



Saint Matthew
LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. Matthew's Messenger

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Volume 61

SEPTEMBER 2021

Number 9

Dear People of God:

Rarely does the Sunday lectionary include selections from Song of Solomon, but ironically, at the end of summer, we are gifted this line:

...for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone...

Song of Solomon has been read as an allegory describing the love of God for Israel or the love of Christ for the church. But at face value, it's a love poem that captures both the pain of separation and the joy of reunion between lovers. In all sorts of relationships, we find solace in being together, especially after the grief of being apart.

We have experienced separation and reunion in new, intense ways in the last year and a half. It's ironic that the lectionary includes the line about winter being past now, at the end of summer, instead of at the beginning, because both seasonally and metaphorically, we are heading back into winter. We have enjoyed some respite from the pandemic for the past few months, but the virus has evolved with a vengeance.

As a skier, I don't mean to disparage winter; but for the purpose of the Song's metaphor, summer is the "good" season. Yet scripture never promises us unending summer, only the hope that winter will pass. That means we sometimes have to trudge through the winter snow (uphill, both ways) because that's the reality of the season we're in at the moment. Hope doesn't deny what's really happening where we are; it points us toward better days and calls us to do our part in making that future a reality.

We are again being called to do the hard work of winter; we may not be ready, but the seasons change unbidden. Still, God has never yet failed to accompany and equip us for the work to which we are called. May we continue to love in action as our circumstances require.

Pastor Traci

Worship Schedule for September

In September, we will offer two Sunday services each week except Sun., Sept. 12, 2021
Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021 Worship will be at the Morrisons Cove Memorial Park at 11:00 a.m.

9AM Sept. 5, Worship Outside—Full Sung Liturgy of Word & Sacrament (Communion)

In case of rain, the service will move to the Fellowship Hall and will be a spoken liturgy.

9AM Sept. 12, Worship Outside—Full Sung Liturgy of Word & Sacrament (Communion)

In case of rain, the service will move to the SANCTUARY and will be a spoken liturgy.

8:30 AM Sept. 19 & 26, Worship Outside—Full Sung Liturgy of Word & Sacrament (Communion)

In case of rain, the service will move to the Fellowship Hall and will be a spoken liturgy.

10:30AM Sept. 5, 19 & 26, Worship in the Sanctuary—Full Spoken Liturgy of Word & Sacrament (Communion)

This will be the recorded and live-streamed service.

Inside or outside: In response to rising case numbers and in an effort to continue being able to worship in person, we strongly request that everyone mask when inside the building regardless of vaccination status.

Rally Sunday is September 12 at 8:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall
Sunday School will begin on Sunday, September 19 at 9:30 a.m.



Thank you for the generous gift of \$100.00 to the Good Samaritan Fund at The Village at Morrisons Cove in memory of Herbert Brown. The Good Samaritan Fund helps residents to meet their basic needs.

*Liz Foster, Development
Outreach Coordinator*

Thank you for your much needed and greatly appreciated gift of \$50.00. Good Shepherd is truly blessed to have you on our team!

*Gregory Wilson, CAP, CFRE
Assoc. Vice President, Development*

Thank you so much for your enthusiasm and generosity to On Eagle's Wings in donating \$500.00 from your endowment fund for craft supplies needed for Bible Camp in a Bag. This is a huge blessing; we deeply appreciate it. *Rev. Lesley Hand, Exe. Dir.*



A Stewardship Minute September 2021

So often, when we begin to think that church leaders stress money matters too often, we do not consider the great ministries of the church. Ask any pastor or leading lay people in any church: How is their congregation helping to meet the needs of those who are suffering?

The answer given will inevitably point to money given to provide food, clothing, counseling, housing, medical care, and so forth for the poor. Giving help to those in desperate need is a mandate Christ has given us. If we neglect the poor, the sick, the hungry, the ignorant, those in rags, those treated unjustly, we will have failed Christ.

Christian stewardship involves far more than worship; it involves service. It involves doing something positive to help those in desperate need. It calls for sharing all that God has given us!

In the 25th chapter of Matthew, Christ recites a list of what is expected of his followers, and ends his talk with these words: "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." (Matthew 25:45)

My friends, let's do it!

Prayer: *Loving and just Lord, stir us up to service on your behalf, that we may hear you say at the last: "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world..." (Matthew 25:34) Amen*

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With Deepest Sympathy

Prayers and Christian Sympathy are asked for...

