

Greetings People of God:

Last Fall I spent a week driving through New England, first to Vermont, where I had never been before, and then out to the coast of Maine. My primary reason for going was to visit friends in both places, but the scenery was a gorgeous bonus. This year I intentionally sought out the changing leaves to the north, finding spectacular colors in Ricketts Glen and Bald Eagle State Parks and the Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania. Autumn is God's own artistic masterpiece; with the possible minor exceptions of our personal gardening and landscaping projects, we have no control over it; but we can make sure we're paying attention so we don't miss it.

In November, both in the church and in our civic communities, we gather around practices of gratitude. This month will begin with giving thanks for those in the faith who have gone before us—All Saints Day—and it will end with giving thanks in general—Thanksgiving Day. In many cases, the things we are most thankful for are, like the changing leaves, things over which we have little or no control; all we can do is recognize our blessings and be grateful for them.

It's good practice to look back over the year in gratitude for what God has done for and in and through us. It's even better to make sure we're paying attention all year long to God's blessings. Gratitude changes our way of looking at the world; it would be a shame to restrict it to just one day or month or season.

Peace,
Pastor Traci

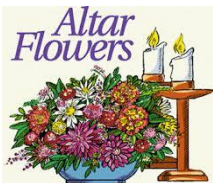




All Saints Sunday

On Sunday, November 1st we will remember those from our congregation and friends who have, by God's grace, joined that "Company of Heaven" since All Saints' Sunday of 2025.

Rev. H. Richard Barley, II
Gary L. Bechtel
Dennis R. Brown
Sharon M. Dell
Dolores Freeburger
Bill Grubb
Gloria L. Guyer
Ken Harkless
Allen D. Heltzel
Audrey L. Kensinger
Charles "Chuck" McGearry
Suzanne B. McNally
Barbara R. Moorhead
Pam Rhodes
Victoria L. Smith Fowler
Jane Stiles
Jean L. Stonerook
Sheldon Weaver
Patricia J. Winston
Robert F. Winston



The 2027 Altar Flower chart is posted on the Narthex bulletin board. Altar Flowers are a perfect way to remember loved ones or to honor loved ones.

Please sign up now for the Sunday you wish to place flowers on the Altar. Cost is \$40.00 with checks made payable to St. Matthew Flower Fund. Questions regarding Altar Flowers can be directed to either Elaine Smith or Mary Nelson.



Martinsburg Community Thanksgiving Meal

Breaking Bread Food Ministry will be held Monday, November 9 at the Martinsburg Church of God Fellowship Hall, located 123 S. Market St., Martinsburg from 5:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to this free meal. Take-out and delivery are available. Contact Pastor Jim Shaffer 814-793-4375 for free delivery or questions.

This month St. Matthew will be assisting with the monthly community meal. We will provide the dessert.



Coming Soon! "Mitten Tree"

At the end of November, you will see our annual "Mitten Tree" in the Narthex. Please be thinking as you knit or shop, and bring school-age children's mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, earmuffs or socks to be hung on the "Mitten Tree" during Advent. These will be distributed by the school nurse at the Spring Cove Elementary Schools for needy children. Let's help children have a warmer Winter!

Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, December 6, 2026

This year's Annual Congregational Meeting will be held at the end of the 10:30 worship service on Sunday, December 6th.

ANNUAL MEETING





November 2026

The November issue *Stewardship* contains several statements that compel the reader to stop and consider. Here are a few:

- “Giving does as much, often even more, for ourselves as it does for the people and good causes we support.”
- “If it’s a chore for me to give, there’s something wrong with my heart. I’ve forgotten who it rightly belongs to.”
- “Someone once said there are two ways of looking at life. You can take it for granted or you can take it with gratitude and the choice you make determines your character.”

