

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

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

(L) Listen! The Lord calls out to us, offering life!

(ALL) Teach, lead, turn us to your ways, O God.

(L) Walk in the paths of God’s commandments with delight.

(ALL) Teach, lead, turn us to your ways, O God.

With our whole heart, we will turn to you and live!

OPENING HYMN *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* — (Hymn 465)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Our sins weigh us down,

and we struggle to live in freedom and joy.

When we turn and return to the God who loves us,

God finds pleasure.

We turn now, confessing our sins against God and neighbor.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(L) From evil, even when it masquerades as good,

(ALL) Merciful God, deliver us.

(L) From selfishness and vain desires,

(ALL) Merciful God, deliver us.

(L) From irresponsible behaviors, quarreling, and jealousy,

(ALL) Merciful God, deliver us.

(L) From hurtful disagreements and irreconcilable differences,

(ALL) Merciful God, deliver us.

Turn us away from the death sin inflicts.

Lead us, we pray, and teach us to forgive, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(L) Laying aside the works of darkness,

we live in the light of Christ.

Gathered in Christ’s name, surely he is among us,

full of grace and truth.

(ALL) In Jesus Christ we are forgiven

and lifted up to new life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Gabby Bentley

“THE PASSING OF THE PEACE”

PRAYER AND SCRIPTURE FOR OFFERING

Galatians 6:7-10, Page 948

Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest-time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

MIDDLE HYMN

***Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* — (Hymn 665)**

SCRIPTURE READING

Ian Snyder

Old Testament Reading:

Jeremiah 51:33, Page 663

“For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Daughter Babylon is like a threshing floor at the time when it is trodden; yet a little while and the time of her harvest will come.”

Psalms Reading:

Psalms 1:4-6, Page 424

“The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore, the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.”

SERMON Pastor Wil Hoffman

Sermon Title: “The Parable of the Weeds”

Sermon Text: Matthew 13:24-30

Sermon Notes:

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

APOSTLE’S CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary;
suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy universal Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***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 *Hear The Hallelujahs Roar* — (On screen)**

***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, Sept. 6	Communion	-Sanctuary, 9am
Monday, Sept. 7	Labor Day	-Office Closed
Wednesday, Sept. 9		-Office Open 10am – 2pm
	Bible Study	-Large classroom, 6:30pm
Thursday, Sept. 10		-Office Open 10am – 2pm
	Exercise Class	-Gathering Room, 10:30am
	Men's Group	-Fellowship Hall, 7pm
Sunday, Sept. 13		-Grove, 9am

Pastor: Wil Hoffman

Council President: RJ Cramer

September Lead Usher – Tom Barr

ALTAR FLOWERS:

Vase #1 –In honor of Dan Wunder's birthday, Happy Birthday, Darling!

Vase #2 – available for purchase \$15

- ❖ **September Joyful Noise is Habitat for Humanity** which is a global nonprofit housing organization working in local communities across all 50 states in the U.S. and in approximately 70 countries. Habitat's vision is of a world where everyone has a decent place to live.
- ❖ **Final summer worship service in the grove: 9am on September 13**
- ❖ **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 250th Anniversary is coming up in 2029.** We need leaders, ideas and volunteers.

Matthew Chapter 13

30 Let both grow together until the harvest, and in the harvest time I will tell the reapers, "First, gather up the darnel weeds, and bind them in bundles to burn them; but gather the wheat into my barn." ' "



St. Matthew's EC Church Kunkletown
September 6, 2026

102 Church Rd, Kunkletown, PA 18058

610-381-2442, stmatts@ptd.net

www.stmattseckunkletown.com

St. Matthew's Prayer List – September 6, 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:

- **Stephen Christiansen**/5*
- **Mason** (Mark and Brandy Bittenbender's nephew)/4
- **Larry Bonser**/2
- **Mason Buskirk** - July 30th earthquake in Japan/1
- **Jean** (Robbin Eckhart's mother)/1
- **Jimmy Klotz** (Pastor Wil's brother-in-law)/3
- **Pat Martin's neighbor**/3
- **Martha Serfass** (Eleanor Long's sister)/1

BEREAVEMENT:

- **Kim Cope** (Pastor Suzanne and Pastor Scott's daughter-in-law)/1
- **Rhonda Cramer** (RJ's aunt)/1
- **Mark Michaels' mother** (Mark is a member of the men's group)/5*

(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)