

# ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH

## WHITE DOVE FLYER

*"A faithful family reaching out to serve Christ"*

WORSHIP SERVICE

9:00 AM SUNDAY

CIA CLASS

10:30 AM SUNDAY

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND  
CHILDREN'S CHURCH  
TAKES PLACE DURING THE  
9:00AM WORSHIP



### February 2025

Secretary Office **Hours are:**

**Mon., Wed., Thurs. 10am—2pm**

**Phone: 610-381-2442**

**Email: [stmatts@ptd.net](mailto:stmatts@ptd.net)**

**RJ Cramer**  
Council President

**Rick Rufenacht**  
Interim Pastor

**Starlene Barr**  
Treasurer

**Renée Keiper**  
Church Secretary

**Dan Smale**  
Music Director

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St. Matthew's Church  
102 Church Road  
Kunkletown, Pa 18058

LEHIGHTON, PA 18235

PERMIT NO 74

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## **HOPE FOR THOSE WHO HURT**

Bum Phillips, former coach of the Houston Oilers (now the Tennessee Titans), once made the comment, "There are two types of coaches in the NFL: them that have been fired, and them that are gonna be fired."

For an NFL coach being fired might be a certainty. For those of us who do not coach, there are also certainties in life. Being hurt by someone is one of those things in life that will always come around at some point. In fact there are really only two types of people in this regard, those who have been hurt, and those who will be hurt. We can't escape it. At some time or another, we'll all get hurt—either by the circumstances of life, by friends, by people we trust, or even by our own stupidity.

So how do you handle those hurts in life?

### **Face the Truth About Your Situation**

Rocky Balboa was famous for not acknowledging the hurt. When he was getting pummeled by blows from Apollo Creed and others, he would always say in defiance, "It doesn't hurt." There are people who struggle with hurt and never have any possibility of healing from it, because they won't confess that they are hurt.

There are also people who believe they are immune from being hurt. In the Bible, King David once said, *"When I felt secure I said, 'I will never be shaken.'"* Psalm 30:6

Security had made David feel invincible, but he was soon to discover that his own self-reliance wasn't enough to face tragedy in his life.

Hurt is no respecter of people. Don't lie to yourself. No one is exempt from being hurt.

### **You Must Reach A Turning Point**

If we are going to navigate through hurt and reach the other side of healing, then we must come to a point where we turn away from self-reliance and turn toward God as our source of strength. Once again, David said, *"To you, O Lord, I called; to the Lord I cried for mercy."* Psalm 30:8

If you are mistreated, facing marriage problems, suffering from illness, or dealing with sin, God wants you to turn to Him. The truth is that as long as you keep trying to fix it yourself, it's never going to get fixed. 1 Peter 5:6 tells us to *"Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time."* When is it that you are lifted? After you humble yourself -- after you say "I can't do this."

### **Expect God To Turn Things Around**

If you have reached rock bottom in your life, you can turn your life over to God and He will turn things around. But you don't have to wait until you reach rock bottom. At whatever stage in the process you turn to God, he will hear your prayer and turn things around. David said... *"O Lord my God, I called to you for help and you healed me."* Psalm 30:2

Often part of the turn-around involves giving over to the Lord things we may not even know we are holding on to, such as a wrong attitude, pride or unforgiveness. Be sure to ask God, not only for help, but also for Him to spotlight any particular thing that you need the Holy Spirit's help to root out or wipe away or forgive. If the heart of your hurt was caused by another individual, ask God for the strength to personally forgive that person. Then go to them and do just that.

It really is true. God is only a prayer away. Jesus said we have not because we ask not. When you turn to God for help, he turns things around. You can count on it.

Spiritual passion is the fire that fuels our faith and transforms our daily lives. Christian A. Schwartz, in his book *The 3 Colors of Spirituality*, introduces a helpful framework called the **Trinitarian Compass**. This tool helps us encounter God in three distinct ways, making our relationship with the triune God both personal and practical. Through understanding the “oneness” and “threefoldness” of God, we can experience Him in fresh, meaningful ways that deepen our spiritual passion.

The Trinitarian Compass highlights three key ways we relate to God: (1) through **Creation** (green), (2) **Salvation** (red), and (3) the **Holy Spirit** (blue). These three aspects form a complete picture of who God is and how we connect with Him. Together, they provide the foundation for a passionate, transformative faith.