Two stories are of people who are trying their best to be good stewards: One is about a woman who goes to the needy part of her city to do what she can to help some of those living in poverty. Her message for others is this: “I believe all of us can make the world better in tiny gestures that add up to a lot of energy.” Another is about a young man named Gerry who wants to make a difference in the lives of teenagers in their church. He says: “It is so important for them to have someone who cares to listen. If I can impact one life, it is more than worth it.” Such service, such giving of their time, talent, and resources is what stewardship is all about. The first letter of Timothy says: “*They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so they may take hold of the life that really is life.*” What a profound statement! It is a recipe for a life that really is life.

Prayer: *Dear Lord. Please help us understand the many benefits that come from being good stewards. Stir us up so that we may, by your grace, find life that really is life. Amen.*



Set your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, October 31st, 2026

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 “**Giving**” button, (at the left side of the main screen)
- 3) Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.



QR Code Offerings:

- 1) Hold your mobile phone in the camera position over the “QR Code”
- 2) A link will pop up on your phone and tap the link
- 3) Follow the instructions on your phone.

Martinsburg Food Pantry



Volunteers from Mt. Pleasant Church will be assisting the regular helpers with food distributions on Thursdays, November 5 and November 19 from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Thanksgiving dinners are being provided by several churches in the community for those food pantry families that want to prepare turkey dinners for themselves. Much appreciated!

Food items most needed for November:
Cereal, Macaroni, Pasta Sauce, Soup, and Rice Sides.

Thank you, members, for your donations for the food pantry!

Linda Smith

2026 Veterans Day



Veteran's Day

Veterans Day originated as “Armistice Day” on November 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of World War I. Congress passed a resolution in 1926 for an annual observance, and November 11 became a national holiday beginning in 1938. Veterans Day is not to be confused with Memorial Day—a common misunderstanding, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Memorial Day (the fourth Monday in May)

honors American service members who died in service to their country or as a result of injuries incurred during battle, while Veterans Day pays tribute to all American veterans—living or dead—but especially gives thanks to living veterans who served their country honorably during war or peacetime.

St. Matthew will honor veterans who have served in the military. Please check the list below of veterans who have served in the military. All veterans will be honored, including inactive and deceased. If you know of someone who is missing from the list, or you have a family member you wish to be honored during the service, please contact Jen in the church office as soon as possible.

Dale Allison*
H. Richard Barley*
Pete Barley*
Bill Brown
Alan Brubaker
Bradley Buchart
Lester Buchart*
Bryan Bush
Jim Calvert*
Cletus Carberry*
Phillip Claar
Patrick Clark
Clyde Claycomb*
Robert “Bob” Creps*
Michael Corcoran
Kermit Daniel*
LeMar Daniel*
Edward DeAngelis*
P. Robert Dickson
Melody Estep
Tom Fishburn
Andy Freyer*
Matt Freyer
Donald Garner*

Jeff Garner
George Gilbert Sr.*
George Gilbert Jr.
Harold Grove
Donald Grove
Robert V. Gunnett
Bob Guyer*
Colin Guyer
Kyle Guyer
Mark Guyer
Greg Haffling
Charles Henzler
Dean Hinish*
Rodger Hoover*
Dante Iachini*
Joseph Iwanski*
Charles Kreider*
Henry Lamborn
Mike Lamborn
David Lehman*
Les Loomis
Kenneth Long*
Liam McGregor
Richard A. McGraw*

Harold Mountain*
Seth Orczeck
Scott Paul
Timothy Perry*
Boyd E. Piper*
Walter Piper
John Replogle
Paul E. Rummel*
John Sell*
Dan Sinal
Elwood Smith*
Eldie Smith Jr.*
Nathan Smith
Sheldon O. Smith*
John Lee Snyder
Michael L. Snyder
William Stahl
Jim Stewart
Ralph Stouffer*
William Straesser*
John Szymckec*
Milo “Bud” Uber*
Laura Webb
Jay Webb
James Weyant*

***Deceased**



Social Ministry Committee Corner

Community Thanksgiving Meal

In November we begin to prepare for the Holiday Season by giving thanks for our many blessings.

St Matthew will be assisting the Church of God by providing desserts for the Thanksgiving Meal. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.

