



*Christ
is Risen Indeed!*

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

March 31, 2024



St. Matthew

LUTHERAN CHURCH

CENTERED IN CHRIST
Celebrating Love • Serving All

Phone: 717-637-7101

General mailbox ext. 221

30 W Chestnut Street Hanover PA 17331

Email: info@stmattlutheran.org www.stmattlutheran.org

Facebook: St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Hanover PA

Instagram: @stmatthanover

Livestream Worship:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/StMatthewLutheranChurchHanoverPA>

This can be torn off and placed in the offering basket at the exits.

Name(s): _____

Attending **8:30 or 10:30**

___ I/We are interested in attending the New Member Orientation class on April 7.

___ I/We would like to add or update my email for the Messenger and other email updates. (Be sure to include email address changes below.)

___ I/We would like to add or update my/our address for mailings. (Be sure to include address changes below)

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____



Welcome! Whether you are a long-time member of St. Matthew, a first-time visitor, or somewhere in between, we are thankful you are here today. If you have questions or need visual, audio, or mobility accommodations, please let a name-tagged usher know. We're excited about the many ministries of St. Matt's, and we hope you'll find a way to plug in that makes sense for you!

About today: *We gather as a community for worship around word, wine, and water. Put another way, in worship we meet Christ in scripture proclaimed in speech & song, in the sacraments of Holy Communion and Baptism celebrated or remembered, and in community gathered together.*

Our regular weekend schedule includes Saturday worship at 5 p.m., Sunday worship at 8:30 a.m., Faith Connections on Sunday at 9:30 a.m., and Sunday worship at 10:30 a.m. (livestreamed). Our Faith Connections hour includes opportunities for all ages to connect with God, our faith, and one another through learning and relationship. Meet at the Hospitality Desk at 9:30 for refreshments and more information about ways to plug in.

Christ is risen! Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever. With Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, we may feel astonished and confused, unsure of what to make of the empty tomb. But this is why we gather: to proclaim, witness, praise, and affirm the liberating reality of Christ's death and resurrection. In word and feast, we celebrate God's unending love, and depart to share this good news with all the world. Alleluia!

The Resurrection of Our Lord

Order of Worship

8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today
St. Matthew Ringers

arr. Wagner

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

All: Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

*(Please turn and face the cross at the back of the church.
During the processional, continue to face the cross.)*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Wesley/Walsh

ELW #365

1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
praise him, all you heav'n-ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

EASTER PROCLAMATION

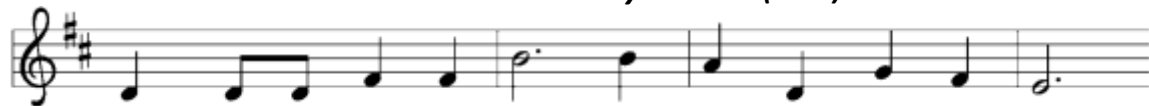
Pastor: Why do you seek the living among the dead?
Jesus is not here, but is risen. Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

HYMN OF PRAISE

Crown Him with Many Crowns (vs. 4)

ELW #855



Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave



and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.



His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,

(Continued Next Page)



Please be seated.

(10:30) *Children ages 10 and under are invited to meet our children’s leader at the baptismal font at the front of the Nave. She will take the children for Children’s Church at the “Pray-ground” in the Fellowship Hall. They will hear a Bible story from this week’s lectionary in an age-appropriate format and spend some time exploring their faith and creativity together. They will return during the passing of the peace.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

FIRST READING Acts 10:34-43 *Peter crosses the immense religious and social boundary that separates Jews from Gentiles in order to proclaim the good news of Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection, so that God’s forgiveness in Jesus’ name would reach out to all people.*

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in

Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 118:1-2, 21-24 (*Please read responsively*)

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God’s mercy endures forever.

²**Let Israel now declare,
“God’s mercy endures forever.”**

²¹I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation.

²²**The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.**

²³By the LORD has this been done;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴**This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Pastor: The holy gospel according to Mark, the 16th chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 16:1-8 *The resurrection of Jesus is announced, and the response is one of terror and amazement.*

Pastor: The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

EASTER MESSAGE

Pastor Kathy Vitalis Hoffman

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN

The Day of Resurrection!

