

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: 716-239-1097

Email: ministry285@aol.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 716- 692-6862

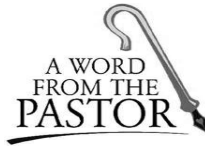
St. Matthew Lutheran Church Fax# 716-692-0242

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

Church Office	Ext. 202
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

Contact the office at St. Matthew Lutheran Church at

office@stmatthewlutheran.net



Dear Members of St. Matthew...

As we enter in to spring, we see things “coming back to life”, buds on trees, flowers popping up, grass starting to lift, and the days getting longer. What are you going to do with the extra sunlight and warmer days? What have you been putting off because it was too cold and dark? You have the opportunity for so much, as we see life blooming and growing, what are you going to bloom or grow into? What are you willing to do during this period of our lives to have a stronger bond with your Lord?

We have a golden opportunity here, we can blossom and grow no matter our age, the learning we have can always grow so much more, in the scriptures, in our devotion to our Lord, what are you willing to do with this new time? Take advantage of the time given by God to draw closer to Him in all you do.



We will have opportunities here at St. Matthew to grow, bible studies, classes, and an **extra communion service on Sunday evening at 7pm starting March 2nd.** Find a way to use your talents, we will have a congregational meeting for all of us to voice where we would like to see the church develop, bring ideas, no matter how crazy they may seem. It's time for our church to grow and be a beacon of hope.

I pray this spring will not only see nature grow, but for you to grow and mature in faith and devotion to God. I look forward to seeing this growth, and leading this church to grow in faith, hope and love.

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

Blessings to you all,

Pastor Blaine



GROW IN CHRIST

OUTREACH INFORMATION

Thank you to everyone that donated to this year's Hospice Bouquet Sale! Through your generosity, we are able to support Niagara Hospice as they continue their mission of "providing the right care, in the right place, at the right time." Information will be coming soon on additional ways that we can support this wonderful organization.



The first of our special theme months in support of Operation Christmas Child has been a success! Thanks to all that donated money and/or items for Fishy February. Stay tuned for more information on our next month, Musical March!



Please join us on Saturday mornings from 9am-1pm as we work together on various outreach projects. This is a very informal and fun way for us to spend time with our church family, and to make a positive difference in the lives of others as God has called us to do.

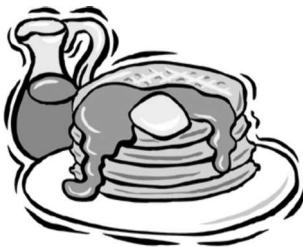
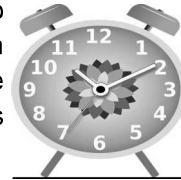


Please contact Kim Binkley with any questions at 716-909-6310.



President's REPORT

It seems the winter has gone faster than I expected this year. Our Voter's meeting was rescheduled for March because the bad weather caused us to cancel the Sunday service in February. Hopefully the weather won't cause any more cancellations, but we need to be sure it is safe to enter the parking lot. The cold and snow seemed to go on and on, but here we are at the beginning of March and the warmer weather will soon start to peek through. The days are noticeably longer and the clocks will be changing.



The ladies are planning a fellowship pancake breakfast at the end of March, and Easter will be served as a continental breakfast, like last year. With Easter falling late in April this year, we hope to have some really nice weather for our Easter service and breakfast. Be sure to attend the events and enjoy the fellowship with each other.

The Lutheran Hour Ministries – Eastern District Men's Retreat registration forms will be available soon. This year's topic will be “My Church – My Community”, and will be led by our LCMS Eastern District President Dr John Pingel. I encourage any of the men in the congregation to consider attending. I hope each year we can get a couple more men from our church to come. You can attend for just the day on Saturday, or stay over in one of the many cabin options available. Please see the registration form for more details. Watch the bulletin for more information. Even men who are not members of an LCMS church are welcome, so you can invite a friend. These retreats are always informative and fun, and are a good chance to get away and recharge your faith and fellowship with others. 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 try to connect people with rides.





Thrivent Financial
"Choice Dollars"

If you are a Thrivent member, don't forget to allocate any Thrivent Dollars you may have to allocate from 2024. You only have until March 31st to designate them. Choice Dollars are your way of directing some of the money Thrivent sets aside for charity. You can do this by phone or online. See notices in the bulletin for details. Thrivent will designate any unallocated funds in the 2024 Choice Dollars program to organizations they choose.



