

HOME VISITS

Pastor David Keating from St. Mark Lutheran Church will be 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: 631-974-4034

Office: 716-693-3715

email: pastor@stmarknt.org



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

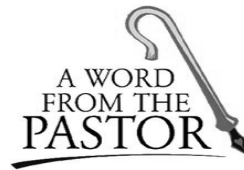
The following extensions can be reached from both phone #'s above:

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

Members of St. Matthew,



I always think of Fall as a season of getting back into our routine. The kids go back to school, people begin to return from their vacations, and we get back to our normal day-to-day habits. Recently, I have returned to reading through the Lutheran Confessions as part of my daily routine as I study God's Word. In The Large Catechism, Martin Luther writes, "But for myself I say this: I am also a doctor and preacher; yes, as learned and experienced as all the people who have such assumptions and contentment. Yet I act as a child who is being taught the catechism. Every morning—and whenever I have time—I read and say, word for word, the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, the Psalms, and such. I must still read and study them daily."



Sometimes, we can overcomplicate our spiritual lives. We can be unsure of where to start as we read God's Word or we can be unfamiliar with beginning a habit like daily study of Scripture. It is comforting to know that even Martin Luther, the great reformer of the church, returned to basics. The Ten Commandments. The Creed. The Lord's Prayer. The Psalms. Such simple things, yet God uses them to form us into who we are as His people. He communicates such powerful comfort through these words.

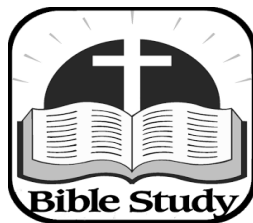
As the seasons change and we begin to get back into our Fall routines, I encourage you to find some way to engage with God's Word each day. It is one of the ways that God encourages us, forgives us, and helps us to grow in our lives as Christians. I look forward to beginning Bible study with you all in September. I believe that our study of Ruth will be interesting, informative, and helpful as St. Matthew prepares for another year of ministry together as a church.



Thank you so much for your kindness and warm welcome as I continue to serve you during this period of vacancy. Continue to keep the call process in your thoughts and pray that God sends the right man at the right time for ministry at St. Matthew.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Keating



Pastor Keating will resume Thursday morning Bible Study on September 10th at 10:30AM. Please mark your calendars. Our topic will be "Under His Wings: Ruth and the Redeemer".

We will work through that during the Fall, probably ending that particular

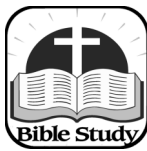


President's REPORT

I would like to thank everyone for the activities over the summer and the fellowship opportunities. After the church picnic, the Elders hosted the annual Men's Picnic in June, and we had the Strawberry Social in August. Both the church picnic and Strawberry Social were different this year because of our pastoral vacancy, but they were still enjoyable. The Young at Heart group scheduled a breakfast meal at a nearby restaurant at the end of August. I did miss the youth and their activities this year because the group has lost the anchor of our pastor's family. Hopefully we can have return of youth ministry soon.



Bible Classes are planned to resume in September on Thursday mornings. We are so thankful for Pastor Keating from St Mark helping us out during our vacancy. It is a tremendous help and it takes a lot of pressure off trying to find a pastor each week. He is also doing home visits and other pastoral duties so we have consistency across all areas. We have been so blessed during our vacancy periods. Each time there has been a pastor who was ready, willing and able to step up and help out. Although we are once again tasked with the search process, we must never forget the blessings we have received. The Elders have made progress with pastoral search process. The self study has been submitted, and they scheduled a meeting with our Circuit Visitor Ben Bahr at the end of August. While the process seems slow, we must have patience as we look to God for a proper choice for our congregation.



Work is progressing at the parsonage to give it a much needed face lift and care for some items that need attention. A couple of problematic trees have been removed, the inside is being painted and the kitchen updated. There is also work with refinishing floors and replacing carpeting. The chimney's will also have essential work done to repair them so they are safe and usable again.



I would like to thank Miriam Moldenhauer-Majewski, who has joined our Board of Maintenance, for all the work she has been doing, in addition to coordinating work volunteers from the congregation and working with contractors in getting quotes and work scheduled. I am confident the parsonage will be ready and be a healthy residence for a pastor and family for many years to come.



There will also be more work done around the church property. There are plans to remove the tree next to the covered walkway entrance that has become overgrown.

Also, many of the limbs overhanging the parking lot are also planned to be trimmed back. Thanks to Tom Hromowyk and everyone who helps out in cutting the lawn, trimming trees, caring for the gardens and assisting with the many maintenance issues.

Please continue to pray about our budget, that we spend the money wisely and use all of God's gifts with appropriate care. Our budget receipts are published every week in the bulletin. Be sure to attend the Voter's Meeting, scheduled for September 20st, to stay informed about this and other important information about our church.



