Decker	20 Greg Dick
4 Ashley Smith	Colten Moses	A J Hoenstine
5 Mary K. Baker	12 Jane L. Fagans	Dani Wright
Barbara J. Beyer	Pam Russell	21 Jeffrey L. Garner
Olivia Day	14 Steve Ebersole	24 Walter I. Szymckec
Elaine Smith	Jeffrey K. Hite	28 Eric R. Frederick
6 Steve Claycomb	John H. Lear	Matthew Freyer
7 Camden A. Hoover	15 Richard Snyder	Allen Kuster
8 Jenna Carder	17 James R. Fagans	29 Anne E. Stewart
Gavin Ross	James A. Stewart	
9 Elizabeth Haffling	Elaine (Joy) Williams	
Casey J. Hoover	18 Brett Buchart	
	Kinsley Frederick	

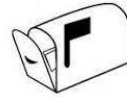
Anniversaries in February

10 Warren & Dottie Daniel
13 Mark & Debra Guyer
22 Richard & Kay McGraw
26 Dan & Gloria Guyer
27 Jay & Laura M. Webb



St. Matthew Messenger

The monthly St. Matthew Messenger is available on the St. Matthew Website under Newsletters, on your email message from St. Matthew with the link for the Messenger, or as a paper copy in the news rack in the church Narthex. By calling the church office 814-793-2413, you can request a paper copy to be mailed monthly to your address. Your readership and articles are always appreciated.



NOTE!
ADDRESS CHANGE

Address Change

Pat Mountain

113 Hillview Dr
Woodbury, PA 16695-9413

Mary Creps

437 Givler Dr #321
Martinsburg, PA 16662-1635

Mary Lou Hinish

106 Ppersimmon Ln
Elizabethtown, PA 17022-9527

Anita Hoover

205 Oakdale Rd
Martinsburg, PA 16662-1243

Warren & Dottie Daniel

8312 N Lemon Ln
Nine Mile Fls, WA 99026

Matt Freyer

408 N Market St
Martinsburg, PA 16662-7829



Congratulations

Congratulations to Andrew and Jenna Smith Lenhart upon the birth of their son, Grayson Robert Lenhart on Thursday, January 13, 2022 in Frederick, Maryland. Grayson is the brother to Levi Max, the grandson of Jeannie and the late Max Smith. He is also the great grandson of Don Smith.

2022 COUNCIL DIRECTORY AND MINISTRY STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Traci Bowman	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 JANUARY

1. Appointed Martie Gilbert to fill the Council Vice President vacancy created by Peggy Steinfurth's resignation.
2. Decided that families/parents will be responsible for Camp Sequanota registration deposit (currently \$100) and St. Matthew will pay the remainder. Catechism students are strongly encouraged to attend Confirmation Camp and therefore St. Matthew will pay the total registration for Confirmation Camp.
3. In January two Sunday worship services will continue in the sanctuary at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
4. The Property Committee reported on various building maintenance and repair projects that had been completed in December including replacement of the Maple Street doors using a memorial gift from the Gerald Hoover family.
5. The youth and their teachers and advisors were praised for their participation in the Christmas pageant and chime choir music. The youth will be preparing for Easter chime music.
6. The Stewardship Committee will be known as the Trust Committee and Pastor Ed will be seeking members to participate.
7. Committees are reviewing and planning their goals for 2022.
8. Scout Sunday will be postponed and possibly held outdoors.

SERVING GOD AND US Februaryay 2022

Date	February 6	February 13	February 20	February 27 <i>Transfiguration of Our Lord</i>
Acolytes	Ben Decker	Norah Kuster	Gabby Decker	Gavin Kuster
Lectors	Audrey Stern	Alan Kuster	Elaine Smith	Michael Lamborn
Altar Guild	Jean Sinal	Jean Sinal	Jean Sinal	Jean Sinal
Audio/Video	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster



February 2022

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30 pm Stewardship Mtg. via Zoom	2 1:00-4:00 pm Pastor in the office 5:00 pm Yoga, FH	3 9:00—11:00 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St	4 Pastor's Sabbath	5
6 5th Sun. after Epiphany 8:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service	7 6:30 pm Boy Scouts, FH	8 6:30 pm Council Mtg. via Zoom	9 1:00-4:00 pm Pastor in the office 5:00 pm Yoga, FH	10	11 Pastor's Sabbath	12
13 6th Sun. after Epiphany 8:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service Deadline for Snow Camp Registration	14 6:30 pm Boy Scouts, FH	15	16	17 9:00—11:00 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St	18	19
20 7th Sun. after Epiphany 8:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service March Messenger Deadline	21 6:30 pm Boy Scouts, FH	22	23 10:00 am Employee Mtg. CE 1:00-4:00 pm Pastor in the office 5:00 pm Yoga, FH	24	25	26
27 Transfiguration Sunday 8:30 am Worship Service 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service	28 6:30 pm Boy Scouts, FH 6:30 pm Christian Ed. Mtg. via Zoom					

Pastor's Professional Development @ Sequanota. Pastor is available by cell phone listed below.

Snow Camp @ Sequanota. Pastor is available by cell phone listed below.

FH—Fellowship Hall
CE-Christian Ed Office - WR-Window Room
In case of emergency, Pastor Traci maybe reached at 814-935-9267