## Green Spirituality: God in Creation

Green spirituality focuses on God’s revelation in creation. The natural world—its beauty and complexity—reflects God’s character. Psalm 19:1 says, “The heavens declare the glory of God.” Green spirituality invites us to see creation as a sign of God’s presence and to understand that we are made in His image. **Passion here comes from the awe and reverence we feel when we recognize the sacredness of everything around us.**

## Red Spirituality: God in Salvation

Red spirituality centers on God’s salvation through Jesus Christ. The gospel message—the death and resurrection of Christ—is the foundation of our faith. This dimension emphasizes the importance of the Bible and our personal relationship with God. **Passion in red spirituality comes from standing firm in God’s Word, embracing His truth, and sharing the good news with others. It’s the passion of living out the gospel in all aspects of life.**

## Blue Spirituality: God Through the Holy Spirit

Blue spirituality emphasizes a personal encounter with God through the Holy Spirit. This is the subjective, internal experience of God that transforms us from the inside out. Through the Spirit, “Christ in us” becomes a reality (Galatians 2:20). **Passion in blue spirituality is the excitement and movement we feel when God’s presence changes our hearts and inspires us to live out our faith.**

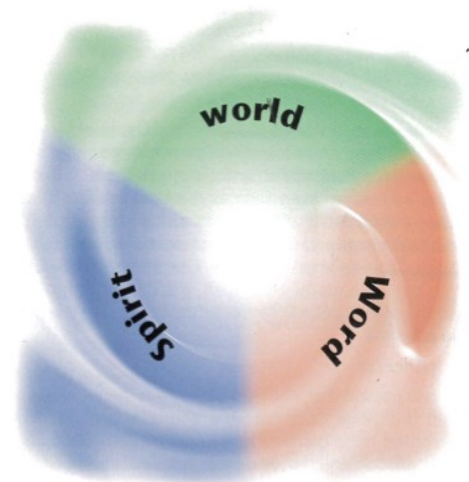
## Integrating the Three Dimensions

True spiritual passion comes from integrating these three dimensions. Each color—green, red, and blue—helps us encounter God in unique ways, but all are necessary for a deep, holistic relationship with Him. By embracing creation, salvation, and the Holy Spirit, we experience the fullness of God’s presence in our lives. Our faith becomes a balanced expression of His truth, goodness, and beauty.

## Looking Ahead

As we continue to explore the heart of spiritual passion, next month we will dive into the practical aspects of how to encounter God in our daily lives. We will discuss “Nine Ways to Encounter God,” focusing on tangible practices that help us deepen our connection to the triune God. These encounters, grounded in the dimensions of the Trinitarian Compass, will allow us to experience God in fresh and powerful ways, fueling the passion of our spiritual lives.

Stay tuned for next month’s article, where we will explore these practical steps toward encountering God and living with the heart of spiritual passion.







### **Family Faith & Fun Night - February 14, 2025 5:30-7:30 pm**

We'd like to invite you & your family to come & celebrate Valentine's Day, **Friday, February 14, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm**, at St. Matthew's Church. Join us for pizza, snacks, a Valentine's Day video, a craft, & games. Mom & Dad, if you would like to dine out for Valentine's Day, feel free to drop off your children & we will take care of them for you, from 5:30-7:30 or join us for the fun! Please **RSVP to Dora by Friday, February 7, to have a count for the pizza & goodies!** Text Dora - 570-730-9931 or email [ddtartar929@gmail.com](mailto:ddtartar929@gmail.com). Thanks & hope to see you there!

### **PRE pre-game to benefit PVEN and West End Food Pantry.**

On Saturday night, February 8, the night before the Super Bowl, starting at 5pm enjoy a bowl of chili and some games.

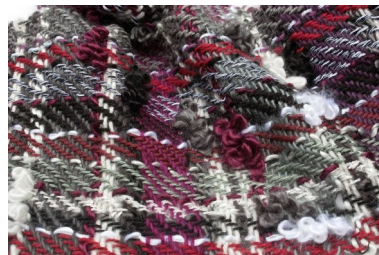
Your donation for the night will go to support the local food banks.