Damascus/Hartig

ELW #361

(Next Page)



1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad,
2 Let hearts be purged of e - vil that we may see a - right
3 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,
4 All praise to God the Fa - ther, all praise to Christ the Son,



the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.
the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light,
the round world keep high tri - umph and all that is there - in.
all praise to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One!



From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,
and lis - t'ning to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad - ness blend;
Let all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
his own "All hail!" and hear - ing, may raise the glad re - frain.
for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end!
and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone!

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

Pastor: Let us confess our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed.

**All: We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,**

(Continued Next Page)

eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS

Pastor: Each petition concludes, *"God of grace,"* and the congregation responds, *"hear our prayer."*

PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

(The congregation is invited to greet one another with the words “Peace be with you,” and gestures respecting personal space and comfort levels.)

Please be seated.

(10:30) Children return from Children’s Church.

MUSICAL OFFERING *Crown Him with Many Crowns* Raney
Adult Choir

Text: ELW #855

GENEROSITY MOMENT *We celebrate God’s generosity embodied in this community’s time, talents, and treasures shared with one another. **Thank you for your presence** in worship today. **Thank you for offering** the “first fruits” of your finances. Offerings may be placed in the baskets near the entrances/exits of the worship space or through online giving on our website. **Thank you for sharing** your spiritual gifts with our church, local, and global communities.*

Please stand as you are able.

Offertory *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah* (Sing Twice)

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor: Risen One,

All: you call us to believe and bear fruit.

**May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.**

**Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

THE MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....we praise your name
and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER WITH WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All are welcome to the Lord's Supper. The meal is served in several ways. Choose what is appropriate for you.

Individual packets are available for those wishing to remain in their pew.

If you are unable to come forward, but would like communion served by the pastor, please let one of the ushers know and the Sacrament will be brought to you at your seat.

Continuous manner – Come forward at the direction of the ushers, take the wafer from the pastor, “The body of Christ, given for you”, and eat it. (Gluten-free wafers are available) Then move to the next station and take one of the cups of wine (red) or grape juice (white) “The blood of Christ, shed for you”, and drink it.

Children who do not yet receive communion are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

IN-PEW COMMUNION

Pastor: The body of Christ, given for you.

All: Amen. (*Eat wafer*)

(*Pause*)

Pastor: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

All: Amen. (*Drink wine*)

COMMUNION ANTHEM *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

arr. Parks

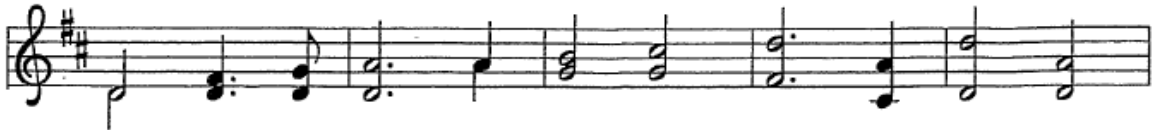
Adult Choir

Text: LBW #365

COMMUNION HYMN *Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing*

Wren/Williams

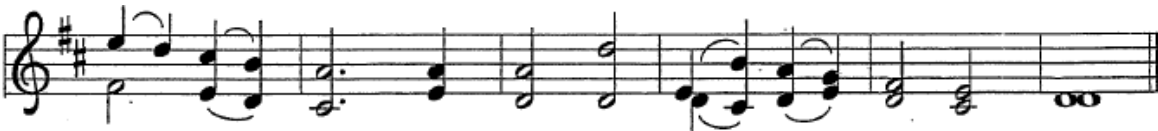
ELW #389



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.

All: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray. Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us
and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet
to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,
our redeemer and friend.

All: Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: The God of resurrection power,
the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope
✝ bless you now and always.

All: Amen.

(During the recessional, please turn to face the cross as it passes your pew.)

