

ST. MATTHEW'S EC CHURCH

WHITE DOVE FLYER

"A faithful family reaching out to serve Christ"



WORSHIP SERVICE

9:00 AM SUNDAY

CIA CLASS

10:30 AM SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 2025

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

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Music Director

LEHIGHTON, PA 18235

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Kunkletown, Pa 18058

102 Church Road

St. Matthew's Church

Understanding Koinonia: A Call to True Fellowship

Dear Beloved Church Family,

Over the course of time, the Holy Spirit often guides me to a thought or a point that fills my heart and makes me strive even harder to build God's Kingdom through His nudges. One of those is this thought of koinonia. One of the very first things that is readily apparent to any visitor of Jesus' Church here in Kunkletown, is the sheer depth of the care that each of you have for one another. It is a gift, that as a Body of Christ we are blessed to have. We are called to continue to develop our gifts and never take them for granted. Let's take what we are already good at and make it foundational to our ministry in our community.

I came across this article that can help remind us of the importance of continuing fellowship, which leads to discipleship. Will you do me a favor and take some time to invite our Lord into your heart, as you read this article?

What Does Koinonia Mean?

At its core, *koinonia* refers to **intimate spiritual fellowship and partnership**. It is not merely about gathering together but about sharing life deeply with one another. The word appears multiple times in the New Testament, emphasizing the essence of Christian community. It encompasses:

- **Sharing in Christ:** Our fellowship begins with our shared relationship with Jesus. As 1 John 1:3 says, "We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ."
- **Sharing with One Another:** Koinonia involves mutual care, encouragement, and support. Acts 2:42-47 paints a vivid picture of the early church living out koinonia, as they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, broke bread together, and shared their possessions to meet each other's needs.
- **Sharing in Mission:** It also includes partnering in the work of the Gospel. Philippians 1:5 highlights this, where Paul thanks the church for their "partnership in the gospel from the first day until now."

Living Out Koinonia in Our Church

To truly embody koinonia, we must go beyond simply attending services or exchanging pleasantries. Here are some ways we can live out this biblical fellowship:

1. **Cultivate Genuine Relationships:** Take time to know one another deeply. Share joys, burdens, and prayers. As Galatians 6:2 reminds us, "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ."
 2. **Practice Radical Generosity:** Just as the early church shared their resources, we are called to give sacrificially to meet the needs of others. Whether it's time, finances, or talents, let us give freely as an act of love.
 3. **Serve Together:** Koinonia thrives when we work side by side for God's kingdom. Whether it's outreach, discipleship, or acts of service, let's partner in advancing the Gospel.
 4. **Celebrate Communion:** The Lord's Supper is a powerful expression of koinonia. It reminds us of our unity in Christ and our shared hope in His return.
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Why Koinonia Matters

Koinonia is not just a biblical ideal; it is essential for the health and growth of the church. When we live in true fellowship, we reflect the love of Christ to the world. Jesus Himself prayed for this unity in John 17:21, saying, "that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me."

In a world that often feels divided and disconnected, koinonia offers a glimpse of heaven—a community where love, grace, and truth abound.

A Call to Action

Church family, let us commit to living out koinonia in our daily lives. Let us be a community that embodies the love of Christ, supports one another, and works together for His glory. May our fellowship be a light to those around us, drawing others into the joy of knowing Jesus.

With love and blessings,
Pastor Wil



Operation Christmas Child Samaritan

Deadline for shoeboxes!!! Sunday, Nov 16

We will be checking all boxes and keeping count of them.
Each one we send needs \$10 for shipping and processing.

If you are not packing a shoebox. You can donate.

We will pray over the boxes.

Then on to the Drop-off location on Thursday, Nov. 20. Somewhere in the world, a child needs your love. "It's not the box-its God behind the box."

Any questions, please ask Diane Huber, 610.217.2605.

September 2025 Offering			September 2024 Offering		
9/7/25	74 attending	\$2,740	9/1/24	62 attending	\$1,527
9/14/25	76 attending	\$1,914	9/8/24	67 attending	\$1,965
9/21/25	91 attending	\$2,710	9/15/24	53 attending	\$2,260
9/28/25	90 attending	\$3,558	9/22/24	45 attending	\$1,195
Paypal		\$ 400	9/29/24	60 attending	\$1,617
Total		\$11,322	Total		\$8,564

Place Your Order Today St. Matthew's EC Church

Laymen's Fellowship

Filling Sale

\$8.00 For 2Lbs

Gravy \$2.00 Per Pint

Orders Due: November 16th

Pick Up Orders:

