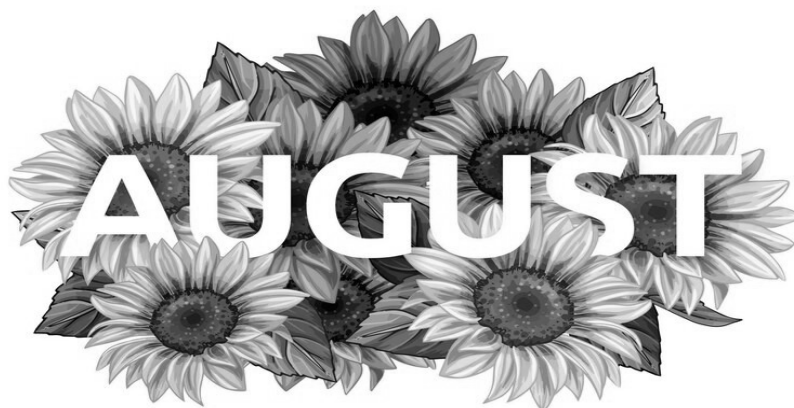


THE COMMUNICATOR

JULY/AUGUST

2025



ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH
875 Eggert Drive, North Tonawanda, New York 14120
Pastor R. Blaine Jorg
716-239-1097 cell
716-692-6862 church office

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@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 716- 692-6862

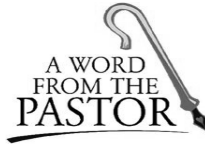
St. Matthew Lutheran Church Fax# 716-692-0242

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...

Its amazing to me that not that long ago we were thinking, "Oh I can't wait until it gets warmer, I'm over this cold weather." Yet now we are firmly in the middle of the year and we realize just how quickly this year is passing by. We are so looking forward to the change of seasons, and now by the time July arrives, we realize we are closer to Christmas then we realize, our salvation is the same... how we look into our lives and see that, we too are Closer to our end (for most of us) then we are to our birth. We couldn't wait until we were old enough to drive! And now we've been driving for years, we couldn't wait for all those mile stones, being 21, getting married, raising children, and yet now our children have children. Life is full of milestones, major events, and accomplishments, and for most of us, we now look back at all of these.

LIFE ISN'T A MATTER OF MILESTONES, BUT OF MOMENTS

Paul tells us in Romans 13:11 "Be awake out of sleep, for now salvation is nearer than when we first believed." Someday all of us will cease to exist here on earth, we will leave our friends and family and face our own mortality, and yet none of us know when this is going to happen. Paul reminds us "Memento Mori" we just don't know when this is going to happen. So be prepared, even though we will cease to exist on this planet, we will continue to exist forever with our God. And we will stand before Him and give an account of all of our actions here in our current life, and thanks be to God that we are His, we are His children, we are His beloved, we are His chosen people pulled out of darkness and brought into His beautiful light by His grace through faith in His beloved Son our savior Jesus. So as we continue through this beautiful thing called life, that our God has so graciously given to us, and since we do not know when our existence will come to an end, we joyfully stay connected to our God, we repent, we worship, we love and our loved. May the God of all comfort, comfort us in all our ways, and remain in His blessings and receive His great reward of eternal life.

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

Blessings to you all,

Pastor Blaine





Dear Committee Heads,

I am asking for your corporation on getting your articles for the Communicator into the office on or before the date stated in the bulletin. The notification is in the bulletin two weeks before the date it is due, yet some articles do not get to the office until days later. With that being said, starting in September if I do not receive the articles by the date stated in the bulletin, which is the 15th of the month, before the next Communicator is due, your section of the bulletin will be blank. I will not text, email or call to remind you the articles are due. It may be helpful to mark you calendars or phones of the date due.

Thank you for your attention to this matter

Michele



Joy Jenks was called home to God on June 18, 2025.
Visitation will be held here at St. Matthew Lutheran Church on
Wednesday, June 25, 2025 from 10am -12pm, with a service to
follow at 12:00pm. Pastor Blaine Jorg will Officiate.
Internment will be at St. Matthew Lutheran Cemetery.



President's Report

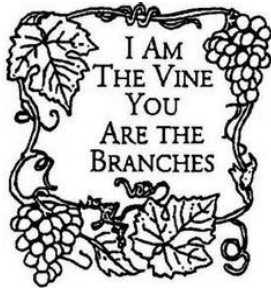
In May, our voter's approved two items. The first approval was given to repair the drains on the school wing flat roof, which we expect will solve the roof leak problems. Repairs are yet to be made as of this article, but we expect they will be done soon. Also approved was a contract modification and extension of the Pro Training lease agreement. Some minor modifications were made with the payment terms and hours, and an additional 3 year option was added.