In October, we will have our annual food drive to support the North Tonawanda Food Pantry. This is always a successful drive, and it goes for such an important cause in our city. Several of our members volunteer at the clothes closet, which is in the same building with the food pantry, and they tell us how much our donations are appreciated. Also scheduled in October is the annual bazaar.

As a reminder, we are still looking for help in leading the congregation. In November we hold election of officers, so now is a good time to start thinking about our leadership. Please prayerfully consider assisting us in one of these positions. I will happily help out and can provide any needed guidance to whomever may take on a position. If you have any questions about any positions, please ask. No experience is necessary, just a willingness to work together to help the mission of the church succeed and continue.



Remember to share your photos for the Thanksgiving service. We are all especially thankful for our families, so we want to see pictures of your family activities. As we get into fall, it is time to start gathering pictures. Send your pictures to wbundy02@gmail.com. Pictures that are sent by text are sometimes too small, so please try to email them when possible. When sending them, try to send them original size so they show up well with the projector. If you can't get them full size, send them anyway, and I'll sort out any that look too fuzzy on the wall. Ask me for help if you are having trouble sending them.

Bill Bundy

President



LADIES GUILD NEWS & NOTES
September & October



Hello Ladies! Welcome back to our new work year. God blessed us with a wide array of weather this summer and we hope and pray that you enjoyed yours with family and friends.

We would like to thank everyone who participated in our summer activities!

- The Ladies Guild Retreat on Friday, June 19th with a wonderful presentation by Ellen Graf about "Sunflowers & The Son"
- The Church Picnic. Thanks to everyone who brought dishes & desserts.
- And most recently the Strawberry Social with all things Strawberry for dessert and our early Burgers & Hot Dog lunch. Thanks to everyone who donated items and brought dishes to share.
- Thank you also for your generous donations for SHP with twin bedding supplies. (There will be a bin in the Quilting Room for future donations).

As our "new" work year approaches we are still in the planning stages for 2026-2027.

Our regularly scheduled meetings will resume in October!

The passing of our dear friend, Linda Pascucci has prompted a change of crew on our Guild Board. Donna Heiser has agreed to take over the duties of Treasurer and Rachel Behnke will be our new Vice President.
Thank you ladies for your help



Our 1st Guild Meeting will be:

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2ND
2:00 P.M.**

PROGRAM: To Be Announced
Please watch the weekly Bulletin for updates!

Mark your calendars...

**HOLIDAY BAZAAR
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH**

9:00 AM – 2:00 PM



ATTIC TREASURE DONATIONS are now being accepted. Please bring in only clean, unbroken items. We are respectfully not accepting any clothes, heavy books, chipped/dirty items, or outdated equipment or any appliances that are not functional. We appreciate your consideration in this to save us time and many sorting decisions! Thank You
If there are any questions, please see Ellen Graf



Also, if you are canning jams/jellies, or pickles, etc. this summer the Country Store would appreciate a few jar donations. Thank You



The Plant Booth, and Craft Booth would also appreciate keeping them in mind for donations as well.

September Serving Schedule

	September 6th*	September 13th	September 20th*	September 27th	
ELDERS	Craig Heigl Rob Pidanic	Siggy Barke John Patton	Pete Jaenecke Bill Olczak	Dan Wolf Joe Durick	
VESTRYMEN CAPTAINS	Bill Bundy	Tom Hromowyk	Art Marshall Paul Schultz	Joe Siegmann	
USHERS	Dave Urtel Tank Jorg Tim Jorg	Justin Hromowyk Mark Lemke	Jeff Binkley Keith Schumacher	Chris Reischel Jeff Reischel Dave Wendt	
VIDEO	Tank Jorg	John Patton	Bill Bundy	Hunter Knoell	
COUNTING TEAM	Team 6 Bill & Linda Olczak Leslie Stolzenfels Karen Horrigan	Team 1 Leslie Stolzenfels Dale & Donna Heisler Karen Horrigan	Team 2 Bill Bundy Paul Schu	Team 3 Jolie Giardino Miriam M/M Paula Benedyszak	
9:15AM GREETERS	M/M Patton	Linda Robinson	Toni Durrick	Joe Durick	
SARB SERVERS				Carol W* & Ellen G	
Altar Committee	Mary S* & Sheryl E		Mary S* & Sheryl E		

