



WHITE DOVE FLYER

"A Faithful family reaching out to serve Christ"

WORSHIP SERVICE
9:00 AM SUNDAY
ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
CLASS 10:30 AM SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 2026

Secretary Office Hours are:

Mon., Wed., Thurs. 10am – 2pm

Phone: 610-381-2442

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RJ Cramer
Council President
Wil Hoffman
Pastor
Starlene Barr
Treasurer
Dan Smale
Music Director
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Director of Children's
Ministry
Renee Keiper
Church Secretary



St. Matthew's ECC
102 Church Rd.
Kunkletown PA 18058

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LEHIGHGTON, PA 18235

“The Life of King David – A Man after God’s Own Heart”

On Sundays, recently, we have been learning about the Life of King David. Did you know that, other than Jesus, there is more written about David in the Bible than any other individual? A useful estimate is that roughly 7–10% of the Bible is directly connected with David, depending on the method of counting. It could be said that “Outside of Jesus Christ, David is one of the most prominent individuals in all of Scripture. His story occupies dozens of chapters, nearly half of the Psalms bear his name, and his name continues all the way into the New Testament, where Jesus is proclaimed as the Son of David.” In fact, David is named more than 1,000 times in the Bible, making him one of Scripture’s most frequently named individuals. I thought you might find a quick review of his life helpful. I found this article that I would like to share with you.

The Life of King David: A Man After God’s Own Heart: Few people in Scripture experienced greater triumphs—or more painful failures—than King David. His story stretches from the quiet fields of Bethlehem to the throne of Israel, revealing what God can do through an ordinary person whose heart is turned toward Him.

From Shepherd to Anointed King: David first appears in 1 Samuel 16 as the youngest son of Jesse. While his older brothers seemed more likely candidates for kingship, God reminded Samuel, “For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7, ESV). David was tending sheep when Samuel called for him and anointed him. Yet David did not immediately become king. God had chosen him, but years of preparation would come before the promise was fulfilled.

David and Goliath: David’s faith became evident when Israel faced the Philistine giant Goliath. While experienced soldiers trembled, the young shepherd trusted the Lord. David declared, “The battle is the LORD’s” (1 Samuel 17:47, ESV). With a sling and a stone, David defeated Goliath—not because David was stronger, but because he trusted in the God who was.

David the Fugitive: David soon became a successful warrior and gained the admiration of Israel. This stirred the jealousy of King Saul, who repeatedly attempted to kill him. David spent years fleeing from Saul, hiding in caves and living as a fugitive. Although David had opportunities to kill Saul, he refused to seize the throne by his own hand. He chose instead to wait for God’s timing. These difficult years helped shape David into the king God was preparing him to become.

David the King: After Saul’s death, David eventually became king over all Israel (2 Samuel 5). He captured Jerusalem, established it as his capital, brought the Ark of the Covenant there, and desired to build a house for the Lord. God responded by making a remarkable covenant with David. God promised that David’s royal line would continue and that his kingdom would ultimately be established forever (2 Samuel 7:12–16). That promise points beyond David to Jesus Christ, the Son of David and eternal King.

David the Sinner—and David the Repentant: David's story is not one of perfection. His adultery with Bathsheba and his actions leading to the death of her husband Uriah were grievous sins (2 Samuel 11). His choices brought terrible consequences to himself and his family. Yet when the prophet Nathan confronted him, David confessed, “I have sinned against the LORD” (2 Samuel 12:13, ESV). Psalm 51 gives us a window into David's repentance: “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me” (Psalm 51:10, ESV). David reminds us that being a person after God's heart does not mean being sinless. It means recognizing our sin, turning back to God, and depending upon His mercy and grace.

David's Greatest Legacy: David was a shepherd, musician, warrior, fugitive, husband, father, sinner, psalmist, and king. He experienced extraordinary victories and heartbreaking failures. Yet through it all, God remained faithful. David's greatest significance is ultimately found not in the giant he defeated or the kingdom he ruled, but in the King who would come from his family line. Jesus Christ is repeatedly identified in the New Testament as the promised Son of David. David's earthly kingdom eventually ended, but Christ's kingdom will never end.

The life of David therefore reminds us of a powerful truth: God does not simply look for impressive people—He looks at the heart. And even when His people fail, God's redemptive purposes remain faithful and sure. “I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will.” — Acts 13:22 (ESV)

Knowing our Bible, the infallible, inerrable, God-Inspired word provides many blessings in our everyday lives. The bible is as relevant to us today as it ever was. Tammy and I pray that the Lord bless you and keep you, all the days of your life. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Pastor Wil and Tammy Hoffman

Children's Ministry Message

Our homework help / tutoring program continues every Wednesday evening from 5-7 pm in the Fellowship Hall during the school year. There will be snacks provided. If you know a child who needs some extra help with their schoolwork, please send an email to stmattsjoy@gmail.com. We hope to help many children in our area.

Pastor Wil and the Children's Ministry will be offering a Confirm Class for youth ages 12-17 beginning January 2027 with a start date to be determined. Our mission statement is Know Christ - Follow Christ - Make Christ Known and our goal is to form lifelong disciples of Jesus Christ. If this is something you may be interested in for your child, please call or text Cheryl Hummer at 570-856-2922 for more information.