At the end of May, I attended the Men's Retreat at Pioneer on the Lake. The topic was "My Church, My Community" and centered on a church's relationship both inside and outside the building. The focus was how a church needs to know it's community, and discussing how that community affects the mission focus of the church and encouraging people to be in church and in a relationship with our God. As this year's retreat closed, plans were already being discussed for next year. We may already have a speaker for next year. Watch for details in the coming months and please consider attending next year, which will be May 29, 30 & 31, 2026.

The church picnic was a great success this year. Many people gathered to assemble the tent the Saturday before, and help get the pavilion ready. On Sunday, the weather was nice, not too hot and no rain until much later in the day. After we enjoyed the food, the youth enjoyed a slip and slid obstacle course. Also, many people hung around to help take down the tent after people were done eating. We had so much help, the tent was completely down and put away in about 10 minutes. Thanks to all who helped with setup, cooking and serving, and helped clean-up afterwards. It makes the picnic more enjoyable when everyone plays a part.

**Thank you
for all your
HELP!**



As you heard during the Father's Day service, the group formerly known as Outreach, is now called Vine and Branches. Please consider participating in a part of the groups activities, especially as they add more activities. Fellowship with each other is important, because it is also a time when we evangelize to each other. That fellowship and evangelism serves to support each other and strengthen our faith.



During the summer months, it is our tradition to take a break from regular meetings and business. I look forward to being involved with the youth this summer on their activities. It is a great group of youth. I also look forward to our Strawberry Social, which will be August 10th and be just like our picnic, with an 11am service. Afterwards there will be food and strawberry desserts. Be sure to enjoy the activities during our summer break.

Please continue to share your photos for the Thanksgiving service. It's never too early to send pictures. Send your pictures to wbundy02@gmail.com. Remember, 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

LADIES GUILD NEWS & NOTES JULY & AUGUST 2025

Greetings to all our members for a safe & blessed
Summertime with family & friends!



Our June meeting concluded with the Election of Officers for the 2025-2026 work year. The current Board of Officers have agreed to continue serving for the upcoming year. They are:

President – Ellen Graf

Vice President – Donna Heiser

Secretary – Carol Wilczak

Treasurer – Linda Pascucci

Advisor to the Board – Linda Robinson

Publicity – Dottie Lemke & Linda Robinson

Stewardship Representative – Toni Durick



Many “Thanks” to Kathy Gibson for presenting the Topic:” Getting to Know” at our Annual Ladies Guild Retreat on Saturday, June 21st. It was a wonderful day of fellowship and being in the Word. And thank you to everyone who attended and brought food to share for our lunch. It was a great day of fun in the Son!

Also, thank you to everyone who provided desserts & salads for the Church Picnic on June 8th.

**ANNUAL STRAWBERRY SOCIAL
SUNDAY, AUGUST 10TH**



The day will begin with our **Worship Service**
outdoors starting at 11:00 A.M.

The Strawberry Social will follow with Hot Dogs & Hamburgers
being served at the Pavillion
along with all things Strawberry!

Please join us for worship & fellowship and bring along some friends to join
in the fun as well

ST. CATHARINES SEMINARY GUILD DUES

Will be collected in September by Carol Wilczak (our Guild Representative)
The fee is \$10.00 and membership is open to anyone who would like to join.
Please see Carol for details. Thank You

**CARIBBEAN CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION
MISSION PROJECT**

By God's amazing grace we hope to continue our support of CCF this Fall.
If you wish to contribute, please contact Linda Robinson.
Our yearly goal has been \$900.00. That amount would support
3 students for the upcoming school year.
It is our hope & prayer to continue this mission. Thank You

***IF YOU HAVE ANY PROGRAM OR MEETING TOPICS YOU WOULD
LIKE TO SHARE FOR OUR UPCOMING WORK YEAR, PLEASE TALK TO
ONE OF OUR BOARD MEMBERS. THANK YOU**

