

HOME VISITS

Pastor Blaine Jorg is available to bring Holy Communion to the home of any member desiring a visit. You may also call him, regardless of the time, if any congregation member is in need of pastoral care. This is particularly important when there is a serious illness, an accident, a hospitalization and when death approaches or occurs.

Cell: 239-1097

E-mail: ministry285@yahoo.com



Church Phone Extension

When calling 692-6862, you do not need to wait for a prompt to dial an extension. When you call the church phone number, and the call connects, you may dial any extension, immediately. If that extension transfers to a voice mail and you want to speak to a person, you may dial another extension. You do not need to hang up and call back.

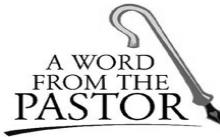
St. Matthew Lutheran Church 692-6862
St. Matthew Lutheran Church Fax# 692-0242

The following extensions can be reached from both phone #'s above:

Church Office	Ext. 202
Pastor Office	Ext. 203
Bible Conference Room	Ext. 204
Quilting Room	Ext. 206
Kitchen	Ext. 207
Music Room	Ext. 209
Computer Room	Ext. 210
Library	Ext. 214
Custodian Office	Ext. 219
Gymnasium	Ext. 220
YCC Room	Ext. 221

Email: stmatlcms@gmail.com (Church)

office@stmatthewlutheran.net (Church Secretary)



Dearest members of St. Matthew:

There are things I always wish I never need to say, but today there are many things we need to hear again. I begin and end with, "we need Jesus in our lives now more than ever".

The thought of a mass shooting when I was growing up was unthinkable, now they are too common. A Christian school was targeted recently and six people lost their life at the hands of another, the media blames not the individual, but guns. Personal responsibility seems to be unaccounted for anymore. We as St. Matthew congregants, Get on the floor! Get low! Do not get up and attempt to run away. There are security measures in place, and a response will take place.

Another thing we face is a transgender movement ruining people's lives, especially children. The entire human condition is under attack, people think they are God and can change the very fabric of creation. We need to pray for people who suffer from these disorders. We need to teach our children how perfectly God created them and let them live in the innocence of childhood.

People who tell the truth are despised, considered evil, and they are not tolerant. Well, not much has changed in 2000 years, Jesus, the ultimate truth was killed for just that, telling the truth. Good, bad or indifferent, He told the truth. We need Jesus now more than ever! We need the undeniable truth of what He has said. And Christians must cling to the truth in His word, His love, His salvation.

We are seeing the change of a lifetime. How are you going to be remembered in this time? Are you going to state the truth in love? Are you going to stand boldly in the truth of His Word? Are you going to share the Gospel to those who need to hear it? So many people who stood down on Webster street during the 40 Days for Life were cursed at, yelled at, had bottles thrown at them just for praying to end the atrocity of abortion, and they did such an amazing job under these circumstances in holding to a peaceful, prayerful, and truthful agenda. Will you be quiet as the world turns to sin? Or are you willing to bear the cross of truth?

This world needs Jesus! But how are they going to hear if no one speaks? We are called to action, and we as the Church can impact our community with a clear truthful voice.

"For the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.... See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a **kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire... So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his blood. **Therefore let us go to Him outside the camp and bear the reproach He endured.**" - Hebrews Ch. 8, 11, 12**

"We need Jesus in our lives now more than ever".

With much love and compassion to my fellow believers here at St. Matthew,

Blessings to you all,

Pastor Blaine

FAITH ✨
HOPE ✕
LOVE ♥



President's REPORT

President's Report



MEN'S RETREAT

I'd first like to remind the men of the congregation that registration is due by May 17th for the 2023 Men's Retreat is at Pioneer on the Lake, June 2 – 4. You will find registration forms at church, or by emailing George Havens (georgehavens765@gmail.com). There are several options for attending, including just attending on Saturday. There are also various lodging options at the camp to choose from if you decide to spend a night or the entire weekend. Look for more information on the topic and guest speaker in this communicator. If anyone wants a ride or carpool to this event, or would like to take others, contact Michele in the church office and we will do what we can to connect people with rides.

The concern for our school roof is growing and it will be a topic of discussion at our May **Voter's Meeting** on **May 21st**. Almost as important to as the foundation of a building is the roof. Just a small leak can cause a great amount of damage, and left unchecked it can start to allow mold to grow, and left even longer or unnoticed, and untold amounts of damage can occur. This is why there has been much discussion about the school roof for the last couple years. Tom Hromowyk has done a great job of patching and keeping the leaks at bay, but every winter we hope and pray another hole doesn't give way. The roof is almost 50 years old, and it is in need of a longer term solution. Tom will be looking into costs and options. Please plan on attending the May Voter's Meeting so you can hear all the latest information.



PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING MAY 21st





Our aging building needs a lot of attention. The school roof leads the list of concerns, but there are many others. The steeple needs attention, there are still several dead ash trees on the property, there is bee damage to some of the outdoor rafters, and the driveway to the parking lot is getting in rough shape. These are the major concerns, but there are many other items as well. Tom Hromowyk has a long list of items and it seems endless. He appreciates anybody that is willing to help. Let Tom know if you can lend him a hand.



Church EVENTS

There are several events coming up in the next couple of months. As already mentioned, the Voter's Meeting is May 21st. There is the Men's Retreat the weekend of June 4th. The Ladies Guild is also planning a pancake breakfast for Sunday, June 4th. On June 11th we will hold our annual church picnic, hopefully with an outdoor service this year. We expect that the youth will be having their slip and slide kick-ball game after we get done eating. I would encourage people to stay around and watch the youth. They have a lot of fun and it is a lot of fun to watch. The Men's picnic at Mayor's Park is June 21st. There will probably be fund raisers for the youth to help pay for their trip in August to the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter in Kentucky. As you can see, among the work there will be lots of opportunity for fun and fellowship. Please participate and stay involved, it is good for each of us and it is good for our faith.

Bill Bundy
President



**LADIES GUILD NEWS & NOTES
MAY/JUNE NEWS & NOTES**

THERE WILL BE NO MAY GUILD MEETING!

VOTERS MEETING-MAY 21ST

JUNE 2ND @ 2PM MEETING TOPIC

Traveling to beautiful Switzerland, Austria, Bavaria & Oberammergau with Janet Riggs & Ruth Pirinelli. Please join us as we enjoy the ladies travel stories and pictures.

June Committee: Janice Wiech, Mary Sansone, Dottie Lemke, Toni Durick, Sharon Lemke, Doris Matheis

SUNDAY, JUNE 4TH-PANCAKE BREAKFAST

following service. Proceeds will be used to purchase new chairs for the lower Fellowship Hall.



ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC SUNDAY, JUNE 11TH

Outdoor worship & picnic lunch, pie & dessert are needed

**LADIES GUILD RETREAT
SATURDAY, JUNE 17TH-9AM-1PM**

Topic: TBD
Pot Luck Luncheon

**ANNUAL STRAWBERRY SOCIAL
JULY'S EVENT DATE-TBD**

Carol Wilczak will be continuing to collect our \$10 St. Catherine Seminary Guild dues through the June meeting.

*Election of Guild Board Officers will also take place at the June meeting



Tank Jorg 5/7

Dave Urtel 5/19

Jan Witt 5/21



Breanna Gerner 6/1 Mikala Thursam 6/5 Florence Lindaman 6/9

Lily Jorg 6/16 Priscilla Mattheus 6/17 Joan Baroudi 6/22

Ellen Graff 6/25 Richard Engler 6/25 Jeff Reischel 6/27

If you would like to have your birthday listed in the communicator please see Gloria Haeseler or stop by the office for more information.



William & Carol Bundy 5/5

Tim & Tamara Walters 5/12

Tom & Debbie Hromowyk 5/20

Jesse & Jenna Knapp 6/7

Dale and Donna Heiser



5/18

William & Patricia Doebler 5/5

Thomas & Ann Marie Kromer 5/15

Earl & Ellen Graf 6/20

Robert & Allison Carroll 6/24

March Serving Schedule

	May 7th*	May 14th	May 21st*	May 28th
ELDERS	Siggy Barke John Patton	Pete Jaenecke Bill Olczak	Dan Wolf Joe Durick	Craig Heigl Rob Pidanck
VESTRYMEN CAPTAINS	Tom Hromowyk	Art Marshall Paul Schultz	Gary Majewski Joe Siegmann	James Fretthold Bill Bundy
USHERS	Eric Berg Justin Homowyk Mark Lemke	Jeff Binkley Charles Jaenecke Keith Schumacher	Chris Reischel Jeff Reischel Dave Wendt	Dave Urtel Tank Jorg Tim Jorg
COUNTING TEAM	Team 1 Leslie Stolzenfels Dale & Donna Heiser Karen Horrigan	Team 2 Bill Bundy Paul Schultz	Team 3 Jolie Giardino Miriam MM Paula Benedyzsak	Team 4 Wendy Binkley Sue Ridge Florence Lindaman
9:15AM GREETERS	M/M Patton	Linda Robinson	Toni Durrick Linda Pascucci	Open
SARB SERVERS	(Carol Wilczak) Sahron Engler	(Debbie Hromowyk) Lisa Ellman	Have a safe , happy spring and summer	

