



The St. Matthew MESSENGER

CENTERED IN CHRIST
Celebrating Love • Serving All

September 2022
Vol. XLI Issue 4

From the Desk of Pastor Kathy:

Dear Friends in Christ,

Have you heard the phrase, *Lean In*? It is the title of a book about women and the choices they make regarding their careers and families. It is also used in conversation, in social media and pop culture to describe a full and intense commitment. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to lean in to our faith as a way of life "with all our heart, and with all our soul, and with all our strength, and with all our mind." Luke 10:27

Here at St. Matthew we are leaning into the mission God has called us to follow. We are centered in Christ, we celebrate God's love and we serve in Jesus' name. This is our identity and our purpose. This is who we are and what we do.

There was a time when church, like other organizations such as service clubs, was mainstreamed into the life of the communities. As a result of this occurrence, people in the church grew to understand themselves as members of an institution with expectations and privileges. Historians tell us that as this following of Jesus became institutionalized, the church lost its focus. And over time the main question of our American Christian congregations became, "How can we get more people and money to keep our church going?" There is, however, no place in the scriptures that defines the mission of the church that way. Jesus did not say, "Go and get more members for your church." Jesus did say, "Go and make disciples."

I invite you to consider what it means to make disciples of Jesus Christ. This will be a challenging conversation for us to have. We are not used to sharing our faith in our daily conversations. Yet that is exactly how the first followers of Christ made disciples. They told their stories about Jesus and the difference God has made in their lives.

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From Pastor Kathy: (Continued from page 1)

It's time for Christians to lean in and be who Jesus calls us to be. We lean into our relationship with a loving God in worship and learning. We also lean into acts of service in the ways we love our neighbor. The thing about leaning in is that one cannot lean in and hold back at the same time. In fact, to lean in might mean falling over and maybe even failing. As you read the Bible, you will meet followers of Jesus who do that on a regular basis. It is called discipleship and when we lean in, we are always leaning into the love of Christ; we are leaning on the everlasting arms of God.

Leaning In With You,

Pastor Kathy

Wednesday dinners with New Members and Sponsors!



LOVE
the Lord your God
with all your
HEART
and with all your
SOUL
and with all your
STRENGTH
and with all your
MIND
LUKE 10:27

Tim Zimmerman
and the King's
Brass Concert!

JUNE 20-24 - THE WEEK OF DAY CAMP WENT WELL! We had 20 campers and 3 counselors from Nawakwa. A special thank you to our ladies who made sure registration went off without a hitch. Our kitchen staff performed an excellent job of keeping the drinks filled and the goodies on hand. Our youth volunteers were a huge help. We appreciate the kind individuals who provided scholarships. Without them, three campers might not have had the opportunity to participate in day camp. We appreciate the YMCA allowing our counselors to utilize their showers. If I missed anyone? I appreciate you!

Tim Peck, Youth Ministry Leader

A BIG THANK YOU to all volunteers who helped with the intergenerational service project of putting together Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits on Pentecost Sunday, June 5! Our goal was set at 279 kits to match the St. Matthew 279th anniversary this year. With your generous donations, we were able to put together 356 kits! The kits have been boxed up and delivered to New Windsor, MD, where they were shipped to the Ukraine. The Women of the ELCA would like to thank everyone for making this project possible!

June 27-29 -THANK YOU to everyone who helped make VBS a success! It was great fun with lots of singing, crafts and seeing Jesus do the impossible in God's Wonder Lab!

THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to the geraniums for Pentecost. The altar area looked beautiful with the flowers and the banners! And many thanks to Ardis Kunde and Gail Mummert who planted the geraniums around the church buildings. A good reminder throughout the summer months of the gift of the Holy Spirit!

THANK YOU, ST. MATTHEW MEMBERS!

"Dear Members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gifts to New Hope Ministries! We are thankful for your support! Your gift will help us to provide food, rent and mortgage assistance, job training and stability programs for our neighbors in need!

