

ST. MATTHEW'S EC CHURCH

WHITE DOVE FLYER

"A faithful family reaching out to serve Christ"



MAY 2026

Secretary Office Hours are:

Mon., Wed., Thurs. 10am—2pm

Phone: 610-381-2442

Email: stmatts@ptd.net

Website: stmattsecckunkletown.com

WORSHIP SERVICE

9:00 AM SUNDAY

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
CLASS

10:30 AM SUNDAY

RJ Cramer

Council President

Wil Hoffman

Pastor

Starlene Barr

Treasurer

Dan Smale

Music Director

Tiffany Lakatosh

Children's Ministry

Renée Keiper

Church Secretary

DATED MATERIAL. PLEASE DO NOT HOLD



Kunkletown, Pa 18058

102 Church Road

St. Matthew's Church

LEHIGHTON, PA 18235

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NONPROFIT

The Evidence Is In: A Year of Generosity in Action

At St. Matthew's Evangelical Congregational Church, God's work is not just something we talk about—it's something we live out together.

In 2025, through the faithful efforts of Christians in Action (CIA) and the generous response of our congregation, we were able to support a wide range of ministries and needs both locally and beyond. Each month, CIA contributed \$200 to our Joyful Noise Benevolence—and you responded with additional giving that made a powerful impact.

2025 Monthly Benevolences Supported

- **January:** Hope Lodge: \$454
- **February:** Family Promise (Carbon County): \$434
- **March:** Family Promise (Monroe County): \$462
- **April:** PVEN Food Pantry: \$405
- **May:** Cystic Fibrosis Support: \$507
- **June:** Garden of Giving: \$338
- **July:** Touch the World: \$366
- **August:** Operation Touch of Home: \$436
- **September:** Habitat for Humanity: \$542
- **October:** Pediatric Cancer Support: \$492
- **November:** VALOR Clinic: \$546
- **December:** West End Food Pantry: \$365

Through these monthly efforts alone, a total of **\$5,417** was given to bless others in need.

Additional Outreach Impact

Beyond monthly giving, our church extended even further through special outreach efforts totaling **\$9,772**, including:

- Support for Lehighon fire victims
- Disaster relief through Samaritan's Purse
- Operation Christmas Child shoebox postage
- Assistance for hardship needs

Easter and Christmas hams for the West End Food Pantry

Notably, the holiday food donations were completely covered by the generosity of our congregation.

With Grateful Hearts

This past year is a testimony of what God can do through a willing church family. Thank you for giving, serving, and responding so faithfully. Because of you, lives were touched and the love of Christ was shared in meaningful ways.

"We could not do it without you."

—Christians in Action (CIA)

ROCKY RAILWAY VBS

JESUS' POWER PULLS US THROUGH!



SCAN TO REGISTER

<https://vbspro.events/p/stmatthews>


 **JULY 13-17**
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

 **AGE 3-11**
PARTICIPANTS


 **12-17**
YOUTH HELPERS

 **WHERE:**
ST. MATTHEW'S
IN KUNKLETOWN





 Strawberry Festival

Laymen's Fellowship will be having the PA Dutch Raffle at our Annual Strawberry Festival on **Sunday, June 21**. We would greatly appreciate items for the raffle, valued at least at \$25. Please bring your donation to the Church no later than **June 14**. Thank you in advance for your support.

Laymen's Bingo 

Mark your calendars! Laymen's Fellowship will be sponsoring a Cash & Gift Card Bingo fundraiser on **Sunday, July 19**. Donations of cash or gift cards would be greatly appreciated & will be accepted during May & June.

LOOK FOR THE 4 FLAGS THROUGHOUT THE NEWSLETTER NOT INCLUDING THIS ONE!!!



NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK!

YOU'RE INVITED TO A NIGHT OF BASEBALL, FUN, AND FELLOWSHIP!

LEHIGH VALLEY IRONPIGS vs. SCRANTON WILKES-BARRE RAILRIDERS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 2026

6:45 PM GAME TIME

INCLUDES FRIDAY NIGHT FIREWORKS!

TICKETS: \$13
(Includes \$2 ballpark food credit)

PARKING: \$5
(separate)

STADIUM IS CASHLESS
(card/electronic only)

DEADLINE: MAY 17, 2026
SEE PASTOR WIL TO PURCHASE TICKETS.

Payment must be received by the deadline. ★

NORTHEAST DISTRICT OF EC CHURCHES

Annual PICNIC

FAITH • FELLOWSHIP • FOOD • FUN

SATURDAY, JULY 25TH | **1PM - 5PM**

ST. MATTHEW'S EC CHURCH GROVE
124 PICNIC LANE, KUNKLETOWN PA, 18058

JOIN US FOR

- WHO**
Northeast District of EC Churches Family & Friends
- TRADITIONAL PICNIC MENU**
Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Sides, Desserts
- DEVOTIONAL / MESSAGE**
A time to be encouraged in God's Word
- MUSIC**
Worship and fellowship through song
- ACTIVITIES**
 - Horse Shoes
 - Corn Hole
 - Playground Fun

Everyone Welcome!
BRING YOUR FAMILY AND JOIN THE FUN!