July Serving Schedule

	July 6th *	July 13th	July 20th*	July 27th	
ELDERS	Pete Jaenecke Bill Olczak	Dan Wolf Joe Durick	Craig Heigl Rob Pidanick	Siggy Barke John Patton	
VESTRYMEN CAPTAINS	Art Marshall Paul Schultz	Joe Siegmann	Bill Bundy	Tom Hromowyk	
USHERS	Jeff Binkley Keith Schumacher	Chris Reischel Jeff Reischel Dave Wendt	Dave Urtel Tank Jorg Tim Jorg	Justin Hromowyk Mark Lemke	
COUNTING TEAM	Team 1 Leslie Stollenfels Dale & Donna Heiser Karen Horrigan	Team 2 Bill Bundy Paul Schultz	Team 3 Jolie Giardo Miriam M/M Paula Benedyszak	Team 4 Wendt Binkley* Sue Ridge Florence Lindaman	
9:15AM GREETERS	M/M Patton	Linda Robinson	Toni Durrick Linda Pascucci	Joe Durick	
SARB SERVERS	HAVE	A	GREAT	SUMMER	

August Serving Schedule

	August 3rd*	August 10th	August 17th*	August 24th	August 31st			
ELDERS	Pete Jaencke Bill Olczak	Dan Wolf Joe Durick	Craig Heigl Rob Pidanick	Siggy Barke John Patton	Pete Jaencke Bill Olczak			
VESTRYMEN CAPTAINS	Art Marshall Paul Schultz	Joe Siegmann	Bill Bundy	Tom Hromowyk	Art Marshall Paul Schultz			
USHERS	Jeff Binkley Keith Schumacher	Chris Reischel Jeff Reischel Dave Wendt	Dave Urtel Tank Jorg Tim Jorg	Justin Hromowyk Mark Lenke	Jeff Binkley Keith Schumacher			
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 Benedyszak			
9:15AM GREETERS	M/M Stapar	Toni Durick Linda Pascucci	Carol Wilczak	M/M Siggy Barke	Debbie Kenney			
SARB SERVERS	HAVE	A	GREAT	SUMMER				

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

FAMILY

*Where Life Begins
& Love Never Ends*

Watch for updates from



in the bulletins

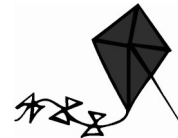
DID YOU EVER NOTICE?

A lot of Christians are like wheelbarrows
-no good unless they are pushed.



Some are like canoes-they need to be paddled.

Some are like kites-if you don't keep them on a string,
they fly away.



Some are like footballs-you can't tell which way they
bounce next.

Some are like balloons-full of wind and ready
to blow up.



And then, for which we thank the Lord, some Christians
are like good watches: open-faced, pure gold, quietly busy
and full of good works.





THANK YOU from the Board of Fellowship

A big **THANK YOU** to all who helped with this year's annual picnic!

Thank you to all the guys who set up the tent on Saturday and then went to the lower hall to move tables/chairs, bookshelves back into place.

Thank you to all Ladies Guild who cleaned the pavilion and set up.
Thank you to the Weed and Feed Team for all the work done on the grounds, and planting flowers.

Thank you, Bill Olczak and Leslie Stolzenfels for selling tickets; and the Ladies Guild for taking care of all the desserts and salads that were donated. Thank you to ALL who helped with clean up in the pavilion, and taking the tent down, putting the tables and chairs away.

THANK YOU LORD for providing dry time for service, picnic, and all clean up complete, before the rain came!





Megan Goodwin 7/6

Gloria Haeseler 7/15

Kristen Jorg 7/25

Ryan Baroudi 7/30

Leah Urtel 8/3

Donna Hutton 8/8

Tim Jorg 8/11

Dr. Lisa Ann Haeseler 8/17

Michael Meyerhofer 8/22

Karl Robinson 8/30



Paul & Lynda Schultz 4/3

Dave & Kelly Urtel 4/3

Danielle & Matthew Cherry 7/8

Olaf & Gail Stapar 7/11

John & Sandy Patton 7/28

Jessica & Colin Morrow 7/31

Jeffrey & Wendy Binkley 8/4

Jon & Michele Siegmann 8/5

Mario & Cindy DeMarchis 8/7

Michael & Terry Lance 8/19

Siggy & Judy Barke 8/25

Lorna & Bob Burton 8/27





Lora & Ron Waliszewski 8/27

Casey & Beth Gordon 8/31

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

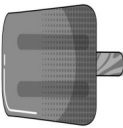
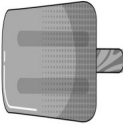
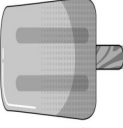
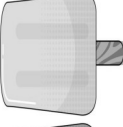
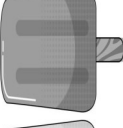




