

*Welcome to St. Matthews EC Church
“A faithful family reaching out to serve Christ.”
We are honored to have you worship with us today and
we hope that you will receive a warm welcome and experience
the presence of our Lord in a significant way.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*****FRIENDSHIP PAD – Please sign and include any contact info updates.**

FAMILY JOYS AND CONCERNS – Please share!

PRAYER FOR JOYS AND CONCERNS

NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

(L) My house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples, says the Lord.

(ALL) Thanks be to God.

OPENING HYMN *Psalm 150 (Praise the Lord) (page 589)*

CALL TO CONFESSION

God declares:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come
and my deliverance be revealed.

Confident in our deliverance,
let us confess our sins before
God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Have mercy on us, Lord Jesus; we are tormented!

**We cannot take back what we have said
or undo what we have done**

or atone for the agony we have caused.

**We are haunted by the past,
plagued by the present,
and fearful of the future.**

**Yet the faith you have planted in us
reaches out for your favor,
returns to your presence,**

**and hungers for your mercy,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Our God kisses us with kindness,
forgiving our sins,
preserving our lives,
and restoring our souls
through the abundant provision of
our Lord Jesus Christ.

Receive now that for which faith has hungered:
you are forgiven and healed in the name
of Jesus Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Cheryl Hummer

“THE PASSING OF THE PEACE”

PRAYER AND SCRIPTURE FOR OFFERING

Luke 6:34-35, Page 838

“If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.”

MIDDLE HYMN

Your Words are Wonderful (page 572)

SCRIPTURE READING

Wanda Wunder

Old Testament Reading

Hosea 10:12, Page 737

“Sow for yourselves righteousness; reap steadfast love; break up your fallow ground; for it is time to seek the LORD, that he may come and rain righteousness upon you.”

Psalms Reading

51:6-10, page 452

“You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.”

SERMON Pastor Wil Hoffman
Sermon Title “The Parable of the Sower”
Sermon Text Mark 4:1-20
Sermon Notes:

*THE LORD’S PRAYER – ALL
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

*CLOSING HYMN *Victory in Jesus (Christ Won the Victory)* (page 153)

*CLOSING PRAYER

*CONGREGATIONAL SUNG RESPONSE – ALL *Go Now In Peace*
Go now in peace; never be afraid, God will go with you each hour of every day. Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true. Know He will guide you in all you do. Go now in love, and show you believe, reach out to others, so all the world can see. God will be there, watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith and in love. Amen. Amen. Amen.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, August 16		-Sanctuary, 9am
Monday, August 17		-Office Open 10am – 2pm
	Exercise Class	-Gathering Room, 10:30am
	Bible Study	-Large classroom, 6:30pm
Wednesday, August 19		-Office Open 10am – 2pm
	Bible Study	-Large classroom, 6:30pm
Thursday, August 20		-Office Open 10am – 2pm
	Exercise Class	-Gathering Room, 10:30am
Sunday, August 23		-Sanctuary, 9am
	West End Fair	- August 23 rd – August 29 th