April Serving Schedule

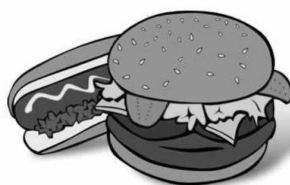
	June 4th*	June 11th	June 18*	June 25th
ELDERS	Siggy Barke John Patton	Pete Jaenecke Bill Olczak	Dan Wolf Joe Durick	Craig Heigl Rob Pidanck
VESTRYMEN CAPTAINS	Tom Hromowyk	Art Marshall Paul Schultz	Gary Majewski Joe Siegmann	James Fretthold Bill Bundy
USHERS	Eric Berg Justin Hromowyk Mark Lemke	Jeff Binkley Charles Jaenecke Keith Schumacher	Chris Reischel Jeff Reischel Dave Wendt	Dave Urtel Tank Jorg Tim Jorg
COUNTING TEAM	Team 5 Jeffrey Binkley Megan Goodwin Mike & Terry Lance	Team 6 Bill & Linda Olczak Leslie Stolzenfels Karen Horrigan	Team 1 Leslie Stolzenfels Dale & Donna Heiser Karen Horrigan	Team 2 Bill Bundy Paul Schultz
9:15AM GREETERS	M/M Olaf Stapar	Toni Durick Linda Pascucci	Carol Wilczak	M/M Siggy Barke
SARB SERVERS	NO SARB TILL FALL			

Church Picnic will be Sunday, June 11th



Bring your chairs and appetite to the Church Picnic on Sunday, June 11th right after the 11am outdoor service.

We hope you will join us for burgers, hotdogs, roast beef, summer salads, beverages.



We will be looking for donations of summer desserts this year.



Tickets will be on sale at the pavilion.



**Vestrymen's Picnic will be June 21st
more information will be in the bulletin**

WALKWAY OF MEMORIES



Randy Witt has volunteered to install the bricks purchased for the Walkway of Memories this spring. If you would like to commemorate a family birth, anniversary or the memory of a loved one by purchasing a brick please fill out the envelope on the table next to the office door, follow the instructions on the envelope, enclose your check and place it in the basket on the office desk.

Thank you for supporting the project.



I would like to express my gratitude for all the prayer support, as well as the get well cards as I continue to recover from my surgeries. Your love and caring has touched my heart and I will be forever grateful.




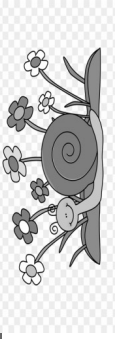
Thank you so very much, Linda Robinson



Mabel Schmeichel– was called to Glory on April 21, 2023. The funeral service was held grave side at St. Matthew Lutheran Church Cemetery on April 25, 2023. Officiant Pastor Kenneth Craig.

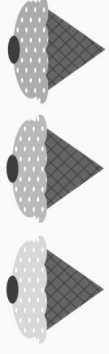
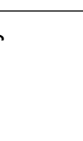
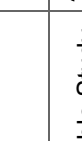
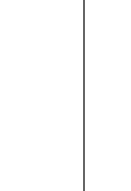
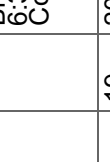

May 2023

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

Comm	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 6pm Choir 6:30:pm Conf. Class	4 10:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Elders Mtg.	5	6 Walk for Life
7: 9:15am Worship Service w/ Communion 10:30am S. School 10:30am Bible Study SARB 6pm YCC	8	9 10am Bible Brunch 6:30pm Church Council Mtg.	10 6pm Choir 6:30pm Conf. Class	11 10:30am Bible Study	12	13
14: Mothers Day 9:15am Worship Service 10:30am S. School 10:30am Bible Study SARB		16	17 6:30pm Conf. Class	18 10:30am Bible Study	19	20 6pr 
21 9:15 am Worship Service w/ Communion VOTERS MEETING 10:30am S. School 10:30am Bible Study	22	23	24 6:30pm Conf. Class	25 10:30am Bible Study	26	27
28 9:15am Worship Service 10:30am S. School 10:30am Bible Study	29	30	31 6:30pm Conf. Class			

