



THE WORD

August 2024

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church
700 Pleasure Road, Lancaster PA 17601
(717) 394-9607 www.stmatthewelc.com



Pastor Robin Fero

Pastor's Page



"Give us this day our daily bread".

Welcome to August and what is known as "Bread Month" in the Year B lectionary. For nine weeks in June and July we walked with Jesus through the fields and across the sea, using the Gospel of Mark as our

guide.

Now we will pull over to the side of the lakeshore pathway and hang out in the Gospel of John (chapter 6, to be exact!) for 5 weeks in July and August.

Jesus uses a daily first century dinner table staple--bread—to illustrate how we, as his followers, are nourished and called into a vocation of abiding in him. Along with a weekly cadence of John 6 "I am the bread of life", we will also witness ancient biblical stories of how God sustained the people of Israel with daily manna and how the prophet Elijah was fed hotcakes by an angel. I look forward to celebrating each of these life-sustaining moments with you in worship.

"Give us this day our daily bread".

That is a recognizable piece of the Lord's Prayer; something we pray each time we gather for worship. Perhaps it is a prayer you use daily in your devotional life.

We ask for God to sustain us one day at a time. We ask God to provide us with gifts for exactly what we need. This is a very humble prayer: one that helps puts us in the healthy position of remembering who it is that supplies our every need.

Our nation is going through a time of political crisis and not one person goes unaffected by this. In the

midst of the storm, it is tempting to throw in the towel and lose hope. I pray that you keep the supply-line prayer going for yourself and for your neighbor. Look to God for your daily bread. Day after day after day God will feed you.

Blessings along the pathway.

-Pastor Fero

Social Ministry

A HUGE thank you to everyone who helped to support the Lancaster County Food Hub for some of our community families. We have dropped off 176 pounds of food items so far, and have collected \$190 that will be shared with the Hub.

By the end of June, our aluminum pop tab container was overflowing, and the tabs have been dropped off at the Ronald McDonald House. Let's see if we can do it again.

Thank you for your continued support of our service projects. St. Matthew continues to be mighty in its power of giving to those in need.

- Sheila Charles

Learning & Loving Series: Supporting Refugee and Immigrant Neighbors

Join us on August 3rd and 4th for our next Learning & Loving series focused on supporting our refugee and immigrant neighbors. Our guest speaker will be Ahmadullah Faizi, a Multilingual Community Education Advisor with IU13. Ahmad works closely with newly arrived refugees and immigrants, helping them navigate educational, social, and cultural

systems. Ahmad brings a wealth of firsthand experience to his role. He and his family resettled through Church World Services and lived for several months across the street from St. Matthew after arriving from Afghanistan.

We invite you to join us to hear Ahmad's inspiring journey to Lancaster, his experiences as our neighbor, and learn how we can support other refugees and immigrants in our community.

If you would like to bring something for the meal, please sign up in the fellowship hall. We hope to see you there!

- Erin Conahan

Wednesday Lunch at The Shack

Because of the great success of our last meeting at The Shack in July, we are returning for another get-together in August.

We will meet for lunch at The Shack at noon on Wednesday, August 14.

The Shack Restaurant & Mini Golf
662 S Oak St, Manheim



-Pastor Fero

Building Fund

Coming Soon to a Tree Near You!

St. Matthew maintains a Building Fund which works primarily as a "rainy day" fund to help us pay for those big surprises that sneak up on the owners of a 75-year-old building. This past year, we had to dip into those funds to pay for roof patching and for fire emergency code updates. The Church Council has set a goal of \$5000 for the congregation to give above regular giving, to replenish the fund and help us to get ahead of future extra building expenses.

Look for a Building on Faith giving tree in the fellowship hall. There will be tickets hanging from the tree, showing various expenses that we need help

with. Please pull the ticket of the item that you would like to give towards off the tree, so that we know how we are doing with pledges.

When giving for this project, please use your special white Building Fund envelopes from your box of envelopes, or simply use a pew envelope, indicating your name and that the gift is for the Building Fund.

Thank you for all the ways in which you give!



- Pastor Fero

Thank You

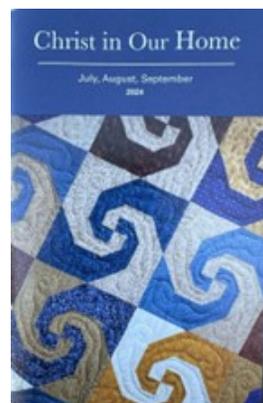
To my Friends at Saint Matthew:

Thank you very much for the prayers, cards and notes you provided to me as I went through my recent surgery. They were a big boost to my spirits, and I greatly appreciate them.

