St. Matthew Ev. Lutheran Church

Good News

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

NOVEMBER 2026
From the Pastor's Desk

Harvest Time Is Here!

The leaves are turning brilliant colors, the evenings are growing cooler, and the sun seems to set a little earlier each day. As we enjoy the beauty of autumn, we also give thanks for God's faithfulness through every season.

Rebecca and I want to thank everyone at church for your love, prayers, meals, and encouragement during the past month, especially while I recover from emergency surgery. You have been—and continue to be—a blessing to us and to others in our community. We are deeply grateful.



At times, it can be difficult to understand why certain things happen in our lives. Yet God remains with us and holds us in His care. As Romans 8:28 reminds us, "In all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." We place our trust in Him, knowing that His mercy is sure in every season.

This autumn, as we celebrate the Reformation, we give thanks for the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the gifts of God's grace. And as we look ahead to Advent, we prepare to welcome the coming King—a season of waiting, watching, repentance, and joyful thanksgiving for God's great mercy in Christ.

We warmly invite you to join us for our midweek Advent service on Wednesday, December 9, when Pastor Berhanu of Ebenezer Ethiopian Lutheran Church will be with us. We'll share a hearty meal, meet Pastor Berhanu and his family, and hear about the remarkable ministry and mission

opportunities taking place right here in Columbus. There are two (2) other midweek Advent services all are welcome to join in fellowship and worship!

God is opening doors to share the Good News of Jesus with immigrant communities in our area. Come learn how the Gospel is being shared and how our resources are helping show Christ's love to our neighbors.
We hope you'll join us for worship, fellowship, and a delicious meal. We look forward to seeing you there!

May God bless you throughout this harvest season and as we prepare for the coming of our King.

In His Service,
Pastor Kelly

Comments from the President

Comments from the October 4th 2026 Vestry meeting.

Opening devotion was given by Pastor Reagan.

Minutes from the August 23, 2026 Vestry meeting were reviewed and accepted as amended.

The following reports were provided.

Financial Secretary:
August:

> The PNC Bank Statement for the period 1 August through 31 August 2026 and QuickBooks offering deposits for this same period reconcile to $14,972.78. Total General Fund Offering deposits are $13,483.42. Total deposits for Designated Funds are $494.36. There were Carol Reagan Memorials totaling $790. There was also a Thrivent deposit of $205. Total deposit for the PNC Statement period designated above is $14,972.78.

September:

> The PNC Bank Statement for the period 1 through 30 September 2026 and QuickBooks offering deposits for this same period reconcile to $22,518.27. Total General Fund Offering deposits are $16,010.82. Total deposits for Designated Funds are $6,107.45, which includes $5,000 for Capital Improvements. There were also Carol Reagan Memorials totaling $400. Total deposit for September is $22,518.27.

	2025	2026
General Fund Offerings YTD 30 September	$117,780	$156,272

The 3rd Quarter year-to-date Financial Offering Statements will be available mid October.

Treasurer:
Checking/Savings – As of September 30, 2026

Joseph Fund (CD) $70,000
LCEF Steward Account/All Access $247,585.26 (Interest – $507.69)
PNC Checking $69,759.65
Designated Funds
Capital Improvements $7,309.68
Music Fund $1,683.38
Thrivent $1,364.43
Youth Activities $555.86
VBS $288.76
Memorials
Nancy Jamerson $500
Carol Reagan $495 (Total Received $1190)
($695 Transferred to Ladies Guild)

Ukraine Relief $100
Disaster Relief $0
Ethiopian Pastor $100
Ethiopian Church $500
Hearts for Jesus 0
Seminary Adopt-a-Student $985.52
Total General Fund Income for September: $16,010.82
Total General Fund Expenses for September: $10,785.28
Net General Fund Income for September: + $5,225.54
Note: Large Utilities bills - $467.26. (Electric and Gas)

Board of Elders:
1. 3 greeting cards were sent in September.
2. Meals on Call provided 4 meals. Thank you to those who provided meals.

Thank you as always, to the faithful group of Worship Assistants at St. Matthew.

Board of Church Property:
Ron Bandelier was not present. Richard Jordan stated that we have a couple trees that need to be trimmed or cut down. Vestry advised him to get three estimates. As long as there are funds available within the Church Property budget, no further approval is needed. Richard also reported that we have a gutter that needs to be repaired.

Board of Christian Education:
1. Registration for the Sr. Hi Gathering is due Oct. 19, 2026. The Gathering will be at Prince of Peace in Columbus. The recommended hotel has changed.
2. Sunday School has 2 new young members.
3. The VBS starter kit has been ordered; it will ship Jan. 1, 2027.
4. The Children's Christmas Service is a work in progress – no idea really.