Blessings,

Kristin Warner"

"On behalf of Golden Visions, I would like to thank you for your generous donation to Golden Visions Adult Day Services. Your donation will help us continue to provide high quality care to local seniors by helping them age in place within our community.

Your continued support enables our dreams to become a reality. We ask that you keep us in your prayers and helps us spread the word about Golden Visions.

Again, we want to thank you for your generosity.

God bless,

Golden Visions Board of Directors

Buffy Rise, Executive Director"



"Dear St. Matthew Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous emergency gifts to help the people of Ukraine, who are enduring unimaginable hardship and suffering. Please continue to lift them up in your prayers.

Your gift is being put to use immediately to delivery emergency food, shelter, Personal Care Kits, Baby Care Kits, medicines and other critically needed items for children and their families who are trying to survive the horrifying fighting . . . Or are being forced to flee their homeland with a few meager belongings.

Your willingness to share your blessings during a global crisis like this is a godsend to your neighbors in Ukraine who are hurting. They can feel your love and are deeply grateful to know you are keeping them in your thoughts and prayers...

Thank you again, and God bless you!

Ambassador Daniel V. Speckhard (ret.)

President and CEO, Lutheran World Relief"

"Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent generous gift to Lutheran World Relief's Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund!

Because of your love, a family in a refugee camp can feel more at home with quilts to wrap around their shoulders. Families who have lost their homes in an earthquake can maintain their hygiene and dignity with a Personal Care Kit as they determine how to rebuild.

Thank you,

Ambassador Daniel V. Speckhard (ret.)

President and CEO"

DISCOVERY PLACE PRESCHOOL**Donations**

Our church preschool program has been BLESSED by your generous donations in the past- THANK YOU!

This year, instead of listing specific items for collection, we are instead asking for gift cards, so that we can better address our needs as they occur.

Some examples of how we will use gift cards:

- purchasing snacks, to be used within their 'best by' time
- office supplies like printer paper and ink
- craft materials for a particular art project

Gift cards are welcome at any time of year, not only at the start of our preschool year. You can simply put the Gift Card in an envelope with "Discovery Place" listed on the front and place it in the offering plate during worship. Or you can drop off your donation at the main church office during the week.

Stores we often use for supplies include:

Walmart Staples GiantFoods Amazon

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND SUPPORT!



Discovery Place Preschool is searching for **SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS** in our 3s and 4s classrooms for this fall. Our preschool classes are only in the morning hours. Please contact Martha Lobaugh, Director at discoveryplacehanover@gmail.com for more information.

May 13 - August 20, 2022

Baptism

May 22 - Gary Kyp, son of Wendy Castle

June 12 - Desiree Noel McFarland and Jasper Alexander Bohli,
children of Brett and Amber Bohli

**Weddings**

July 3 - Kevin and Marie (Krchnak) Kovacevic

Deaths

May 18 – Emma M. Bair

May 19 – Nyma P. Lane

May 19 – Hope Heston

May 31 – James (Jim) A. Culp

June 21 – Charlotte A. McCleaf

June 26 – Barry Gotwalt

July 1 – June (Miller) James

July 10 – Harold W. Raubenstine

Graduates

Hunter Crabbs

Lea Coppola

Adam Farmer

Courtney Luckenbaugh

Madison Malone

Kaitlyn Peck

Aaron Smith



Our Music Ministry
is gearing up for a great year.
You will want to be a part of it!

Scott G. Fredericks, Minister of Music
 Ruth Erb, Children's Choir Assistant
 Deb Smith, Puppet Ministry Director

Children's Choirs - All children age 3 to grade 8— Children's choir letters have been sent! If you did not receive one, they can be found on the Hospitality Desk or call the church office and we will send or email it. Forms are due in the church office. If your child has never been in the choir, please consider having them join us. It is a wonderful way for children to be involved in our worship services and become a part of our church family. Please contact Scott Fredericks if you have any questions, 717-637-7101, ext. 235.