November 25th: 1—5:30pm



LAYMEN'S FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL FALL BAZAAR

NOVEMBER 1, 2025

SATURDAY 10AM—2PM

DINE IN MENU

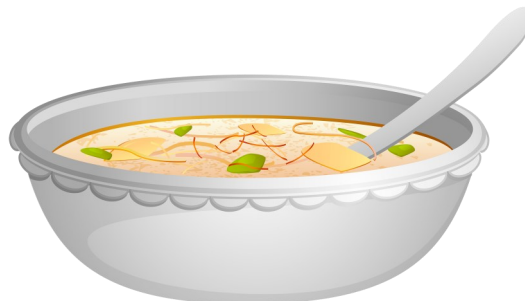
RAFFLE PRIZES

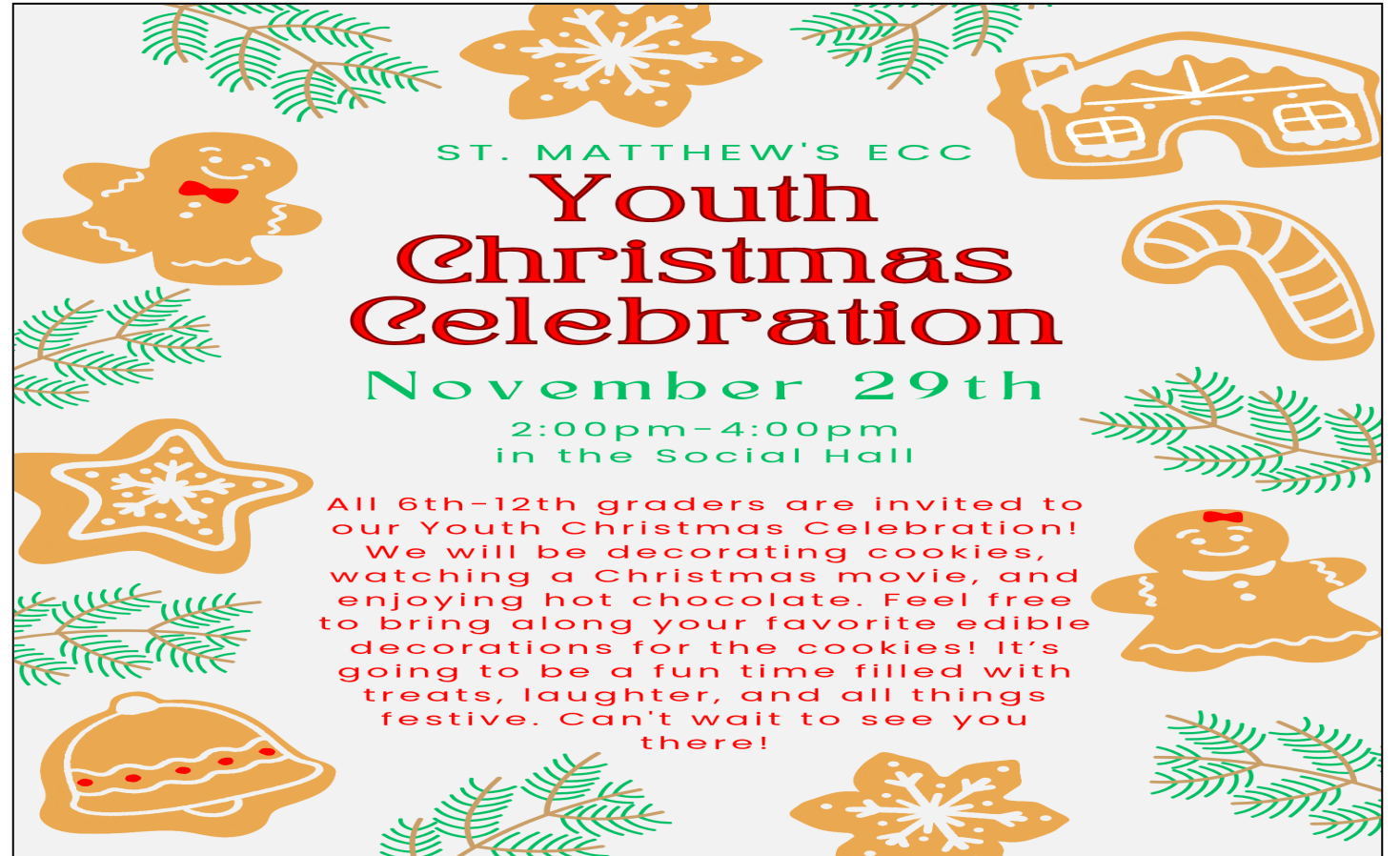
BAKE SALE

SOUP SALE

PA DUTCH AUCTION

THE NORTH POLE MERCANTILE





ST. MATTHEW'S ECC

Youth Christmas Celebration

November 29th

2:00pm-4:00pm
in the Social Hall

All 6th-12th graders are invited to our Youth Christmas Celebration! We will be decorating cookies, watching a Christmas movie, and enjoying hot chocolate. Feel free to bring along your favorite edible decorations for the cookies! It's going to be a fun time filled with treats, laughter, and all things festive. Can't wait to see you there!

