



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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Number 10

Dear People of God:

Growing up an only child, when I was not at band practice or some other activity, I would come home after school to an hour or two of an empty house. My parents had completely predictable work schedules and weren't supposed to be home, but every once and awhile, I would experience a moment of panic, as many Christian kids in that era did, that maybe everyone else had been raptured while I had been...*Left Behind*.

In the late 90's, the *Left Behind* books were the latest craze of fiction based on a relatively recent and convoluted reading of the book of Revelation. The series was a train wreck of terrible writing, yet it was hard to look away: after all, the storyline was about the end of the world, and who wouldn't want to know how they were going to wrap up *that* last novel? The whole premise was strange to me; I'd been in church my entire life, yet the Rapture was never mentioned in my (Lutheran) church. Of course, those books were full of people who had lived their lives thinking they were faithfully following Jesus only to find out they weren't *real* Christians—part of the scare tactics on which the series—and the fundamentalism it represented—relied.

In hindsight, those books and the divisive, pro-violence, fear-mongering rhetoric they used were helping to shape the culture in which we now live, one in which millions of American Christians imagine themselves engaged in spiritual warfare that will be won not through prayer but by force. That doesn't sound much like the Jesus we read about in scripture and worship every week, does it? And for good reason.

This month, we'll take a look at the book of Revelation, probably the most misunderstood and misused book of the Bible, along with *The Rapture Exposed: The Message of Hope in the Book of Revelation*, written by ELCA pastor and seminary professor Barbara Rossing. I hope you'll join me for this book study examining the roots of this influential cultural phenomenon and re-grounding ourselves in the truth of God's healing and restorative love.

*Peace be with you,
Pastor Traci*

October Book Study: Revelation & The Rapture Exposed by Barbara Rossing

By Zoom, Thursdays at 4PM and 7PM—Pick the one most convenient for you.

10/13 Please read or re-read Revelation in your Bible

10/20 Please read *The Rapture Exposed*, Preface through Chapter 4

10/27 Please read *The Rapture Exposed*, Chapter 5 through Epilogue

Catechism Costume Party Sunday, October 23, 2022

Meet at 12PM at St Luke Roaring Spring on Sunday, October 23rd for our costume Halloween party, including lunch and catechism lesson on Reformation history. Whole family is welcome; until 2PM.



Blanket Sunday

October 1, 2022

Blanket Sunday is a ministry that is traditionally held on the first Sunday of October.

Persons in every congregation of the Allegheny Synod are invited to give a special offering for the purchase of blankets for Lutheran World Relief. You will find this special offering envelope in your offering booklets. If you have an offering number instead of an offering booklet, please write your **“offering number or name”** and **“blankets”** on a **pew envelope or on a plain white envelope**. Your contribution of \$5.00 buys a sturdy blanket which provides shelter, warmth, and security to someone in the world facing disaster.

Blanket Sunday is the largest single donation of blankets that takes place throughout the year.



With Deepest Sympathy

Prayers and Christian Sympathy are asked for....

- Greg Haffling and family upon the death of his father, Rev. Charles Haffling, Wednesday, August 31, 2022.



October 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.

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



Many thanks for all the prayers and congratulations to us upon our marriage on Saturday, September 10, 2022.
Dan & Lyndsay Tremmel

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Sincere thanks to our St. Matthew family from us and our extended family for your prayers, cards, and condolences on the passing of Greg’s father. Your kindness and support were, and are, invaluable.

The Hafflings



Acolyte & Assisting Minister (Re)Training, Sunday, October 23, 9:30 AM

In preparation for festival Sundays, Pastor Traci will show acolytes and assisting ministers the procedure for distributing communion from the front of the nave. Current acolytes and assisting ministers, as well as anyone who wants to become an acolyte or assisting minister, will please meet in the nave during the Sunday school hour on October 23.



Autumn Means Harvest

By Lenore Hetrick

Autumn means harvest,

And grain in the bin.

Autumn means farmers

Are bringing fruit in.

It means summer’s blooming

Has given its yield.

Autumn means high tide

In orchard and field.



Anniversaries for October

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|
| 01 | George & Martie Gilbert | 07 | Camden & Veronica Hoover 5 th |
| 02 | Michael & Jamie Richardson | 09 | Tyson & Terri Rodgers |
| 04 | Greg & Julie Dick | 15 | James & Linda Negley
Titus & Beverly Smith |
| 05 | R. Troy & Jennifer Metzler 25 th
James & Tonya Walter | 21 | Alvin & Kim Lee |
| | Dr. Ramon & E. Kaye Burket | 22 | Andrew & Jenna Lenhart |
| | Robert & Pat Mountain 5 th | | |

Birthdays for October

- | | | | | | |
|----|--------------------|----|------------------------|----|------------------|
| 01 | Ruth Marshall | 09 | Troy Metzler | 16 | P. Jeannie Smith |
| 03 | Tyler Rodgers | 12 | James Barley | | Norm Tremmel Sr. |
| 04 | P. Robert Dickson | | Martin Burket | 17 | Chase Buchart |
| | William Dickson | | Titus Smith | 20 | Kelsiee Hoover |
| | Kyle Guyer | 13 | Shari Gilbert | 23 | Carol Replogle |
| 05 | Beverly Smith | 14 | Dwight Johnson | 29 | Zachary Tremmel |
| 06 | Ryan Smith | | Dennis Smith | 31 | Henry Lamborn |
| | Whitney Smith | | Emily (Walter) Scholly | | Sandy Loomis |
| 08 | George Gilbert Jr. | 15 | Debra Guyer | | Lori Reimer |
| | Cindy Snyder | | | | |



Prayers and Congratulations go to Dennis and Margie Smith upon the birth of their fourth great grandchild, Lainey Reign Fischer, on Friday, September 16, 2022.



