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ST. MATTHEW
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

The **WORD**

Pastor Robin Fero

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church, as a fellowship of believers in the triune God, is to learn about and to be involved in the community and the world around us; to provide assistance in areas of need through local and worldwide organizations; and to provide a ministry to our members, friends, and neighbors through worship, witness, education and service in the name and in the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**OCTOBER
2017**



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Save the Dates!!

Saturday, October 7 & Sunday, October 8, for

Lutheran World Relief In-Gathering

We will assemble and pack school kits and personal care kits and pack quilts.

We hope to assemble *100 school kits* and *100 personal care kits*.

And our goal is to have *120 quilts*.

We will need volunteers to help assemble and pack.

Contact Sheila Charles for more information.

Pastor's Page

Happy 500th Anniversary!

At last, October 2017 has arrived!! Throughout the year, we have anticipated this month, the celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation.

There have been occasional reminders of this in St Matthew's communications and in teaching and preaching moments, and we studied Luther's Small Catechism during Lent, both in midweek Soup and Study times and as a congregation, reading through the Free Indeed devotional booklet.

Ways to Celebrate

On Saturday, October 28th, at 3:00pm we will gather in the fellowship hall and travel to Germany, with Rick Steve as our guide on Luther and the Reformation.

On October 29th, known as Reformation Sunday, musical selections from Martin Luther will be featured, and we will even have a special birthday cake and ice cream after the service to celebrate with.

Lutheran churches all over the world have celebrated this year in unique ways, in the free spirit of Lutheranism. For the most part there hasn't been much formal celebration at St Matthew...no hanging of the 95 Theses on the red doors (at least, not yet!)...no characters dressed as Marty and Katie Luther roaming the halls of the church...no major concerts...no trips to Germany. All of these are unique and totally appropriate ways in which local churches are celebrating.

The next 500 years

As a brand-new pastor, called to a congregation



which has gone through a recent long-string of pastoral leadership, I prayed hard about the approach to the anniversary commemoration. I prayed about what would be best for a transitioning congregation in the midst of such a grand celebration.

Instead of focusing on church history and Lutheran heritage, I have concentrated on what challenges the Body of Christ, as a whole, will have as we step into the next 500 years of Christian history. The focus has been on where St Matthew fits in God's mission in that future.

Another Reformation?

The Reformation was about a time (did I just move right into a history lesson??) in which the world was yearning for the freeing Gospel of Jesus Christ; a time in which the story of God was obscured by those who abused the Good News. The setting was right 500 years ago for people to be set free, and the setting is right today for a major reformation in this world.

God is faithful, and God has always met humanity right where it is. Jesus Christ came to free us 2000 years ago, breaking down all bar-

riers, and has shaped and reformed the Church in every time and place ever since.

The world is hungry for the reforming Gospel of Christ, and God is ready for the Church to be God's hands and feet in distributing this Gospel.

St. Matthew is being reformed

In an ever-changing world, we at St. Matthew are called to seek God, asking God how we can be reformed to carry out this mission.

Thanks be to God for how God has reformed St Matthew in the past, how God is reforming St Matthew in the present, and how God will reform us in the future. Can't wait to see!!!



New Communion Ware for Nursing Home Services

As was noted in September's Word, the Koffee Klatch group gifted Pastor Fero with a handcrafted pottery communion set, to be used during special services, such as nursing home ministry. The set is all-in-one, allowing for the wafers and wine to be carried around the room to the worship participants at the nursing home.

The set was blessed and dedicated to the glory of God during the September 16-17 worship services.

Thank you to the Koffee Klatch for this thoughtful ministry gift.



REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS:***Bear Ears & Coffee***

Every Wednesday, 9—11am
S. Clyde Weaver

Brown Bag & Bible Study

Every Wednesday, 12 noon—1 pm
Fellowship Hall

Chancel Choir

Every Thursday at 7:00pm

Church Council

2nd Tuesday of the month - 7 pm

Community Meal

Third Monday of the Month, 5pm
Zion Lutheran, East Petersburg

Evangelism Committee Meeting

The third Sunday of the month—11:30 am

Finance Meeting

The Sunday *preceding* Church Council—9am

Koffee Klatch

2nd Thursday of the Month
12 noon in Fellowship Hall

St. Matthew Seniors

1st Tuesday of the Month—time may vary



Monday , October 16, 2017

Tossed Salad

Green Pepper and Sausage Casserole

Corn

Dessert

***Helping hands to
prepare, serve and clean up
are always appreciated.***

***Contact Barb Elsen
for more information.***

**NOTICE:**

Sue's Office Hours

10 am to 2pm. Tue—Wed—Thur

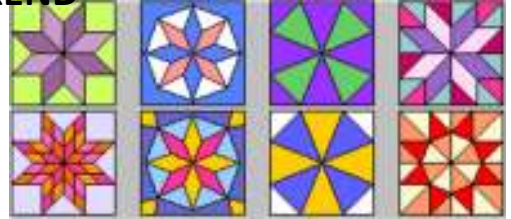
SOCIAL MINISTRY

Thank you to all the people who have made donations toward the LWR Personal Care Kits during August and September.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF IN-GATHERING WEEKEND