Choirs begin rehearsals on:

Pre-School Music Makers (ages 3, 4 & 5, Kindergarten) -
 Thursday, September **22**, 6:15 -7:00 p.m.

Primary Choir (Grades 1 & 2 and K5 could be in this group if the Pre-School Thursday rehearsal doesn't fit your schedule) - Tuesday September **20**, 4:20 -5:00 p.m.

Junior Choir (Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8) - Wednesday, September **21**, 4:45 -5:30 p.m.



Family Choir - (families of children's choirs and others) Meets once or twice a year on Sunday morning as scheduled

Youth Spirit Singers - (Grades 6-12 young women's ensemble) Meets as scheduled



The Adult Choir welcomes Additional Members – See Scott today if you feel called to offer your talents in this ministry. The adult choir is an important element of our worship and evangelism. You make a real difference here. Please take this to prayer. Rehearsals are normally held on Thursdays from 8 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in the Adult Rehearsal Room and will begin on September 15

Men's Chorus – This ensemble sings in worship several times a year. The chorus is open to all St. Matthew men. The chorus rehearses as needed on Thursday evenings prior to singing in worship. Speak to Scott for additional information.



Mini-Minister Puppets The Mini-Minister puppets (grades 6-12) usually rehearse on Saturdays in Fellowship Hall from 10 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Please consider joining this important and fun ministry of our church! If you have any questions, contact Deb Smith, 717-633-9787.

(Continued next page)

Our Music Ministry (Continued)

Our Praise Singers and Instrumentalists offer “contemporary” music for our Sunday worship about once a month. The membership, which changes based on the participants’ availability and schedules, is open to youth and adults. Speak to Scott if you can assist with this ministry.



Handbells – Our handbell choir rehearses each week on Thursday night from 7:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. and presents music in worship throughout the year. See Scott if you are interested in ringing.

Instrumentalists – (Youth and adult) Brass, woodwinds and strings as needed on Saturday and Sundays

Drama Ministry – (Youth and Adult) Meets as needed



CAROL WILLIAMS ORGAN CONCERT – The St. Matthew Lutheran Church Concert Series will present organist, Carol Williams in concert on Sunday, October 16 at 4:00 p.m. Free tickets will be used to guarantee seating. Mail a self- addressed, stamped envelope to the church office and mark the envelope “October Concert.” Doors open at 3:30 p.m. Free-will offering will be taken.

Carol Williams’ programs are known for flashy classical pieces, theater, jazz, pop and everything in-between. Her concerts are of vast diversity, elegance and include her charismatic personality. Williams’ performances are received with “rock star” enthusiasm as witnessed by the thousands who attended her concerts while at the outdoor Spreckles organ in San Diego.

British born Carol Williams was a child prodigy nurtured in a Welsh musical family. She began private lessons at age five and could read music before English. Carol began performing organ recitals throughout the UK at age eight. Dr. Williams’ formal training started with five years at the Royal Academy of Music where she obtained the Academy's prestigious Recital Diploma. Carol was awarded all the major prizes for organ performance and she became a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists; a Fellow of Trinity College London; and an Associate of the Royal College of Music. Carol also studied with Daniel Roth, the Organist at the Church of St. Sulpice, Paris. Moving to the United States, she undertook postgraduate study at Yale University under the direction of Professor Thomas Murray (who has played two concerts at St. Matthew) and was awarded an Artist Diploma together with the Charles Ives prize for outstanding achievement. Carol undertook her Doctoral studies at the Manhattan School of Music.

Carol now lives in Atlanta, Georgia. She was in San Diego, California from 2001-2017 where she was Artistic Director of the Spreckels International Organ Concert Series, the largest in North America. Dr. Carol is the first woman in the world to hold the position "Civic Organist" and has been awarded the title "San Diego Civic Organist Emerita."

