



Saint Matthew
LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. Matthew's Messenger

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

Phone 814.793.2413 • Fax 814.614.4003 • e-mail stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com • web: www.stmatthewlc.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stmatthewlc

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Number 5

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Perhaps because of the greater emphasis of the broader culture, many people think of Christmas as the most important holiday of the year. But for Christians, Easter is the chief of all festivals. Whereas we celebrate a mere 12 days of Christmas in the church, the Easter season lasts for seven weeks—a week of weeks! And each Sunday of the year is a little Easter. Thus we refer to the Second Sunday *of* Easter but the Third Sunday *in* Lent—a reminder even in the midst of our most penitential time that our joy resides in the promises of the resurrection.

Throughout this season, we read about the revelation of the living Lord to disciples who did not yet quite recognize or understand the risen Christ. Mary mistakes him for the gardener. Thomas misses his first visit to the disciples. The travelers walk with him for miles on the road to Emmaus, unaware of who he is until he breaks bread at dinner. Saul, blinded on the road to Damascus, asks *Who are you Lord?*

If those who knew Jesus in person during his physical life on earth could so easily miss seeing him after he arose, it may seem hopeless for us to recognize resurrection when we see it. Yet God never ceases to work in and through the lives of the faithful, empowering and inspiring us to welcome the outcast, lift up the lowly, care for those in need, and stand for the unjustly treated. We are called to live and share the transformed life of Christ that we seek in the world.

In this Easter season, and all year long, may we live to reflect the risen Christ to all those who need the hope that only resurrection can accomplish.

Peace,
Pastor Traci



Martinsburg Food Pantry

The Food Pantry will be open for distribution of food on Thursdays, May 1 and May 15 from 9:00a.m. until 11:00a.m. Those helping with the distribution will be volunteers from Martinsburg Church of God, besides the regular volunteers.

Following are items from our "Wish" list for May: Fruit, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Cereal, and Paper Towels.

Many thanks for your monetary gifts, food and other items to the Food Pantry!

Linda K. Smith

Church Messenger



The May 2025 *Messenger* is now available at the St. Matthew **Website** (stmatthewlc.com), and on your recent **Email** message from St. Matthew by using the link listed in the body of the message. A paper copy of the *Messenger* is available in the news rack in the church Narthex. By calling the church office at (814-793-2413), you can request a paper copy to be sent by mail to your home. Do not hesitate to call the church office if you need help in securing a copy of the *Messenger*. Your readership and articles are always appreciated.



A Stewardship Minute May 2025

The masthead of *Stewardship* says "to inspire a deeper understanding of true stewardship." Its purpose is to help Christians learn how to better manage one's possessions, especially the family income and the use of one's God-given talents. Each of us has physical, educational, social, and spiritual needs. None of our needs must be neglected if we are to be properly balanced people. Surely we can say that God wants us to have all of our needs fully met. Indeed it is only when our needs are fully met that God can best use us to serve God and to work for the Kingdom of Heaven.

Remember what we say when we pray the Lord's prayer: "Our Father who art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven...." Remember also that in the sixth chapter of St. Matthew's gospel we find Jesus telling his followers to seek first God's kingdom and his righteousness. That is what Christian stewardship is all about: Using our time and talents to serve God as best we can.

In the 1960's a theological scholar named Thomas Kepler made a vow to the Lord that was read at his funeral. The vow was something like this: "On this day I take upon myself all the saintly disciplines. I will pray regularly. I will continuously strive to serve the Lord wherever God leads me. I will strive to show love toward all whom I meet. I will do my best to be a dedicated servant of God wherever I am." Those who knew Dr. Kepler testified that he reached his goal. He was a true saint.

Prayer: *Almighty God, Help us to be the best stewards possible. We are grateful for every blessing we have from You. Amen*



Birthdays for May

1	Les Loomis	7	Kathryn A. Panek	19	Elaine L. Buchar
	Travis P. Smith	8	Joshua A. Smith		Blake Peese
2	Shanda Imler	9	Greg Haffling	20	John L. Snyder
	Nelson Lamborn		Bonnie Ross	21	Michael T. Panek
	Mary N. Nelson	12	Phil Claar		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
11	Larry & Catherine Irvin	22	Joshua & Mandy Smith
	Ronald & Robin Robison	24	Jason Close & Jessica Orczeck
15	Michael & Joanna Sutton		Whitney & Emily Smith
		27	Shawn & Laura Orczeck

SCOUT SUNDAY

May 4, 2025



**WORSHIP WILL CONCLUDE WITH
THE DEDICATION OF THE COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT
REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW**

Community Mending Ministry 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.
*And we'll have snacks!***

**Wednesday, May 14th
2PM to 4PM**

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

*Please RSVP to the church office by Thursday, May 15th if possible.