July 2025

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

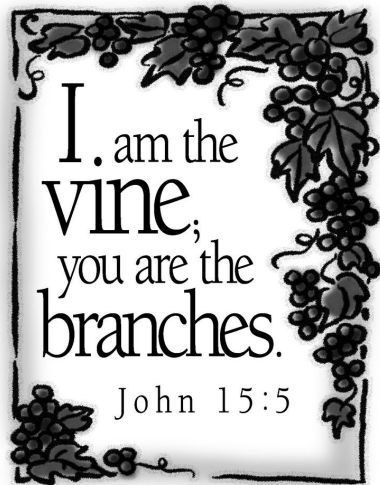
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3			5 9am-Vines & Branches Saturdays
6 9:15 am Worship Service w/ Communion	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 9:15 am Worship Service	14	15	16 	17 10am YYC Darien Lake Day	18	19
20 9:15 am Worship Service w/ Communion	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 9:15 am Worship Service	28	29	30	31 		

August 2025

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 9am Vine & Branches Saturdays
3 9:15am Worship Service w/ Communion	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 11AM WORSHIP SERVICE STRAWBERRY SOCIAL	11 	12	13	14	15 	16
17 9:15 am Worship Service w/ Communion	18	19	20	21 10am YCC Buffalo Zoo Day	22	23
24 9:15 am Worship Service	25	26	27 	28	29	30 
31 9:15am Worship Service						

Vine and Branches



The Outreach Group has a new name! Based on the Bible verse John 15:5, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." We will be continuing to support both Operation Christmas Child and Niagara Hospice and are looking forward to "branching out" with our social ministry.

Thanks to all that donated to our Operation Christmas Child "Mixed Bag May," and for your current donations for "Jumpin' Jacks and Jewelry June." Stay tuned for Christmas in July, and the theme for August!

We are also planning to send some summer themed items to Niagara Hospice. More information will be coming for ways that you can donate in future bulletins and at the table at the back of the Narthex.

Please consider joining us in The Treehouse, our newly named room, that we use as the center of activity, laughter and fun. We are there from 9:00am-1:00pm on Saturdays. Stop in anytime and check it out, spend some time working on our various projects, (these aren't just crafts!) and enjoy some yummy snacks.

We are so excited to now be called Vine and Branches, as there are so many things that this name can symbolize. First and foremost, the Vine represents Jesus, who died on a tree to rescue us. If we stay rooted in Him, as we branch out to help others, our work will be blessed and bring joy to our Heavenly Father. The vine can also symbolize the root of our church and our history. As we continue in our spiritual growth, and our growth moving forward as a church family, we can branch out, each as a unique individual, using the talents and blessings that God has given us to be a blessing in the lives of others.

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

Looking forward to seeing you at The Treehouse!

7 STEPS TO A JOY- FILLED, BLESSED LIFE

- Make God a Part of Your Everyday Life
- Be Good to People
- Have a Positive Attitude
- Stay in Peace
- Focus on God's Promise, Not the Problem
- Have a Spirit of Abundance
- Live with Confidence

Submitted by Robert Pidanic



Our Shut In Members



William & Patricia Doebler

Elderwood @ Wheatfield Rm# 344
2600 Niagara Falls Blvd. Niagara Falls, NY 14304
Williams Birthday-August-3rd
Patricia's Birthday-January 6th
Anniversary-May 5th
(Ellen Graf)

Carol Haak

Elderwood @ Wheatfield-Memory Care
2600 Niagara Falls Blvd. Rm#1198
Niagara Falls, NY 14304
Birthday-September 11th
(Linda Jasulevich)



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

1110 Payne 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





Prayer
is not just at
the church--
Sometime
it is an all day
Conversation
with *God.*

SMS

ALTAR GUILD

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

Psalm 119:105

LITURGICAL COLORS FOR JULY

GREEN; symbolizes the hope of
eternal life.

CAPTAIN: Ellen Graf*
Carol Wilczak
Lisa Ellman



LIURGICAL COLORS FOR AUGUST

GREEN; symbolizes the hope of
eternal life

CAPTAIN: Dottie Lemke*
Linda Pascucci
Toni Durick



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

FOOD PANTRY



St. Matthew Food Pantry is in need of mayonnaise, soups, canned carrots and corn, pancake syrup, ketchup and paper towels. **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 10:00am 12:30pm Mon-Fri
for deliveries on 100 Ridge Street, NT,
716-692-8552**

The North Tonawanda Food Pantry is in need of quick meals/sides: hamburger/tuna helper, rice a roni, flavored rice. 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
Regular Meetings 6pm to 8pm once a month in the summer
Breanna Gerner, Youth Director – (716) 525-6953,
bgerner22@gmail.com



Thursday July 17th - Darien Lake Trip!!

