



Saint Matthew
LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. Matthew's Messenger

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

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SEPTEMBER 2024

Number 9

Greetings People of God:

Even though it's getting darker a little earlier, I can sleep without the fan, and one Friday night football game is already behind us, it is hard for me to believe that summer is just about over. I'm not sure I have a favorite season; I find something to appreciate in all four. But this season, with all the trappings of a new school year—new classes, new school supplies, new sneakers—has always felt to me like it pulses with the energy of discovering something new. This still feels true even though I'm not attending or teaching school anymore.

During this season in the church, we have renewed opportunities to gather together and learn. Spending time in study, especially community study, is one of the ways we practice our faith. Along with worship, fellowship, service, and giving, the study of scripture helps us more fully discern how God is calling us to live and love our way through this human experience.

Beginning Sunday, September 8th, Sunday School will resume for folks of all ages; that first week we'll even begin with food—as good Lutherans so often do! And keeping with that theme, we're going to try gathering for fellowship and faith conversation around dinner: Talk-O Tuesday—a time for food (tacos or otherwise) and casual conversation on issues of faith and how we, as individuals and the church, are called to live faithfully in our changing world.

Seize the opportunity to grow through learning this season!

Peace,
Pastor Traci

Worship Schedule for September

Starting September 8th, Sunday School for all ages will begin at 9:30 a.m.
and Worship returns to a 10:30 a.m. start time.





A sincere thank you to the members of St. Matthew for your love and support for Gloria Guyer and her family during her recent illness and passing. Thank you to those who donated food and prepared and served the delicious meal following the funeral service. Your cards and visits have been most helpful as we mourn the loss of a dear wife, mother, granny, great granny, sister, aunt, cousin, and friend. Gloria had a special family at St. Matthew, and we are grateful for those relationships and memories.

*Peace and blessings to all,
The Daniel Guyer Family
&
The Elwood Smith Family*



God's Work, Our Hands Sunday, September 8th



Sunday, September 8th, is the ELCA's annual God's Work-Our Hands Sunday, when congregations across the country are encouraged to do service that helps the wider community. Camden Kuster is working on his Eagle Scout Project of building a community garden space at St. Matthew; produce from the garden will go to the Martinsburg Food Pantry so that local families can have fresh, healthy food. For this year's God's Work-Our Hands project, we'll be helping Camden prepare the landscaping portion of the garden, which will be located along the drive outside the Fellowship Hall. Please wear or bring a change of clothes that can get dirty as well as garden spades and shovels and work gloves. Work will begin immediately following worship, which will be back to 10:30 AM on September 8th. Those who want to participate but are not inclined to help with the yardwork are invited to join the kitchen crew to prepare lunch. Please join us in whichever way you see fit to help us help our neighbors in a practical expression of God's love.



Prayers and Christian Sympathy are asked for the family of Gloria Guyer upon her death on Tuesday, August 13th.

Prayers and Christian Sympathy are asked for Rod Hoover and family upon the death of his son Colin on Wednesday, August 14th.



St. Matthew would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Ed Kreider and Dean Grubb for hosting the annual Worship service and Church picnic on Sunday, August 18. Everyone enjoyed the uplifting outdoor worship experience with Communion, delicious picnic lunch, (thank you Ed and Dean for the corn-on-the-cob), fellowship, and of course, fishing for the kids. Let's not forget the fishing. Clover Creek is a popular place at the Kreider Farm for the kids. Everyone had a very enjoyable day, and we look forward to next year's event!



Prayer Vigil

Saturday, October 5th, from 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.



St. Matthew Lutheran Church will hold our annual World Wide Prayer Vigil in observance of World Wide Communion Sunday, October 6th. Members are asked to commit one

half hour to pray for any concerns of a personal, church, or worldwide nature. We hope to have enough participation to fill a twelve-hour time period with continuous prayer. The sign-up sheet is located on the Narthex Bulletin Board.



Share the Harvest

The "Share the Harvest" table is in the Narthex and will be there until October. 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."



Martinsburg Food Pantry



Volunteers from Memorial Church of the Brethren will be helping the regular volunteers distribute food at the pantry on Thursdays, September 5 and September 19 from 9am until 11am.

Items most needed at this time are: Peanut Butter, Cereal, Ravioli, Rides Sides, Vegetable Soup and Crackers.