RECESSIONAL HYMN *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds* – Strodach/Köln

ELW #367

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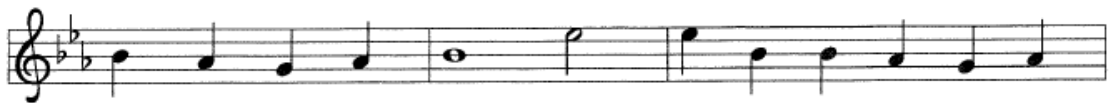
1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

“Rigaudon”

Campra

Organ and Brass

* * * * *

Please note: Music for this service is covered under CCLI # 1000682 –
Also #A-708989 One License.net

Our warm thanks to all those assisting in our worship services this morning:

- Musicians St. Matthew Ringers; Adult Choir;
Richard Auffarth, Trumpet; RG Spruill, Trumpet; Jeffrey Hosier, Trombone;
Jeremy Norris, Horn; Jeff Hiner, Tuba
- Altar Guild Nancy Oppedal, Bonnie Williams
- Communion Assistants 8:30 John Mancini, Sara Staub
10:30 Bobbie Lidard, Carolyn Markle, Stacy Parsons
- Communion Preparers..... 8:30 Barb Rupp, Sally Staub
10:30 Bob & Barbara Strangfeld
- Couriers..... 8:30 John Mancini, Sara Staub; 10:30 Roland Kunde, Charley Lidard
- Greeters 8:30 Gail Mummert, Lynda Sheffer, Sally Staub
10:30 Martha Hempfing, Leo & JoAnne Hilbert
- Lectors..... 8:30 Anna Farmer; 10:30 Barbara Strangfeld
- Live Stream (10:30)..... Brad & Andrea Hersh
- Ushers 8:30 Team 7 – John & Barb Frederick Jr., Tom Bell, Grant Frederick,
Lance Frederick, Deb Hansford
10:30 Team 6 – Jim Menges, Kim Beard, Sharon Bollinger, Sally Staub
- Welcome Place Happy Easter!

THE ALTAR FLOWERS have been given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Raymond J. Kline Jr. by Randy and Deb Kline; and in loving memory of Ralph E. Heusner and Mrs. Helen Heusner Schaeffer; and in loving memory of Jeffrey Greenholt by Judy, Keith, Julie, Kyle and Maryann Greenholt; and in loving memory of the George Sunday family which includes Mrs. Jeanie Sunday, Ruth Feiser, Mrs. Ida Sunday Hull, Mrs. A. Laura S. Hersh, Charles and George Sunday; also A. Canton and Jennie Ruth Feiser and their children Elton Sunday Ruth and Helen L. Ruth; and in loving memory of Robin Miller by her mother Lois Miller; and in loving memory of Charles and Anna Sullivan by Lois Miller; and in loving memory of Chester and Elizabeth Hoke by their children and grandchildren.

THE BULLETINS are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Raymond J. Kline Jr. by David, Jenn, Carrie and Logan; and in loving memory of Ralph E. Heusner and Mrs. Helen Heusner Schaeffer; and in loving memory of Jeffrey Greenholt by Judy, Keith, Julie, Kyle and Maryann Greenholt; and in loving memory of Robin Miller by her mother Lois Miller; and in loving memory of Chester and Elizabeth Hoke by their children and grandchildren.

RECOMMENDED SCRIPTURE READINGS for the week beginning March 31:

Sunday: John 20:1-18	Thursday: Acts 2:42-47
Monday: 1 Corinthians 15:35-49	Friday: Acts 4:23-31
Tuesday: 1 Corinthians 15:50-58	Saturday: John 12:44-50
Wednesday: Mark 16:1-8	

Attendance:	(03/20)	Lent Wednesday Dinner/Church.....	62
	(03/23)	5:00 p.m.....	51
	(03/24)	8:30 a.m.....	65
		10:30 a.m. Service	261
	(03/18-03/24)	Online views	138
	Total		577

Prayer List: God hears and understands our prayers. Fully putting our trust in God, we lay our requests before him. Our next prayers are in gratitude, knowing that God is already at work in our situation. Names will stay on our Prayer List for a maximum of 30 days. If you would like us to remove your name sooner, please notify the office. You may also access our Prayer Chain by contacting Beth Koontz at 717-968-1207.

Richard & Linda
Marion
Jil
Diane

Doris
Diane
Mary Ann
Colleen

John
Gloria
Mary
Linda

THE EASTER GARDEN LISTING is available on the Hospitality Desk in the Gathering Place and also from an usher. Thank you to everyone who sponsored flowers. After the cost of the flowers is met, the remainder of the monies will be sent to the local Salvation Army.