We are also looking for children to participate in our Christmas pageant, we will be doing a performance during church, and we will also be going to Mrs. Bush's to perform on 12/20 after church. Practices will be starting in November. More information will be shared during church services on Sundays and via email to parents. See someone in the Children's Ministry if you and your child are interested.

God Bless,

Cheryl Hummer

September 2026 Net Income	Sept. 26	YTD
Total Offerings-envelopes & Plate	\$ 11,042.00	\$ 93,992.13
Other Income (including WE Fair)	\$ 13,838.47	\$ 84,016.33
From investments	\$ 0	\$ 36,792.88
September 2026 - Total Income	\$ 24,880.47	\$ 214,801.34
September 2026 - Total Expenses	\$ (45,715.54)	\$(212,258.41)
Net Income or Loss	\$ (20,835.07)	\$ 2,532.93

NOVEMBER 1ST ALL SAINTS DAY

You will have an opportunity during the service to light a candle commemorating all the saints of the church who have attained heaven no matter when they passed.



St. Matthew's Prayer List –October 18, 2026

KINGDOM WORK:

- **Sister Helena** – Zambia – raising chickens, growing vegetables and feeding the children.
- **Randy & Deb Sheagley** – Touch the World (touchtheworld.org)

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

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
- **Jalene Keiser**: Cancer
- **Wade Koehler** (Vivian Smith's friend)
- **Chelsea (Everett) Morgan** (Devoe Breinich's niece) ALS
- **Shannon Osinski** (wife of James Osinski) Ehlers Danlos Syndrome
- **Eileen (Ravalico) Keller** (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
- **Sherry Smith** (Barbara and Richard Getz's daughter)
- **Hudson Stewart** (Bittenbender Family Member): Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy; no symptoms yet
- **Judy Walck** (Louise Shupp's cousin): Cancer
- **Nicole Zeruth** (Roy Zeruth's cousin): Cancer

SHUT INS:

- **Gloria (Jeannie) Anewalt**: Walden Building III, Room 118, 325 N. Broadway, Wind Gap, PA 18091
- **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
- **Ellen and Sterling Kresge** -528 Silver Spring Blvd. Kunkletown PA 18058
- **Shirley Kuntz**—Getz Personal Care Home, 1026 Scenic Dr, Kunkletown PA 18058
- **Gladys Meixsell**—Stbg Post Acute Nursing/ 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:

- **Roy Borger**/1
- **Rodger Eldridge** (Anabel Beers' son-in-law)4
- **Eileen Hunts** (Marie Christman's niece)4
- **Mason** (Mark and Brandy Bittenbender's nephew)/3
- **Rick Rentschler** (Bruce Eckhart's brother-in-law)/2
- **Colin Smith** (Vivian Smith's son)/3
- **Blaine Sterner** (Beverly Frantz's cousin)/3
- **Donna Waltz**/3
- **David Zacharias** (Dean's twin brother)/4

BEREAVEMENT:

- **Jerry Lee Lewis** (Dean Zacharias' brother-in-law)4
- **Kathleen Houck** (Karol Meitzler's sister)/2
- **Barbara Souders**/3

BIRTHS:

- **Russell Stanley Smith – 9/18/26** (Tiffany and Corey Smith's son)/2
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Operation Christmas Child – shoeboxes are available in the gathering room. Information, suggestions and labels will also be available. Please return filled boxes by November 8th.



CIA COOK'S CORNER
FEATURING
GREEN BEAN CASSEROLE
DIANN BITTENBENDER

2 tbsp. melted butter
2 tbsp. flour
½ tsp. garlic salt
¼ tsp. pepper
1 tsp. sugar
½ tsp. grated onion

1 cup sour cream
3 cans French style Green Beans,
drained
½ lb. grated cheese
3.5 oz. French fried onions

Combine 2 tbsp. butter and flour, cook gently. Remove from heat. Stir in seasonings and sour cream. Fold in beans. Place in shallow 2 qt. casserole.

Cover with grated cheese, then French fried onions.

Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.

Can be made a day ahead and refrigerated.

Serves: 6-8 people



November

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 - All Saints Day - New member class #1 of 3 10:30am	2	3	4	5	6	7 Laymen's Fellowship Bazaar 10am - 2pm
8 - Council meeting 10:30am - New member class #2 of 3 10:30am	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 - Funeral Pre-planning discussion 10:30am - New member class #3 of 3 10:30am	16	17	18 Laymen's Fellowship 10am	19	20	21
22 Adult baptisms	23	24 Filling pick up 1pm - 5:30pm	25	26	27	28
29 Band and Breakfast	30					

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Sierra Krechel	12 Maynard Frantz, Harry Koehler
4 Ryan Sheckler, Tiffany Smith	14 Vivian Smith
5 Elizabeth Arace, Alex Bentley, Donna Eldridge, Shirley Kuntz	17 Katelyn Flurer, Samantha Petzold
7 Mark Bittenbender, Amanda Heckman Victoria Schneider	19 Brian Handwerk, Willow Krechel
8 Alison Kresge, Magen Snyder	23 Michael Andrews Dale Greenzweig Jr.
9 Rachel Green, Penny Hawk	25 Joseph Arace, Lisa Lomonaco
10 Austin Kresge, Colleen Yaple	28 Jiovonni Vesga
11 Gene Borger	30 Paulette Sebring