Please continue to share your photos for the Thanksgiving service. It's never too early to send pictures. I have received a few already, and I will continue to accumulate them throughout the year. Send your pictures to wbundy02@gmail.com. (Please remember my new email address.) When sending photos, try to send the original and do not reduce the size. Ask me for help if you are having trouble with this.

Bill Bundy

President



Howard J. Carlson was called home to God on January 2, 2025.
A memorial service was held at John O. Roth Funeral Home with
service of burial at St. Matthew Lutheran Cemetery.
Officiants, Pastor Blaine Jorg and Pastor Kenneth Craig



MARCH & APRIL LADIES GUILD NEWS & NOTES

THERE WILL BE NO MARCH GUILD MEETING

But we invite you all to join us for our special event –

**PANCAKE & EGG CASSEROLE BREAKFAST
SUNDAY, MARCH 30TH**

(Immediately following the worship service)



MENU: Pancakes, Egg Casseroles, Sausage, Juice, Coffee & Tea

There will be a '**FREE WILL**' offering taken and the proceeds will benefit the Carpet Fund for replacement of the carpet in the lower Fellowship Hall.

So, mark your calendars and join us for a hot breakfast and to enjoy some fellowship!

The Breakfast will be sponsored by the Ladies Guild.
Breakfast Chairman is Miriam Moldenhauer-Majewski.
Please contact her with any questions.

THERE WILL BE NO LENTEN DINNERS THIS YEAR

THANK YOU to everyone who attended our February 7th **TASTING PARTY** meeting. I have been told that there was a very tasty assortment of main course dishes and desserts to sample.

If by chance you didn't remember to bring along a copy of your items recipe, please give it to Linda Robinson so that it can be included in the next **TASTING PARTY COOK BOOK**.

Looking out my window today watching the wind blow the snow about and wondering just how long it will be before we see green grass again, it's hard to believe that now I am going to write about our Spring April Guild meeting!

APRIL 4, 2025
SALAD BAR LUNCHEON
12:00 PM (NOON)



We are going to invite the ladies from our sister congregations to join us for this luncheon. Please feel free to spread the word to your friends in our other churches that we would like them to attend.

We are asking our Guild members to bring a salad of your choice to be served at the luncheon. (Like we do for a Pot Luck, but only salads). The Committee will be responsible for the dessert & drinks.

COMMITTEE: Gloria Haeseler, Sandy Moesch, Carol Wilczak, Linda Pascucci, Rachel Behnke

KITCHEN SHOWER – items will also be collected at this meeting to restock our kitchen. (ex. Paper Towels, Dawn dish soap, Coffee, Quart & Gallon Zip Lock bags), etc.



CONTINENTAL EASTER BREAKFAST
SUNDAY, APRIL 20TH – 9:00 AM

We will be serving Coffee Cakes, Muffins, Pastries, Fresh Fruit, Juice, Coffee, Tea, Water
If you are able to donate any of these items it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank You, Linda Robinson (Chairman)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS WILL BE HELD AT THIS MEETING

ST. CATHARINES GUILD DAY

Saturday, April 26, 2025

If you would like to attend, please see Carol Wilczak for details.

March Serving Schedule

	March 2th* & March 5th Ash Wed	March 9th & March 12th	March 16th* & March 19th	March 23rd & March 26th	March 30th & April 2nd
ELDERS	Dan Wolf Joe Durick	Craig Heigl Rob Pldanick	Siggy Barke John Patton	Pete Jaenecke Bill Olczak	Dan Wolf Joe Durick
VESTRYMEN CAPTAINS	Joe Siegmann	Bill Bundy	Tom Hromowyk	Art Marshall Paul Schultz	Joe Siegmann
USHERS	Chris Reischel Jeff Reischel Dave Wendt	Dave Urtel Tank Jorg Tim Jorg	Justin Hromowyk Mark Lenke	Jeff Binkley Keith Schumacher	Chris Reischel Jeff Reischel Dave Wendt
COUNTING TEAM	Team 6 Bill & Linda Olczak Leslie Stolzenfels Karen Horrigan	Team 1 Leslie Stolzenfels Dale & Donna Heiser Karen Horrigan	Team 2 Bill Bundy Paul Schultz	Team 3 Jolie Giardo Miriam M/M Paula Benedyszak	Team 4 Wendy Binkley Sue Ridge Florence Lindaman
9:15AM GREETERS	M/M Patton	Linda Robinson	Toni Durrick Linda Pascucci	Joe Durick	Debbie Kenney
SARB	Sharon E *	Lisa E*	Sandy P*	Sheryl E*	Sandy M*
SERVERS	Mary S	Debbie H	Rachel B	Carol W	Linda R

