



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 64

APRIL 2024

Number 4

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Although we sing “Joy to the World” at Christmas when we remember Jesus’ birth, Easter gives us many more joyful hymns to celebrate Jesus’ resurrection. The Easter season lasts for 50 joyful days—more days of joy than the 40 somber days of Lent—a “week of weeks” to give thanks for the power of God that conquers even death.

Ash Wednesday coincided with Valentine’s Day this year, providing an extra emphasis on the traditional Lenten discipline of charity (love). Our Wednesday night worshippers studied the different ways that God calls us to love and worked faithfully to create art—colorful hearts that were transformed into butterflies to bring a little visual joy to the sanctuary for Easter.

Butterflies have long been used as a symbol of the resurrection; we picture a caterpillar’s life transformed in the cocoon from creepy crawling to fanciful flying. They are not merely reawakened, as hibernating animals are; they are changed into something different. Resurrection is not part of a predictable cycle; it’s what breaks the cycle to create something new. Our acts of love, during Lent or any time, help transform this world.

Where do you see hope for resurrection in your life and in this world? What might the God who brought new life out of death renew in you? What transformation might God bring about that would leave you shouting for joy?

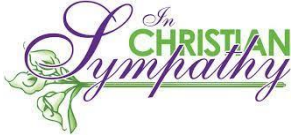
May the hope of God’s renewing power bring you peace and joy in this season of new life.

+ *Pastor Traci*

Summer Camp at Sequanota

Reminder: The Early Bird Deadline for Camp Sequanota is April 1st. Campers’ families are asked to pay the \$100 online deposit and St. Matthew will cover the rest of the cost of regular cabin camp; campers can bring a friend and St. Matthew will also cover their cost, less the deposit. Registering early is the most economical option and helps us help you get to camp.





Prayers and Christian Sympathy are asked for the family of Carl Alexy upon his death on Sunday, March 10, 2024.

Martinsburg Food Pantry



Volunteers from Clover Creek Church of the Brethren will be assisting, along with the regular helpers, to distribute items on Thursdays, April 4 and 18. The pantry will be open from 9:00 until

11:00 a.m., and other times by appointment.

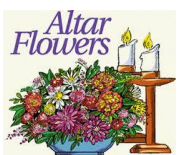
Following is the most needed food items for April:

Ravioli, Jello, Instant Oatmeal, Crackers, Cleaning Products

These or any other donations can be placed in the basket at the church marked "Food Pantry".

Monetary gifts may be sent to our new mailing address: P.O. Box 310, Martinsburg, PA 16662

*Thank you!
Linda Smith*



The 2024 Altar Flower chart is posted on the Narthex bulletin board. Altar Flowers are a perfect way to remember loved ones or to honor loved ones. The following dates are available: 4/28, 5/26, 7/21, 7/28, 9/15, 9/29, 10/13, 10/27, 11/10, 12/1, 12/22. Please sign up now for the Sunday you wish to place flowers on the Altar. Price - \$40.00.

If you would like a Sunday(s) you can also call the church office at 814-793-2413.



April 2024

In the opening article in the April issue of Stewardship there is a Scripture verse that woke me up. The verse is from the Old Testament and written by the prophet Haggai. Speaking on behalf of God, here is what God said to the Jews who were about to build a temple in which to worship: "The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord." The writer of the 24th psalm made the same point when he wrote: "The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it." So that compels us to ask, if ultimately God's owns everything, where does that leave us?

The answer Scripture gives us is very clear. We are care takers of God's earth and all that is in it. We are stewards, or managers, who have the responsibility of caring for the earth and for whatever God blesses us with. Not only responsible for this earth, but our bodies, minds, and the resources that come our way. Because ultimately what we say is ours is not ours at all.

There is an old joke about two men standing on a street corner when a funeral procession came into view. They were respectfully silent until they noticed that somehow a Brinks truck had gotten right behind the hearse. That was when one fellow said to the other, "Who says you can't take it with you?" Well, the sober truth is we really can't take it with us. Yet there is a lot we can do with what God allows us to manage right now. We are the servants of the Lord. So let's be the best caretakers of whatever the Lord has placed before us.

Prayer: *Dear Lord, you have given us such great responsibilities. Please give us the guidance and strength to do what we can do for your Kingdom! Amen.*

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



Thank you to the Social Ministry Committee and other committee members for sharing the delicious soup and sandwich meals with my husband and me

this Lenten season. It was very special to have a visitor in my home every week. Now that I have experienced the other side of this ministry, I realize how valuable it is to those who are homebound. Again, thank you for your thoughtfulness and kindness.