Now we let the healing process continue, I look forward to "seeing" you after camp ends. God's peace be with you all!

Pastor Cliff Eshbach

Devotions Booklet



Christ in our Home booklets (for July, August, September) are available in the church lobby.

These are free and for anyone to take. Please take multiple copies and share Jesus in your community.

Take them with you on vacation!

- Pastor Fero

Birthdays

Erin Conahan 8/7 Linda Martin 8/15
James Nolt 8/20 Toni Sweitzer 8/20
Paul Kilgore 8/20 Jan Bentz 8/21
Jodi McIntyre 8/30

Anniversaries

Barb Emmerich & Jennifer Piersol 8/1
Mark Smith & Erin Conahan 8/8

Worship Assistants

Altar Care for August – Barb Elsen & Kay Gontner

August 3 – Saturday 5pm

- Assisting Minister: Sheila Charles
- Reader: Sheila Charles

August 4 – Sunday 10am

- Assisting Minister: Barb Elsen
- Reader: Peg Sampson
- Greeter: David Ostrander
- Usher: Brenda Stauffer
- Counters: Linda Tice & Barb Elsen

August 10 – Saturday 5pm

- Assisting Minister: Barb Emmerich
- Reader: Barb Emmerich

August 11– Sunday 10am

- Assisting Minister: Linda McIntyre
- Reader: Linda McIntyre
- Greeter: Carol Rothweiler
- Usher: OPEN
- Counters: Brad Charles & Brenda Stauffer

August 17 – Saturday 5pm

- Assisting Minister: Nancy Pokopec
- Reader: Nancy Pokopec

August 18 – Sunday 10am

- Assisting Minister: Steve Feldmann
- Reader: Peg Sampson
- Greeter: Kay Gontner
- Usher: Barb Elsen
- Counters: Carol Rothweiler & Linda Tice

August 24 – Saturday 5pm

- Assisting Minister: Sheila Charles
- Reader: Sheila Charles

August 25 – Sunday 10am

- Assisting Minister: Barb Elsen
- Reader: Barb Elsen
- Greeter: Anna Neal
- Usher: OPEN
- Counters: Barb Elsen & Brad Charles

August 31 – Saturday 5pm

- Assisting Minister: Brad Charles
- Reader: Brad Charles

September 1 – Sunday 10am

- Assisting Minister: Linda McIntyre
- Reader: Linda McIntyre
- Greeter: Nancy Smith
- Usher: Barb Elsen
- Counters: Brenda Stauffer & Carol Rothweiler



Yard Sale 2024





Lititz Pride 2024



Lititz Pride 2024



Officers (2024)

Barb Elsen, President

Barb Eshbach, Vice President

Phyllis Wimer, Secretary

Brad Charles, Financial Secretary

Steve Feldmann, Treasurer

Staff

The Rev. Robin Fero, Pastor

Susan Feldmann, Director of Music

Phil High, Musician

Church Council

Barb Elsen

Barb Eshbach

Phyllis Wimer

Kay Gontner

Steve Feldmann

Nancy Pokopec

Nancy Smith

Pastor Fero



St. Matthew Lutheran Church Statement of Welcome, Affirmation and Full Participation



Welcome to St Matthew, the little church with a big heart.
We are a Reconciling in Christ (Open and Affirming) congregation, so when we say
"all are welcome", we really mean it.
We strive to live that out in our actions as well as our words. We publicly and humbly
commit to do what it takes to truly be a sanctuary filled with warmth, love,
understanding, safety, respect and care for all who enter here.

*(Please see our Full Statement of Welcome, Affirmation and Full Participation
on our website: www.stmatthewelc.com. Copies of the Full Statement are also
available in the Education and Resources Stand in the Fellowship Hall.)*

St. Matthew

August 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 5pm - Worship 6pm - Learning & Loving
4 10am - Worship 11am - Learning & Loving	5	6 12pm - Better Bones at St. Matthew	7 6:30pm - M.T.Democratic Committee	8	9	10 5pm - Worship
11 10am - Worship	12	13 12pm - Better Bones at St. Matthew 7pm - Church Council	14 12pm - Lunch at The Shack 6:30pm - RIC Committee Mtg	15	16	17 2pm - Quilting Workshop 5pm - Worship
18 10am - Worship 11:15am - Evangelism Mtg	19 9am - Community Meal	20 12pm - Better Bones at St. Matthew	21 12pm - Bible Study	22	23	24 5pm - Worship
25 10am - Worship	26	27 12pm - Better Bones at St. Matthew	28 12pm - Bible Study	29	30	31 5pm - Worship

ST. MATTHEW

700 Pleasure Road
Lancaster, PA 17601

(Return Service Requested)

The Little Church with the Big Heart