June 2023

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

Sun	Mo	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 4 9:15am Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Pancake breakfast 10:30am S. School 10:30am Bible Study	 5 9:15am Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Pancake breakfast 10:30am S. School 10:30am Bible Study	 6 9:15am Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Pancake breakfast 10:30am S. School 10:30am Bible Study	7 9am Ladies Guild Retreat 6:30pm Conf. Class	1 10:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Elders Mtg	2 2pm-Ladies Guild Mtg Mens Retreat	3 weekend
4 9:15am Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Pancake breakfast 10:30am S. School 10:30am Bible Study	5 9:15am Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Pancake breakfast 10:30am S. School 10:30am Bible Study	6 9:15am Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Pancake breakfast 10:30am S. School 10:30am Bible Study	7 9am Ladies Guild Retreat 6:30pm Conf. Class	8 10:30 Bible Study 	9 Mens Retreat	10
11 11am Outdoor Worship Service 10:30am S. School 10:30am Bible Study Church Picnic YCC	12 11am Outdoor Worship Service 10:30am S. School 10:30am Bible Study Church Picnic YCC	13 10am Bible Brunch 6:30pm Church Council	14 6:30pm Conf. Class	15 PICNIC 10:30am Bible Study	16	17
18 Fathers Day 9:15am Worship Service w/ Holy Communion 10:30am S. School 10:30am Bible Study	19 Fathers Day 9:15am Worship Service w/ Holy Communion 10:30am S. School 10:30am Bible Study	 20	21 Vestrymen's Picnic 6:30pm Conf. Class	22 10:30am Bible Study	23 	24 6pm YCC
25 9:15am Worship Service 10:30am S. School 10:30am Bible Study	26 9:15am Worship Service 10:30am S. School 10:30am Bible Study	27 9:15am Worship Service 10:30am S. School 10:30am Bible Study	28 6:30pm Conf. Class	29 10:30am-Bible Study	30	

LIFE CORNER



Our 40 Day Prayer Vigil at Planned Parenthood in North Tonawanda was so blessed!

We started with a presentation from Michael Bonning of Compass Care on Ash Wednesday. We joined with more than 125 people from more than 20 churches to pray and offer pregnancy and parenting care. Over 2500 man hours of prayer were offered up in that 40 days that concluded on Palm Sunday with a “planting of the Palms” in the lawn where our vigil took place. Over a week later, those palms still stood as a testimony to the love brought where death is a business.

*God worked to close the doors of Planned Parenthood 3 of the 6 Saturdays we were there!

*We had loving conversations with pro abortion atheists and were able to change 10 young people’s minds.

*We passed out resources for all the available pregnancy care centers and adoption options in our area.

*We prayed with and over people on the sidewalk and gave a bible to a women in need.

*We blessed thousands of passers-by and learned what it means to proclaim the truth in love in the face of persecution.

Our successes were celebrated at a Victory Bash here at St. Matthews on April 14th. With dinner and a Praise Band “Five 14”, 135 people mingled and reminisced while others planned next steps. You can still take part by Joining our Saturday morning Prayer Warriors at 9am weekly.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart to all who took part in this life saving and soul saving mission!



SATURDAY, MAY 6 WALK LIFE

Compass Care is one of our area's most active pregnancy care centers. Assistance is given way beyond birth there and even includes sharing the gospel. Already this year more than 100 babies have been saved and much more than half of their mothers have become believers! All of their services to these women in need are FREE! To support their work we will be joining the Walk For Life this year as a part of the "Lutherans for Life of WNY" team! Each team is hosting their own walks all across New York to bring awareness to the Life issue and raise the funds needed to do their work. The goal for 2023 is to be able to serve 2x's the number of women and babies by raising \$912,000! It takes \$570 to serve one woman seriously considering abortion, so please join our team as a walker, or support a walker with your donations. Information is in the narthex, or you can call Kristen @ 231-286-8685 for details. We are praying for a large turnout to help this worthy cause.



Do you feel life is a precious gift from God no matter what stage? Join Lutherans for Life to help be God's hands and feet for his people from conception to natural death. Help God's people through:

- *Unplanned pregnancy
- *Adoption
- *Advocacy for disabled
- *Homelessness
- *Work against Euthanasia
- *Hospice
- *Ethical treatment of the elderly

And many more areas where life is vulnerable. We will begin monthly meetings in May. Please call Kristen for more info @ 231-286-8685.