AN Easter breakfast of egg casseroles and assorted rolls and breads will be available after the 8:30 service, from approximately 9:30 to 10:20 in Fellowship Hall. There will be no Faith Connections.

ORGAN RECITAL SERIES IS BACK!

Our own Ben Boellner will be doing his first organ recital on Sunday, April 28, at 4 p.m. No tickets required. We look forward to hearing our grand instrument in concert once again!



St. Matthew Lutheran Church Calendar
March 31 – April 7, 2024

Sun.	Easter Worship with Holy Communion (Nave)8:30 a.m. NO Faith Connections Easter Breakfast 9:30-10:20 a.m. Easter Worship with Holy Communion (Nave)10:30 a.m.
Mon.	Church Office Closed Devotional Biking/Walking Group (Moul Field parking lot)6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts 6:30-7:30 p.m. Grief Share (Upper Room) 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Tues.	Deliver Easter flowers10:00 a.m. Discovery Place Classes..... 8:45-11:30 a.m. Staff Meetings (Library)10:30 a.m. Junior Choir Rehearsal 4:30-5:15 p.m. Cub Scouts..... 6:30-7:30 p.m. Women of the ELCA Bible Study (Upper Room)..... 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Wed.	Discovery Place Classes..... 8:45-11:30 a.m. Boy Scouts..... 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Thurs.	Discovery Place Classes..... 8:45-11:30 a.m. Preschool & Primary Choir Rehearsal..... 4:15-5:00 p.m. NO St. Matthew Ringer Rehearsal NO Adult Choir Rehearsal
Fri.	Discovery Place Classes..... 8:45-11:15 a.m. Discovery Place Fun Night! (Gym)6:00 p.m.
Sat.	Worship with Holy Communion (Fellowship Hall)5:00 p.m.
Sun.	Worship with Holy Communion (Nave).....8:30 a.m. Youth Bell Rehearsal 9:15-10:00 a.m. New Members’ Class (Fellowship Hall)..... 9:30-10:20 a.m. Faith Connections 9:30-10:20 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion (Nave).....10:30 a.m. Youth Connections (Rm. 304) 6:00-8:00 p.m.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA BIBLE STUDY will be held Tuesday, April 2, 6:30 p.m. in the Upper Room (enter elevator lobby and go to the 2nd floor.) Pastor Kathy will be leading our Bible study found in the March/April *gather* magazine: SCRIPTURE AND NATURE- Teachers of Faith, Session 4: Food. Our faithful stewardship of the earth includes paying attention to the ways we eat. Lesson copies will be available. For additional information call Johnnetta Miller, 717-637-4259.



Warmer weather is on the horizon so it is time to once again lace up your sneakers and buckle on your helmets! ***The Devotional Biking & Walking group*** is gearing up to start meeting again to encounter God together in community, creation, and scripture.

Beginning April 1 we will join together **Mondays at 6:00 p.m. at the Moul Field parking lot to start our journey.** Our time together will start with a devotional reading and prayer before heading out on a 3-mile walking route or a 5-mile bike/modified bike ride. We plan to play Christian music to accompany our journeys and encourage reflection. Bikers & walkers of all ages and speeds are welcome.

For questions or more information, please reach out to Amy Schlitzer via text or phone call 717-515-8133, or email asms1210@gmail.com

DISCOVERY PLACE NEWS! We are currently registering for our **FALL 2024 classes.** We have availability in our 3s MWF class, 4s MWF class and 4s T/TH class. Our **SUMMER DISCOVERY 2024 CAMPS** for children age 4-6 have been announced for the month of June, and many of our camps are already filling up! We have several fun themes this summer, each camp theme for one week. Our camps are 9-12 noon weekdays, and are packed with lots of fun! Information for both fall preschool and summer camps is available at the church office and on the church website on the preschool pages. Discovery Place information can be found under the “Connect” tab from the website menu.