St Matthew's CAN make a difference, not only by donating cans of soup the month of February, but by donating money to purchase what is needed currently at the distribution locations.

Chili will be served up one of 3 ways, White Chili, Chili Con Carne and Texas Style Chili, along with some sides and drinks. Then on to the games. Bring your own or play along with games provided. Sign up in the narthex so we have a head count. Let's make a SOUPER difference, for a SUPER cause.



**PRAYER SHAWL COMMITTEE IS STILL ACTIVE!  
LOOKING FOR CROCHETERS TO MAKE SHAWLS  
IF YOU KNOW ANYONE THAT IS IN NEED  
OF A SHAWL  
REACH OUT TO BRENDA SHECKLER  
OR TONYA PEDDIGREE.**



## ST MATTHEW'S OUTREACH FOR 2024

### MONTHLY JOYFUL NOISE

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY	\$ 18.00
JANUARY—HOPE LODGE	\$109.00
FEBRUARY—FAMILY PROMISE	
CARBON COUNTY	\$ 69.00
MARCH—FAMILY PROMISE	
MONROE COUNTY	\$146.00
APRIL—PVEN FOOD PANTRY	\$119.00
MAY—CYSTIC FIBROSIS	\$146.00
JUNE—GARDEN OF GIVING	\$174.00
JULY—PHOEBE HOME	\$121.00
AUGUST—OPERATION TOUCH	
OF HOME	\$151.00
SEPTEMBER—HABITAT FOR	
HUMANITY	\$230.00
OCTOBER—PEDIATRIC CANCER	\$238.00
NOVEMBER—VALOR HOUSE	\$283.00
DECEMBER—WEST END FOOD	
PANTRY	<u>\$308.00</u>
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM	
CONGREGATION	\$2,112.00

### GROCERY RECEIPTS COLLECTED FOR FOOD PANTRIES

1ST QUARTER	\$224.10
2ND QUARTER	\$408.18
3RD QUARTER	\$387.80
4TH QUARTER	<u>\$474.60</u>
TOTAL	\$1,494.68

\$747.34 PAID TO PVEN

\$747.34 PAID TO WEST END FOOD PANTRY

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

HURRICANE RELIEF \$702.00

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH FROM FAIR PROCEEDS AND FAIR DONATIONS

VALOR HOUSE	\$1,200.00
OPERATION TOUCH OF HOME	\$1,200.00

## ST. MATTHEW'S CIA BENEVOLENCES AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH 2024

MONTHLY BENEVOLENCES (CIA ADDS \$100 TO THE JOYFUL NOISE EACH MONTH)	\$1,200.00
INDIVIDUAL BENEVOLENCES	\$ 600.00
FIREFIGHTERS FOR BLUE MT. FIRE	\$ 500.00
HURRICANE RELIEF TO SAMARITAN'S PURSE	\$1,298.00
ADDED TO \$702.00 FROM ABOVE TO MAKE IT A TOTAL OF \$2,000.00	
MEALS ON WHEELS—CARBON COUNTY (CAR SHOW PROCEEDS)	\$1,250.00
MEALS ON WHEELS—MONROE COUNTY (CAR SHOW PROCEEDS)	<u>\$1,250.00</u>
TOTAL	\$6,098.00

### Income for December 2024

12/01/2024—87 attending	\$2,660.00
12/08/2024—75 attending	\$2,605.00
12/15/2024—92 attending	\$8,855.00
12/22/2024—71 attending	\$2,700.00
12/24/2024—53 attending 3pm	\$ 770.00
12/24/2024—114 attending 8pm	\$4,415.00
12/29/2024—65 attending	<u>\$3,356.00</u>
Total	\$25,161.00

### Income for December 2023

12/03/2023—77 attending	\$2,227.00
12/10/2023—64 attending	\$2,390.00
12/17/2023—115 attending	\$3,655.00
12/24/2023—69 attending 9am	\$3,515.00
12/24/2023—134 attending 7pm	\$4,314.00
12/31/2023—55 attending	<u>\$6,688.00</u>
Total	\$22,789.00