Let's
STEP UP
TOGETHER!



Shalom Bayit Foundation Inc. is organizing a shoe drive by collecting Gently worn, used, and new shoes from October to January! Please help us collect 2500 pairs of shoes by January 31, 2026!

DROP OFF SHOES AT:

St Matthews EC Church
102 Church Rd. Kunkletown Pa 18058
Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays between the
hours of 10AM-2PM

St. Matthew's Prayer List – October 26, 2025

KINGDOM WORK:

Sister Helena – Zambia – raising chickens, growing vegetables and feeding the children.

Randy & Deb Sheagley – Touch the World website

MILITARY:

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:

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

Gene Borger: Strength and healing

Roberta Heffley (Eleanor Long's Sister): Cancer

Shannon Osinski (wife of James Osinski) Ehlers Danlos Syndrome

Marlette Palermo: healing

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

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

SHUT INS:

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

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

Larry Hahn—Gracedale, 2 Gracedale Ave, Nazareth PA 18064

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

Kay Frable – Liza's House, 1357 Blue Mountain, Danielsville PA 18038

Kyle Frable—104 5K Lane, Kunkletown PA 18058

Gladys Meixsell—Pleasant Valley Manor, 4227 Manor Dr, Stroudsburg PA 18360

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

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

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

Tom Barr Sr. – Brookmont Healthcare Ctr, 510 Brookmont Dr, Effort PA 18330

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

NEW NEEDS:

Darryl Breinich: heart procedures/3

Butch Drew (friend of the Hubers): cancer treatments/3

Bruce Eckhart: healing/3

Robbin Eckhart: strength and healing/5**

Winfred Hoglen (friend of the Hubers): healing after surgery/5**

CIA COOK'S CORNER
LASAGNA SOUP
FROM THE KITCHEN OF IAN AND KRISTEN SNYDER

Serves 4

Prep time: 15 mins

Cook time: 30 mins

Ingredients:

1 Tbsp of Olive Oil

1 Onion, chopped

3 Cloves of Garlic, minced

1 lb of Ground Beef

14 oz can of Diced Tomatoes

14 oz can of Tomato Sauce

7 cups of Beef Stock

1 Tbsp of Italian Seasoning

1/2 cup of Freshly Grated Parmigiano

8 oz of Lasagna noodles, broken up into small pieces - approx. 9 noodles

1/2 cup of Ricotta

Fresh Basil

Shredded Mozzarella, optional

Salt and Pepper, to taste

Process,

1) In a large pot, add the olive oil, preheat it over medium high heat, add the onions and ground beef and sauté for about 6 to 8 minutes or until they have developed some color and the beef is cooked all the way through. If the ground beef you're using is very fatty, discard any fat from the bottom of the pan at this point. Add the garlic and cook for 30 seconds.

2) Add the beef stock, both kinds of tomatoes and Italian seasoning, bring to a boil, reduce the heat to medium and simmer for 20 minutes.

3) Add the broken pieces of lasagna noodles, cook for 10 minutes, adjust the seasoning to taste, stir in the fresh basil and parmigiano, ladle into bowls then sprinkle a little mozzarella on the top of each one and a dollop of ricotta and as you eat, stir it all together.

November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 BAZAAR 10AM—2PM
2 ALL SAINTS DAY 9AM DIGITAL MINISTRIES 2PM—4PM	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 COUNCIL 7PM	11	12	13 MEN'S GROUP 7PM	14	15
16	17	18	19 LAYMEN'S 10AM	20 MEMBERSHIP 12PM	21	22
23	24	25 SAFETY TEAM 6PM	26	27 	28	29 COOKIE DECO- RATING/ CHRISTMAS MOVIE 2PM— 4PM
30 5TH SUNDAY BAND AND BREAKFAST						

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Sierra Krechel

4 Ryan Sheckler

5 Elizabeth Arace, Alex Bentley, Donna Eldridge, Shirley Kuntz

7 Mark Bittenbender, Amanda Heckman, Victoria Schneider

8 Alison Kresge, Magen Snyder

9 Rachel Green, Penny Hawk

10 Austin Kresge, Colleen Yapple

11 Gene Borger

12 Maynard Frantz, Harry Koehler, Lydia Bealer

14 Vivian Smith

17 Samantha Petzold

19 Brian Handwerk, Willow Krechel
- 23 Michael Andrews, Dale Greenzweig Jr

25 Joseph Arace, Lisa Lomonaco

26 Paige Costenbader, Bruce Gower

28 Jiovonni Vesga

30 Paulette Sebring