During harvest time, any extra vegetables or fruit to donate will be much appreciated on the dates we are open.

We received enough school supplies in August, and no more donations of school supplies will be needed in September.

Many thanks for all your support!
Linda Smith



Martinsburg Community Meal

Breaking Bread Food Ministry has been shown every month on the second Monday from 5:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. at the Martinsburg Church of God Fellowship Hall, located 123 S. Market St., Martinsburg. This meal is "free" because God's love is free. Everyone is welcome. Take-out and delivery are also available. Contact Pastor Jim Shaffer 814-793-4375 for free delivery or questions.



A Stewardship Minute SEPTEMBER 2024

Christopher Chapman died in 1680 and his burial stone is in Westminster Abbey in London. Etched in that stone are the words that describe the way Christopher tried to live:

What I gave, I have.

What I spent, I had.

What I left, I lost by not giving it.

In those words it is clear that he felt most fulfilled in his life when he lived as a giver. What he gave he had, because it came back to him multiplied. What he left behind he lost because he couldn't take it with him ... and he could have given rather than having left it. There is a very practical side to this story.

A pastor was visiting an old man whose wife had just died. During the conversation the husband told the pastor that his wife left a gift for the church in her will. It was not a large amount, just over a thousand dollars. Of course, the pastor was pleased that the woman had remembered the needs of the church in her will. Two nights later the pastor told the church board that the improvements in the parsonage had cost about one thousand dollars over the budget. Just as the board members began to wonder if the treasury had enough money to meet the need, the pastor told them about the gift, which would more than take care of the overrun. Suddenly each of the board members began to smile. The problem was solved.

Prayer: Dear Lord, every good thing on earth has come from you. Accept our profound gratitude for your indescribable goodness. In Jesus' name.

Amen

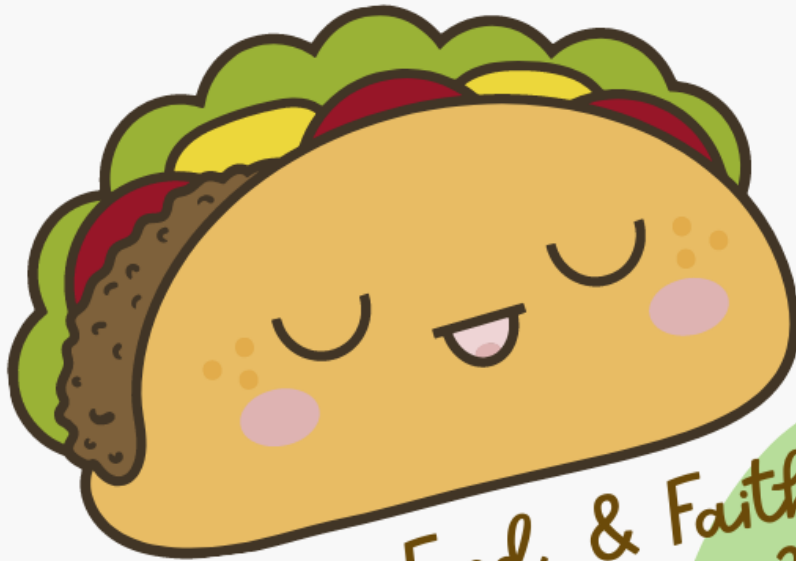
A Stewardship Minute is available to subscribers of **Stewardship** at www.parishpublishing.org.

Talk-O Tuesday

September 3rd, 6PM, La Fiesta at the Airport

Join Pastor Traci for a time of fellowship and faith conversation over dinner. Please RSVP to the office by Noon on Tuesday the 3rd so we can plan for enough seats at the table. All ages, members, and guests welcome. (Everyone covers their own bill; generous tips are one way we witness to the abundant love of God :)

Talk-O Tuesday



Fellowship, Food, & Faith Conversation
Tuesday, September 3rd at 6PM
La Fiesta at the Airport
RSVP to the office by Noon