- The family of Kay Weyant upon the death of her brother, Bill "Cheezy" Burket on Sunday, August 22, 2021.

Ways to Make Donations to St. Matthew

Giving Online: Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. Simply follow these easy steps:

- 1) Visit the church website at "www.stmatthewlc.com"
- 2) Click on the "Give" button, (on the top white banner)
- 3) Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.

Barcode Offerings:

- 1) Visit "Play Store on your mobile device"
- 2) Find QR Code (this app is free)
- 3) Click on the "Install" the app
- 4) Open the app on your device
- 5) Scan the Barcode: (follow the prompts)





Share the Harvest

The "Share the Harvest" table is up and running. In the months to come, 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

If you harvest more vegetables or fruit than you can use, please share with the Food Pantry, 133 E.

Allegheny St, Martinsburg on the mornings of Thursdays, September 2 and September 16 from 7:30 until 9:00a.m. On those dates, volunteers from Memorial Church of the Brethren will help distribute food between 9:00 until 11:00 a.m. along with the regular volunteers.

Items most needed for September: Macaroni, Tomato Sauce, Fruit Cocktail, Scalloped Potatoes.

School Supplies are still needed!

Thank you for all your donations!

Linda K. Smith

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKENDS SCHEDULED FOR FALL

How is your marriage? For many couples, the Coronavirus put a lot of stress on their relationship. Lutheran Marriage Encounter is designed to renew and revitalize your marriage no matter whether your relationship is very strong and you would just like some time together or whether you are struggling. Now is the perfect time to sign up to attend a Weekend.

The registration fee has been waived for this year, so you pay only the amount specified on the website for 2 nights in your group-rate hotel room and 5 meals for each of you. Also, scholarship funds are available for anyone in need. Simply e-mail or call us at the information below before you register.

Which Weekend will work for you:

October 1-3, 2021 -- Heritage Hotel Lancaster in Lancaster, PA--Famous for its Robin Hood-inspired restaurant, Loxleys.

October 15-17, 2021--Hyatt Place, Pittsburgh/Cranberry--spacious, modern decor guestrooms with couches--an hour north of Pittsburgh.

Should complications arise, your payment is refundable up to a month before the Weekend. Weekends begin at 8 PM on Friday night and end at approximately 3 PM on Sunday. **REGISTRATIONS WILL BE LIMITED**, so sign up NOW while there are still openings. Simply go to: www.GodLovesMarriage.org, find your chosen Weekend, fill out the form, and pay the amount specified with a credit card, or print the form and mail with a check. Don't miss this opportunity to create a more intimate and joyful marital relationship! For questions, please contact Northeast US Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, fjschamber@comcast.net or call: 724-325-3166.



Rally Sunday

Sunday September 12th

All school-age (pre-school through adults) students are invited to come and join us at 10:00 a.m. on September 12th in the Fellowship Hall for our Rally Day celebration. Sunday School classes will officially begin on Sunday, September 19th at 9:30 a.m. ***"Let's learn and grow in our Christian Faith!"***

Prayer Vigil

Saturday, October 2nd, 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 3rd. 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.



Anniversaries for September

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 02 Robert & Emily Gunnett | 15 Eric & Jennifer Frederick 20 th | 18 Stanley & Michele Smith |
| 03 Dennis & Margie Smith | John & Carol Replogle | 20 Stephen & Lottie Ebersole |
| 09 Greg & Amy Haffling | 16 David & Elizabeth Bithell | 23 Rick & Shanda Imler |
| Matt & Tina Harclerode | 18 Paul & Amanda Decker | |

Birthdays for September

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 01 Jeanne Skillington | 12 Lily Lightner | 22 Amy M. Carpenter |
| 02 James Negley | Lucy Lightner | Linda Negley |
| 04 Jennifer L. Winston | 12 Michelle Cronrath | Lori Tremmel |
| 05 Jennifer L. Frederick | 13 George R. Gilbert Sr. | 23 Cheryl L. Gigante |
| 06 Hal B. Grove | 14 Sally F. Neely | Laura Orczeck |
| Alex W. Hoover | Merry Ritchey | 24 Martha Metz |
| 07 Vivian Beach | 15 Kylie Gunnett | Bruce Ross |
| H. Jean Sinal | Tera A. Hutto | 25 Rick Imler |
| 08 Stanley C. Smith | 16 Tyler Oswalt | Lauren Smith |
| Nell Snyder | 18 Brandon Meck | 27 Mary Ann Satterfield |
| 10 Bonnie Casey | 19 Preston Weaver | 29 Charles Henzler |
| Cody Guyer | 20 Kay Howsare | Matthew D. Lehman |
| Mark Guyer | 21 Sharon Smith | Patrick Snyder |
| 11 Shelley Clinich | Wade T. Smith | 30 Robin R. Robison |
| | 22 Greta L. Buchart | |