*Gratefully,
Kaye Burket*

To the Congregation,

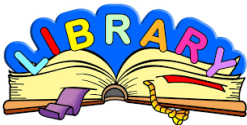
Thank you for your expressions of sympathy, love and support during Carl's illness and at his passing. You reflect the song "And they'll know we are Christians by our love."

*Gratefully,
Dawn Alexy and the Alexy family*

St. Matthew Ladies,

Thank you all so much for providing the meal this day. We appreciate all your care and prayers.

The Carl Alexy Family



The Martinsburg Community Library is grateful for your donation. It is the generosity of community partners such as

you that enable us to continue to offer the quality materials, programs, and services that our patrons have come to expect. We will be sure to put your donation to good use in serving the Cove community.

Thank you for being a supporter of the library.

*Sincerely,
Danette Feathers
Library Director*



2024 Lenten Meals

An average of 20 people attended the weekly in person meals, and 12 meals were delivered weekly to the shut ins.

The Social Ministry Committee would like to thank the following:

a. Committee chairs and members: Music and Worship, Finance, Christian Education, Fellowship, and Social Ministry for coordinating their week and having soup ready for the shut-ins.

b. Delivery Crew: Peggy Steinfurth, Connie Lamborn, Mary Nelson, Jean Sinal, Jeff Garner, Lottie Ebersole and Pastor Traci.

c. And Kay McGraw, Peggy Fryer for the extra treats.

The meals provided a time for visitation, friendship building, fellowship, and preparation for Easter.

*Lottie Ebersole
Social Ministry Committee, Chairperson*



The Kreider family would like to express its heartfelt gratitude for the cards, prayers, and condolences received upon the passing of Janet Kreider. Also, a gracious thank you to those

who prepared and served the wonderful funeral meal.

*Ed & Dean
Karen & Richard Greenleaf and Family*

Thank you for your ongoing financial support of United Lutheran Seminary. We are deeply grateful for your generosity and partnership accompanying us as we prepare our ULS students to witness to and participate in the work of God in the world through spiritual leadership, public advocacy, impactful worship, and care of neighbor grounded in God's grace and love.

*Yours Faithfully,
Mr. Conor Brooks, CFRE
VP for Institutional Advancement*



Welcome to the Family of St. Matthew through Letter of transfer, Don and Christine Bulger on Sunday, March 17, 2024.



SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024

Our Congregational Council has called a special Congregational Meeting for Sunday, April 7, immediately following the conclusion of worship, in accordance with Section C10.02 of our Constitution

The sole business to be conducted at that meeting will be a vote regarding a proposal by the Property Committee to contract with Snowberger Construction LLC of Martinsburg to remove the existing concrete porch, ramp, steps and a portion of the sidewalk at the Maple Street entrance. They will then install a new concrete porch, steps, and ramp. The ramp will be wider with dual railings to bring it into ADA compliance.

The Property Committee solicited five bids for this work, as follows:

- Snowberger Construction LLC. \$10,935.00
- Cordell Construction \$11,600.00
- Valley View Builders \$12,065.00
- Dwayne Smith Construction \$12,475.00
- Ralph J Albarano - No Bid

Upon the removal of the worn carpet at the Maple Street entrance for replacement last summer, it was determined that the concrete underneath the carpet was deteriorating and would need replaced. Upon consultation with Russell Dickson of RGD Engineering, the Property Committee made a proposal for the necessary work. At March's meeting, the Council expressed unanimous support for the Property Committee's proposal.

If you have any questions before next Sunday's meeting, please contact our Property Committee Chair, Ed Kreider.

BLAIR-HUNTINGDON CONFERENCE
WACKY BOWLING
 FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT CAMPUS MINISTRY

Lutheran at PENN STATE

Fun Spin on Bowling No Skill Required!

MORRISONS COVE MEMORIAL PARK LANES

April 7 4-6PM | Suggested Donation \$20
 Teams or Individuals
 Walk-ins Welcome but Space is Limited
 RSVP: blairhuntingdonlutherans@gmail.com

Lutheran Campus Ministry makes a difference in the lives of students by meeting them where they are, helping them experience the love of God for all the world, and empowering them to live out that love.

- Relevant Worship
- Welcoming Community
- Pastoral Care
- Service - Learning Events
- Support while Discerning
- Exploring Life & Faith Questions

Find out more:
LutheranPennState.org



Thanks for your support!



Lutheran Campus Ministry at Penn State!

Use this QR Code to donate or send a check to:
 Lutheran Campus Ministry
 211A Pasquerilla Spiritual Center
 University Park, PA 16802

Sequanota Events



Love your Mother (Earth) Retreat

Date: April 19-21, 2024

Cost: Lodging and meals by donation.