April Serving Schedule

	April 6th* & April 9th	April 13th & April 17th Maundy Thursday	April 18th Good Friday	April 20th* Easter Sunday	April 27th
ELDERS	Craig Heigl Rob Pidanic	Siggy Barke John Patton	Pete Jaencke Bill Olczak	Dan Wolf Joe Durick	Craig Heigl Rob Pidanic
VESTRYMEN CAPTAINS	Bill Bundy	Tom Hromowyk	Art Marshall Paul Schultz	Joe Siegmann	Bill Bundy
USHERS	Dave Urtel Tank Jorg Tim Jorg	Justin Hromowyk Mark Lenke	Jeff Binkley 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	Team 3 Jolie Giardo Miriam M/M Paula Benedyczak
9:15AM GREETERS	M/M Stapar	Toni Durick Linda Pascucci	Carol Wilczak	M/M Siggy Barke	Open
SARB SERVERS	Sheryl E Carol W*	Sandy M* Linda R	NO SARB	NO SARB	Sharon E* Mary S

Life Corner

YA for Life is a youth organization within **Lutherans for Life**. There will be a YA for Life event in Austin, TX for teens Friday, March 21-Sunday, March 23. Want to bring up godly sons and daughters? Contact Kristen at 231-286-8685 or go to YAforlife.org

Our local chapter of LFL meets at First Trinity. If you would like to help us plan and organize projects for 2025, please join us on alternating Monday evenings at 5:45. I am happy to carpool down and back.

40 Days for Life

A woman in your city woke up this morning and took a pregnancy test.

It came back positive, and now she has a decision to make: life or death? A heartbeat... or a heartbreak?

What if you could do something to help?

You CAN!

Join more than 1 Million volunteers from around the world by praying in front of your local abortion facility during the **March 5 - April 13 40 Days for Life vigil.**

Our North Tonawanda group will have a kickoff onsite **Tuesday, March 4, at 15 Webster Street at 3 pm.** We need prayer partners from 7 am to 7 pm Monday - Saturday. If your child needs service hours for school, this is a fantastic opportunity to help our neighbors as well as shape your children. Please sign up at the table under the Lutherans for Life bulletin board in the narthex for a weekly time slot to pray and stand in the gap at the place of decision. Call Kristen with any questions at 231-286-8685.

Don't get mad about the headlines, do something!

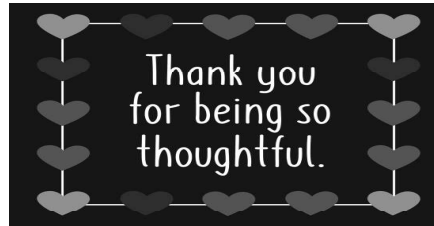
"Did not He who made me in the womb make them? Did not the same one form us both within our mothers?"

Job 31:15

Blessings!

Kristen

K



Dear St. Matthew Lutheran Church,, Thank you so much for the beautiful gift bags provided to our patients at Christmas. We at Niagara Hospice truly believe in maximizing moments for our patients & their loved ones in the time they have left. Your generosity helped us do exactly that! Many thanks for your hard work & support! With gratitude, Karrie Gibhardt.

Dear members of St. Matthew,

Thank you for your prayers and kindness to me during my lengthy illness. Thank you Pastors Blaine and Craig, Michele, Ladies Guild and Elders. Your cards, phone calls and visits were so thoughtful and appreciated very much. God bless our dear church and all of you. Happy New Year!

In Christian love Doris Matheis

Terry Lance would like to thank our members for their prayers, cards, calls & visits during her surgery and rehab.