Saturday, October 7th and Sunday, October 8th

Quilts will be on display. Please join us if you can.



Saturday the 7th during “Saturday School” at 4:00pm, some of the **kits will be assembled** and packed.

On Sunday the 8th after the worship service, the remaining kits will be assembled and packed.

Light lunch (soup, bread and dessert) will be served on Sunday.

Saturday, October 14th at 9:00—vehicles will be loaded to **transport boxes to Bergstrasse Lutheran Church** in Ephrata.

Contact Sheila (717-471-2013) if you and your vehicle can help with transport.



COMMUNITY MEAL AND QUILTING



LOCAL OUTREACH—3rd Monday of the month—

Community Meal

GLOBAL FOCUS—

3rd Saturday (January thru September) - Quilting

COMMUNITY DINNER

To continue these monthly projects, Social Ministry needs YOUR help. Monetary donations are needed to help pay for our quilting supplies and to help with the food expenses for the planned monthly meal.

Anything you can give will be greatly appreciated.

Please use the designated envelopes in the foyer and place your contribution in the offering plate.



This will be our focus through November.

Evangelism Committee Report for October

By the time you read this the October 1st **Pet Blessing** will be a memory. Hope you were able to attend.

Luther and the Reformation



On Saturday October 28 at 3 pm we are joining the Seniors group in offering a viewing of the DVD which Rick Steves has put together to observe the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. This one-hour program explains much about the events of the time and shows us the places where they happened. Invite your friends and neighbors! Please see the article from the Seniors for more information.

All Treats – No Tricks

Once again this year, we will have **All Treats – No Tricks** at St. Matthew on Halloween. **You have been generous in the past to provide candy** for us to give to the children (and parents!) walking by, and we will appreciate your donations again. Please leave the candy in the marked basket near the office. Thanks so much!

And! If anyone is able to come to help hand out the candy, we would appreciate that too.



Advent Workshop



Mark your calendar now for a fun afternoon – **Sunday, December 3 from 11:30 to 1:30 pm**. Nancy Mauer is heading up the planning for making a number of Christmas crafts that will be right for all ages. More information coming soon! Bring your crafty and non-crafty friends. Everyone welcome!

Arlene Volk
Evangelism Chair



DID YOU KNOW?

ST MATTHEW'S COUNTERS

St Matthew has a dedicated crew of people who count the money that comes into the church each week. Teams of two people work together, in good stewardship, to ensure that the gifts that have been given to the ministry of this church are accounted for and appropriately deposited. The team also logs the names of those who have given via envelopes, keeping records for tax purposes.

This work is all done behind closed doors, so the Counters are often unsung heroes in their service.

Thank you, to the Counters for your faithful service!

AND thank you to those who have recently volunteered to be Counters!



Birthdays

Samuel Jordan—10/8

Ned Dixon—10/10

Barbara Elsen—10/13

Jean Schweers—10/16

Jamie Zwally—10/24

Pastor Robin Fero—10/29

Anna Neal—10/31

Anniversaries

Bruce & Cathy Edling

10/07

Robert & Linda Martin

10/19



St. Matthew Seniors



The St. Matthew Seniors will be heading to Emma's Popcorn (Rt. 23, R. on Peter's Road, L. on Mentzer Road, R. on Hill Road) on October 3rd at 12:30pm.

We'll carpool from the church or you can meet us there. We will also be visiting Lapp Valley Farm, a short distance from Emma's for ice cream. Please join us for viewing some lovely fall scenery as well. Look for the sign-up sheet in the foyer.



A DVD, Luther and the Reformation will be shown on Saturday, October 28th at 3:00pm in Fellowship Hall in order for all of our congregation to be included in celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. So, Seniors, spread the word and bring a friend to help make this a successful event. Reformation Sunday is October 29th.