Our Shut In Members

William & Patricia Doebler

Elderwood @ Wheatfield Rm# 219
2600 Niagara Falls Blvd. Niagara Falls, NY 14304
Williams Birthday-August-3rd
Patricia's Birthday-January 6th
Anniversary-May 5th
(Ellen Graf)

Carol Haak

100 Crestwood Court Apt.#217
Niagara Falls, NY 14304
Birthday-September 11th
(Linda Jasulevich)



Janice Hartwig

Elderwood @ Wheatfield
2600 Niagara Falls Blvd Rm# 317B
Niagara Falls NY 14304
Birthday-February 15th
(Linda Robinson)

Joy Jenks

100 Crestwood Court Apt. # 101
Niagara Falls, NY 14304
Birthday-January 3rd
(Ellen Graf)



Leatrice Kopec

c/o Ron Kopec
23 Great Heron Lane
Brookfield, Connecticut 06804-1739
Birthday-March 30th
(Doris Matheis)

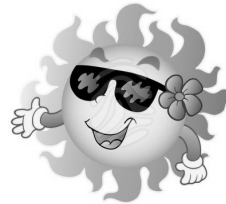


Priscilla Mattheus

Beechwood Homes at Trinity House Rm# 139
2235 Millersport Highway
Getzville, N.Y. 14068
Birthday- June 17th
(Linda Robinson)

Ora Ganschow

1334 Moll Street, North Tonawanda NY 14120
Birthday-February 22, (Doris Matheis)



Diane Piper

131 Homestead Dr.
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120
Diane's Birthday-January 14th
(Carol Wilczak)



Rod Rowland
779 Brighton Rd.
Town of Tonawanda, NY 14150
Birthday-March 10th

Janice Witt

Comprehensive Rehabilitation & Nursing Center of Williamsville Rm# 615
147 Reist St
Williamsville, NY 14221
(Gloria Haeseler)



If you wish to be on the Ladies Guild shut-in list please contact Linda Robinson at 716-622-1255.

Prayer for May/June

TAKE MY HAND

by Dottie Lemke

Take my hand Lord all through life
Walk with me through pain and strife

When I am weak and feeling low
Life me up and help me grow

Grow to be more like you in everyway
With what I do and what I say



ALTAR GUILD

*"Thy Word is a Lamp unto my
feet and a Light unto my path"*

Psalm 119:105

LITURGICAL COLORS FOR MAY

White: means light, purity,
joy and glory.

Red: indicates charity, life the
presence of the Holy Spirit.

CAPTAIN: Sharon Engler
Elli Grichen
Paula Benedyczak



LIURGICAL COLORS FOR JUNE

White: means light , purity,
joy and glory.

Green: symbolizes the hope
of eternal life.

CAPTAIN: Linda Jasulevich
Gayle Reischel
Jan Weich
Rachel Behnke



ALTAR GUILD CARD RACK

Don't forget to stop at the card
rack in the narthex to pick out a
card for that "special" person or
event. Save a trip to the store,
support the Altar Guild.

Thank you



ST. MATTHEW YOUTH CHRISTIANS FOR CHRIST

Regular Meetings 6pm to 8pm every 1st and 3rd Sunday each month.
Breanna Gerner, Youth Director - (716) 525-6953. bge-
mer22@gmail.com.

May

Sunday, May 7th – Ice Cream Party! Bring a topping for your ice cream sundae! (We have plenty of chocolate syrup) Some games will involve ice cream, and we will have crafts for Mother's Day!



Saturday, May 20th – Team Games. Team building activities, races, and puzzles! Work together to accomplish the tasks and have the best strategy to win! (Possible lock-in date)

June

Sunday 11th – Kiddie Pool Kickball! Join us for some fun after the church picnic! Like last year, we will be setting up a giant slip-n-slide course on the baseball field and playing kickball! Be sure to wear bathing suit or clothes you are willing to get wet in! (Usually around 1pm)



Saturday, June 24th – Pioneer on the Lake Trip. Parents are welcome to join us as we take a day trip up to Pioneer on the Lake! Plan to leave in the morning and spend the morning and afternoon by the water, walking the grounds, and playing games!

****July & August we will be having one event a month****

St. Matthew



St. Matthew Food Pantry is in need cereal. If you know of a neighbor, friend or family in need, please contact the church office at 716-692-6862. Thank you.



THE NORTH TONAWANDA FOOD PANTRY

Are in need of dry breakfast cereals (hot & cold) spaghetti & sauce. Thank you for your donations. Please place items in the blue box on the floor in the Quilting Room. Thank you.