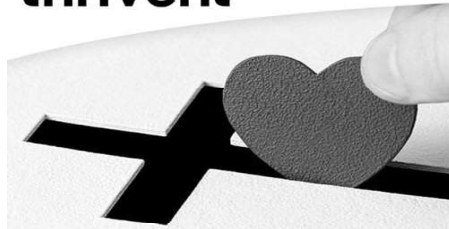
Merry Christmas & Happy 2025 to your congregation! Thank you very much for the monetary gifts your congregation has sent me. I really appreciate them and will be of great assistance to me in my studies. May the peace and joy we share in Christ be with you this coming year and in the future years to come. God's Blessing to you, Andrew Hayes



Thrivent Financial for Lutherans®

Now is the time to designate your portion of Choice Dollars from 2024. You only have until March 31st. You can call Thrivent Member Care Services at 800-847-4836. You can also assign your choice Dollars on the website. After you log in, there is a large button in the left column that says Direct Choice Dollars. Choice Dollars are a part of Thrivent's charitable giving program, and are your way to support our church. After March 31st, any money left in Choice Dollars programs may be directed or spent at Thrivent's discretion.

thrivent®



*W*HEN WE PUT
OUR PROBLEMS IN
GOD'S HANDS,
HE PUTS HIS PEACE IN
OUR HEARTS.



March Birthdays

3/5 Lindsay Ann Urtel Bozek

3/7 Dottie Lemke

3/21 Nancy Meyenhofer

3/22 Toni Durick



April Birthdays

4/8 Emily Thursam

4/13 Linda Robinson







4/3 Richard & Sharon Engler

4/4 John & Eleanor Grichen




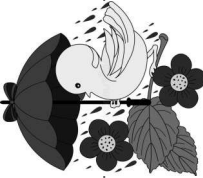
4/26 Richard & Lynn Siegmann

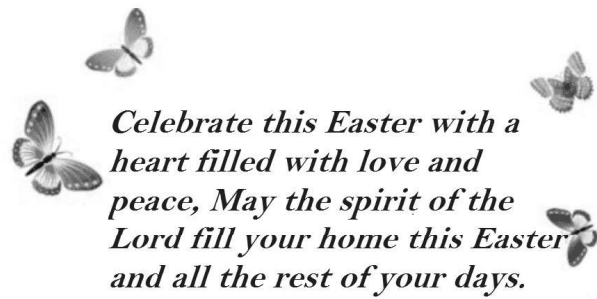
If you would like to have your birthday listed in the communicator please see Gloria Haeseler or stop by the office for more information.

March 2025 St. Matthew Lutheran Church

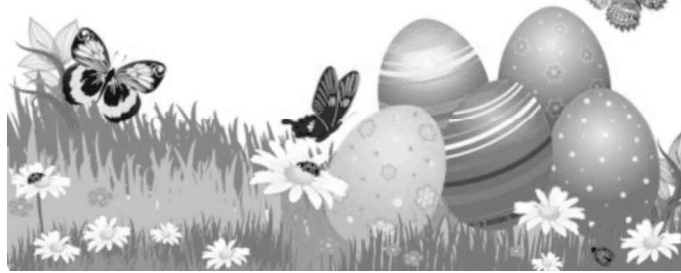
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:15 am Worship Service w/ Communion 10:30am Bible Study, SARB 7:00pm Evening Service	3	4 <i>The Season of Lent</i> 	5 7:00pm Ash Wed Service	6 10:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Elders Meeting	7	8 9am-Outreach Saturdays
9 Daylight Saving Time 9:15 am Worship Service 10:30am Altar Guild Mtg. 10:30am Bible Study SARB	10	11 10:00am Bible Brunch 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	12 5:45pm Choir 7:00pm Lenten Service	13 10:30am Bible Study	14 	15
16 9:15 am Worship Service w/ Communion 10:30 Bible Study SARB, YCC	17	18	19 5:45pm Choir 7:00pm Lenten Service	20 10:30am Bible Study	21	22
23 9:15 am Worship Service 10:30am Bible Study SARB	24	25 	26 5:45pm Choir 7:00pm Lenten Service	27 10:30am Bible Study	28	29 
30 Pancake & Egg Breakfast 9:15am Worship Service 10:30am Bible Study SARB	31					

April 2025 St. Matthew Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 6 9:15 am Worship Service w Communion 10:30am Bible Study SARB, YCC 7:00pm Evening Service	7 9:15 am Worship Service w Communion 10:30am Bible Study SARB, YCC 7:00pm Evening Service	8 10am Bible Brunch 6:30pm Church Council Mtg	9 5:45pm Choir 7:00pm Lenten Service	10 10:30am Bible Study	11 	12
13 Palm Sunday 9:15am Worship Service 10:30am Bible Study SARB	14 15 	16 5:45pm Choir	17 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service	18 7:00pm Good Fri Service	19	
20 Easter Sunday Continental Breakfast 9:30 am Worship Service w/ Communion 10:30am Bible Study	21 22 23 5:45pm Choir	24 10:30am Bible Study	25 	26 St. Cath- arines Guild Day		
27 9:15 am Worship Service 10:30am Bible Study SARB, YCC	28 29 30 5:45pm Choir					

A decorative arrangement of several butterflies in various sizes and orientations, scattered around the central text.