Meet in the Church parking lot by 10am for departure, we will return around 7pm. Tickets are about \$40 online right now, but will likely go up as we get closer to the date. Please let Ms. Breanna know ASAP who is planning on attending so I can purchase tickets in advance need be. Bill Bundy will be joining us and any parents are also welcome to come! Pizza will be provided for lunch, but please remember to bring extra cash or prepaid card to purchase drinks/snacks/games.

Darien Lake is now cashless, a prepaid card can be purchased at the park for a small fee.



Thursday August 21st - Buffalo Zoo!

Trip to the Buffalo Zoo! Meet in the church parking lot at 10am and spend the day at the zoo. Tickets & lunch for all kids will be covered using all the money we have collected from the congregation and generous donations of friends and family. Family & friends are welcome to join us! We will return around 4:30pm.



Spirit lead me where my
trust is without borders

Let me walk upon the waters,

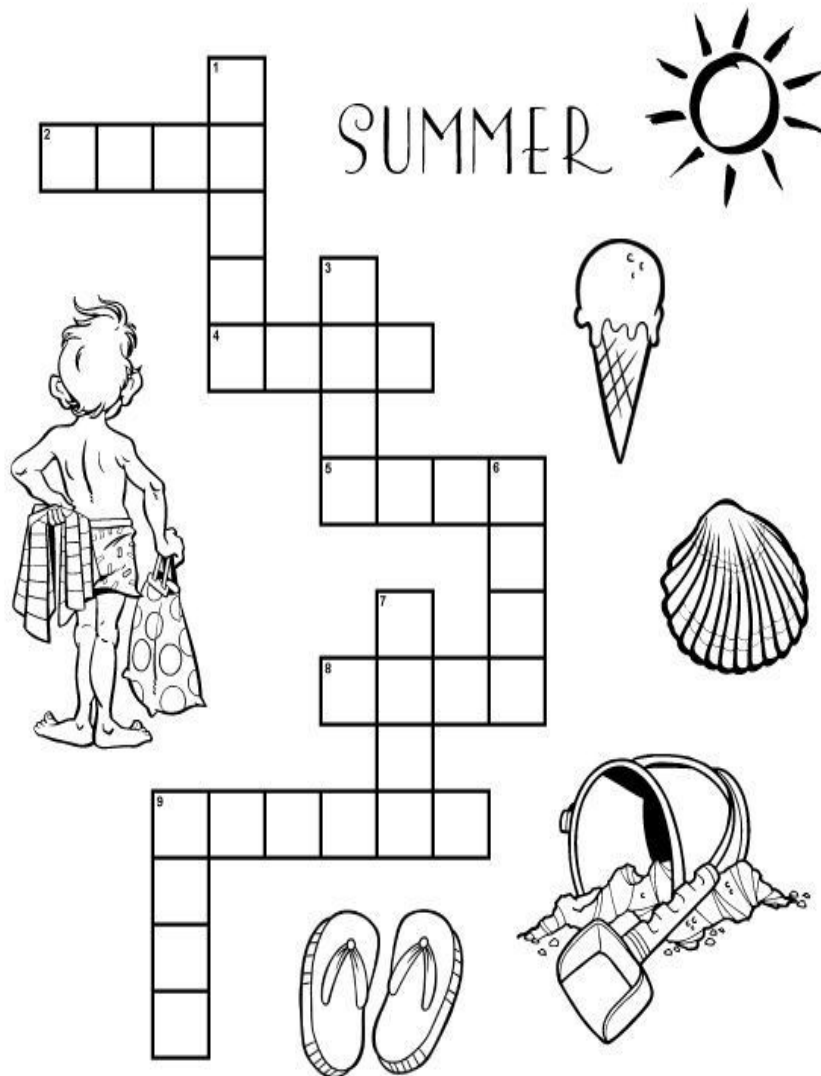
Wherever You would call me,

Take me *deeper* than my
feet could ever wander

And my *Faith* will be made stronger

In the presence of my

Savior



ACROSS

2. Let's build a _____ to help keep us warm.
4. hot weather or temperatures
5. a swimming _____
8. a usually long walk especially for pleasure or exercise
9. the warmest season of the year

DOWN

1. an area with sand next to an ocean or lake
3. a place usually in nature where people set up tents
6. a large area of water that is surrounded by land
7. Can I ride my _____?
9. very tiny, loose pieces of rock that kids like to play in