St. Matthew's ECC Visitation Committee
By Wanda Wunder

Many congregants may remember that for years visiting personal care homes, shut-ins, and hospitalizations was the responsibility of our pastor. However, here at St. Matthew's visiting our homebound members has not been the sole responsibility of the pastor for over two decades.

At St. Matthew's we have a visitation committee who, along with the pastor, is charged with ministering to the homebound. By highlighting compassion and community, the Bible emphasizes the importance of visiting the homebound. Matthew 25:36 tells us, "I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me." 1Thessolonians 5:11 reminds us to "...encourage one another and build each other up."

Presently our visitation committee attempts to visit each shut-in at least four-five times a year. Our goal is to visit more frequently. To achieve that, it would be wonderful to have more people (both men and women) on the visitation committee---a committee who shares smiles, memories, and camaraderie with those whose spirits are uplifted by our company. Won't you consider joining us? No hard work involved! Visits might involve reading a biblical passage, saying a prayer, playing cards, spending time on a puzzle, or good old-fashioned chit chat!

Again, would you have a few hours a month to visit with a partner? We usually visit in pairs or groups of three. We hold a meeting approximately four times a year to review how our visits have been received, who might need extra time, our activities with those visited, and new folks who might need visitors.

In closing, our visitation team ends with these words from our Lord, "And the King will answer them, 'Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'" Matthew 25:40

St. Matthew's Prayer List – April 19, 2026

KINGDOM WORK:

Sister Helena – Zambia – raising chickens, growing vegetables feeding the children and can now put a roof on facility

Randy & Deb Sheagley – Touch the World website

MILITARY:

Major James Beidleman (son of Kathy and Brian Beidleman): Pilot at Dover Air Force Base

LT Noah Krechel (Grandson of Henry and Doris Krechel): Serving in the US Navy stationed in Norfolk, VA

Logan Mackes (Grandson of Rose Fritz): Serving in the U.S. Army in Fort Hood, TX for next 2½ years from Jan. 30, 2025

Bryce Silliman (Irene and Dean Zacharias' grandson) US Navy

Conner Wise (Hal's cousin's son): U.S. Marine deployed to Iwakuni, Japan (via Hawaii & Guam) for 6-9 months.

LONG-TERM NEEDS:

John Armbruster (friend of Rose Fritz): immunotherapy for a year

Conner Bittenbender (Bittenbender Family Member): Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy; lab test results & healing

Roberta Heffley (Eleanor Long's Sister): Cancer

Wade Koehler (Vivian Smith's friend)

Shannon Osinski (wife of James Osinski) Ehlers Danlos Syndrome

Eileen Ravalico (Roy Zeruth's friend): Cancer

Sheila Sherer (Eleanor Long's Niece): Fluid on her brain

Scott Smith (Doris and Henry's son-in-law): Cancer

Hudson Stewart (Bittenbender Family Member): Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy; no symptoms yet

SHUT INS:

Gloria (Jeannie) Anewalt: Walden Building III, Room 118, 325 N. Broadway, Wind Gap, PA 18091

Lois Bachman (Homer Borger's sister): 6714 PA Rt 873, Slatington PA 18080

Gene and Sandy Borger – P.O. Box 907, Kresgeville PA 18333

James Borger—526 Wood Street, Apt 439, Bethlehem PA 18018-4463

Kyle Frable—104 5K Lane, Kunkletown PA 18058

Joann Hunsicker—Mrs. Bush's Personal Care—2W, P.O. Box 327, Kunkletown PA 18058

Shirley Kuntz—Getz Personal Care Home, 1026 Scenic Dr, Kunkletown PA 18058

Gladys Meixsell—Stbg Post Acute Nursing and Rehabilitation, 4227 Manor Dr, Stroudsburg PA 18360

Jacqueline Mock—Mrs. Bush's Personal Care—P.O. Box 327, Kunkletown, PA 18058

Marlette Palermo – 276 Bollinger Rd., Kunkletown PA 18058

Velma Silfies—Mrs. Bush's Personal Care, 302 Kunkletown Rd, Kunkletown PA 18058

Leah Jane Sterner—300 Covered Bridge Rd, Kunkletown PA 18058

Jesse Ziegenfus—Brookmont Healthcare Ctr, 510 Brookmont Dr, Effort PA 18330

PRAYERS NEEDED FOR STRENGTH AND HEALING:

Helen Alpaugh/4

Ian Snyder/2

Darryl and Devoe Breinich/2

Jean (Robbin Eckhart's mother)/5*

Rich Frantz/5*

June Strohl (Marie Christman's friend)/5*

Dawn Hockman/4

Dora Tartar/3

Tiffany Lakatosh and family/5*

Christy Larue (Magen Snyder's friend)/1

BEREAVEMENT – Prayers for the family

Daniel Shea (Paul LoMonaco's brother)/1

MARCH 2026 NET INCOME	3/31/26	YTD
TOTAL OFFERINGS—ENVELOPES & PLATE	\$ 12,339.00	\$ 29,457.13
OTHER INCOME	\$ 2,825.47	\$ 4,810.33
FROM FELTHAM INVESTMENTS	<u>\$ 21,792.88</u>	<u>\$ 36,792.88</u>
MARCH 2026—TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$ 36,957.35</u>	<u>\$ 71,060.34</u>
MARCH 2026 – TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$ (25,165.75)</u>	<u>\$ (68,028.28)</u>
NET INCOME	\$ 11,791.60	\$ 3,032.06



GRADUATE'S NAME: _____

YOUR NAME AND RELATIONSHIP TO GRADUATE: _____

NAME OF SCHOOL AND LOCATION: _____

DEGREE, LICENSE, DIPLOMA OR CERTIFICATE: _____

FUTURE EDUCATION OR CAREER PLANS: _____

GRADUATES ADDRESS SO WE CAN SEND A CARD: _____

WILL YOUR GRADUATE ATTEND CHURCH ON JUNE 14TH? _____

GRADUATE SUNDAY WILL BE ON JUNE 14

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE OFFICE NO LATER THAN MAY 24TH.

CIA Cook's Corner

Tater Tot Dish by Wanda Wunder

Twice a month Dan and I cook a family meal with a theme. Sometimes it's centered around a holiday; often it's focused on a U.S. state. Recently we celebrated foods prominent in Minnesota. Our main course was Tater Tot Dish, a classic comfort food served in Minnesota. We hope you'll like it as much as we did.

Ingredients:

1lb ground beef
2 tablespoons unsalted butter
1 cup diced yellow onion
2 cloves garlic, minced
2 cans (10 oz each) Cream of Mushroom Soup
3 tablespoons soy sauce
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
1\4 cup sour cream
1 teaspoon dried parsley
1\2teaspoon dried thyme
salt to taste
ground black pepper to taste
16 oz frozen mixed vegetables (corn, carrots, green beans,
and peas)
2 lb frozen tater tots
8 oz shredded sharp cheddar

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. In a 12" cast iron skillet over medium heat, brown the beef. Once browned, drain off fat and remove beef to a plate.
3. Next add butter to the pan. Once butter is melted, add onion and garlic. Stir to mix. Cook until the onions are transparent and nicely softened. (6-10 minutes)
4. Add cream of mushroom soup, soy sauce, and Worcestershire sauce, stirring to mix.
5. Fold beef into the mixture and then cook until it is warmed and bubbling, stirring regularly. Add sour cream, the parsley and thyme, and the salt and pepper. Stir to incorporate. Then stir in the frozen vegetables.
(At this point check if there is enough room to place the frozen tater tots in the cast iron skillet on top of the mixture.)
If there is enough room, place the tater tots on top of the mixture.
If there is not enough room, place the mixture in a 2 1\2-3qt casserole dish and then top with the tater tots.
6. Place the dish in the preheated oven and cook for 20 minutes. Then move skillet\casserole up a bit higher in the oven and broil until tater tots are nicely browned (6-10 min) Remove the dish from the oven and sprinkle tater tots with cheese and black pepper. Adjust oven back to 350F and place dish back in the oven and cook for an additional 6-10 min or until cheese is melted and gravy bubbling.
7. Remove from oven and enjoy.

May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Grove & Cemetery Clean Up 9am
3 New member class #3 10:30—12:00pm	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Council 7pm	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Laymen's Fellowship 10am	21	22	23
24	25  Church office closed	26	27	28	29	30
31 Band & Breakfast						

May 2026 Birthdays

May 1 Milton Souders	May 21 Lillian Leslie
May 2 Chris Fisher, Samantha Kreger	May 22 Tammy Brown, Karena Thek
May 3 Darryl Breinich, Bridget Freeby, Michael Kratz	May 24 Skye Smith
May 4 Joshua Frantz	May 25 Linda Greenzweig, Kathy Smith, Cassandra Yost
May 5 Mary Eckhart, Barbara Getz	May 28 Nickolas Snyder
May 7 Abigail Huber	May 29 Jackie Gannon, Ashley Hahn, Frank Rapa
May 9 Delbert Kibler Sr.	May 30 Deanna Anthony
May 10 Carl Frantz, Alexandria Pfancook, Carl Smith	May 31 Dale Greenzweig Sr.
May 12 Starlene Barr	
May 13 Laura Bealer	
May 14 Brenna Perry	
May 15 Robert Dorshimer	
May 16 Brent Dorshimer, Cody Eckhart	
May 20 Brandy Bittenbender, Michele Gannon, Malvin Meckes	