October Serving Schedule

	October 4th*	October 11th	October 18th*	October 25th					
ELDERS	Craig Heigl Rob Pidanic	Siggy Barke John Patton	Pete Jaenecke Bill Olczak	Dan Wolf Joe Durick					
VESTRYMEN CAPTAINS	Bill Bundy	Tom Hromowyk	Art Marshall Paul Schultz	Joe Siegmann					
USHERS	Dave Urtel Tank Jorg Tim Jorg	Justin Hromowyk Mark Lemke	Jeff Binkley Keith Schumacher	Chris Reischel Jeff Reischel Dave Wendt					
VIDEO	Tank Jorg	John Patton	Bill Bundy	Hunter Knoell					
COUNTING TEAM	Team 4 Wendt Binkley Sue Ridge Florence Lindaman	Team 5 Jeffery Binkley Megan Binkley Mike & Terry Lance	Team 6 Bill & Linda Olczak Leslie Stolzenfels Karen Horrigan	Team 1 Leslie Stolzenfels Dale & Donna Heisler Karen Horrigan					
9:15AM GREETERS	M/M Stapar	Toni Durick	Carol Wilczak	M/M Siggy Barke					
SARB SERVERS	Linda R* & Sheryl E	Mary S* & Sandy P	Debbie H* & Lisa E	Rachel B* & Sharon E					
Altar Committee-	Donna H*, Linda D, Naureen K, Skylar S		Donna H*, Linda D Naureen K, Skylar S						



Thank you for attending and supporting the Ladies Guild Strawberry Social in August. It was an enjoyable morning with hotdogs, hamburgers and assorted desserts. Thank you to those who came out Saturday morning to set up and to those who helped assist during our Strawberry Social. A special thank you to Miriam and Jolie who had the hotdogs and hamburgers ready when we got out of church



We are looking for members who would like to Be A Greeter. It would be one Sunday morning a month. Give everyone a smile and hand out bulletins. It's that easy. Call the office at 716-692-6862.



Please have all pots removed from the cemetery by Friday, October 30th. Thank you. Dave Wendt.



9/12 Nancy Schimschack

9/15 Nick Baroudi

10/13 Jenna Knapp



9/7 Sara Ann DiSarno & Garrett

9/7 Mark & Faith Lemke

9/7 Jamie & Daniel Wilczak

9/16 Gary & Sara Stone

9/19 Justin & Whitney Hromowyk

9/28 Joseph & Brianna Siegmann

10/4 Nicole Graber & Andrew

10/6 Allan & Susan Ridge

10/11 Bill & Linda Olczak

10/12 Lisa & Doug Ellman

10/12 David & Santa Wendt

10/14 Randy & Linda Jasulevich

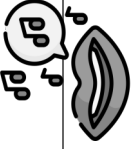
10/20 Nick & Joan Baroudi

10/20 Pete & Susan Ann Jaenecke

10/29 Art & Karen Marshall



September 2026 St. Matthew Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 		2	3 6:30pm Elders Meeting	4	5 9am-Vines & Branches Saturdays
6 9:00 am Worship Service w/ Communion	7	8 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	9 5:45pm Choir Rehearsal	10 10:30am Bible Study	11	12
13 9:00 am Worship Service	14	15 	16 5:45pm Choir Rehearsal	17 10:30am Bible Study	18 	
20 VOTERS MEETING 9:00 am Worship Service w/ Communion	21	22	23 5:45pm Choir Rehearsal	24 10:30am Bible Study	25	26
27 9:00 am Worship Service SARB 10:00am Sunday School	28	29	30 5:45pm Choir Rehearsal			

October 2026 St. Matthew Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
4 9:00 am Worship Service w/ Communion 10:00am Sunday School	5	6	7 5:45pm Choir Rehearsal	8 10:30am Bible Study	9 	10
11 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00am Sunday School	12	13 10:00am Bible Brunch 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	14 5:45pm Choir Rehearsal	15 10:30am Bible Study	16	17
18 9:00 am Worship Service w/ Communion 10:00am Sunday School	19	20	21 5:45pm Choir Rehearsal	22 10:30am Bible Study	23	24 9am2pm 
25 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00am Sunday School	26	27 	28 5:45pm Choir Rehearsal	29 10:30am Bible Study	30	

SUNDAY SCHOOL 2026-2027



As we get back into the swing of the new school year we are excited to start up of Sunday School as well. We encourage all children to join the fun and glory in learning and understanding God's word. Classes will begin on Sunday, September 27th following the church service at 10am. We run usually for an hour but there might be times that we ask to keep the children a little longer in order to finish a project or a lesson. During the class we do many things like learning the lesson, crafts that go with the lesson and we do usually try to get a lesson related snack to give the kiddos. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

If there are any questions please don't hesitate to reach out either by call or text to Sara DiSarno-Superintendent at 716-444-5480

VINE AND BRANCHES



Fall is coming! Cool, crisp weather, pumpkins, and beautiful colors on the branches that show us how amazing God truly is. It also brings us another month closer to fully packing the boxes for Operation Christmas Child in November. Stay tuned for those dates to be announced. Prior to the excitement in November, we are looking forward to having a fun day in October as well! We will be putting together the school supplies we are currently collecting for the boxes, as well as bags of blocks for the little ones. There will be games, food and fun as well! Watch the bulletin for the date, we can't wait to see you! Speaking of the school supplies, you can still drop off the items below through early October or give Kim some money to purchase them:

Pens, pencils, pencil sharpeners, crayons, colored pencils, markers, 6-inch rulers, glue sticks, scissors, calculators and small notebooks.



