

# St. Matthew Ev. Lutheran Church

## Good News

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

### JULY 2026

From the Pastor's Desk

#### Blessings for the Summer Tide

July 2026 — 250 Years of Liberty and Grace

As we begin July — and mark our nation's 250th anniversary on July 4, 2026 — we give thanks for God's many blessings: the sun and rain, growth and healing, daily mercies, Word & Sacrament and the gift of eternal life in Christ. Let our celebrations be grounded in gratitude and service, remembering that every good gift comes from our Father.

#### **Vacation Note**

Rebecca and I rested on Florida's shores for the last month, gathered shells, read many books, and rejoiced to have our son, daughter-in-law, and grandchildren with us for a period. Little Grant (5) learned to swim, sort-of (a brave cannon-ball and then frantic strokes to the side) in the deep end of the pool. His courage reminded me of how we sometimes come to church timid, reserved, then—once we see God's love at work—we're all-in for service.

#### **Vacation Bible School — Volunteers Needed!**

VBS is just around the corner: children, crafts, games, songs, food and learning God's Word. Please consider serving even for a day or two. Roles include:

- Group leaders
- Crafts and game helpers
- Snack teams and setup/cleanup
- Registration and group helpers

**Why serve?** It provides helpful interaction and can be joyful and life-changing: you share Christ, model faith, and overall help to strengthen our community.



Immerse yourself this summer in worship, service, and learning. Perhaps, try a new ministry (alter guild needs help now), reconnect with a fellow Christian, or invite someone to worship. As Grant's swimming shows us, courage grows by practice—and so does faith.

May God fill your summer with rest, wonder, and faithful service. May you know Christ's presence in every sunlit day and stormy night. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Pastor Kelly

### **Comments from the President**

Comments from the June 7, 2026 Vestry meeting.

Minutes from the May 3<sup>rd</sup> Vestry meeting, were reviewed and approved.

### **Financial Secretary Report.**

The PNC Bank Statement for the period 1 May 2026 through 29 May 2026 and QuickBooks offering deposits for this same period reconcile.

Total General Fund Offering deposits are \$13,720. Total deposits for Designated Funds are \$1,948.06, which included \$1,232.88 in interest on the Chase - Kirkwood Memorial CD. Total deposit for the PNC Statement period designated above is \$15,668.06.

### **Treasurer's Report.**

Checking/Savings – As of May 31, 2026

Joseph Fund (CD)	\$70,000
LCEF Steward Account/All Access	\$245,527.15 (Interest – \$520.22)
PNC Checking	\$34,385.69

### **Designated Funds**

Capital Improvements	\$6,169.65 (Includes \$4,000 for new flooring in offices) (Includes \$1,232.44 Interest from Joseph Fund)
Music Fund	\$1,683.38
Thrivent	\$1,481.18
Youth Activities	\$555.86
VBS	\$288.76

### **Memorials**

Nancy Jamerson	\$500
Ukraine Relief	\$750
Disaster Relief	0
Ethiopian Pastor	\$40
Ethiopian Church	\$120

Hearts for Jesus 0

Seminary Adopt-a-Student \$728.07

Total General Fund Income for May: \$13,720

Total General Fund Expenses for May: \$15,099.64

Net General Fund Income for May: (\$1,379.64)

Note: Large Utilities bills - \$540.64 (Electric and Gas)

### **Pastor's Report.**

1. Total
  - a. Services conducted – 3 (includes June wedding)
  - b. Shut-in/hospital – 2
  - c. Sunday school classes - 2
2. Returning to services June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026
3. Vicar preaching June 28<sup>th</sup> – bringing entire family (I have invited him to lunch after VBS workshop) June 28<sup>th</sup>
4. Rebecca and I (Paul) will be in attendance for VBS starting July 5<sup>th</sup>
5. Thank you for the time away as both Rebecca and I recharged our batteries for the remainder of 2026.

### **Board of Elder's Report.**

1. 2 greeting cards were sent in May.
2. Meals on Call provided 3 meals. Thank you to those who provided meals.
3. Additional Worship Assistants needed.

We enjoyed serving and worshiping with Pastor Rein during Pastor Reagan's vacation. Thank you as always, to the faithful group of Worship Assistants at St. Matthew.

### **Board of Church Properties Report.**

Geraniums left over from Pentecost have been planted in the front of the church.

More volunteers are needed to help mow grass. Please see Ron Bandelier or John Blair if interested.

Plans are being developed to remodel Pastor's and Linda Brock's offices. This should be completed over the next few weeks.

### **Board of Christian Education's report.**

Alex Lutz reported that the Youth Group held their "Church Lock In" on June 6 & 7. They discussed getting our youth more involved in the church. In addition, they have a vending

machine that will be available during church events. Money collected will be used for future youth activities.