This meal will be November 9, at 5:00 p.m., and all are welcome to share a delicious home cooked turkey meal. Social Ministry Committee will be taking a turkey meal to our homebound.

If you are making a dessert, you can take it directly to the Church of God or we will be picking up any desserts that were dropped off at St. Matthew by 3 pm that Monday.

Thank you in advance for your generous donation that supports our community.

November Project

Care packages and Christmas boxes will be assembled Saturday November 28, at 9:00 a.m. at the church. All members are welcome to participate in assembling the boxes. This project provides a little bit of home to our college students, active military, members who are residents in nursing homes, and last, but not least, our homebound members.

I am so thankful to have had the opportunity to work with the members of Social Ministry Committee. We have shared the love of Christ in our actions throughout the year.

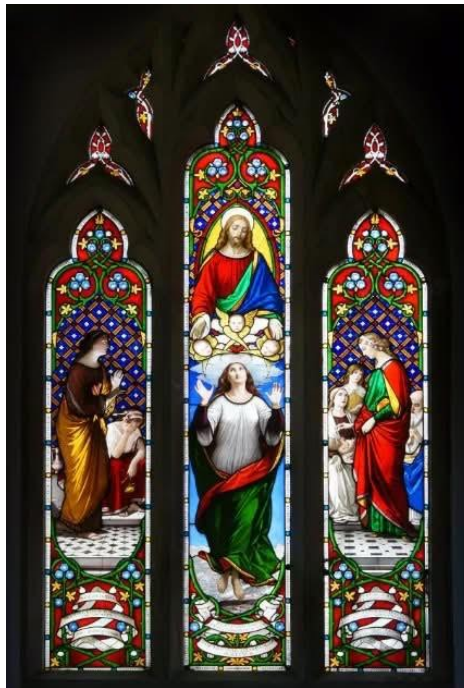
Happy Thanksgiving!

Lottie Ebersole

Social Ministry Chairperson

Allegheny Synod All Saints' Day Service St. Matthew Lutheran Church

St. Matthew is hosting the Allegheny Synod All Saints' Day Service on Sunday, November 1st at 3:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served following the service.



ALL SAINTS' DAY

SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 1
3 PM

Bishop Kevin invites you to a
Synod-Wide All Saints' Day Worship Service
Sunday, Nov. 1 at 3:00 pm
Hosted by St. Matthew Lutheran Church,
115 E. Penn St., Martinsburg
Refreshments will be served.

*Let us come together to acknowledge the grief we carry and
to celebrate the saints for their kindness, bravery, and
dedication; may their light always shine in our hearts.*



Women's Tea at Martinsburg Church of God



The Women from Martinsburg Church of God extends an invitation to the Women of St. Matthew to a Tea on Saturday, November 7th at Noon. There will be a speaker, singing and door prizes. Contact Sarah Detwiler by November 1st if able to attend.

Community Thanksgiving Meal Desserts



Social Ministry Committee will be coordinating the desserts from St. Matthew for the annual Community Thanksgiving Meal on November 9, 2026, at the Martinsburg Church of God. A sign-up list is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

New Bible Study Opportunity

Thanks to the work of the Go Tell It In The Mountains team, a new Bible Study opportunity will be available weekly beginning in October. We will meet together in the Window Room and video conference with leaders and other participants from Allegheny, Upper Susquehanna, and North West Pennsylvania Synods. You can also access the study by Zoom from your home. These lectionary studies will cover the upcoming Sunday's gospel and other readings as time permits, from 6:30PM to 7:30PM on Wednesdays.

WEDNESDAY EVENING *Pericope-Based* BIBLE STUDY

— TOGETHER IN SCRIPTURE. STRONGER IN MINISTRY. —

Let's work together to bring weekly, pericope-based Bible study to our congregations and beyond—through Zoom!