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Carol Williams Concert (Continued)

Dr. Williams has performed throughout the United States, England, France, Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Monaco, Luxembourg, Holland, Poland, Germany, Denmark, Singapore, South Korea, China and Russia. Williams is known for her collaborations with various symphonies, jazz, blues, pop and rock musicians including the BBC Concert Orchestra, San Diego Symphony Orchestra and the Beijing Symphony Orchestra as well as with various regional local bands. Carol has recorded over 23 CDs and published over 50 compositions on Melcot Music. Dr. Carol hosts "TourBus" a documentary series exploring the large and small, famous and unique pipe organs of the world and also, hosts a YouTube talk show series "On The Bench" interviewing musical artists. In the United Kingdom, Dr. Williams has been elected an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music (ARAM) in recognition of her contribution to music.



Carol has served as Chapel Organist at Yale University, New Haven, CT; Associate Organist at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Long Island's Garden City, NY; Artist in Residence at St. Paul's Cathedral in San Diego, CA; Director of Music St. Thomas Aquinas Charlottesville, VA University Parish. Presently Carol is Artist in Residence and Organist, Peachtree Christian Church, Atlanta, GA . Some of her highlight concerts were for Princess Diana, the Virgil Fox Memorial Concert and the 10th anniversary concert of the Walt Disney Concert Hall Organ. Carol donates several performances per year for various charity fund raising efforts.

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS – WINDOW WASHING PROJECT

The Social Ministry Committee is asking for your **"HELP!"** Join us **Saturday, September 24, at Spiritrust Lutheran The Village at Utz Terrace**, located at 2100 Utz Terrace, South Hanover (across from the UPMC Medical Building) **from 9 a.m. – noon** at the **flagpole entrance, which is left of the Main Entrance.**



- Arrive 15 – 20 minutes early.
- All supplies are provided on-site.
- **"ONLY"** cleaning the outside of the windows, which are reachable and require **"no ladders."**
- Includes all buildings and cottages.
- A snack will be provided upon completion.

Please join us in extending this kindness to the senior residents and staff. Contact: Deb Riddle at 717-633-5678 or 717-495-8765 with your name(s) and desired phone number. Come one – come all – bring family and friends!

*******WE THANK YOU*******

FAITH CONNECTIONS and EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

What Does the Bible Say about Human Sexuality and Gender Identity? Pastor Kathy and Pastor Taylor will lead a Bible Study and Conversation related to Human Sexuality and Gender Identity. This will occur on **Wednesdays, September 7, 14 and 21 at 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Upper Room on the 2nd Floor** of the church building. (Use the elevator or steps by the double glass doors.) The pastors plan to make this an opportunity for participants to learn together as we seek God's guidance through prayer, scripture and respectful conversation.



**Faith Connections Adult Offerings 2022-2023,
Sundays 9:30-10:20 a.m.**

Discussing current events through a faith lens with the Generations Class on the third floor of the church building through a resource called *Wired Word* that connects scripture to current/ everyday events for exploration of what it means to be a follower of Jesus today.



Bible study and music with the Parlor Class in the Parlor near the Gathering Place through *Augsburg Adult Bible Studies* and a continuing tradition of St. Matthew hymn singing as Christian education.



**Learn
&
Grow**

Rotating short term series with Pastor Kathy or Pastor Taylor in the Pastor's Class in the Upper Room on the second floor with topics varying. To begin, September's Pastor's Class will be a Lectionary Bible Study with Pastor Kathy. If you'd like to look ahead, the passages for September 18 will be Amos 8:4-7 and Luke 16:1-13 and the passages for September 25 will be Amos 6:1a, 4-7 and Luke 16:19-31.



Splash Class - Parents of infants and toddlers 3 months to 3 years old are invited to attend Splash Class- a "baby and me" style group class. Together, parents/caregivers and children will explore what's next after you've been "splashed" in the waters of Baptism. Adam Amspacher, registered and licensed pediatric occupational therapist, and Lindsay Amspacher, board-certified music therapist, will lead this 30 minute class at St. Matthew from **9:45-10:15** on the following Sunday mornings: **9/18, 10/23, 12/4, 1/22, 3/5, and 4/16**. Mark your calendars and invite a loved one along!