We all need to be outside more. Whether it is a five minute walk, resting by a stream, or a new year's goal to hike more - nature tells us who we are and whose we are. Join us this weekend for a 5K walk through nature as it springs to life, some Bible study, tree planting and an engaging session on how practicing our role in caring for our home. We only have one planet - this weekend is designed to help us appreciate and take ideas home to live more faithfully as a steward of it.

There is not a set fee for this weekend retreat. Please attend and donate as you are able to offset the cost of lodging and meals. The Happy Camper Fun Run 5K registration is separate. All proceeds for the 5K benefit Summer Camp Scholarships.

Suggested Donation:

\$50/room or cabin

\$40/person - 4 meals (breakfast/lunch/supper/breakfast)

\$20/(under 10) - 4 meals (breakfast/lunch/supper/breakfast)

Happy Camper Fun Run - 5K and 1 Mile Campership Fundraiser

April 20, 2024

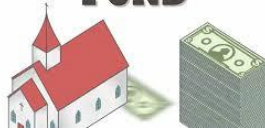
Cost: \$50/participant

Run/Walk at home virtually or come to Sequanota and choose one of two race course options (road and trail). Grab a pledge form and ask friends and family to sponsor you as you sprint, skip, shimmy, swim, bike, canoe, roller blade, walk, or hike for Sequanota. Cabins will be available to rent for the weekend.

PROCEEDS WILL PROVIDE CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS THIS SUMMER.

Our big goal is to raise \$5,200 from this 5K to fund 13 Bring a Friend Free scholarships. Encourage your local congregation, youth group, or family to participate with you.

ENDOWMENT FUND



THIRD CENTURY FUND (ENDOWMENT FUND)

The Third Century Fund had a good earnings year in 2023 and as a result has \$6,072.30 for distribution in 2024. You or your committee may request funding in writing by contacting Laura Orczeck, chairperson, or committee members Allen Kuster, Barb Wilt, Beth Garner or Pastor Traci.

Deadline to submit a request is Sunday, May 26, 2024. Funds will be distributed in June 2024.

The following is from the by-laws of the Third Century Fund and outline the guidelines for fund requests.

PURPOSE

The St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund is established to encourage responsible Christian stewardship and to promote the mission of the congregation. In response to God's love and mercy, the Endowment Fund seeks to enhance and expand the mission outreach objectives of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Members and friends of St. Matthew congregation are encouraged to practice responsible Christian Stewardship by making contributions to the Endowment Fund. There are a variety of ways such gifts can be made such as, Cash, Securities, Bequests through wills or living trusts, Life insurance policies, charitable gift annuity and Life estates.

The Endowment Fund provides financial support for the church in a manner that is separate from the expenditures normally funded by the annual operating budget of the congregation.

USE OF THE FUND

All contributions to the St. Matthew Lutheran Church Endowment Fund will be undesignated and added to the principal balance of the fund. The Endowment fund principal balance will be retained and only the dividend income will be used for annual disbursements.

Consideration for awarding fund requests will be given using the following guidelines.

1. Youth of all ages - scholarship support of congregational members and their children; for youth events, for church camps or similar Christian programs and education.
2. Christian outreach ministries and missions of St. Matthew Lutheran Church, its members and the ELCA.
3. Worship and Music - support for the worship of St, Matthew.
4. Capital Projects - major renovations or building projects of St. Matthew.

SERVING GOD AND US

April 2024

Date	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28
Acolytes	Gabby Decker	Lily Lightner	Lucy Lightner	Ben Decker
Lectors	Elaine Smith	Janet Stewart	Gavin Kuster	Camden Kuster
Altar Guild	Jeannie Smith Cindy Snyder	Jeannie Smith Cindy Snyder	Jeannie Smith Cindy Snyder	Jeannie Smith Cindy Snyder
Assist. Min.	Michael Lamborn	Tina Harclerode	Lottie Ebersole	Jean Sinal
Offering Counters	Beth Garner Jim Barley	Beth Garner Jim Barley	Beth Garner Jim Barley	Beth Garner Jim Barley
Audio/Video	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster
Ushers	Dennis Smith	Greg Haffling	Jeff Garner	Mike Lamborn

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 Bruce & Brandi Ross | 25 Jim & Pam Russell |
| 20 Matt & Samantha Freyer | 25 Wade T. & Michele M. Smith |