ZOOM DETAILS

<https://zoom.us/j/94173815852?pwd=e74xTbZSrFi61YbwyCRAkGgMeox1G1>

Meeting Id: 941 7381 5852 | Passcode: 880291

WEDNESDAY EVENING SCHEDULE

BASE SCHEDULE

- **6:30 PM** – Opening greeting and prayer for illumination
- **6:33 PM** – Study of the upcoming Sunday's texts
- **7:20 PM** – Prayer requests and praises

EXPANDED SCHEDULE

- **6:15–6:25 PM** – Zoom session opens
- **6:30 PM** – Greeting & Prayer for illumination
- **6:33 PM** – Gospel, Old Testament and Epistle lessons, with time for discussion and real-life application
- **7:20 PM** – Prayer time
- **7:30 PM** – Conclude & end Zoom



LET'S DO THIS TOGETHER!
GO TELL IT IN THE
Mountains



EMAIL US:

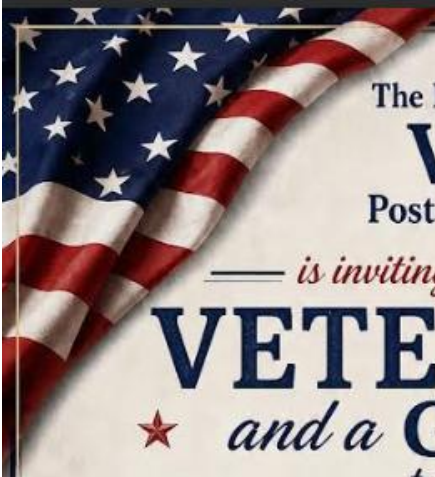
director@alleghensynod.com

Blessing of the Hunters

Sunday, November 8th

During 10:30 Worship

Wear your orange & camo



The D. Merl Tipton
VFW
Post 43 Auxiliary

is inviting all area ★ ★ ★

VETERANS
★ *and a* **GUEST** ★
to a

VETERAN'S DAY LUNCHEON

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2026
★ **NOON TO 1:30 PM** ★

★ ★ **AT THE POST** ★ ★
115 S. NICODEMUS STREET
MARTINSBURG, PA

★ *Local entertainer* ★
TINA WALTERS ★
will offer vocal patriotic songs.

★ ★ *Please* ★ ★
MAKE A RESERVATION
NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 4
by calling

☎ **JANE FAGANS at 814 793-4401**

PLAN TO ATTEND AND ENJOY
GREAT FOOD, PATRIOTIC ENTERTAINMENT,
AND FELLOWSHIP WITH FELLOW VETERANS AND FRIENDS.



Talk-O Tuesday



Fellowship, Food, & Faith Conversation
Tuesday, November 17th at 6PM
La Fiesta at the Airport
RSVP to the office by Noon



*Join us
After Worship
on November 22nd
for*

**PIE
PRACTICE
2026**

*Trying out a new recipe for Thanksgiving?
Test your practice pie here first.
Not a baker?
Bring your appetite &
sense of adventure.
Light Lunch & Drinks Also Provided*



HIGHLIGHTS BY COUNCIL IN OCTOBER

1. St. Matthew will host the Martinsburg Ministerium monthly meeting on November 20. No meal prep is needed for this meeting.
2. The Social Ministry Committee thanks all those who helped with the Community Meal in September. They served 85 meals and 28 take-out meals.
3. The Social Ministry committee is organizing desserts for the Community Thanksgiving Meal to be held on November 9 at 5:00 p.m. at the Martinsburg Church of God. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.
4. Peggy Steinfurth has been going through Pastor Moorhead's books. There are Bibles, books on Martin Luther, books on the Holy Land, etc. See Peggy if you or anyone you know may be interested in any of these books.
5. Journey to Bethlehem will be presented as stage performances this year, rather than as a walk-through. A performance will take place during worship on Sunday, December 20 with additional performances throughout the day.
6. The Service of Lessons and Carols will be part of the Christmas Eve service. There will be a regular worship service on Sunday, December 27.