Worship Assistant Training

Liturgy means “the work of the people,” and it means so much to our identity at St. Matthew and as Lutherans. Worship always happens because of lots of work of “the people” - including you! You’re invited to consider how the Holy Spirit might be nudging you to share your unique gifts through one of the many ways worship assistants offer their leadership in the church. This fall, we’ll be offering trainings for worship assistants in all kinds of roles. Check out the schedule and pick one (or several) to join.

Trainings on Sundays, 9:40-10:15 a.m.

10/02/22 **Assisting Ministers and Greeters**

Assisting ministers lead the congregation in various prayers during worship. Greeters welcome worshipers to the church building.

10/16/22 **Cross Bearers & Torch Bearers and Altar Guild**

Cross bearers & torch bearers process the cross and candles into worship on high holidays in the church year. Members of the altar guild prepare our worship spaces according to the changing liturgical seasons.

11/06/22 **Ushers**

Ushers help the service run smoothly by directing people to seats and to Communion among other responsibilities.

11/13/22 **Communion Assistants and Communion Preparers**

Communion assistants serve Communion to worshipers alongside the pastor(s). Communion preparers gather and prepare the elements and dishware to be used during Communion.

12/04/22 **Lectors and Livestream Operators**

Lectors read scripture lessons in worship. Livestream operators run the video and slideshow for the livestream of worship each week.

If you’re not sure whether you’d like to be a worship assistant yet but would like to explore, come to a training workshop and find out if it’s right for you! If you’d like to learn a particular role but have a conflict that day, contact the office and we’ll figure something out. **Ages 11 to 111 are welcome to try out any role.**



**Learn
&
Grow**



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ST. MATT'S YOUTH EVENTS!

Wednesdays beginning September 7 - High School Mid-Week Connections in the Youth Suite from 7-8:30 p.m. This is a time for high school youth to get together to catch up mid-week, by request.



Sundays beginning September 18 - Confirmation Class in the Youth Suite, 9:30-10:20 a.m.

Sunday, September 18 - Youth Connections Night in the Youth Suite, 6-8:00 p.m. This is our first school year Youth Connections time. Please note the change in time. We hope to see **all youth, 6th through 12th grade there!**

Friday, September 23 to Sunday, September 25 - 6th to 8th grade youth that have pre-registered for **ALiVE**. Prayers to all who are going to **ALiVE** this year!

Any youth and parents who have not yet been added to our text groups, please email us at youth@stmattlutheran.org with your name and cell # and confirm your email. This is how you will receive info about any changes, including last-minute, between emails.

Cheer on our St. Matt's Hometown Heroes!

Greetings to all! I just wanted to invite the congregation to support the youth in their God-given abilities in music, sports and other extracurricular activities. I will make schedules of their activities available. Why not pick up old high school memories and share with our youth? You can find the schedules at the Hospitality Desk in the Gathering Place or send a message to youth@stmattlutheran.org and I will get the schedule to you.



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MILESTONES and EVENTS!



Blessing of the Backpacks - On September 10 and 11 at all worship services, we will mark the Backpack Blessing Milestone for students, teachers, and backpackers of all ages. Mark your calendar to bring your backpack or briefcase along to worship, and invite a friend!

Rally Sunday IFC - You're invited to our **Intergenerational Faith Connections** Rally Sunday event on **September 11!** We will gather in the Fellowship Hall from **9:30-10:20 a.m.** to kick off a new season of Faith Connections together, build relationships with our church family, and learn a little bit about what it means to be a Christian community. There will be food, activities, and even a few prizes- you won't want to miss it!



Celebrating Pastor Faye! On **Sunday, September 18**, all are encouraged to stop by the Gathering Place to offer thanks for her 10 years as Visitation Pastor at St. Matthew.



Camp Hebron Fall Retreat sponsored by The Lower Susquehanna Synodical Women's Organization; Friday, Saturday & Sunday, October 28,29,30; The retreat theme is *"Jesus is the Vine. What does it mean to be a branch?"* Our leader this year is Rev. Barbara Barry, who is currently serving Soloman's Lutheran Church as interim pastor. There will be carpooling from the church lot for those interested. There is also an opportunity for Saturday only registration.