3:00 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 19: Installation of Allegheny Synod Bishop Paula Schmitt

Presiding Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Bishop Elizabeth Eaton will join the synod to install Bishop Paula Schmitt on Sept. 19. The service will be **streamed online live**. There will be a reception following the service, hosted by partners at Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries. †

Community Service at the MCMP

Sunday, September 12, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.

God's Work. Our Hands. Event will follow the Community Service.

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday is Sunday, September 12, 2021. This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

***NOTE:** There will be Outside Worship at St. Matthew at 9:00 a.m.
Rally Sunday in the Fellowship Hall will be 10:00 a.m.



Everyone is invited

Sunday, October 17, 2021

Everyone is invited on Sunday, October 20th to Shawn and Laura Orczeck's Farm for a hayride. There will be a bonfire for roasting hot dogs and marshmallows after the hayride. Come at **4:30 p.m.** and **join in the fun!**

2021 COUNCIL DIRECTORY AND MINISTRY STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Traci Marriott	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	Mike Lamborn	793-4212
President	Melissa Fetzer	793-2735	Stewardship	Greg Haffling	793-9827
Vice President	Peggy Steinfurth	515-6205	Finance	Jim Barley	793-4623
Secretary	Elaine Smith (434)	981-0560	Social Ministry	Peggy Freyer	614-4552
Treasurer	Beth Garner	793-3966	Worship & Music	Jane Fagans	793-4401
Financial Secretary	Anna Klepser	793-2094	Staff Support	Kaye Burket	224-5224

HIGHLIGHTS BY COUNCIL IN AUGUST

1. All St. Matthew members will be offered the option to receive a mailed paper copy of the *Messenger* and printed copies will be available for members to pick up at church.
2. Voted to accept a proposal from Lightner Electronics for upgrading the audio-video system in the fellowship hall.
3. Offerings for the month of July improved almost to the July 2019 and 2020 levels, but continue to run behind year-to-date.
4. Plans continue for Rally Sunday and the Community Ministerium Worship Service on September 12.
5. The Evangelism committee continues to generate ideas for outreach activities.
6. Voted to accept a proposal from Attorney Aimee Willett for professional consultation.

Giving

2021 July		Year to Date as of 7/31/2021	
Current	\$13,378.98	Current	\$88,401.82
Benevolence (Synod)	\$1,046.50	Benevolence (Synod)	\$8,000.00
On Eagles Wings/Missions	\$1,335.50	3rd Qrt. OEW/Missions	\$1,335.50
2020 July		Year to Date as of 7/31/2020	
Current	\$11,240.86	Current	\$106,338.16
Benevolence (Synod)	\$1,625.00	Benevolence (Synod)	\$12,401.00
On Eagles Wings/Missions	\$874.00	3rd Qrt. OEW/Missions	\$974.00
2019 July		Year to Date as of 7/31/2019	
Current	\$14,851.35	Current	\$112,079.11
Benevolence (Synod)	\$1,706.00	Benevolence (Synod)	\$11,002.55
On Eagles Wings/Missions	\$1,210.00	3rd Qrt. OEW/Missions	\$1,260.00
2021 Income vs Expenses			
Current	July	Year to Date as of 7/31/2021	
Actual	(\$1,548.24)	(\$22,704.09)	
Per Budget	(\$5,201.35)	(\$41,660.51)	
<u>Benevolence</u>			
Per Commitment to Synod	(\$1,120.17)	(\$7,166.67)	

There were 4 Sundays in July all 3 years

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Janelle Dennis
4136 Kibraney Ave
North Las Vegas, NV 89084-4944

Laura Webb
166 Calvert Towne Rd
PRNC Frederck, MD 20678-4100



Allegheny Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

701 Quail Avenue, Altoona, PA 16602 ▪ 814-942-1042 ▪ 814-941-9259 fax ▪

A Pastoral Message of Farewell

Bishop Michael Rhyne

August 25th 2021

God be with you till we meet again; by good counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again. Till we meet, Till we meet at Jesus feet; God be with you till we meet again.