2024 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.	Jen Ripka	935-3801	Evangelism	Vacant	
Assist. Admin. Assist.	Laura Orczeck	224-1208	Stewardship	Vacant	
President	Martie Gilbert	793-4461	Finance	Jim Barley	793-4623
Vice President	Greg Haffling	793-9827	Social Ministry	Lottie Ebersole	232-6665
Secretary	Carla Brumbaugh	932-4082	Worship & Music	Tina Harclerode	317-5312
Treasurer	Beth Garner	793-3966	Staff Support	Kaye Burket	224-5224
Property	Ed Kreider	793-4302	Sexton	Phil Claar	215-0885

Highlights by Council March 2024

1. Martie Gilbert and Jim Barley will represent St. Matthew at the Synod Assembly on Saturday, June 15 at the Blair County Convention Center.
2. Acting on a recommendation from the Social Ministry committee, council approved use of the fellowship hall by the Friends of the Martinsburg Community Library for their fall used book sale on Oct. 9-12.
3. The Property committee recommended hiring Snowberger Construction to complete work at the Maple Street entrance. This will be brought to the congregation for a vote on April 7.
4. Pastor Traci's office hours will return to Wednesdays after Easter.
5. The office will be closed Friday, March 29 and Monday, April 1 in observance of Easter.



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.ca
Website: oneagleswings.us

February 20, 2024

St. Matthew Ev. Lutheran Church
115 E. Penn Street
Martinsburg, PA 16662-1127
USA

Dear St. Matthew Friends,

Thank you for honouring Rev. Lesley with this gift. Together we celebrate the amazing work she has done at the helm of *On Eagle's Wings*. For the last 10 years, she has listened to the needs of communities and formed volunteer teams to serve where most needed. Behind the scenes she has worked tirelessly to ensure the smooth running of the ministry.

Throughout her time as Executive Director, Lesley has ensured that *On Eagle's Wings* remained faithful to our mission : Proclaim Jesus Christ and serve the Church and individuals in remote and isolated areas of Northern Canada.

Prior to being the "big boss" (as our janitor calls her!), she established a new ministry area, and built relationships with community members across northern Alberta and Saskatchewan. Following *On Eagle's Wings* core values, Lesley visited remote communities and, in response to expressed needs, offered hope, healing, and a life-saving message.

The Bible teaches,

"If you owe someone respect, respect that person. If you owe someone honor, honor that person."
(Romans 13:7, God's Word Translation)

As Lesley approached retirement, she made one thing very clear. She wanted all retirement gifts to be directed to the ministry she is so passionate about. Thank you for honoring Pastor Lesley, and her request, by directing your donation to the *On Eagle's Wings* Northern Travel Fund.

It isn't always easy to find words to describe how grateful we are for the work that someone has done.

By your generous gift, you have chosen to show your gratefulness, respect and honor to Lesley.

With deepest gratitude for your kindness and support,

Robin Abrol
Executive Director

Hi Everyone! It was so great to meet you all last year.

Thank you for this wonderful gift, in honour of Rev. Lesley.



April 2024
St. Matthew Lutheran Church
115 E Penn St., Martinsburg, PA 16662-1127
Email: stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com 814-793-2413

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>Office Closed</i> <i>Early Bird Deadline for Camp Sequanota</i>	2	3 <i>1-4 pm Pastor in Office</i>	4	5	6
7 <u>2nd Sunday of Easter</u> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary Special Congregational Meeting Following Worship 4-6 pm Wacky Bowling Fundraiser, MCOMP	8 6:30 pm Council Mtg., WR/Zoom	9 6:30 pm Council Mtg., WR/Zoom	10 <i>1-4 pm Pastor in Office</i>	11	12	13
14 <u>3rd Sunday of Easter</u> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	15	16	17 <i>1-4 pm Pastor in Office</i> 6 pm Spring Conference Caucus Meeting, Lutheran Home Holidaysburg	18	19	20 <i>5K Run/Walk Fundraiser for Camp Sequanota at Camp or at home</i>
21 <u>4th Sunday of Easter</u> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	22	23 12:30-3:00 pm Knotty Ladies, QR	24 Pastor Traci away at Spring Convocation in Gettysburg. May be reached at 814-935-9267 for emergencies.	25 10:00 am Employee Mtg., FH 1-4 pm Pastor in Office	26	27
28 <u>5th Sunday of Easter</u> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	29 6:30 pm Social Ministry Mtg., Zoom	30 12:30-3:00 pm Knotty Ladies, QR	FH—Fellowship Hall CE-Christian Ed Office CL-Church Lounge QR-Quilt Room WR—Window Room K—Kitchen <i>In case of emergency, Pastor Traci maybe reached at 814-935-9267</i> <i>Jen will be in the Office Mon.-Fri. from 9:00 am-12:00 pm</i>			