Pastor Mary-Margaret Ruth and the Seniors of Zion Lutheran church, 1905 Broad Street, East Petersburg, invite us to join them on Tuesday, November 7th at 11:30am for beverages and dessert, followed at 12:15pm with a talk by Rabbi Daniela Szuster of Temple Beth El on the history, traditions and symbols of Judaism. We will carpool from St. Matthew at 11:15am. Look for the sign-up sheet in the foyer.



Getting to Know One Another

FOREVER LUTHERAN

Always a Lutheran, *Janet Baker* has found her new church home at St. Matthew. Originally from the Ephrata area, she previously attended Salem Lutheran Church. Now she is particularly enjoying Pastor Fero's sermons.

Recently widowed, Janet appreciates the activities at St. Matthew; she attends Bible Study, the senior group and Koffee Klatch. Four grandchildren and local theater productions "put a smile on her face," she says.

After retiring from secretarial work at Conestoga School District, she and her husband, Robert, sold collectibles at Green Dragon for nine years, spent four years living in Rehoboth Beach and traveled extensively. A camper, a motor home and a plane (with Bob as pilot) took them to Newfoundland, Canada, through the western U.S. and to numerous other destinations. A trip with the grandchildren in the motor home is a favorite recollection. Her past is a treasury of adventures and memories; she is thankful for the many shared with Bob.



FROM A TRIPLE TO A HOME RUN!



Wedding anniversaries usually conjure up celebration. Last October 7, Bruce and Cathy Edling planned to do just that. Instead, Bruce was raced to LGH, by ambulance, where he was admitted and scheduled for surprise surgery: a triple bypass!

Almost a year later, Bruce ran a **5K** on September 9th. Asked to help at the marathon, cooking hotdogs, he decided to run instead, leaving the dogs to Cathy. Always into exercise and running, he was pleased to support the theme of the race: awareness and prevention of suicide.

A great example of regained health, Bruce followed his instructions to enter physical therapy for 6-8 weeks. He stresses the fact that recovery from surgery via hospital rehabilitation is much safer than exercising on one's own. At LGH, his therapy sessions were recorded by a heart monitor, a very encouraging device.

A firm believer in proper rehabilitation, he is willing to talk to anyone who seeks information on aftercare. As October 7, 2017 approaches, Bruce hopes to celebrate his anniversary with Cathy, anywhere but in Hotel LGH.

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS:

October 1—Pentecost 17

Ezekiel 18:1—4, 25—32

Psalms 25:1—9

Philippians 2:1—13

Matthew 21:23—32

October 8—Pentecost 18

Isaiah 5:1—7

Psalms 80:7—15

Philippians 3:4b—14

Matthew 21:33—46

October 15—Pentecost 19

Isaiah 25:1—9

Psalms 23

Philippians 4:1—9

Matthew 22:1—14

October 22—Pentecost 20

Isaiah 45:1—7

Psalms 96:1—9 [10—13]

I Thessalonians 1:1—10

Matthew 22:15—22

October 29—Reformation Sunday

Jeremiah 31:31—34

Psalms 46

Romans 3:19—28

John 8:31—36

VALUABLE COUPON—Looking for a GREAT OPPORTUNITY to SERVE ST. MATTHEW?

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED AS:

USHERS

GREETERS

READERS

COUNTERS

ASSISTING MINISTERS

Please check your preference, fill in your name _____

and Place in the Offering Plate, or you may call the Church Office—717-394-9607

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Pentecost 17 9am-Sunday School 10am—Worship Service 2:00pm-Pet Blessing *4pm-Moment of God Worship		8:30am— <i>Bridge Buddies Card Club</i> 12:30pm-St. Matthew Seniors *7pm-Moment of God Bible Study	9-11am Bear Ears & Coffee at Weaver's 12noon-Brown Bag & Bible *6:30pm –MT Democratic Committee	7pm-Chancel Choir *7pm-Moment of God Bible Study		*9:30am Lydia's Closet Distribution at St. Peter's 4pm-<u>INGATHERING</u> 5pm-Worship Service
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Pentecost 18 9am-Finance Mtg. 9am-Sunday School 10am—Worship INGATHERING *4pm-Moment of God Worship		*8:30am— <i>Bridge Buddies Card Club</i> 7pm Church Council *7pm-Moment of God Bible Study	9-11am Bear Ears & Coffee at Weaver's 12noon Brown Bag & Bible	12noon-2pm-Koffee Klatch 7pm-Chancel Choir *7pm-Moment of God Bible Study		9am-LWR Car Loading/Transport 4pm-Saturday School 5pm-Worship Service
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Pentecost 19 9am-Sunday School 10am—Worship Service 11:30am-Evangelism Mtg. *4pm-Moment of God Worship	5pm-Community Meal	8:30am— <i>Bridge Buddies Card Club</i> *7pm-Moment of God Bible Study	9-11am Bear Ears & Coffee at Weaver's 12noon-Brown Bag & Bible	7pm-Chancel Choir *7pm-Moment of God Bible Study		4pm-Saturday School 5pm-Worship Service
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Pentecost 20 9am-Sunday School 10am—Worship Service *4pm-Moment of God Worship		8:30am— <i>Bridge Buddies Card Club</i> *7pm-Moment of God Bible Study	9-11am Bear Ears & Coffee at Weaver's 12noon-Brown Bag & Bible	7pm-Chancel Choir *7pm-Moment of God Bible Study		3pm-Reformation DVD 4pm-Saturday School 5pm-Worship Service
29	30	31				
Reformation Sunday 9am-Sunday School 10am—Worship Service *4pm-Moment of God Worship		8:30am— <i>Bridge Buddies Card Club</i> *6:30pm-Lydia's Closet PREP at St. Peter's *7pm-Moment of God Bible Study				