'God Be With You Till We Meet Again' Jeremiah Rankin and William Tomer

Dearest Friends in the Allegheny Synod,

It has been my greatest honor to serve as your Bishop these last seven years. We have seen times of great joy and times of challenge. But our Lord Jesus continues to walk with us no matter what comes our way. I thank God for you. I will always treasure the time we have had together. I am deeply grateful for the many ways you have blessed me and my family.

I would ask you to remember who and whose you are. You are baptized children of God. In our baptism we were eternally united to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. That gift of life in Jesus changes everything. We do not have to be like the rest of the world. We don't have to put ourselves first, we don't have to look out for number one, and we don't have to fight to see who can accumulate the biggest pile of stuff before we die. Since we belong to Jesus, our lives are a blessing that can be given away and shared for the sake of others. You are agents of the love of God moving in this world. You are vessels through which the Holy Spirit blesses this creation. You are called by Jesus to follow his self-sacrificial life.

I have seen that in you. Repeatedly the Holy Spirit has surprised me in the way you are able to care for God's people. Because of how the Holy Spirit is at work through you; the hungry are fed, the cold have clothes and blankets, children are taught the faith, seminarians are trained to serve God's church, and so very much more. The Spirit does not sit still. Rather the Spirit grabs a hold of us and uses us to care for, love, and help this broken world.

My hope is you will continue to seek out ways you may more fully live into your calling as the body of Christ. God has given the Allegheny Synod everything you need to carry out God's mission. It doesn't mean it is going to necessarily be easy. Following Jesus never promised to be easy. We may even fall into the trap of thinking we don't have enough. However, we remember that we follow the Lord Jesus who took five loaves and two fish and fed five thousand people. We serve a God who brings life from death, who brings healing and hope when we may feel there is no hope left, and who is in the business of surpassing our expectations. Most importantly Jesus promises to be with us always, even until the end of the age.

I pray you continue to see the ways that Christ is active and alive around you. I pray you know the love of Jesus. I pray that you will be continually transformed and reformed by Jesus and used by him to make this world a better place.

Again, I thank God for all of you. The Allegheny Synod will forever be in my prayers. You have marked and blessed my life. May God be with you until we meet again.

Your brother in Christ,

+Bishop Michael Rhyne




September 2021

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

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

814-793-2413



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
FH—Fellowship Hall In case of emergency, Pastor Traci maybe reached at 814-935-9267	CE-Christian Ed Office - 814-935-9267		1 5:00 pm Yoga	2 9:00 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St.	3 Pastor's Sabbath	4
Lori or Laura will be in the Office everyday from 9:00 am-12:00 pm						
5 15th Sun. after Pent. 9:00 am Worship in the Yard (or FH) 10:30 am Worship in Sanct.	6 Labor Day Office is Closed 	7	8 12-3 pm Laura in Office 3-5 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga	9	10 Pastor's Sabbath	11
12 16th Sun. after Pent. 9:00 am Worship in the Yard (or Sanctuary) 10:00 am Rally Sunday FH 11:00 am Community Worship at MCOMP God's Work. Our Hands following worship at the Park	13	14 6:30 pm Council Mtg., Zoom	15 1-4 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga	16 9:00 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St. and 5:00pm	17 Pastor's Sabbath	18
19 17th Sun. after Pent. 8:30 am Worship in the Yard (or FH) 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanct. 11:30 am Acolyte Training, Sanctuary 3 pm Bishop Paula's Installation, Livestreamed	20 6:00 pm Worship & Music Mtg. Zoom	21	22 1-4 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga	23 October Messenger Deadline 10:00 am Employee Mtg. CE	24 Pastor's Sabbath	25 Fellowship Hall in use 12:00 pm
26 18th Sun. after Pent. 8:30 am Worship in the Yard (or FH) 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanct.	27 6:30 pm Christian Ed. Mtg. Zoom	28	29 1-4 pm Pastor in Office 5:00 pm Yoga	30		