Outreach:
Kary Ellen was not present but emailed Gary that normal updates were made to the website and Facebook. In addition, advertising for the Bazaar continues.

Vice President:
Guest Gift Bag Status

- Stamp finalized with Dayton Stencil
- Mug production should start soon.
- Awaiting feedback on custom pens.
- Bags should be ready for the Youth Group to put together soon

Church Photos

- All photos located on new database
- Email me for new link (nalutz5@gmail.com)
- As always, if anyone has photos from church events, please feel free to send them to me for processing, and addition to the database.

Reformation Sunday Potluck

- Planning on smoking brisket.

Old Business:
The Ohio District Sr. High Gathering is scheduled for November 20-22 at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Columbus, Ohio. Alex Lutz reported that we will not be sending anyone this year.

New Business:
Gary Fischer reported that on 9/11 Jill and I attended a military presentation at the assisted living facility where Gene and Sand Poast live. They were in attendance and we were able to spend some time talking with them. Both are dealing with serious health issues which prevents them from attending services at St. Matthews. Sandy plans on coming to the Bazaar in November. If you have time, they would love to hear from you. Their contact information is in the Church Directory.

It was reported that Richard and Grace Evans donated a four-burner gas grill and some cooking utensils. It is located in the Courtyard. Thanks again to Richard and Grace.

Pastor Regan reported that Pastor Berhanu from the Ethiopian Lutheran Church in Columbus, along with his wife and children will attend our mid-week advent supper on December 9th. As of now the plan is to have dinner, then Pastor Berhanu will discuss his ministry in Columbus. There will be no worship service. There is a good chance that this service will run longer than one hour. We also discussed having a free will collection for Pastor Berhanu and/or his VBS program on Sunday, December 6th and at the dinner on Wednesday, December 9th. More information on this event will be in the worship service bulletins.

It was announced that since only 5 people signed up to attend Oktoberfest on October 10th, we are changing the date to October 17th. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. We need to know how many people are coming so we have enough brats and hot dogs, and we need to know what side dish you can bring.

Calendar:	Oct. 12	Columbus Day
	Oct. 17	Oktoberfest 5:00 p.m.
	Oct. 24	Set up for Reformation/Pot Luck meal, 10:00 a.m.
	Oct. 25	Reformation Sunday Pot Luck meal immediately after worship service. (No new members to welcome). **Wear Red.**
	Oct. 31	My Brother's Keeper 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
	Nov.	All Saints Day (Cake for Pastor Younger's 90th birthday after service.)
	Nov. 1	Vestry Meeting 11:00 a.m. Time may be adjusted.
	Nov. 1	Daylight Savings Time Ends.

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

Holiday Bazaar - Saturday, November 14th, 2026!



Save the Date!

Our Annual Holiday Bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 14th from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Please share this on social media along with neighbors, coworkers, and invite friends and family!

We will once again ask our bakers to get out their favorite recipes for cookies, sweet breads, cinnamon rolls, fudge and buckeyes.
Our kitchen will once again serve home-made soups, sandwiches, chips & drinks. Our shoppers & vendors love our lunch menu!

ATTIC TREASURES Get down those items from the attic that you no longer use to decorate your tree or home for Christmas. Our Bazaar shoppers love these items! Please price these items.

CRAFT VENDORS: If you know of someone who is interested in a table for the bazaar, they may contact Alicia Driver at (937) 974-5010 or alicia.a.driver@gmail.com. Table rentals are now $40.00 **(new price!).**

If you would like to Chair our Baked Goods or our Kitchen, please see Susan Armstrong or Alicia Driver.

Watch for future articles in the Newsletter and bulletins! Let's make this year's Holiday Bazaar our best one yet!

Thank you!
St. Matthew Ladies Guild

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 8!
Attached to this newsletter is a "TIME AND TALENTS WORSHEET." Please complete this worksheet and bring it the worship service on November 8. Place the worksheet in the collection plate or give it to the Usher or give. If you have any questions about what is needed, contact Gary Fischer.

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

Prayer List

IN OUR PRAYERS WE REMEMBER: Pastor Reagan; Eleanor Woods; Bill Wise; Pastor Younger; Pastor Scheidt; Chuck & Laurie Miller; Bruce Raymer; 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, Herman Shie; Tia Mumma, Kristina Hulse, Terry Sedlacek, Kathleen Wahala, Karyn Gilbert, Jerry & Gretchen Maziarz, Kathleen Gilbert & family; Kevin Younger, Gene Poast, Jerry Knapper, John Bowling, Diane Linder, Rodney Werner, Joe DiGiorgio, James Greening, Sharon Stacy & Freddie Hansel. 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 to God as Joe Wiehe celebrates his birthday.

