



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

Summer Services
in the Grove at 9am
August 9 and
September 13

AUGUST 2026

Secretary Office Hours are:
Mon., Wed., Thurs. 10am–2pm
Phone: 610-381-2442
Email: stmatts@ptd.net
Website: stmattseckunkletown.com

RJ Cramer
Council President
Wil Hoffman
Pastor
Starlene Barr
Treasurer
Dan Smale
Music Director
Cheryl Hummer
Interim Children's
Ministry Director
Renée Keiper
Church Secretary

"A faithful family reaching out to serve Christ"



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

Non-profit
U.S. Postage
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Martha, Mary, and the Busy Life

By Wil Hoffman

One thing I miss from childhood is being bored. When was the last time you woke up with nothing pressing on your schedule? Most of us begin each day with a growing list of responsibilities. We check off one task only to replace it with two more. For some, that pace is energizing. For many others, it becomes overwhelming.

If you've ever wondered, "How will I ever get it all done?" you're not alone. People have struggled with this since the beginning of time. Thankfully, Jesus offers us wisdom through the familiar story of Martha and Mary in Luke 10:38–42.

Jesus accepted an invitation to stay with Martha, Mary, and their brother Lazarus. Martha immediately focused on preparing the house, organizing the meal, and making everything perfect for her honored guest. Mary, however, chose to sit at Jesus' feet and listen to His teaching.

As Martha's workload increased, so did her frustration. Seeing Mary sitting quietly while she worked, Martha asked Jesus to tell her sister to help. Instead, Jesus gently replied, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

Jesus wasn't criticizing Martha's desire to serve. He was reminding her—and us—that our relationship with Him must come before our endless list of tasks. Service is important, but it should flow from time spent in His presence, not replace it.

Most of us have been both Mary and Martha at different times in our lives. The question is, who are you today?

As life grows busier, remember two important lessons. First, don't compare yourself with others. God calls each of us to faithfully do the work He has given us, leaving the judgment of others to Him. Second, intentionally make time to worship, pray, study God's Word, and simply be with Him.

Your to-do list may never end, but your time is limited. Make sure that God isn't just another item on your schedule. Invest in the One who loves you most, and in the people He has placed in your life. Like Mary, choose the better part—it will never be taken away.



Cheryl Hummer
Interim Children's Ministry Leader



We had a fantastic week at Rocky Railway VBS. On the Rocky Railway we learned all about steam trains and the animals that lived in the Rocky Mountains, but most of all we learned to “Trust Jesus” in everything that we do. We met 5 different Bible Buddies who each gave us a Bible Point & Bible Verse of the day and they showed us how to “Trust Jesus” everyday.

We were able to enjoy delicious snacks each day and a wonderful lunch on Friday thanks to all of the great donations from the congregation. Thank you to all who contributed! We completed our Friday afternoon with some games and a spray down from the Kunkletown Fire Department up in the grove, a big thank you to them! The children really enjoyed getting wet and cooling off. They each went home with a goodie bag which included a water bottle and train whistle, not sure how the parents are feeling about me now that I sent them home wet and with a train whistle??

The children also completed a community service project for the West End Food Pantry. They brought in a different non-perishable food item each day from pasta to spaghetti sauce, soup, cake mix and icing. At the end of the week, we gathered 169 non-perishable items to take down to the pantry. The children did a great job with this service project.

On Sunday, we performed two songs for the congregation in church and the children did an awesome job. Harper Serfass was the lucky winner of a 4 pack of train tickets for a ride on the train up in Jim Thorpe. These were a donation from the train company, a big thank you to them also.

All in all, it was a great week and the VBS team can't wait to do it again next year!!

St. Matthew's Prayer List as of July 19, 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)

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

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 Heffley (Eleanor Long's brother-in-law)/3

Jerry Kresge/5*

Michele LoMonaco Mattocks (Paul and Lisa's cousin)/4

Bobbi Jo Smith (Vivian Smith's daughter- in- law)/5*

BEREAVEMENT:

Kyle Frantz/4

The Mighty Oak of St. Matthew's

The oak belongs to the species: Quercus Alba. This is the scientific name for the white oak which is a prominent, long-lived hardwood tree native to North America.