SERVING GOD AND US NOVEMBER 2026

Date	November 1	November 8	November 15	November 22	November 29
Acolytes	Gabby Decker Lily Lightner Lucy Lightner	Norah Kuster	Lily Lightner	Ben Decker Gavin Kuster Norah Kuster	Ben Decker
Lectors	Carla Brumbaugh	Elaine Smith	Jane Fagans	Allen Kuster	Amanda Decker
Altar Guild	Laura Orczeck Elaine Buchart	Laura Orczeck Elaine Buchart	Laura Orczeck Elaine Buchart	Laura Orczeck Elaine Buchart	Laura Orczeck Elaine Buchart
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	Martie Gilbert	Ed Kreider	Jeff Garner	Stanley Smith	Greg Haffling
Assist. Min.	Jane Hoenstine	Stacy Kuster	Lottie Ebersole	Jean Sinal	Amanda Decker



Anniversaries for November

07 Nicholas C. & Sondra Ursick Dale & Anna Weaver	20 Loy C. & Marjorie A. Replogle
11 Trevor & Merileigh Smith	25 Douglas Bush & Destarta Carberry
18 Steve & Linda Claycomb	29 Russell & Heather Dickson
	30 Blake Peese & Katherine Orczeck

Birthdays for November

02 Jacob Orczeck	09 Paul Johnson	21 I. Matthew Nelson
A. Kay Weyant	15 Mark Replogle	22 Savannah Richardson
03 Ian Bithell	17 Connie S. Lamborn	Waylon Richardson
05 Meghan Russell	18 Andrea Paul	25 John A. Replogle
07 Chris Carder	20 Dawn Alexy	27 Michael Richardson
Richard Smith		

2026 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	Beckie Erb	312-7087
Treasurer	Beth Garner	932-4156	Sexton	Phil Claar	215-0885
Property	Paul Decker	330-6345	Pastor	Rev. Traci Marriott	935-926
Christian Ed.	Amanda Decker	934-8798			

November 2026

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

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

814.793.2413 stmatthewmartinsburg@gmail.com



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>All Saints' Day</u> 9:30 am Sunday School, WR 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary 3:00 pm Synod All Saints' Service at St. Matthew Refreshments to follow	1 7pm Finance Committee Meeting, WR	2 Election Day	3 6:30-7:30 pm Bible Study WR/Zoom	4 9-11 am Food Pantry, Allegheny St. 12 pm Ministerium Meeting, FH 2-4 Pastor in Office	5 Fellowship Hall in Use	6 Fellowship Hall in Use
<u>24th Sun. after Pentecost</u> 9:30 am Sunday School, WR 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary Blessing of Hunters Fellowship Hall in Use	8 9 3-6 Pastor in Office 6:30 pm Council Meeting, WR/Zoom	10 Veterans Day 6:30-7:30 pm Bible Study WR/Zoom	11 4-6 Pastor in Office 6:30-7:30 pm Bible Study WR/Zoom	12 Thanksgiving	13 Thanksgiving	14 Thanksgiving
<u>25th Sun. after Pentecost</u> 9:30 am Sunday School, WR 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary Fellowship Hall in Use	15 16 6 pm Talk-O Tuesday, La Fiesta, Airport	17 12:30-3:00 pm Knotty Ladies, QR	18 4-6 Pastor in Office 6:30-7:30 pm Bible Study WR/Zoom	19 Thanksgiving	20 Thanksgiving	21 Fellowship Hall in Use
<u>Christ the King</u> 9:30 am Sunday School, WR 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary Pie Practice following worship, FH	22 23 6 pm Worship & Music Meeting, Zoom	24 12:30-3:00 pm Knotty Ladies, QR	25 4-6 Pastor in Office 6:30-7:30 pm Bible Study WR/Zoom	26 Thanksgiving	27 Thanksgiving	28 Thanksgiving
<u>1st Sunday of Advent</u> 9:30 am Sunday School, WR 10:30 am Worship in Sanctuary	29 30 6 pm Worship & Music Meeting, Zoom	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 most weekdays Mon.-Fri. from 9:00 am-12:00 pm *check weekly schedule in bulletin*				