Community Mending Meal at St. Matthew

 ***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 sewers. Materials, machines, & expertise provided.

Free Light Lunch Served at 11:30AM

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

Wednesday, September 18th from 11AM--1PM

**St. Matthew Lutheran Martinsburg Fellowship Hall
115 E Penn Street (Maple Street Parking Lot)**

SERVING GOD AND US SEPTEMBER 2024

Date	September 1	September 8	September 15	September 22	September 29
Lectors	Janet Stewart	Allen Kuster	Ben Decker	Peggy Steinfurth	Destarta Carberry
Altar Guild	Jackie Lightner Laura Orczeck	Jackie Lightner Laura Orczeck	Jackie Lightner Laura Orczeck	Jackie Lightner Laura Orczeck	Jackie Lightner Laura Orczeck
Offering Counters	Beth Garner Jim Barley	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	Camden Kuster
Ushers	Greg Haffling	Jeff Garner	Mike Lamborn	Martie Gilbert	Stanley Smith
Assist. Min.	Martie Gilbert	Jane Hoenstine	Lottie Ebersole	Elaine Smith	Jay Hoenstine

Anniversaries for September

02 Robert & Emily Gunnett	10 Daniel & Lyndsay Tremmel	18 Paul & Amanda Decker
03 Dennis & Margie Smith	Jon & Patricia (Pam) Russell	18 Stanley & Michele Smith
09 Tom & Bobbie Fishburn	15 Eric & Jennifer Frederick	20 Stephen & Lottie Ebersole
Greg & Amy Haffling	John & Carol Replogle	23 Rick & Shanda Imler
Matt & Tina Harclerode	16 David & Elizabeth Bithell	

Birthdays for September

02 James Negley	12 Michelle Cronrath	Linda Negley
04 Jennifer L. Winston	13 George R. Gilbert Sr.	Lori Tremmel
05 Jennifer L. Frederick	14 Sally F. Neely	23 Cheryl L. Gigante
06 Alex W. Hoover	15 Kylie Gunnett	Laura Orczeck
07 Vivian Beach	Tera A. Hutto	24 Martha Metz
H. Jean Sinal	16 Tyler Oswalt	Bruce Ross
08 Stanley C. Smith	18 Brandon Meck	25 Rick Imler
Nell Snyder	19 Preston Weaver	Lauren Smith
10 Cody Guyer	20 Kay Howsare	27 Mary Ann Satterfield
Mark Guyer	21 Sharon Smith	29 Charles Henzler
11 Lily Lightner	Wade T. Smith	Matthew D. Lehman
Lucy Lightner	22 Greta L. Buchart	30 Robin R. Robison
	22 Amy M. Carpenter	

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 IN AUGUST 2024

1. Camden Kuster presented plans for his Eagle Scout Project. He will use the side yard by the driveway to build a community garden to support the local food pantry.
2. "God's Work, Our Hands Day" will be Sunday, September 8, 2024.
3. Sunday School and Worship Service will return to the "Winter" schedule on September 8.
4. A congregational meeting will be held December 15, 2024



September 2024

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 15th Sun. after Pentecost 9:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	2  Office Closed	3  6:00 pm Talk-O Tuesday Bible Study, La Fiesta Mexican Restaurant, Airport	4 1-4 pm Pastor in Office 6:30 pm Staff Support Committee Meeting, WR/Zoom	5 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St.	6 <i>Pastor Sabbath</i>	7
8 16th Sun. after Pentecost 9:30 am Rally Sunday 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary God's Work. Our Hands Event after Worship, FH	9 6:00 pm Worship & Music Meeting, Zoom	10 6:30 pm Council Mtg., WR/Zoom	11 1-4 pm Pastor in Office	12	13 <i>Pastor Sabbath</i>	14
15 17th Sun. after Pentecost 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	16 <div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Pastor Traci at Bishop Convocation. May be reached at 814-935-9267 for emergencies. </div>	17	18 11:00 am—1:00 pm, Mending Meal, FH	19 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St.	20 <i>Pastor Sabbath</i>	21
22 18th Sun. after Pentecost 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	23 6:30 pm Social Ministry Meeting., Zoom	24 12:30-3:00 pm Knotty Ladies, QR	25 10:00 am Employee Meeting, FH 1-4 pm Pastor in Office	26	27 <i>Pastor Sabbath</i>	28
29 19th Sun. after Pentecost 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	30			FH—Fellowship Hall CE-Christian Ed Office CL-Church Lounge QR-Quilt Room WR—Window Room K—Kitchen In case of emergency, Pastor Traci maybe reached at 814-935-9267 Jen will be in the Office Mon.-Fri. from 9:00 am-12:00 pm		