

St. Matthew Ev. Lutheran Church

Good News

St. Matthew Lutheran Church
5566 Chambersburg Road
Huber Heights, OH 45424
Telephone: 937-233-4632



JANUARY 2024

From the Pastor's Desk

Blessed New Year!

Wow! Where did the year go? Thanks to everyone that played a role in our children's Christmas program, thanks to our wonderful choir and musicians, thanks to our bell choir and finally, thanks to our entire congregation for making our worship an especially wonderful and fulfilling worship experience.



Rebecca and I would like to thank everyone for the wonderful gifts and cards we received this Christmas year. We certainly feel loved and accepted at St. Matthew. Worship continues to be meaningful, liturgical and feeds my soul, I pray it does the same for each of you every week. Pastor Kudart will be leading worship for the first few weeks of January as Rebecca and I hope to get a little rest in FL, soaking up some ocean breezes and reading a few good books.

We have a number of educational opportunities for the Winter & Spring months (2024) and please feel free to attend wherever you think you fit best. Elder Pat Siler will be leading adult Bible study for Sunday school from January to May using the Crossings material. There is an early communion session planned as well as an adult confirmation class and the times and dates are listed below – please sign up for either program.

Early Communion will be in a Sunday school room on these dates:

- February 18, 25 & March 10, 17
- Who qualifies? 8 years of age and older – pending parental approval
- Please sign up in the Narthex for the class or notify pastor at your earliest convenience.

Adult Confirmation is for anyone older than a Freshman in HS up to the ripe age of 110. This will be a concentrated 6-week study on the Small Catechism. It will be held in a Sunday School room-please sign up for it or notify Pastor of your interest.

- March 24 & April 14, 21, 28 & May 12, 19

Fall 2024 (Sept)will also begin another Confirmation class starting directly after SS each Sunday for the next year – a confirmand should be in the 6th grade and/or older for this one (1) year program with graduation set for Spring 2025.

In Christ,
Pastor Kelly

Comments from the President

Comments from the December 3, 2023 Vestry meeting

Treasurer's report provided the following fund balances.

Jack Wohlman	\$12,251.06
Tracy June	\$500.00
Kaye	\$675.00
Carol Schroeder	\$1,875.00
Nancy Jamerson	\$140.00
Mark Kirkwood	\$50,000.00
Ukraine Relief	\$1,295.00
Hurricane Relief	\$0
Maui Relief	\$200.00
Adopt-A-Student	\$562.42

A motion was made to send \$500 to our Adopt-A-Student and \$1,295 to LCMS for the Ukraine Relief fund. Motion was approved.

Treasurer then presented the 2024 Budget. A motion to approve the budget as presented. Motion was approved. It will be presented at the Annual Voters Assembly on December 10, 2023.

The Chairman of Church Property discussed the proposed flooring for the Great Hall. It was recommended that samples in various colors be provided to aid in our decision.

The Slate of Officers for 2024 was presented and approved. It will be presented at the Annual Voters Assembly on December 10, 2023.

Comments from the Annual Voters Assembly held on December 10, 2023.

The Financial Secretary's report stated that general fund offerings YTD through November 30th totaled \$129,292.89 vs 2022's total of \$122,857.75. The monthly average for general fund

contributions through November 30, 2023 is \$11,754. The report was approved by Vestry. The Treasurer's report provided current balances as of November 30, 2023. In addition, miscellaneous information concerning income and expenses was provided. Total contributions collected during 2023 for various charities and projects totaled in excess of \$16,600. Over \$22,000 was spent on facility upgrades. The report was approved by Vestry.

Other members of Vestry provided summary reports of activities during 2023.

The Slate of Officers for 2024 was presented with one amendment to the Slate Vestry had approved. A motion to approve the Slate as amended was made and seconded. The motion carried. The Slate of Officers for 2024 is attached.

The Treasurer then presented the 2024 Budget, which projects total expenses of \$149,388.00 vs 2023 budgeted expenses of \$144,440.00. Estimated total expenses for 2023 is \$137,579.00. After some discussion a motion to approve the budget was made and seconded. The motion carried.

Pastor Reagan announced plans to have an Early Communion class starting in February and an Adult Confirmation class starting in March. Please watch for further details concerning both classes.

Pastor Reagan Contact Information

Pastor Reagan: 614-564-7317 (cell)

k_w_reagan@yahoo.com (email)

If you require pastoral assistance in any way and/or are scheduled to go into the hospital or end up there unexpectedly, please contact me so that I/we can include you in our prayers (unless instructed to maintain privacy) and I can visit you. Your health and well-being is important to all of us!

From the Congregation

CHURCH DIRECTORY

The church directory is being updated for the 2024 church year. If you have not done so yet, send any corrections to Linda Brock in the church office as soon as possible. The directory should be out by the end of January.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Newsletter articles are due the 20th of each month. Articles should be submitted to Kary Ellen Berger, by email, at karyellen.berger@gmail.com

Stewardship Thought

Isaiah 60:6 – “They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.” Faith in God moves the heart toward thanksgiving, which

moves us toward making offerings to the Lord in His house. It's simply what Christians do: Our thanksgiving to our Lord for all His benefits to us simply must overflow into sacrificial giving to the Lord. What Isaiah prophesied, the Wise Men did, and we still do today: We give with a thankful heart.

