



Saint Matthew
LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. Matthew's Messenger

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Greetings People of God!

This month of May will be full of transitions: Young members will be confirmed. Students and teachers will finish out another school year. Graduates will receive diplomas and move on to their next life chapter. Springtime blooms will give way to the lush green of summer. Liturgically, the Easter season will give way to the celebrations of Pentecost and Holy Trinity. I presume I'll finally be able to put away the flannel sheets and open the windows.

When so much is flux, we can be tempted to take the healthy practice of spring cleaning a little too far—tossing out what is still good and useful in favor of whatever is new and shiny. Yet scripture teaches us to care for what God has given us—each other and the very earth itself. To that end, we're trying a new project, the Mending Meal, to teach ourselves how to slow down, take stock, and practice the appreciation of God's abundance by restoring—instead of replacing—what we already have.

The Easter season makes us the promise of resurrection and new life, which we often think of as pertaining primarily to eternal life after death. But the resurrected Jesus spent 40 days interacting with his friends and followers in this world before ascending to the Father, teaching them (and us) that God's resurrecting power changes the way we understand and behave in this life. We, too, are called to not just believe in the future promise of resurrection but to live into the present reality of resurrection by practicing renewal now. What is God calling you to reconcile, restore, and renew?

Peace,
Pastor Traci



Martinsburg Food Pantry

The Food Pantry will be open for food distribution on Thursdays, May 2 and May 16 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. It will be open other times by appointment.

Those helping on these Thursdays will be those 3 or 4 helpers from the Martinsburg Church of God in addition to the regular helpers.

Following are items most needed for May:

Beverages, Canned Fruit, Ravioli, Hamburger Helper, and Cleaning Products.

Many thanks for donations of food, paper items, and recent donations of \$785.00 from members!

Linda Smith

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



Thank you for the Lenten Meals. They were all good. Thank you for my Easter cards. Thank you for my Birthday cards for my 96th Birthday. It was good hearing from everyone. I appreciate everyone and think of you all. Also thank you to Pastor Traci.

*Love,
Mary Jane*



Stewardship
a way of life

A Stewardship Minute May 2024

An article in the May issue of *Stewardship* focuses on what might be called “Box Stewardship.” Suppose that somewhere in the church we had several tables with boxes with different labels that might read: “Children's clothes.” another “Girls and women's clothes,” while still other boxes might be for kitchen and table goods, or lawn and garden materials. Members can then make donations of their belongings no longer used. The church arranged to have the donated items delivered on a monthly basis to a church-sponsored outlet that sells them for a small price. One church I know has a very large store that sells everything imaginable! The outlet store is run by volunteers. It is a cheery place just to visit, or to take items to.

Now listen to another story of an older layman in Oklahoma City who felt compelled to collect soft drink cans, take them to a company that buys metal items, and give the money received to his church. Soon many church members brought their empty cans to help the old fellow. In fact, they brought so many cans to him that he bought a trailer, put high sides on it, parked it on the church lot where people could deposit cans whenever they wished. When the trailer is full, he hooks it his car and goes to the metal buyer, gets the money earned and takes it to the church! This is creative stewardship. It is enhancing the kingdom of God by more than tithing; creating ways to work for God on a daily basis and finding the amazing joy that comes from such service.

Prayer: *Creative Lord, help us to be the creative people you want us to be in order that your kingdom might be spread by our stewardship. Amen*

You can now find the Monthly Stewardship Pamphlet on the website under “Link” at stmatthewlc.com.



Greetings and grace from
Breezewood Trucker
Traveler Ministry! Many
many thanks for your recent

Easter collection for the ministry! Your support,
prayers, and partnership make a huge difference for
the mission among truckers, travelers, and staff who
populate this little town each and every day! We
consider it a blessing to be invited into the personal
stories of people's lives, sharing His grace as best
we can with each encounter. Thank you!



Breaking Bread

May 13, 2024

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Martinsburg Church of God

123 Market St., Martinsburg, PA 16662

Cost: FREE, Just like God's Love!

*In Christ,
Bruce (Chaplain)*



Birthdays for May

1	Les Loomis	7	Kathryn A. Panek	19	Elaine L. Buchart
	Travis P. Smith	8	Joshua A. Smith		Blake Peese
2	Shanda Imler	9	Phil Claar	20	John L. Snyder
	Nelson Lamborn		Greg Haffling	21	Michael T. Panek
	Mary N. Nelson		Bonnie Ross		Joel M. Smith
3	Melinda F. Miller	13	Dan Sinal	22	Connor Johnson
4	Linda J. Brown	15	Kevin Smeltzer	26	Colin Guyer
	Travis S. Hoover	17	Alyssa Clark		Dottie Stahl
	Marjorie A. Replogle		Robert M. Kensinger	27	Jenna L. Lenhart
5	Marjorie Detwiler	18	Rev. Traci Marriott	28	Mark Johnson
	Michael B. Panek			29	Deborah McGregor

May Anniversaries

1	Ed & Kara Bennett	17	Robert F. & Patricia J. Winston
2	Shari Gilbert & Carrie Lively	18	Stephen & Kimberly Oswalt
7	John & Nell Snyder	22	Joshua & Mandy Smith
11	Larry & Catherine Irvin	24	Jason Close & Jessica Orczeck
	Ronald & Robin Robison		Whitney & Emily Smith
15	Michael & Joanna Sutton	27	Shawn & Laura Orczeck

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 annuities 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.