Celebrate this Easter with a heart filled with love and peace, May the spirit of the Lord fill your home this Easter and all the rest of your days.



Lent

A row of five square icons representing Lenten practices: a cross, a palm frond, a chalice and host, a pair of scissors cutting a piece of fabric, and another cross.

Ash Wednesday, March 5th-worship service will be at 7:00pm and the following Wednesday's in Lent; 12th, 19th, 26th, April 2nd, 9th

Palm Sunday, April 13th 9:15am

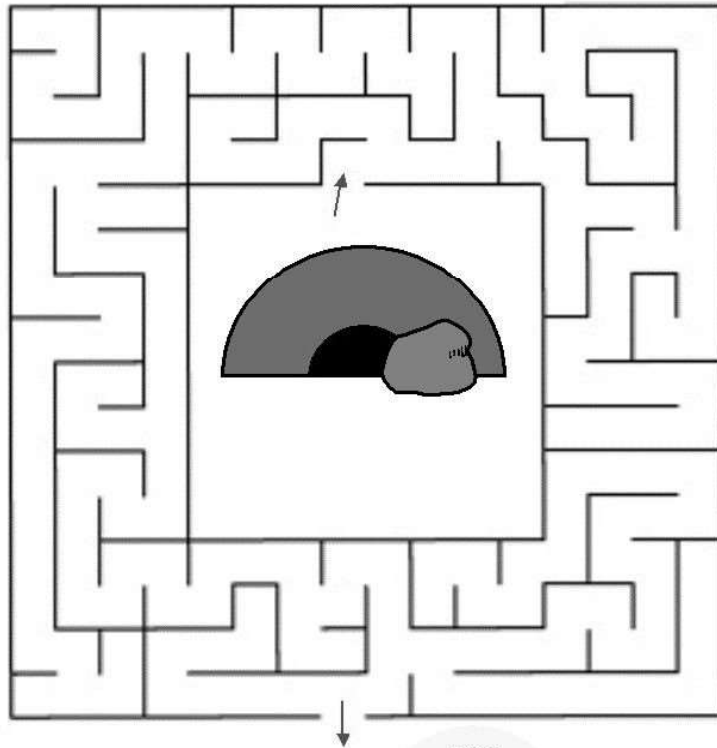
Monday Thursday 17th 7:00pm

Good Friday, 18th 7:00pm

Easter Sunday April 20th **9:30am**

Easter Maze

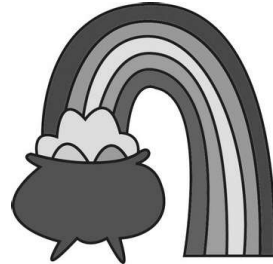
Help Jesus find his way out of the tomb so he can tell the disciples He's Alive!



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

Brookdale Niagara Rm#10
6751 Nash Road
North Tonawanda, NY 14120
Birthday-September 11th
(Linda Jasulevich)



Joy Jenks

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



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

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Doris Matheis

Sandra Lane Apts-Apt #139
North Tonawanda NY, 14120
Birthday-February 23rd



Florence Lindaman

1110Payne Avenue Apt #132
North Tonawanda, NT 14120
Birthday-May 6th

Tom Essenburg

285 Roberts Drive
North Tonawanda NY, 14120
Birthday-January 9th

Sharon Lemke

1227 East Robinson St
North Tonawanda NY 14120
Birthday-April 4th



Schalley Rambath

Brookdale Senior Living Rm#510
6751 Nash Road
North Tonawanda, NY 14120
Birthday-April 21st

STUDENT'S ARTWORK FEATURED ON BILLBOARD

Congratulations to Middle School student,

Skylar Rose Smith, who won the Design a Billboard contest through CHANT (Community Health Alliance of North Tonawanda), CHANT, funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, aims to foster healthy youth development and contribute to a healthy community for all NT citizens. The billboard was featured on Webster Street with its message "Keep NT Vape Free".