Preparing for Death & Planning a Funeral



Sunday, May 18th, After Worship
St. Matthew Fellowship Hall

Presentations & Time for Questions with
Financial, Legal, Spiritual & Mortuary Professionals
Lunch is Provided

Talk-O Tuesday



Fellowship, Food, & Faith Conversation
Tuesday, May 27th at 6PM
La Fiesta at the Airport
RSVP to the office by Noon



You're invited to a Life Line Screening event!

Where: St Matthew Lutheran Church
115 E Penn St
Martinsburg, PA 16662

When: Tuesday, June 24, 2025
June is Men's Health Month

Life Line Screening is the nation's leader in **Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease Risk** Screenings.

Trusted by over 10 million customers.

Screenings are simple and painless. Get peace of mind or early detection.

Who should attend:

Anyone over the **age of 40**

Special Member Pricing for \$159

- ♥ Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- ♥ Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening
- ♥ Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Plus a **FREE** Hypertension Screening

4 ways to book your appointment...

Call **888-814-0466** and use
promo code **HSCA001**

Visit  **LLSA.SOCIAL/HSCA**



Text the word **"circle"**
to **216-279-1607**

These tests cannot detect all risk factors for all conditions, such as and including the presence of coronary artery disease. Those with abnormal results should discuss possible next steps with their family healthcare provider and ensure they understand the risk and benefits of any additional testing or procedures.



THIRD CENTURY FUND (ENDOWMENT FUND)

The Third Century Fund continued to have good earnings year in 2024 and as a result has \$6,334.60 for distribution in 2025. 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 25, 2025. Funds will be distributed in June of 2025.

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.

SERVING GOD AND US

MAY 2025

Date	May 4	May 11 <i>Mother's Day</i>	May 18	May 25
Acolytes	Gavin Kuster	Mace Baker	Gabby Decker	Jay Hoenstine
Lectors	Scouts	Jeff Hoenstine	Gavin Kuster	Linda Smith
Altar Guild	Jackie Lightner Janet Stewart	Jackie Lightner Janet Stewart	Jackie Lightner Janet Stewart	Jackie Lightner Janet Stewart
Assist. Minsters	Dawn Alexy	Jim Barley	Jane Hoenstine	Steve Oswalt
Offering Counters	Beth Garner Jim Barley	Beth Garner Jim Barley	Beth Garner Jim Barley	Beth Garner Jim Barley
Ushers	Tina Harclerode	Melissa Fetzer	Steve Oswalt	Ed Kreider
Audio/Video	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster	Camden Kuster

2025 COUNCIL DIRECTORY AND MINISTRY STAFF

All phone numbers start with (814) unless otherwise noted.

Pastor	Rev. Traci Marriott	935-9267	Evangelism	Peggy Steinfurth	515-6205
Admin. Assistant	Jen Ripka	935-3801	Stewardship	Vacant	
Assistant Admin. Assist	Laura Orczeck	224-1208	Finance	Jim Barley	793-4623
President	Greg Haffling	793-9827	Social Ministry	Lottie Ebersole	232-6665
Vice President	Don Bulger	329-3412	Worship & Music	Tina Harclerode	317-5312
Secretary	Carla Brumbaugh	932-4082	Staff Support	Vacant	
Treasurer	Beth Garner	932-4156	Sexton	Phil Claar	215-0885
Property	Paul Decker	330-6345			
Christian Ed.	Amanda Decker	934-8798			

Highlights by Council April 2025

1. St. Matthew served an average of 10 delivered and 20 in person meals each Wednesday during Lent.
2. The Evangelism committee will send Easter cards to homebound.
3. Sunday, June 1 will be Graduation Sunday.
4. The summer schedule will begin on Sunday, June 8 with an earlier church service and no Sunday School until early September.
5. Council approved the use of St. Matthew's parking lot by the scouts during Martinsburg Bargain Days.



May 2025
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
<i>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</i>				<i>1 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St.</i>	<i>2 Pastor's Sabbath</i>	<i>3 Sequanota Work Day</i>
<i>4 3rd Sunday of Easter Scout Sunday Community Garden Dedication 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary Fellowship Hall in Use</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7 10 am 1 pm Pastor in Office 7 pm Blair Huntingdon Spring Conference Meeting @ Lutheran Home Hollidaysburg</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9 Pastor's Sabbath</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>11 4th Sunday of Easter Mother's Day 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14 2-4 pm Mending Ministry, FH</i>	<i>15 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St.</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>
Pastor Traci continuing ed. 5/12-5/16. For immediate emergencies please call Pastor Eli Hess at 814-381-5925.						
<i>18 5th Sunday of Easter 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary Death Workshop and Luncheon, Following Worship, FH</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20 6:30 pm Council Mtg., WR/Zoom 2-5 pm Pastor in Office</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23 Pastor's Sabbath</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>25 6th Sunday of Easter 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27 12:30-3:00 pm Knotty Ladies, QR 6:00 pm Talk-O Tuesday, La Fiesta, Airport</i>	<i>28 10 am Employee Meeting, FH 12-3 pm Pastor in Office</i>	<i>29 Ascension of Our Lord</i>	<i>30 Pastor's Sabbath</i>	<i>31</i>