St. Matthew Mending Meal

***Favorite clothing in need of repair?
Give it another chance!***

**Bring laundered clothes
that need mending to work on
yourself or get help from our
experienced sewers. Lunch,
materials, & expertise provided.
Everyone Welcome!**

**LUNCH & SIMPLE MENDING
JOIN US FOR BOTH OR EITHER**

**St. Matthew Lutheran Martinsburg Fellowship Hall
115 E Penn Street (Maple Street Parking Lot)
Wednesday, May 22 from 11AM--1PM**

New Ministry at St. Matthew—Mending Meal



In this age when so much seems disposable, we are, as ever, called to be good stewards of the creation that God gave us. This includes being responsible caretakers of what we produce and consume. Our faith in God's power to restore is not just a spiritual matter; we can see it, and even take part in it, if we know where to look.

To that end, the Social Ministry committee plans to host a "Mending Meal" where folks in the congregation and the community are invited to bring clean clothing that can be renewed by light mending. This can be a project you've been putting off doing yourself or something that you need advice or help to repair. The seasoned sewers in the congregation are happy to lend a hand and share their expertise. Items requiring more time to repair can be left with the seamstress and picked up when the mending is finished.

What: Lunch, Fellowship, & Time to Sew

Where: St. Matthew Fellowship Hall

When: Wednesday, May 22nd from 11AM—1PM

Who: Everyone Is welcome for lunch, sewing, or both

How can you help? Contact Lottie Ebersole (814-232-6665) if you are able to:

Help with the mending and sewing

Cook, serve or clean up after lunch

Set up or clean up work stations in the Fellowship Hall

Deliver extra lunches to our homebound members

Provide a ride so a non-driver can attend

Suggest a skill you could share for a future community outreach project

Join us in experiencing God's promised restoration in the practicality of daily life!

**SERVING GOD AND US
MAY 2024**

Date	May 5	May 12 <i>Mother's Day</i>	May 19	May 26
Acolytes	Norah Kuster	Gavin Kuster	Gabby Decker Lily Lightner Lucy Lightner	Mace Baker Max Baker Jay Hoenstine
Lectors	Dawn Alexy	Carla Brumbaugh	Martie Gilbert	Kaye Burket
Altar Guild	Jackie Lightner Janet Stewart	Jackie Lightner Janet Stewart	Jackie Lightner Janet Stewart	Jackie Lightner Janet Stewart
Assist. Minsters	Martie Gilbert	Jim Barley	Jane Hoenstine	Mike Lamborn
Offering Counters	Beth Garner Jim Barley	Beth Garner Jim Barley	Beth Garner Jim Barley	Beth Garner Jim Barley
Ushers	Stanley Smith	Ed Kreider	Paul Decker	Tina Harclerode
Audio/Video	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster

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 Orzeck	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 April 2024

1. Beth Garner and Jim Barley will represent St. Matthew at the Synod Assembly on Saturday, June 15 at the Blair County Convention Center.
2. Confirmation Sunday will be May 19, 2024, which is also Pentecost Sunday. There will be 3 confirmands.
3. Carla Brumbaugh will serve as Memorial Gifts Secretary.
4. St. Matthew collected and donated \$655 from the Easter envelopes for the Breezewood Trucker Ministry.
5. The Social Ministry committee is planning a community outreach meal/event for May 22.
6. Church services will begin at 9:30 and there will be no Sunday School classes from June 2 through September 1.
7. Training on use of the new stair lift will be offered on selected Sundays following worship.



May 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
5 <u>6th Sunday of Easter</u> 9:30 am Sunday School, WR, Zoom 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary (Of the Land and Seasons)	FH—Fellowship Hall CE-Christian Ed Office CL-Church Lounge QR—Quilt Room WR—Window Room K—Kitchen In case of emergency, Pastor Traci may be reached at 814-935-9267 Jen will be in the Office Mon.-Fri. from 9:00 am-12:00 pm	7	1 1-4 pm Pastor in Office	2 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St.	3	4
12 <u>7th Sunday of Easter</u> 9:30 am Sunday School, WR, Zoom 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	6 13 5:00-6:00 pm Breaking Bread Free Community Meal, Martinsburg Church of God	8 1-4 pm Pastor in Office	9	10	11	18 Prom at the Lutheran Home 5:30-7:30 pm
19 Day of Pentecost 9:30 am Sunday School, WR, Zoom 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary Confirmation and Graduate Recognition Light refreshments served after worship	20 6:00 pm Worship & Music Mtg., via Zoom	21 2-5 pm Pastor in Office 6:30 pm Council Mtg., WR/Zoom	22 9:00 am Employee Mtg., FH Mending Meal 11:00 am—1:00 pm, Fellowship Hall	23 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St.	24	25
26 <u>Holy Trinity</u> 9:30 am Sunday School, WR, Zoom 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	27 Memorial Day Office Closed	28 12:30-3:00 pm Knotty Ladies, QR	29 2-4 pm Pastor in Office	30 Central High School Baccalaureate 7:00 pm	31 Central High School Graduation 7:00 pm	