Special Dates for November 2026

- All Saints' Day, November 1, 2026
- Daylight saving time ends, November 1, 2026
- Veterans Day, November 11, 2026
- Christ the King Sunday, November 22, 2026
- Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 2026
- First Sunday of Advent, November 29, 2026

Those Celebrating Birthdays in November:

Jill Fischer	November 4
Mike Conley	November 17
Shaun Stapleton	November 21
Tom Petrock	November 22
Pat Siler	November 22

Those Celebrating Anniversaries in November:

Chris & Rebecca Kincaid	November 18
Mike & Annette Sand	November 21

Stewardship Thought for "All Saints' Day"

Matthew 5:7 – "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy." This is one of many Bible passages that remind us that we reap what we sow. Likewise, what God puts into us (His own love, mercy, kindness and generosity) — flows back out of us. It all starts with His self-giving.

A Reason to Give Thanks

After Eddie Rickenbacker and his companions were rescued after more than three weeks adrift in life rafts in the Pacific, he was asked what lesson he had learned from the ordeal.

He answered that anyone with plenty of fresh water to drink and enough food to eat should never complain.

His words still speak clearly today. Many blessings can become so familiar that we barely notice them. This Thanksgiving, pause to give thanks for clean water, nourishing food, a safe place to rest and the people God has placed in your life. Let gratitude continue long after the holiday table is cleared.



Honoring Faithful Service

Each year on Veterans Day, we pause to give thanks for the men and women who have served our country with courage, sacrifice and devotion. Their willingness to defend freedom reminds us that service often comes with great cost.

As Christians, we are called to honor those who serve and to pray for veterans, active-duty military members and their families. We also remember that true peace comes from God, who is our refuge and strength.

May this day lead us to gratitude, prayer and renewed commitment to serve others with humility, courage and love.

Bible Quiz



What did St. Paul teach about how people can recognize the existence of God?

A. They would have no understanding of God unless someone told them.
B. They could see evidence of God by observing creation.
C. God cannot be known in any way except through Jesus.

Answer: B (Romans 1:19-21)



TIME AND TALENT WORKSHEET

Recognizing that the time and talents I have are a gift from God, I want to make a faith promise to share my time and my talents with the church and its members by doing the following: (Check those positions in which you are willing/interested in serving)

VESTRY OFFICERS:

_____ President _____ Vice President _____ Recording Secretary

_____ Financial Secretary _____ Treasurer

VESTRY COMMITTEES/BOARDS:

_____ Church Property _____ Social Concerns _____ Outreach _____ Christian Education

_____ Elders _____ Stewardship

OTHER COMMITTEES/DUTIES:

_____ Usher _____ Greeter _____ Worship Assistant

_____ Altar Guild _____ Choir _____ Collection Plate Counter _____ VBS

_____ Sunday School Teacher (Children) _____ Ladies Guild _____ Bazaar

_____ Camera Operator _____ Caregiving Ministry _____ Special Meals

_____ Social Media/Website _____ Indoor Plant Care _____ Handbells

_____Homebound Meal Delivery _____ Church Office Assistant

OTHER SKILLS:

_____ Musical Instrument (Specify: _____)

_____ Artist/Drawing Skills _____ Computer Repair/Programming

_____ Plumbing _____ Lawn Mowing

_____ Electrical _____ Painting

_____ Other (Specify: _____)

Name: _____ Date: _____

November **2026**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 ***All Saints Sunday*** Holy Communion Choir, 9 am Choir, Noon **Vestry – 11 am** ***Daylight Savings Time ends***	2	3	4 Bible Coffee – 10:00 am	5 Al Anon – 10:30 a.m.	6 A.A., 8:00 p.m.	7 **BLOOD DRIVE** **8 am-2 pm**
8 **Stewardship Sunday** Holy Communion Choir, 9 am Choir, Noon	9	10 Yarn Matters, 6 p.m.	11 ***Veteran's Day*** Bible Coffee – 10:00 am	12 Al Anon – 10:30 a.m. **Set-up for Bazaar, 1 pm**	13 A.A., 8:00 p.m.	14 **CHURCH BAZAAR** **9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**
15 Holy Communion Choir, 9 am Handbells, Noon	16	17	18 Bible Coffee – 10:00 am	19 Al Anon – 10:30 a.m. Church Newsletter Articles Due	20 A.A., 8:00 p.m.	21
22 ***Christ the King Sunday*** Holy Communion Choir, 9 am Handbells, Noon	23	24	25 Bible Coffee – 10:00 am	26 ***Thanksgiving***	27 A.A., 8:00 p.m.	28
29 **ADVENT BEGINS** Holy Communion Choir, 9 am	30					

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church
5566 Chambersburg Road
Huber Heights, OH 45424

Phone: (937) 233-4632
E-Mail: ST_MATTHEW_EV_JESU@att.net
Web page: www.stmatthewlutheranhuberheights.com