Registration forms can be picked up in the church office or on the Hospitality Desk. Registrations must be postmarked by **Monday, September 12**. For additional information call Johnnetta Miller, 717-637-4259.

Bible Presentation Milestone - Children in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade are invited to participate in our Bible Presentation Milestone on **October 2**. Children will be presented with their very own Bibles in worship at the 10:30 worship service, and we will host a short equipping session after worship with kids and their parents or caregivers to learn all about their Bible and practice using it together.



Mark your calendars for **Sunday, October 9**, for our **HARVEST HOME FESTIVAL**. Our worship services that weekend will be a celebration of God's Gifts in this season of Harvest. Tim and Jeanie Kent will be our soloists for our services and we will be collecting canned goods and non-perishable items for the Caring Cupboard and various local food banks.

After the 10:30 service, a meal will be served in the Fellowship Hall. (If the weather allows, tables will be set up outside.) No one will want to miss this catered lunch of pulled pork and chicken with a variety of side dishes. We invite all bakers to bring an apple crisp or apple pie. Activities will include an apple pie contest, Bingo, outdoor games for kids and even a few line dance lessons! Watch for more details related to sign-ups.

From the Finance Committee

Tax Deductible Charitable Giving

If you are considering a charitable contribution this year, it is in your best interest to seek out the most effective manner in which your money can work for you. Gifting appreciated stock is one of the most effective means of tax savings available. The three main benefits of gifting appreciated stock are (a) the satisfaction of knowing your money is invested in a cause important to you, (b) capital gains taxes on the stock are avoided, and (c) you will be eligible to receive an income tax charitable deduction for the full fair-market-value of the stock at the time of the gift.

To qualify for these special tax advantages, the security must have been held for at least one year. A gift of stock in certificate form should be postmarked by December 31, or your financial advisor can arrange for a year end gift of stock from your investment account.

Your gift of appreciated stock is fully deductible up to 30% of your adjusted gross income. For example, if your adjusted gross income is \$100,000, up to \$30,000 of long-term appreciated stock and other capital gain property may generally be deducted, although high-income donors may be subject to a partial phase-out of itemized deductions. Any excess can generally be carried forward and deducted over as many as five subsequent years.

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is another great tax advantaged way for individuals that are 72 years or older with a Traditional IRA and a need to withdraw funds to meet a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), to make a contribution to St. Matthew. The money you contribute to St. Matthew using a QCD can be applied towards the current year's RMD and is not included in your adjusted gross income on your tax return, which is a better option than listing the donation as a simple charitable contribution. A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is generally a nontaxable distribution made directly by the custodian of your IRA to an organization such as St. Matthew eligible to receive tax deductible contributions. You must be at least age 72 when the distribution is made. Qualified Charitable Distributions are limited to \$100,000 per individual per year (a spouse who qualifies may also give a similar amount from his or her IRA).

If you have questions, we encourage you to contact your financial advisor, accountant or tax preparer.

FROM DISCOVERY PLACE PRESCHOOL: The mulch is not only inside the fence, but fully distributed! Many thanks to Dirk and Wayne for their assistance in moving the bags inside the playground. We had that accomplished in under a half hour!

Then my two teens and I began opening bags and distributing. Tim Peck and Logan arrived to assist, and we had the playground covered and empty bags in the dumpster at around 10:30.

So thankful for the extra help, as we were done much quicker than I had hoped! And thank you to the church for helping the preschool purchase sufficient mulch to keep our preschoolers safe during playground time!



OUR FUTURE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT contributions at work: If you have stopped in at the church office in the past 2 weeks, you have seen the work being done! The old carpet is gone and new floors are being installed. Thank you to Bill Trump and his workers who have moved furniture, ripped up old carpeting and installed the new floors. It looks great! Now we just have to get things moved back into place!