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

October Schedule

10/1/17

CMIC: Peggy Atkins
 Greeter(s): Peggy Atkins
 Usher(s): Shep & Pat Smith
 Reader: Linda Tice
 Assisting Minister: Arlene Volk
 Counters: Linda Tice and Bradley Charles

10/8/17

CMIC: Phyllis Wright
 Greeter(s): Florence Meily
 Usher(s): John & Arlene Volk
 Reader: Peg Sampson
 Assisting Minister: Sheila Charles/Mary Miller
 Counters: Bradley Charles and Barb Elsen

10/15/17

CMIC: Brenda Stauffer
 Greeter(s): Judy Miller
 Usher(s): Brenda Stauffer and Pat Smith
 Reader: Arlene Volk
 Assisting Minister: Linda McIntyre
 Counters: Carol Rothweiler and Linda Tice

10/22/17

CMIC: Barb Elsen
 Greeter(s): Bernie Scheetz
 Usher(s): Ray & Lunda Shaub
 Reader: Linda McIntyre
 Assisting Minister: Barb Elsen
 Counters: Brenda Stauffer and Barb Elsen

10/29/17

CMIC: Pat Smith
 Greeter(s): Sylvia Beam
 Usher(s): John & Arlene Volk
 Reader: Mary Miller
 Assisting Minister: Barb Emmerich
 Counters: Linda Tice and Carol Rothweiler

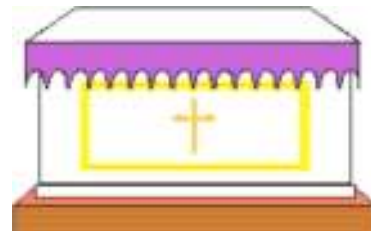
11/5/17

CMIC: George Resh
 Greeter(s): Florence Meily
 Usher(s): Ray & Lunda Shaub
 Reader: Peg Sampson
 Assisting Minister: Bradley Charles
 Counters: Brenda Stauffer and Bradley Charles

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

*Please check the schedule carefully.
 If you cannot fulfill an assignment,
 please try to find a replacement /
 switch with another person.
 Then please notify Sue so the correct
 names will appear in the bulletin.
 Thank you!*

**October Altar Care—
 Anna Neal & Brenda Stauffer**



CHURCH STAFF:

The Rev. Robin Fero (717-877-3386)	<i>Pastor</i> email: pastor@stmatthewelc.com
Sue Cooke-Krackow (717-823-1243)	<i>Parish Secretary</i> email: info@stmatthewelc.com
Nancy Maurer (717-426-1888)	<i>Director of Music</i> email: nmaurer@embarqmail.com
Brenda Stauffer (717-392-1566)	<i>Council President</i> email: snbdncrs@comcast.net

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

TUESDAY thru THURSDAY

10:00AM—2:00PM

Phone: 717-394-9607

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL 2017

OFFICERS:

Brenda Stauffer, President

717-392-1566

snbdncrs@comcast.net

George Resh, Vice President

717-397-1906, 717-917-4144

Col_resh@hotmail.com

Barb Elsen, Secretary

717-293-3289, 717-606-6418

Bae1013@comcast.net

Additional Members

Peggy Atkins

Jen Piersol

Ray Shaub

Patricia Smith

Arlene Volk

John Volk—Church Treasurer

Phyllis Wright

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Return Service Requested

CLASS & WORSHIP TIMES
Saturday School—4pm
Sunday School—9am
Saturday Evening Worship—
5:00pm
Sunday Worship—10:00am

OCTOBER 2017

NEWSLETTER