Judy Scheidt stated that plans for VBS are coming together nicely. Workshops have been held to prepare for VBS. Please see Judy if you would like to help out.

### **Vice President's report.**

Gift Bag for Guests Idea

- Attended St. John Lutheran Church in Cheboygan, Michigan "My aunt's church"
- Received gift bag for being a guest... we could maybe have something similar for our guests.
- Gift bag included:
  - Coffee Mug
  - Coffee
  - Tea
  - Bookmark
  - Pen
  - Hershey's Kisses
  - Welcome message from their pastor, picture included.
- Neil will look into establishing this gift bag for visitors to St. Matthew's.

### **Old Business.**

Some recent letters were received from our Adopt-A-Student, Brian Schneck. They are posted on the white board in the Fellowship Hall. Brian and his entire family will visit with us on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Brian will preach that day. After worship service we will collect a CASH freewill offering for Brian and his family.

### **New Business.**

It was announced that we are closing out the Preschool checking account. It had been left open due to some IRS issues.

### **Pastor Reagan Contact Information**

Pastor Reagan: 614-564-7317 (cell)

[k\\_w\\_reagan@yahoo.com](mailto: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**

#### **VBS**

VBS is almost here.

Thank you to all who have volunteered or agreed to help this year. It takes a lot of people willing to help to make VBS effective and fun. There are multiple times for training and/or helping with decorations – after worship service on every Sunday in June! VBS will start on Sunday, July 5th , and end on Thursday, July 9th , with a light supper at 5:30 p.m. each evening.

The venture to Rome begins at 6 p.m. and lasts until 8 p.m. each evening. These are some of the things needed for VBS:

- Battery operated candles 4 rulers (preferably wood)
- Skeleton keys 2 large wood bowls
- 3 large pieces of heavy cardboard (maybe from a large appliance)
- 9 (10 lb.) bags of flour 2 bed sheets Wood clothes pins (peg type)
- 6 tennis balls Colorful cloth, fabric or blankets for decorating
- Small wood table Plain wood chair Baskets of different sizes
- 2 plastic wading pools Buckets Balls of various sizes for “shot put”

If you can supply something, please put it in the basket in the narthex. If you are lending something, please put your name on it so that we can return it.

### **SEMINARY STUDENT – June 28**

Our Seminary student, Brian Schneck and his entire family will visit with us on Sunday, June 28th and Brian will preach. A Freewill Offering will be collected at the end of the service for them. Brian has recently accepted a vicarage at The Dwelling Lutheran Church in New Caney, Texas.

### **SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

School supplies for the Huber Heights School District are being collected during July/August 2026. A table is set up the narthex and lists are available. School doesn't start until September 8, so we will collect JULY 19 through August 9. Thanks for your help. Any questions see Susan Armstrong or Trish Jordan..

### **DIMES**

The Ladies Guild Dime collection goes to Graceworks Lutheran Social Services in July. Graceworks provides group homes, housing for low-income elderly and disabled, day programs and emergency transitional housing.

### **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](mailto:karyellen.berger@gmail.com)

### **Prayer List**

IN OUR PRAYERS WE REMEMBER: Herman Shie; Sarah Long; Richard Jordan; Bill Wise; Pastor Younger; Pastor Scheidt; Chuck & Laurie Miller; Bruce Raymer; Carol Reagan; Elizabeth Karns-Poole; Tom Lingg; Ron Brock; Paul Woods; Andrew; Marita Gabler; Ezra Gonzalez; Linda Moncel, Jay Popkin, Jim Anderson, Alisa Quinn; Sean Bandelier; Drew Gerig, Bob Brown, Lori

C, Sandra Gordon, Tia Mumma, Kristina Hulse, Terry Sedlacek, Kathleen Wahala, Karyn Gilbert, Jerry & Gretchen Maziarz, Lola Watts, Kevin Younger, Gene Poast, Jerry Knapper, John Bowling, Diane Linder & Rodney Werner. We ask that you be with those who are away serving our country, 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 be to God as Owen Armstrong celebrates his birthday.

**Special Dates for July 2026**

- Canada Day, July 1, 2026
- Independence Day, July 4, 2026

**Those Celebrating Birthdays in July:**

Catherine Driver	July 1
Cullen Stapleton	July 1
Tanya Shaw	July 5
Gene Poast	July 5
John Blair	July 6
Alisa Quinn	July 11
Elizabeth Karns	July 11
Neil Lutz	July 14
Darlene (McGarigle) Ehlers	July 14
Ricky Hudson	July 17
Mason Kincaid	July 20
Scott Quinn	July 22
Ted Scheidt	July 22
Tom Lingg	July 23
Chelsea Kirkwood	July 27
Chris Kincaid	July 31

**Those Celebrating Anniversaries in July:**

Neil & Alex Lutz	July 2
Lee & Pat Siler	July 3
David Dybvig & Tamara Alegria-Dybvig	July 6



## They Walked Everywhere



When a teenager earned his driving permit, he approached his father, a minister, to discuss using the car. His dad replied, "I'll make you a deal. Raise your grades, spend some time in your Bible and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk."