YOUTH MINISTRIES

Youth Connections-April 7, 28 6-8 p.m. in Youth Suite, 3rd floor (6th-12th graders)

Blue-White Game on April 13 Let Tim know if you are interested!
youth@stmattlutheran.org

Faith Formation for all High Schoolers Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in Youth Suite

All-Saints Confirmation Camp at Camp Nawakwa- June 9-14, FOR all 6th - 8th graders! This is a fun-filled week learning and meeting new friends! Registration due by May 1.

Youth Connections- May 5 & 19 6-8 p.m. in Youth Suite, 3rd floor

May 19 - Youth help with the **Personal Care Kits** during Faith Formation



Palm Sunday was quite the event! The morning began with stunning liturgies, excellent musical performances, and choirs singing throughout. A delicious meal was served to about 200 people. Thank you to all the youth and parents who made the hotdogs and hamburgers and desserts and served and prepared everything beforehand! Thank you also to the congregation women for donating desserts!

Then we had a wonderful visit from the Easter Bunny! We had 50+ kids participating in the Easter egg hunt this year. Everyone's positive attitude and patience made the day go smoothly.

We are grateful to Faye Showers and her family for their donation to the youth for a few items to update the Youth Suite in her late husband's name, Larry Showers. A new ping pong table, several large bean bag chairs and cushions for the window sills for more seating were purchased. We greatly appreciate the donation knowing that Larry and his family support the Youth Ministry.

THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING on April 14, after the 10:30 service to approve the use of monies from the Future Capital Improvement Fund for a safety/security system in both buildings. More information will be available next week.

For all who are interested in becoming members of St. Matthew!

You are invited to an **Orientation Class on Sunday, April 7, at 9:30 to 10:20** in our Fellowship Hall. Pastor Kathy will lead the discussion about Lutheran Basics and what it means to be a member of St. Matthew. On **Sunday, May 5, we will welcome new members to our congregation at the 8:30 Outdoor/Drive-In worship and the 10:30 indoor worship.** You choose which service you'd like to attend.



New Member Class

On that day, we will also celebrate you with a continental Breakfast at 9:30 to 10:20 in Fellowship Hall. You will be welcomed by members of our Evangelism Committee, staff, church leaders and new member sponsors. You will also learn more about our congregation and how you may choose to connect. There will be activities for children. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Administrative Assistant, Stacy Brodbeck at sbrodbeck@stmattlutheran.org If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Kathy, pastorkathy@stmattlutheran.org. Both Stacy and Pastor Kathy can be reached by phone at 717-637-7101.

The Generosity Committee is pleased to announce that:



Ann Seitz-Brown from Thrivent, will be here at St. Matthew on Sunday, April 14, at 9:30 a.m. She will be giving a talk on **Legacy and Charitable Giving** in the Fellowship Hall. There will be light refreshments and coffee. Ann is a certified financial planner and will provide examples of people who have established legacy gift strategies. Please plan to attend this Informational only, 45-minute talk.

BLOOD DRIVE! St. Matthew, in conjunction with Central PA Blood Bank, is sponsoring their spring blood drive on **Wednesday, April 17** from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Donors can schedule appointment times:

- online at 717GIVEBLOOD.org
- by phone at 1-800-771-0059



As a show of appreciation, CPBB will provide each donor certificates for a free pint of ice cream at Brusters Real Ice Cream and a BOGO large pizza from Papa Johns.

The need for blood is constant and your donation will support our local hospitals. Please encourage friends and family to support this worthwhile cause. If you have any question or need assistance registering, please contact Jo or Leo Hilbert, 717-476-5240. Thank you for your support!



GOLDEN VISIONS ADULT DAYCARE – The Social Ministry Committee will be collecting items for Golden Visions during the month of **April**. There will be a box located in the Gathering Place marked “Golden Visions.” If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make checks payable to

St. Matthew Lutheran Church with “Golden Visions” in the memo line. The following items are requested:

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Laundry detergent | Dryer sheets | Large bags of snacks |
| Dish detergent | Paper towels | Individual snacks |
| Tape | Toilet paper | Cake mixes |
| Envelopes | Stamps | Cookie mixes |
| Craft supplies | Bingo prizes | Individual Jell-o/pudding |

Thank you!

Summer fun for elementary age youth!

Day Camp at St. Matthew!

We will be hosting Day Camp again this summer on our church property. This is a fun-filled week of worship, Bible study, games, nature, study, singing, recreation, meeting new friends and sharing!