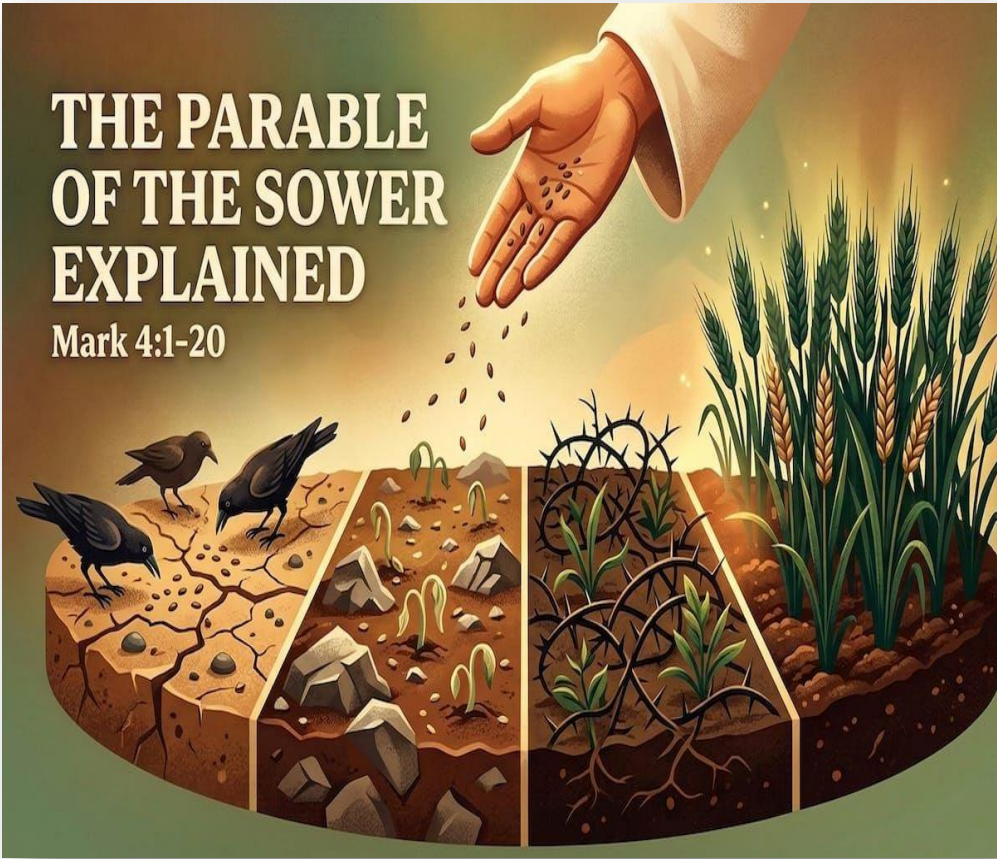
Pastor: Wil Hoffman	Council President: RJ Cramer
August Lead Usher – Mitch Hawk	

ALTAR FLOWERS:

Vase #1 –in memory of Sherry (Brotzman) Kreger by her family

Vase #2 – in memory of Jerry Haydt by his family

- ❖ **August Joyful Noise is Operation Touch of Home** which was established in 2004 by Dean and Sharon Green in response to their son's deployment to Fallujah, Iraq. The organization aims to ensure that local troops serving in war are not forgotten by providing them with essential items and a "touch of home".
- ❖ **Final summer worship service in the grove: 9am on September 13**
- ❖ **WEST END FAIR VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP:** The West End Fair is almost here, and we invite you to help staff the St. Matthew's Fair Stand! Volunteering is a wonderful opportunity to welcome our community, share the love of Christ, and enjoy fellowship with your church family. Whether you can serve for one shift or several, your help is greatly appreciated. Please consider signing up for a time that fits your schedule at <https://bit.ly/westendfair26>. If you have any signup questions, please contact RJ Cramer, Dan Smale, or Cheryl Dorshimer. Thank you for helping St. Matthew's be a welcoming presence at this year's West End Fair!
- ❖ **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.



St. Matthew's EC Church Kunkletown
August 16, 2026
102 Church Rd, Kunkletown, PA 18058
610-381-2442, stmatts@ptd.net
www.stmattsecckunkletown.com

St. Matthew's Prayer List – August 16, 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
- **Kathleen Houck** (Karol Meitzler's sister): Cancer
- **Jalene Keiser**: Cancer
- **Wade Koehler** (Vivian Smith's friend)
- **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
- **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

- **Shirley Kuntz**—Getz Personal Care Home, 1026 Scenic Dr, Kunkletown PA 18058
- **Gladys Meixsell**—Stroudsburg 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:

- **Larry Bonser**/5*
- **Mason Buskirk** - July 30th earthquake in Japan/4
- **Cara Craft** (Dan Smale's friend)/3
- **Jean** (Robbin Eckhart's mother)/4
- **Jerry Kresge**/2
- **Michele LoMonaco Mattocks** (Paul and Lisa's cousin)/1
- **Martha Serfass** (Eleanor Long's sister)/4
- **Bobbi Jo Smith** (Vivian Smith's daughter- in- law)/2

BEREAVEMENT:

- **Kim Cope** (Pastor Suzanne and Pastor Scott's daughter-in-law)/4
- **Rhonda Cramer** (RJ's aunt)/4
- **Kyle Frantz**/1

(Numbers at the end of name tell you how many weeks the name will be listed in the bulletin. The * next to the number 5 tells you that the name is a new prayer request)