The circumference of St. Matthew's oak is 14 feet or 168 inches. Its diameter is 53.5 inches. The approximate age of the tree is 167 years. The oak is known for the brilliant fall colors of its fall leaves. The tree is highly beneficial to local ecosystems. Its acorns provide food and the tree also can shelter much wildlife.

The oak is a very strong and durable tree. Its wood was used extensively in Colonial Times for wagon wheels, buggies and flooring for homes, as well a furniture. Many tools and barrels were derived from the oak because of its durability.

It appears that the tree might have been on this sight prior to building the original Church in 1779. However, this cannot be proven.

It does show signs of decline. There are some dead branches that should be removed. There is also sign of internal decay and this should be monitored yearly. The overall condition of the tree would be considered fair! The tree has seen many extreme weather conditions over the years. Oh, the stories it could tell!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

SHOEBOXES WILL BE AVAILABLE ON AUGUST 2ND IN THE GATHERING ROOM

INFORMATION, SUGGESTIONS AND LABELS WILL BE AVAILABLE

FILLED BOXES ARE TO BE RETURNED ON NOVEMBER 8TH.



WEST END FAIR VOLUNTEER

SIGNUP: 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!

JUNE 2026 NET INCOME	June 2026	YTD
TOTAL OFFERINGS—ENVELOPES & PLATE	\$ 10,164.00	\$ 62,593.13
OTHER INCOME & STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL	\$ 12,153.45	\$ 20,516.32
FROM INVESTMENTS	\$ -0-	\$ 36,793.71
 JUNE 2026—TOTAL INCOME	 \$ 22,317.45	 \$ 119,903.16
JUNE 2026—TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ (19,758.48)	\$ (122,642.57)
NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$ 2,558.97	\$ (2,739.41)

CIA COOK'S CORNER

QUICK CHICKEN AND NOODLE CASSEROLE SUBMITTED BY IRENE ZACHARIAS

INGREDIENTS:

3 CUPS SHREDDED COOKED CHICKEN (USUALLY LEFTOVERS)

1 -12 OZ. PACKAGE MEDIUM EGG NOODLES (COOKED)

2 - 10.5 OZ. CANS CREAM OF CHICKEN SOUP

2 CUPS MILK

1 - 2 CUPS MIXED VEGETABLES (OPTIONAL)

SALT AND PEPPER TO TASTE

PREHEAT OVEN TO 350 DEGREES

LIGHTLY GREASE A 9X13 GLASS CASSEROLE DISH

- 1. COOK NOODLES AND DRAIN - SET ASIDE**
- 2. SHRED CHICKEN**
- 3. MIX MILK AND SOUP TOGETHER**
- 4. ADD CHICKEN AND MIX WELL**
- 5. ADD NOODLES AND VEGETABLES**
- 6. MIX ALL INGREDIENTS AND SPREAD EVENLY INTO CASSEROLE DISH**
- 7. BAKE COVERED FOR 25 MINUTES**
- 8. REMOVE FOIL AND BAKE ANOTHER 10 - 15 MINUTES UNTIL BUBBLY AND GOLDEN BROWN.**
- 9. DO NOT OVER BAKE.**



August 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 COUNCIL 7PM	5	6	7	8
9 CHURCH IN THE GROVE	10	11	12	13	14 IRON PIGS GAME	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 WEST END FAIR	24 WEST END FAIR	25 WEST END FAIR	26 WEST END FAIR	27 WEST END FAIR	28 WEST END FAIR	29 WEST END FAIR
30 BAND AND BREAKFAST	31					

AUGUST 2026 BIRTHDAYS

3 Joyce Fusner	21 Patricia Martin
4 Leanne Sitler, Clinton Smith	22 Ashton Smith
6 Carol Pawlicki, Judy Smith	24 Cheryl Dorshimer
7 Tammy Strunk	25 Dan Pawlicki
8 Laurie Kratz, Michael Meckes	26 Jason Borger
10 Paul LoMonaco	29 Kristin Heckman
11 Taylor Cope	31 Alissa Mathisen
12 Tonya Peddigree	
13 Nicholas Kaufmann	
14 Allison Borger, Lydia Borger	
18 Chris Barlieb, Carl Frantz	
19 Brooke Beck, Louise Shupp, Rosemarie Stranahan	
20 Nancy Byerley, Randy Cramer, William Hosler, Ruby Voorhees	