St. Matthew Shut-Ins

Some of our members are unable to attend church on a regular basis. These members appreciate cards, calls and visits. Here is the current list of shut-ins.

Vickie Fennell

Koester Pavilion, Room 57A
3232 North County Road 25A
Troy, OH 45373

Mary Muller

8683 Clearcreek Franklin Rd. Apt. 345
Springboro, OH 45066
Mary's cell - 937-640-0044

Prayer List

IN OUR PRAYERS WE REMEMBER: Laurie Miller, Marliese Driver; Elizabeth Karns-Poole; Mary Muller; Tom Lingg; Ron Brock; John Juergensen; Bill Yorgen; Alisa Quinn; Andrew; Marita Gabler; Ezra Gonzalez; Linda Moncel, Steve Hill; Jay Popkin, Jennifer Muller, Jim Anderson, Tony Brown; Paul Woods, Kellie Schidecker, Edie Spriggs, Logan Olsen, Bob Brown, Drew Gerig, Rich & Holly McHenry, Kevin Younger & Marcia Groebeck. We ask that you be with those who are away serving our country, especially Logan Rimkus, all absent members, and those suffering from manmade and natural disasters. We continue to pray for the deliverance of your people oppressed around the world. Thanks to God as John & Susan Armstrong celebrate their anniversary.

Bible Quiz

In the book of Judges, the warrior Barak would go to battle only if a certain female leader went with him. Who was she?

- A. Rebekah
- B. Jael
- C. Michal
- D. Deborah

Answer: D (See Judges 4:1-10.)




Special Dates

- New Year's Day, January 1, 2024
- Epiphany, January 6, 2024
- Baptism of the Lord, January 7, 2024
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 15, 2024
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, January 18-25, 2024

Epiphany beckons us to come to the light of Jesus Christ. Epiphany calls us to stare into that light until our inner darkness is fully expunged. Epiphany then sends us out into a dark and weary world as women and men with shining faces, until we say with the apostle Paul, "It is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" [see 2 Corinthians 4:6]. — *Jason Gaboury, campus minister in New York City*





Celebrating the Season of Epiphany

Services with the Kantorei
of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

Saturday, January 13, 2024

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer

St. Timothy Lutheran Church

5040 Rye Drive
Huber Heights, OH 45424
(937) 233-2443
sttimothylutheran.net

Sunday, January 14, 2024

8:00 and 10:45 a.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

1285 Main St
Hamilton, OH 45013
(513) 785-2361
immanuelhamiltonchurch.com

2024 SLATE OF OFFICERS

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expiration</u>
<u>1 YEAR TERM</u>		
President	Gary Fischer	December 2024
Vice President	Kathy Conley	December 2024
Treasurer	John Armstrong	December 2024
Financial Secretary	Al Lutz	December 2024
Recording Secretary	Jackie Bandelier	December 2024
<u>2 YEAR TERM</u>		
Stewardship	Vacant	
Social Concerns	Susan Armstrong	December 2024
	Patricia Jordan	December 2025
	Vacant	
Outreach	Bruce Raymer	December 2024
	Kary Ellen Berger	December 2025
	Tom Petrock	December 2025
Christian Education	Judy Scheidt	December 2024
	Jill Fischer	December 2024
	Rebecca Reagan	December 2025
<u>3 YEAR TERM</u>		
<u>Elders</u>	Bill Wise	December 2024
	Laurie Miller	December 2025
	Diana Tavener	December 2026
	Pat Siler	December 2026
	Mike Conley	December 2026
Church Property	Steve Stapleton	December 2024
	Richard Jordan	December 2024
	Lee Siler	December 2025
	Mike Conley	December 2026
	John Blair	December 2026
	Ron Bandelier	December 2026

January 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 <u>Happy New Year!</u>	2	3 Bible Coffee – 10:00 am	4 Al Anon, 10:30 a.m.	5 A.A./Al Anon, 8:00 p.m.	6
7 <i>Epiphany</i> Choir, 9am Holy Communion <i>Installation of Officers</i>	8	9 Yarn Matters, 6 pm	10 Bible Coffee – 10:00 am	11 Al Anon, 10:30 a.m.	12 A.A./Al Anon, 8:00 p.m.	13 Undecorate the Church, 9:00 a.m.
14 Holy Communion Choir, 9 am Vestry Meeting – 11am, Annual Planning Session	15 Martin Luther King Day	16	17 Bible Coffee – 10:00 am	18 Al Anon, 10:30 a.m.	19 A.A./Al Anon, 8:00 p.m.	20
21 <i>Transfiguration</i> Holy Communion Choir, 9 am	22	23 Yarn Matters, 6 pm	24 Bible Coffee – 10:00 am	25 Al Anon, 10:30 a.m.	26	27 My Brothers Keeper, 9 am-1pm
28 Holy Communion Choir, 9 am	29	30	31			

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