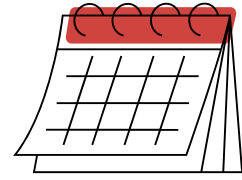




This Week **ST. MATTHEW
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
SEPTEMBER 1 - SEPTEMBER 8, 2024



Sun:

Worship with Holy Communion (Parking Lot) 8:30 a.m.
Worship with Holy Communion (Nave) 10:30 a.m.

Mon:

Devotional Biking/Walking Group 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Tues:

Cub Scouts 6:00-7:30 p.m.
SoulFire Rehearsal 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Wed:

Boy Scouts 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Thurs:

Noah's Musical Rehearsal 6:00-6:45 p.m.

Fri:

Sat:

Worship Service (Fellowship Hall) 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Sun:

Worship with Holy Communion (Parking Lot) 8:30 a.m.
Social Ministry Packing (Upper Room) 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Noah's Musical Rehearsal 9:45-10:15 a.m.
Worship with Holy Communion (Nave) 10:30 a.m.
Confirmation Family Night (Youth Room) 6:00-8:00 p.m.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Where the welcome is wide and the love is real

This is our tag line and the start of our six week series focused on the biblical themes of our purpose statement and core values. Each worship service will introduce the themes through song, scripture and sermon.

Our series begins the week-end of September 21/22 when our outdoor service comes inside and Faith Connections begins for all ages. The theme for the day is all about Welcoming as it relates to God's Love! See our schedule below!

September 21/22: **Welcoming all as we share God's love**

September 28/29: **Celebrating together in Worship**

Our celebration includes 100 year anniversary of the dedication of our building.

October 5/6: **Deepening our faith in Jesus**

October 12/13: **Engaging children and youth**

October 19/20: **Walking with our neighbors**

October 26/27: **Embracing one another as God created us**

Our worship also includes the celebration of our heritage as reforming Lutherans



The Pastors' Class: The Wide Welcome in Scripture

Adults are invited to attend a Bible Study focused on the ways "Welcome" is an important expression of our faith. This welcome is wider and deeper than you can imagine. We will explore God's welcome of us, God's welcome of others, welcoming one another and others in our life together and how we welcome our whole selves as loved by God. **For two weeks, September 22 and 29 we meet in the Upper Room on the second floor on Sundays at 9:30-10:20.** You can take the steps or elevator by the back door off of the parking lot.

Come join Girl Scouts!

We're looking for volunteers and girls interested in joining us for fun and friendship. Girl Scouts can be found almost everywhere in our Youth Building on Monday nights from 6:00-8:00 p.m.! There are 5 troops for girls from kindergarten to 12th grade. For questions about the Girl Scout program at St. Matthew, contact Janice Peck at 717-637-2651. Her email address is janicenpeck8@gmail.com.

WOMEN/ELCA BIBLE STUDY will be held this

Tuesday, **September 2nd, 6:30 p.m.** in the Upper Room (enter elevator lobby and go to the 2nd floor.) All women are welcome to attend. Pastor Kathy will be leading our Bible Study, found in the September *gather* magazine. This Bible study is called: *Receiving Grace: A study of Ephesians*. Session 1. Is grace real? We often focus on how we fall short and deserve God's judgement. What if, instead, we remember God's continual gift of grace? Lesson copies will be available.

For additional information call Johnnetta Miller 717-637-4259.



CAMP HEBRON - FALL RETREAT

Sponsored By: The Lower Susquehanna Synodical Women's Organization

Friday, Saturday & Sunday, October 25, 26, 27

The retreat theme is: "We've Got Mail." Ephesians 3:7-8. Our leader this year is Molly Haggerty, Middletown, PA. There will be faith renewal in worship, laughter and tears, getting reacquainted with old friends and making new friends, refreshing walks in the outdoors or sitting quietly in meditation. Offering motel-type accommodations including linens, private bath and 5 delicious meals (no cooking for a whole weekend ladies). There will be carpooling from the church lot for those interested. There is also an opportunity for Saturday only registration. See registration form for more info. Forms can be picked up in the church office or on the Hospitality Desk. **Registrations must be postmarked by Monday, September 9.** For more information call Johnnetta Miller, 717-637-4259.



ALIVE AT NAWAKWA



SAVE THE DATE! Fall Synod Youth Event - Alive, the Synod-wide event for Middle Schoolers (6th-8th grade), is having their annual fall retreat at Nawakwa, **September 27-29**. The theme this year is 'Fingerprints.' You are a unique gift from God, marked by God with gifts that make you truly special. As a disciple of Jesus, how are you leaving a mark of Jesus' love, grace, and forgiveness on the world around you? For more information, check out the synod website: <https://www.lss-elca.org/alive/>. Please reach out to Tim Peck (youth@stmattlutheran.org) or Pastor Alex (pastoralex@stmattlutheran.org) for questions and more info.

Family Night for Confirmation - We are inviting all 6th-9th Graders and their families to our Confirmation Kick-Off event from 6-7:30 p.m. on September 8 in the Youth Room. This is a chance to get to know one another, to introduce this year's theme, and to talk about our hopes and expectations for the upcoming year. 9th graders will also have an opportunity to meet with Pastor Kathy to talk about your Confirmation on October 27.



MUSIC FOR THE HOMEBOUND Ben Boellner and Deb Smith would like to provide music for our homebound congregation members. Deb or Ben will go to their home and play music for about 1/2 hour. They will bring their own keyboard. If you are interested or know someone who is interested, please call the church office at 717-637-7101 and leave your name and phone number.

We had a great week at **Music Camp!** Thank you to the St. Matthew community for their donation of goldfish crackers and icee pops. Thank you to our adult and youth helpers.

Make sure you come to see Noah's Rockin' Ark Adventure on Sunday, September 15 at 9:45 a.m.



Faith Connections Volunteers

Do you like working with kids? Are you looking for ways to get more involved at church? I have the perfect opportunity! We are looking for anyone interested in helping us with Faith Connections. I am hoping to have a few leaders per section to rotate through our year of classes. Please contact me at msmith@stmattlutheran.org.

- Missy Smith

Thank you to all at St. Matthew Church for helping to make our August Blood Drive a huge success!

We saw 32 donors, and collected 26 units of blood. So with your help, 78 lives will be saved.

Please stay tuned for our next blood drive which will probably be early spring. Central Pa Blood Bank sends a helpful, professional team each time to make your experience as enjoyable as can be.



2024 CORN DRIVE GOAL: 1000 CANS

We Can Do It!

September 15-October 15

~Collection Bin will be in The Gathering Place~
The corn is being collected for New Hope Ministries for their Thanksgiving Meal Kits for local families.

If you would prefer to make a financial contribution, please make check payable to St. Matthew Lutheran Church and put Corn Drive in the Memo Line. Any questions, please email Amy Beck, Abeck1976@comcast.net



God's Work OUR HANDS

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS
Sunday, September 8, 9:30 a.m.

Upper Room

~We will be assembling gift baskets for the Emergency Services Personnel (Police and Fire Departments) as a way of saying Thank You for all they do~

Donations Needed: Cookies, Brownies, Snack Mix, Chips, Your Favorite Snack.

Donations can be dropped off during the week in the Office or that morning in Fellowship Hall.

*If you would like to deliver one of the baskets once they are assembled, just let Amy know.

Any questions, please email Amy Beck, Abeck1976@comcast.net Thank You!