- ◇ Dates are June 17-21, 2024, 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each day, Monday through Friday.
- ◇ Ages: Children entering grades 1 through grade 5 in the fall of 2024
- ◇ Space is limited to 32 children.



Registration forms are available in the church office or on the website or use the QR code!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

June 24-27, 2024

9 a.m.-12 noon

Join us while we dive deep into finding the ways God is always with us!

We welcome children who are 4 years old through 5th graders.

Registration forms ARE available at the church and on the website OR USE THE QR CODE.



We are always looking for volunteers!

Contact Missy Smith with questions at msmith@stmattlutheran.org

Or call the church office, 717-637-7101, ext. 229

PERSONAL CARE KIT PROJECT

Don't forget your towels!!

THE WOMEN OF THE ELCA and the INTERGENERATIONAL FAITH CONNECTIONS are collecting items to assemble Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. People who must flee their homes quickly due to disasters or safety often do not have time to pack essential items. The Kits also contribute to a new start for those who can return home. Each Personal Care Kit includes:

- *One new bath-size towel(approx.52"X27"), dark color recommended
- *Two bath-size bars(4-5oz) of soap (must equal 8-9 oz) in its original wrapping
- *One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- *One sturdy, wide-toothed comb
- *One metal nail-clipper



You may drop off items in the designated boxes located in the elevator lobby or the church office. Financial donations may be made to be used to purchase bulk items. \$10 could cover the cost of a kit and assist with shipping costs. Checks should be made payable to *St. Matthew Lutheran Church* with *Care Kits* in the memo line. The packing of the kits will take place Sunday, May 19, in Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m. during Faith Connections.

Our bulletins serve as an excellent week-long resource with prayers, scripture and important information regarding our congregation's ministries. Recycle bins are at the doors for the bulletins that are not taken home.



For the older ones of us, remember when your mother called you by your first name only and it sounded so good because it wasn't accompanied by every other name you received at baptism and that meant you weren't in trouble! And for all the rest of us, when someone calls you by name, do you feel that little twinge of closeness or interest? These ideas might explain

why we have **Name Tag Sundays**. We hope, with time, to promote camaraderie, and enhance our human connection. So, for a few months, the bulletin of the last Sunday of the month will contain this announcement, reminding us that the first Sunday of each month will be Name Tag Sunday. Let's enjoy getting to know one another!

YOU CAN MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE!

Sometimes this world seems so cold and hard. Many are lonely and suffering. Have you ever wished you knew how to help?

It's easy to be a **VISITING MINISTER** at St. Matthew. A one-hour visit to a home-bound member once a month and a periodic check-in meeting with other Visiting Ministers is the extent of your commitment. There is a brief training course, so you're never 'out there on your own.' Visiting Ministers have peer and leader support. We are planning a training course soon. Please pray and ask if God is leading you to be involved in this compassionate ministry.



Call **Pastor Faye, 717-451-0851**, with questions, to hear more, or to sign up. Or fill out the slip below. Drop it in the offering basket or at the Church Office,

I would like to make a difference by being a Visiting Minister

Name _____

Email Address _____

Phone number (s) _____

COMMUNITY MEAL

You guessed it...Sunday May 5, 3:00-6:00 p.m.



Let us come together as a community again with our neighbors to laugh, sing, play, and of course enjoy some delicious food. Since it is Cinco de Mayo, we will be serving a Mexican meal made by our neighbors at La Libertad Mexican Restaurant. We will be having games and other activities for the family.

As with our December meal, we will need help with set-up, clean-up, decorations, serving the meal, and with games. We will also be looking for donations of the following items: Desserts, Bottled Water, Hot Dogs, Hot Dog Rolls, Capri Sun/Hugs/Juice Boxes for the children. If you would be willing to donate any of those items, please drop them off at St. Matthew by Sunday, April 21.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email Amy Beck at Abeck1976@comcast.net

NAME _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

I am willing to: Set-Up Clean-Up Decorate
 Serve the Meal Help with Games

I am willing to donate: A Dessert Bottled Water Hot Dogs
 Hot Dog Rolls Capri Sun/Hugs/Juice Boxes for the Children