If you would like to have a poem, joke or thought in the communicator please contact the office at 716-692-6862 or email to office@stmatthewlutheran.net.

ALTAR GUILD

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

Psalm 119:105

LITURGICAL COLORS FOR MARCH

BLACK: is for sorrow and
mourning

VIOLET: is the color of sorrow
and suffering.

CAPTAIN: Mary Sansone*
Gloria Haeseler
Sheryl Essenburg



LIURGICAL COLORS FOR APRIL

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

WHITE: means light, purity and
glory.

BLACK; is for sorrow and
mourning.

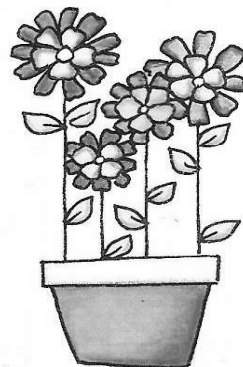
CAPTAIN: Donna Hutton*
Florence Lindaman
Linda Davidson



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



thinking of you

St. Matthew

FOOD PANTRY



St. Matthew Food Pantry is in need of soups, canned fruit and paper products. **Please place the items in the bushel basket in the narthex.** 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

**Is open 8:30am 12:30pm Mon-Fri
for deliveries on 100 Ridge Street, NT,
716-692-8552**

The North Tonawanda Food Pantry is in need of items for Easter dinner; canned sweet potatoes, canned veggies, boxed potatoes, cake mixes and brownie mixes . They are always in need of shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes and deodorant (personal care items). **Please place items in the blue bin in the Quilting Room.** Thank you for your generosity.

St. Matthew YCC - Young Christians for Christ
Regularly 2 times a month from 6-8
Breanna Gerner, Youth Director – (716) 525-6953,
bgerner22@gmail.com

March

Ms. Breanna is unavailable in March, Bill Bundy will run the 16th

16th - Hawaiian Night

Hawaiian themed games, Limbo, and Lei's! If you have any Hawaiian gear, wear or bring it along!



April



1st and 4th Sunday meetings due to Easter


6th - Easter Egg Hunt

Join us for an egg hunt around the building! Feel free to bring your own basket/bag, optional.

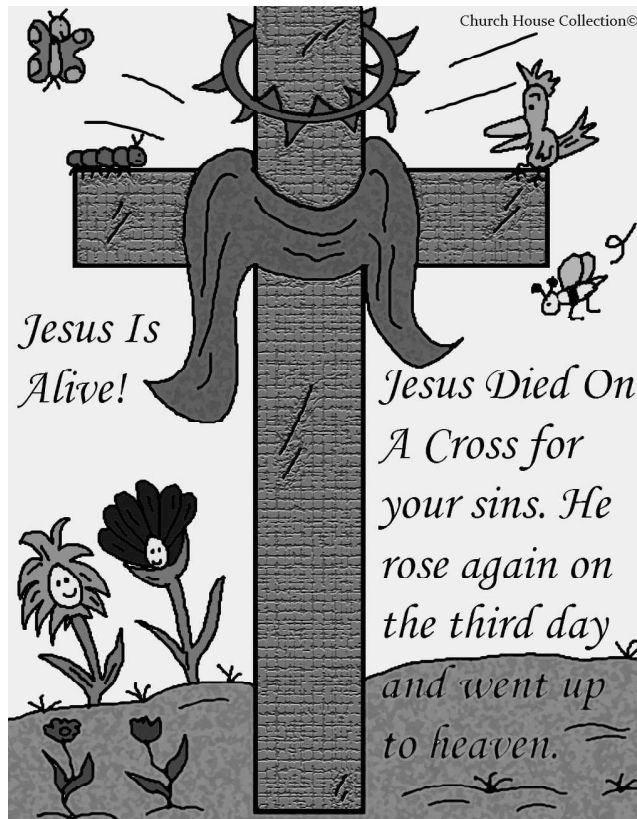
27th - Nerf Wars

Nerf games of all sorts, bring your own gun (optional). obstacles in the gym for a "battlefield" type style of game play.





Walking
in the
Footsteps
of
Christ



Color this picture and share with a friend or someone you love

