

ST. MATTHEW'S EC CHURCH

WHITE DOVE FLYER



"A faithful family reaching out to serve Christ"



WORSHIP SERVICE

9:00 AM SUNDAY

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
CLASS 10:30 AM SUNDAY

Summer Services in the
Grove at 9am

July 12, August 9 and
September 13

JULY 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

Renée Keiper

Church Secretary

DATED MATERIAL. PLEASE DO NOT HOLD



Kunkletown, Pa 18058

102 Church Road

St. Matthew's ECC

LEHIGHTON, PA 18235

PERMIT NO 74

PAID

U.S. POSTAGE

NONPROFIT



St. Matthew's EC CHURCH

Growing in Faith. Growing Together.

New MEMBERSHIP CLASS

— DISCOVER • CONNECT • BELONG —



EVERY SUNDAY



10:30AM – NOON



**JULY 19TH THROUGH
AUGUST 9TH, 2026**



Please sign up
**ON CLIPBOARD AT
WELCOME CENTER TABLE.**



We're glad you're here!



Questions? See Pastor Wil for details



ROCKY RAILWAY VBS

JESUS' POWER PULLS US THROUGH!



SCAN TO REGISTER

<https://vbspro.events/p/stmatthews>

JULY 13-17
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

AGE 3-11
PARTICIPANTS

12-17
YOUTH HELPERS

WHERE:
ST. MATTHEW'S
IN KUNKLETOWN



NORTHEAST DISTRICT OF
EC CHURCHES

Annual PICNIC

FAITH • FELLOWSHIP • FOOD • FUN

SATURDAY, JULY 25TH | **1PM - 5PM**

ST. MATTHEW'S EC CHURCH GROVE
124 PICNIC LANE, KUNKLETOWN PA, 18058

Everyone Welcome!
BRING YOUR FAMILY AND JOIN THE FUN!

JOIN US FOR

- WHO**
Northeast District of EC Churches Family & Friends
- TRADITIONAL PICNIC MENU**
Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Sides, Desserts
- DEVOTIONAL / MESSAGE**
A time to be encouraged in God's Word
- MUSIC**
Worship and fellowship through song
- ACTIVITIES**
 - Horse Shoes
 - Corn Hole
 - Playground Fun



MAY 2026 - NET INCOME	May-26	YTD
Total Offerings - Envelopes & Plate	\$ 11,014.00	\$ 52,429.13
Other Income	\$ 2,627.93	\$ 8,362.87
From Investments	\$ -	\$ 36,793.71
MAY 2026 - Total Income	\$ 13,641.93	\$ 97,585.71
MAY 2026 - Total Expenses	(15,638.44)	(102,884.09)
NET INCOME (Loss)	(1,996.51)	(5,298.38)

Summer Services in the Grove
at 9am

July 12, August 9 and
September 13

****Bring a lawn chair if you want to**
sit in the shade under the trees
or under the pavilion

Baptism as an opportunity to witness

I forget where I got this article from, but I saved it because it gives us a great biblical viewpoint on the purpose of adult baptism. Please read and let me know what you think.

The New Testament and church history seem to indicate that baptism served as the initial profession of faith of early believers. After Philip preached Jesus to the Ethiopian, the new believer's initial request was to be baptized (Acts 8). When the Philippian jailer responded to the preaching of Paul and Silas, he and believing members of his family were baptized (Acts 16). The same is true for Lydia (Acts 16), Cornelius (Acts 10), the Corinthians (Acts 18), and others. For these believers, baptism was a silent witness, an outward expression, of their new faith and new way of life.

How is baptism a witnessing opportunity for us? According to Romans 6:1-4, our baptism is a witness to the saving work of Christ - His death, burial, and resurrection. As a symbol, baptism visually reenacts His burial in the grave and His resurrection to life. When we see a new believer walk into the water, go under the water, and come up from the water, we are seeing what Jesus did to save us.