All Saints Sunday, November 6, 2022

Please submit any names you would like recognized on All Saints Sunday to the church office by completing the form below. **November 1, 2022** is the deadline. You can also submit names using our Email address: stmatthewluth@aol.com or use the website: stmatthewLC.com

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Person submitting: _____



Martinsburg Food Pantry

The Food Pantry will be open for food distribution on Thursdays, October 6 and October 20 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Curryville Church of the Brethren will supply 3 or 4 people to help distribute food in addition to the regular helpers.

Items most needed for October: Cereal, Fruit, Mashed Potatoes, Pasta Sides and Cleaning Supplies

Many thanks for food, other items and monetary donations!

Linda K. Smith

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 Orczeck	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 SEPTEMBER

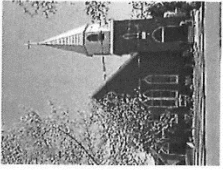
1. No highlights for September.

Giving

2022 August		Year to Date as of 8/31/2022	
Current	\$10,966.47	Current	\$105,844.80
Benevolence (Synod)	\$818.50	Benevolence (Synod)	\$10,872.00
On Eagles Wings/Missions	\$603.50	3rd Qrt. OEW/Missions	\$2,029.50
2021 August		Year to Date as of 8/31/2021	
Current	\$14,733.90	Current	\$103,135.72
Benevolence (Synod)	\$1,358.00	Benevolence (Synod)	\$9,358.00
On Eagles Wings/Missions	\$1,308.00	3rd Qrt. OEW/Missions	\$2,643.50
2020 August		Year to Date as of 8/31/2020	
Current	\$16,149.14	Current	\$122,487.30
Benevolence (Synod)	\$1,667.50	Benevolence (Synod)	\$14,068.50
On Eagles Wings/Missions	\$1,450.50	3rd Qrt. OEW/Missions	\$2,424.50
2019 August		Year to Date as of 8/31//2019	
Current	\$14,133.33	Current	\$126,212.44
Benevolence (Synod)	\$1,499.00	Benevolence (Synod)	\$12,501.55
On Eagles Wings/Missions	\$850.50	3rd Qrt. OEW/Missions	\$2,110.50
2022 Income vs Expenses			
Current	August	Year to Date as of 8/31/2022	
Actual	\$(12,675.37)	(\$33,500.12)	
Per Budget	(\$7,353.11)	(\$40,711.87)	
Benevolence			
Per Commitment to Synod	(\$1,348.17)	(\$6,461.33)	

There were 4 Sundays in August, 2022 and 2019

There were 5 Sundays in August 2021 and 2020



October 2022

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
FH—Fellowship Hall CL—Church Lounge WR—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	CE-Christian Ed Office QR-Quilt Room In case of emergency, Pastor Traci may be reached at 814-935-9267	4 6:00 pm Worship & Music Mtg., Zoom 5:30 pm Boy Scout, SR	5 1-4 pm Pastor in Office No Yoga 6:00 pm Staff Support Mtg., FH	6 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St.	7 Pastor's Sabbath	1 6 am-6 pm Prayer Vigil
2 17th Sunday after Pentecost World Wide Communion/Blanket Sunday 9:30 am Sunday School, WR 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	3 6:00 pm Worship & Music Mtg., Zoom 5:30 pm Boy Scout, SR	4 6:00 pm Worship & Music Mtg., Zoom 5:30 pm Boy Scout, SR	5 1-4 pm Pastor in Office No Yoga 6:00 pm Staff Support Mtg., FH	6 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St.	7 Pastor's Sabbath	8
9 18th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Sunday School, WR 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	10 6:30 pm Christian Ed. Mtg., Zoom	11 6:30 pm Council Mtg., Zoom	12 1-4 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga, FH	13 4:00 pm Book Study, Zoom 7:00 pm Book Study, Zoom	14 Pastor's Sabbath	15
16 19th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Sunday School, WR 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	17	18	19 1-4 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga, FH	20 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St. 4:00 pm Book Study, Zoom 7:00 pm Book Study, Zoom	21 Pastor's Sabbath	22
23 20th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Sunday School, 9:30 am Acolyte Training/Refresher 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary 12:00 pm Confirmation Costume Party at St. Luke, R.S. November Messenger Deadline	24 6:30 pm Social Ministry, Zoom	25 12:30-3:00 pm Knotty Ladies, QR	26 10:00 am Employee Mtg., FH 1-4 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga, FH	27 4:00 pm Book Study, Zoom 7:00 pm Book Study, Zoom	28 Pastor's Sabbath	29
30 Reformation Sunday 9:30 am Sunday School, WR 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	31 6:30 pm Boy Scout, SR					