## Prayer Concerns

Tony Palermo, Sterling Kresge, Jason Frantz, Wayne Halliday, Dawn Hockman, Brenda Hawk, Ralph Wunder (Dan's brother), Brooke Beck, Marlette Palermo, Todd Kresge, Alysha Katz, Wendy Peddigree, Rhonda Cramer(Randy and Ray's sister), Ellen Kresge, Beverly Frantz, John Blundetto, Jessica Speer, Lee Byrne, Barbara Souders, Debra Kemmerer, Joan Madden, Janet Smith, Marilyn and Howard McCloud, Kyle Frable, Diane Bonser, Doris Neumeyer, Janet Gower, Joyce Gower, Conner Brawley, Gabrielle Collins, Gene Borger, Sharlee Ahner, Ronald Frantz, Sheila Sherer, Margaret and Larry Hahn, Hudson Stewart, Conner Bittenbender, Marlene Long, Roberta Heffley, Mike Heller, and Brian Holderman (Wendy Peddigree's brother), Barry and Danny Serfass (Brenda Hawk's brothers), Barbara Marks (Pat Martin's sister-in-law), Georgia Smith (friend of Connie Frantz and Dora Tartar), Helen Alpaugh, Leni (friend of Helen), Logan Mackes (Rose Fritz's grandson). Justin Hardy and Dave Zinkler (friends of the Hubers), Joan Zacharias (Dean's cousin) and Roy Barankovich. The families of Tom Byrne, Madelin Celentano and Shirley Smith.

## PRAYER

is the fastest thing on earth...  
it reaches God before you even say it.  
That's powerful.

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

**James Borger**—Moravian Village Health Ctr, Rm 142, 634 E. Broad St, Bethlehem PA 18018

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

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

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

**Kyle Frable**—104 5K Lane, Kunkletown PA 18058

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

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

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

## CIA Cook's Corner

Linda Koehler

### Creamy Roasted Red Pepper and Cauliflower Soup with Goat Cheese

4 red bell peppers, cut in half and remove seeds  
1 small head cauliflower, cut into florets  
2 tablespoons olive oil (1 tbsp will be used for the cauliflower and 1 tbsp will be used to sauté onion)  
1 onion, diced  
2 cloves garlic, chopped  
1 teaspoon thyme, chopped  
1 pinch red pepper flakes  
4 cups chicken broth or chicken stock or vegetable broth  
1 teaspoon smoked paprika  
4 ounces goat cheese, crumbled  
Salt and pepper to taste

1. Place the red peppers on a baking sheet with the cut side facing down, broil until the skins are blackened, about 10 minutes, place in a sealable container and let 'steam' for 20 minutes before pinching the skins off and dicing.
2. Meanwhile, toss the cauliflower in the oil, place it in a single layer on a baking sheet and roast in a preheated 400 degree oven until tender and caramelized, about 20-30 minutes, mixing once in the middle.
3. Heat the oil in a large pan over medium heat and cook the onion until tender, about 5-7 minutes.
4. Add the garlic, thyme and red pepper flakes and cook until fragrant, about a minute.
5. Add the roasted red peppers, cauliflower, broth, paprika and goat cheese and simmer for 10 minutes before pureeing to the desired consistency with a hand blender.
6. Season with salt and pepper and serve garnished with goat cheese.



# February 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1
2 	3	4	5	6	7	8 Pre Game Chili Night 5pm
9	10 Council 7pm	11	12 	13	14 	15
16	17	18	19 Laymen's 10am	20 Concert Of Prayer 7pm	21	22 
23	24	25	26	27	28	

## February Birthdays

- 1 Sandra Frable
- 2 Matthew Frable
- 3 Delbert Kibler Jr.
- 4 Susan Shoemaker, Elijah Hall
- 5 Kathryn Mingle
- 7 Brenda Hawk, John Kile, MaryLou Kocher
- 8 Tighe Meckes
- 9 Darlene Smith
- 10 Beth Gannon
- 11 Karen Cramer
- 12 Renee Keiper, Jean Smith
- 14 Margaret Hahn
- 15 Erica Pozza, Courtney Ulmer-Smith

- 17 Michelle Berhel
- 21 Connie Frantz
- 23 Mason Buskirk, Susan Jansen
- 24 David Frantz, George Moretz, Daniel Hall
- 25 Christine Eckhart, Jason Frantz, Patty Hawk, Stacy Meckes
- 28 Alison Frantz Roll