Baptism is a dramatic representation of Christ's work of atonement (1 Cor. 15:1-4). Baptism is also a witness of what happens at salvation. Romans 6:3 declares that in salvation we have been "baptized into Christ Jesus" and "into His death."

Baptism symbolizes that as Christ died, was buried, and rose again, so the believer has died, has been buried to self, and now has new life in Christ Jesus. Baptism symbolizes that he or she is a new creature in Christ. Being a new creature in Christ is reflected even in the term baptism. The Greek term baptizo was commonly used in the first century to describe dipping cloth into dye. The cloth came out of the dye vat looking different than when it went in. Being a new creature in Christ means that our lives have changed. As believers adopt a Christlike character, the change becomes evident to those with whom they associate. Baptism symbolizes that change in the new follower of Christ.

Baptism is also a witness to nonbelievers. At Gilgal, Joshua set up 12 stones from the Jordan River (Josh. 4:21-24). The stones served as both a memorial to the saving acts of God and a way to teach the subsequent generations about the God who had delivered them.

The same kind of thing happens in the lives of persons who have yet to experience saving faith. New believers often ask friends and relatives, some of whom may be nonbelievers, to come to their baptism. Questions naturally arise in those who are unfamiliar with the rite. Children may ask, "Why is that man putting her under the water?" Others will wonder about or even hear for the first time of the significance of baptism.

The Holy Spirit can use the act of baptism as the initial entry point into the lives of those who will come to faith in Christ. Therefore, the very act of baptism can serve as a powerful witness of the saving work of Christ and the salvation experience of the believer.

Please understand that when you make the decision to truly first believe, you are saved. No more is required of you. But Jesus calls us to be baptized as a public proclamation of our rebirth. Adult baptism is external evidence of our true belief. If you are considering being baptized or have any questions about it at all, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

In Christ,

Pastor Wil

**** SEE INSERT FOR ADULT BAPTISM INFORMATION.



St. Matthew's Laymen's Fellowship

Cash & Gift Card Bingo

Sunday, July 17, 2026

Place: St. Matthew's EC Church, Kunkletown

***20 games for \$30 including cover-all**

***50/50 Drawing**

***Free Door Prizes**

Doors open at 12:00 Noon

Bingo begins at 1:00 pm

**Food & drinks available for sale by Laymen's
Fellowship – Proceeds support projects
& updates to the Church & Picnic Grove**



St. Matthew's Prayer List – as of June 21, 2026

KINGDOM WORK:

Sister Helena – Zambia – raising chickens, growing vegetables feeding the children and can now put a roof on facility

Randy & Deb Sheagley – Touch the World website

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

Logan Mackes (Grandson of Rose Fritz): Serving in the U.S. Army in Poland

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:

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

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 Fable—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:

Sharlee Ahner (Eleanor Long's sister)/5*

Kimberly Eckhart (Marie Christman's nephew's wife)/3

Roger Cole (Leanne's son-in-law)/2

John (Justin's friend)/3

Joyce Fusner/2

Kelly Gower (cousin to the Barr Family)/5*

Rosa Hawk (friend of Rose Fritz)/1

Gary Realmuto (Paul and Lisa LoMonaco's friend)/4

Jackson Smith (Vivian's grandson)/2

Al Wanamaker (Brian Dean Moore drummer)/4

BEREAVEMENT:

Brenda (Wendy Peddigree's step mother)/1

Estella Altemose (Henry Krechel's sister)/3

Lois Bachman (Homer Borger's sister)/2

Darryl Breinich/3

Joann Hunsicker (Penny Hawk's mother)/2

Joseph Pepitone (Lee Byrne's son)/4
Family Friend of Milt Souders/3

CIA COOK'S CORNER

Pastor Wil asked Tammy to give this to you guys. Though he is not much of a fan of chicken, these have become a favorite and quick “comfort” meal that is enjoyed by all members of the family.

This copycat KFC mashed potato bowl, filled with layers of creamy mashed potatoes, crispy chicken and cheesy goodness, is even better than the original.