Please come to Vine and Branches on Saturdays, any time from 9am-1pm. Even if you just want to pop in and see what we are up to, maybe sign a Christmas card we will send to our troops, fill in some pieces of the jigsaw puzzle we are working on, color some pictures for the Operation Christmas Child boxes, find out just what it's like to paint with diamonds, oh and don't forget to have a snack!

Thanks so much for all of your support, and we look forward to seeing you!

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

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

William Doeblor

Elderwood @ Wheatfield Rm# 219
2600 Niagara Falls Blvd. Niagara Falls, NY 14304
Williams Birthday-August-3rd
(Ellen Graf)

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

Gloria Haeseler

39 Bentham Parkway
Snyder, NY 14226
Birthday-July 15th

Jack and Ellie Grichen

42 Crestwood Court
Niagara Falls, NY 14304
Birthday-Elli-December 4th, Jack-August 5th



Mary Ann Grimaldi

612 Williams Street, NT NY 14120, birthday February 17th

Rhea Reichert

11 Keph Drive, Amherst, NY NT 14120, birthday March 12th

Linda Davidson

7289 Graydon Dr., NT, NY 14120, birthday November 15th

Casey Gordon

213 Schenck St. NT, NY 14120, birthday August 26th

Rob Pidanc

111 Mount Vernon Rd. Buffalo, NY, 14226, birthday July 2nd

Tammy Walters

29 Ransom Road. NT, NY 14120

Hannah Koepsell

721 Meadowbrook Dr. NY, NY 14120, birthday March 27th

Tom Kromer

8020 Packard Road, NF, NY 14228, birthday September 6th

Marilyn Heigl

Hickory Creek of Winamac, 515 East 13th St. Winamac, Indiana
46996, birthday May 21st

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



Members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church



After much thought, I have made the difficult decision to step down from my role as Director of Youth and YCC.

I want to sincerely thank everyone for all of the support, encouragement, and kind words you have given me over the past six years. It has truly meant more to me than I can put into words.

Over the years, I have had the privilege of watching so many of our YCC kids grow up. Unfortunately, most of the kids have now outgrown YCC, and more often than not, we simply wouldn't have enough kids to hold a YCC night. While this decision is bittersweet, I feel that now is the right time to step away.

I will truly miss coming up with themed events, planning activities, and, most of all, getting to be a kid myself alongside everyone. Some of my favorite memories over the past six years have come from our YCC nights, and I will always be grateful that I had the opportunity to be a part of those moments.

Thank you to everyone who trusted me with your kids, supported our events, encouraged me along the way, and helped make YCC such a special part of my life. This role has given me so many memories and friendships that I will always cherish.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for allowing me to be a part of YCC for the past six years. I will miss it more than I can say, but I am so thankful for every minute of it.

Sincerely

Breanna Gerner

ALTAR GUILD

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

Psalm 119:105

LITURGICAL COLORS FOR SEPTEMBER

GREEN: symbolizes the hope of eternal life.

WHITE: means light, purity, joy & glory.

CAPTAIN: Mary Sansone*
Sheryl Essenburg



LIURGICAL COLORS FOR OCTOBER

GREEN: symbolizes the hope of eternal life.

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

CAPTAIN: Donna Hutton*
Florence Lindaman
Linda Davidson
Naureen Smith-Karabin
Skylar Rose Smith



Check out the "newly, organized" Altar Guild card rack. Thank you to Linda J who volunteered to reorganize the card rack. Cards are \$1 each and cards will be added as needed.

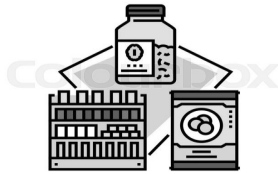


St. Matthew



We are now taking donations for the church food pantry. We are in need of canned peas, canned carrots, canned beans and cereal. Please put them in the basket in the narthex. Thank you again for your generosity.

FOOD PANTRY



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 cereal, instant oatmeal, jelly and peanut butter. We can always use personal care items: shampoo, toothbrushes/paste, razors, feminine care, deodorant, toilet paper. Please put the items in the blue bin in the Quilting Room. Thank you for your generosity.