A month later, the young man came back. "Son, I'm proud of you," his father said. "Your grades are up, and you've been faithful in your Bible study. But you didn't get your hair cut."

The teenager paused. "Well, Dad, I've been thinking. Samson had long hair. Moses had long hair. Noah had long hair. Even Jesus had long hair."

His father nodded. "That's true. And they walked everywhere they went."

## BIBLE QUIZ

About 450 years before Jesus, Nehemiah heard that Jerusalem still lay in ruins after the Babylonian invasion. The news broke his heart. After days of prayer and mourning, he stepped forward to lead the effort to rebuild the city wall. Despite opposition, the people pressed on.

A well-known verse describes their progress: "So we built the wall. And all the wall was joined together to half its height, for the people had a mind to \_\_\_\_\_."

Choose the correct ending:

- A. be protected
- B. work
- C. serve
- D. live

Answer: B (Nehemiah 4:6, ESV)



## Christian Symbol

**SHELL** — A scallop shell, often shown pointing downward with three drops of water falling from it, is a Christian symbol of baptism and the washing away of sin. The three drops of water represent the Trinity: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.



From the earliest centuries of the church, the shell was connected with baptism because it could be used to pour water over a person's head. In a time when many baptisms took place in rivers, lakes or outdoor settings, a simple shell served as a natural vessel, reminding believers that God uses humble, ordinary things to accomplish sacred purposes.

Today, the scallop shell continues to appear in baptismal fonts, church art and Christian design. It quietly proclaims the message of baptism: washed by grace, claimed by God and welcomed into the family of faith.



This historical document was found in the Pastor's office desk during the remodeling!

NEW BUNCH BRUNCH INFORMATION

1984

15 - 20 lbs. flour  
1/4 lb. soda  
1/4 lb. salt  
1 lb. sugar -  
17 - 20 qts. buttermilk  
3 doz. eggs  
1 qt. oil  
Baggies  
2 lbx. margarine ← *could have used 30¢*  
2 gals. syrurp  
9 gals. orange juice  
5 lbs. coffee  
Pam

Styrofoam plates  
" cups  
napkins  
Stainless silverware  
at least 5 griddles  
Large mixing bowl  
Several "pouring" measuring bowls

Mix together at least 10 batches of pancake mix.

6 cups flour  
3 tsps. baking soda  
3 tsps. salt  
3 Tbls. sugar

Mix and store in baggies till ready to mix. Then add:

3 eggs  
3 Tbls. oil  
6 3/4 cups buttermilk ( or 8 cups) sometimes more, depending on the  
thickness of the buttermilk

In 1983 the Wise's bought the sausage. On Sat. morning Jean, Diane Tavener, Claudia Theis, Mary Shouse, Ernastine Keller, Dick Kogler, Kathy Blouin and Phyllis Tschabrun cooked the sausage then mixed the orange juice and cleaned the kitchen in preparation for Sunday morning. Sunday morning George Blouin made the coffee and set out the juice then right after the sermon we heated the griddles and mixed the first batch of pancake mix. (We heated the sausage in the oven before church and checked it during the service.)

Every year, cooks are Grover and Sue Redington, plus a host of others from Vestry. Everyone cleaned up afterwards! Good luck!

# July 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 Al Anon, 10:30 a.m.	3 <i>4<sup>th</sup> of July</i> A.A., 8:00 p.m.	4
5 Final VBS Set-Up, 11 am VBS Meal, 5:30 pm VBS, 6-8 pm	6 VBS Meal, 5:30 pm VBS, 6-8 pm	7 VBS Meal, 5:30 pm VBS, 6-8 pm	8 VBS Meal, 5:30 pm VBS, 6-8 pm	9 Al Anon, 10:30 a.m. VBS Meal, 5:30 pm VBS, 6-8 pm	10 A.A., 8:00 p.m.	11
12 Holy Communion Handbells, 11 am Vestry, 11 a.m.	13	14	15	16 Al Anon, 10:30 a.m.	17 A.A., 8:00 p.m.	18
19	20	21	22	23 Al Anon, 10:30 a.m.	24 A.A., 8:00 p.m.	25
26 Holy Communion	27	28	29	30 Al Anon, 10:30 a.m.	31 A.A., 8:00 p.m.	

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Phone: (937) 233-4632  
 E-Mail: ST\_MATTHEW\_EV\_JESU@att.net  
 Web page: [www.stmatthewlutheranhuberheights.com](http://www.stmatthewlutheranhuberheights.com)