Ingredients for Copycat KFC Mashed Potato Bowl

- **Potatoes:** The best **types of potatoes** for mashing include Yukon Golds, which have a creamy, buttery texture, and russets, which make fluffier mashed potatoes. Either can do the trick, but Yukon Golds are my favorite because they provide a richer flavor.
- **Whole milk:** Whole milk adds creaminess and moisture to the mashed potatoes. For extra richness, try half-and-half instead of whole milk.
- **Heavy whipping cream:** **Heavy cream** makes the mashed potatoes extra indulgent by providing a rich velvety texture, similar to KFC's mashed potatoes.
- **Butter:** The **best butter** adds richness and flavor to the potatoes. We recommend unsalted butter to control the sodium level.
- **Salt and pepper:** Salt seasons the potatoes as they cook and again when mashed. Freshly ground black pepper adds a mild spiciness to contrast with all the rich dairy flavors.
- **Popcorn chicken:** This recipe calls for precooked frozen popcorn chicken that you can easily bake or air-fry. If you have time, make homemade popcorn chicken via this **chicken strips recipe** (just dice the chicken into smaller pieces).
- **Corn:** Canned corn provides sweet kernels on a moment's notice, but it's a snap to substitute frozen or fresh corn—just be sure the frozen stuff is thawed.
- **Chicken gravy:** You can use store-bought or from-scratch [chicken gravy](#). Homemade gravy can be more decadent, but store-bought is a super convenient option and saves some time.
- **Cheddar cheese:** Sharp cheddar cheese is ideal because it adds a bold flavor that balances the creaminess of the potatoes and gravy. For convenience, you can use pre-shredded cheese, but grating it from a block will give you a fresher melt.
- **Green onions:** Green onions add a fresh pop of flavor and color. The slight onion taste contrasts nicely with the creaminess of the other ingredients.

Step 1: Cook the potatoes

Place the potatoes in a large pot and cover them with cold water. Add 1 teaspoon salt to the water. Bring to a boil. Reduce the heat and cook the potatoes, uncovered, until they are tender, 15 to 20 minutes.

Step 2: Drain and mash the potatoes

Drain, then press the potatoes through a potato ricer or strainer into a large bowl.

Step 3: Finish the mashed potatoes

In a small saucepan, heat the milk, cream, and butter until just warm and the butter is melted. Add the milk mixture to the potatoes and gently stir until combined. Season with remaining 1 teaspoon salt and the pepper.

Step 4: Prep the toppings

While prepping the mashed potatoes, cook the popcorn chicken, corn and gravy according to the package directions. Keep everything warm.

Step 5: Assemble the bowls

Spoon the mashed potatoes into bowls, topping each bowl with gravy, popcorn chicken, corn and cheese. If desired, sprinkle with green onion.

ENJOY!

PASTOR WIL AND TAMMY



July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 AMERICA'S WEST END	3 250 FAIR	4 FEST GROUNDS
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 CHURCH IN THE GROVE ADULT BAPTISM	13 VBS WEEK COUNCIL 7PM	14	15	16	17	18
19 NEW MEMBER CLASS #1	20	21	22	23	24	25 EC/NE DISTRICT PICNIC GROVE 1PM-5PM
26 NEW MEMBER CLASS #2 SMITH REUNION	27	28	29	30	31	

JULY BIRTHDAYS

4 Arlene Dunkleberger
 7 Gabrielle Bentley
 10 Matt Gower
 13 Angela Frantz, Jessie Keegan
 14 John Frable
 17 Marie Christman
 18 Joseph Shirghio, Amy Yaple
 19 Donna Kibler, Amy Kocher
 20 Jordan Meckes
 24 Frances Frable, Wilbert Kleintop
 Jeff Long

26 Kristen Cramer
 27 Richard Getz, Katelyn Heffelfinger
 Mark Johnson, Tammy Sherer
 28 Patricia Schneider
 29 Jared Kreger, Kyle Strohl
 30 Kasey Meckes

**FIND THE 4 PICNIC
BASKETS**

