

# 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



### MARCH 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

DATED MATERIAL. PLEASE DO NOT HOLD



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

LEHIGHTON, PA 18235

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## **Time Flies by Pastor Rick**

While getting an estimate for work on a vehicle, the man behind the counter commented *“Is it really the end of the month already? Time flies when your having fun.”* He then stated, *“I don’t know about the fun part, but time flies all the same.”* I’m not sure when time started to fly by, but at this point in life, it seems to be traveling well beyond any speed parameters known to man.

We only have so much time in life. There are only so many days, months, and years available to each of us. Time is a finite commodity. One cannot buy more time. One cannot use less time today so that more is available tomorrow. There are only 24 hours in a day and only seven days in a week. Time is a gift. It’s a gift for us to use in so many ways, but with that gift comes responsibility. How can we be good stewards of the time we have? How can we gain the most with what we have?

The Apostle Paul writes to the Church in Ephesus - *Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. (Ephesians 5:15-16 (ESV))* Paul indicates that we are to be careful how we live because there is only so much time and, quite frankly, the days are evil.

In order for us to be good stewards of time, we need to incorporate several practices. First, we need to analyze. Take stock of what we do with our time. In what ways are we spending this precious commodity? Are we controlling our calendar or is it controlling us?

I Thessalonians 5:21& 22 tells us to *“Test everything. Hold on to the good. Avoid every kind of evil.”* Too often we live life without purpose. We just go with the flow. We’re not redeeming our time, we are not holding on to the good and resisting the bad.

Second, we need to evangelize. God, the Author and Giver of time, has a purpose for each of us and the moments we’re given. That purpose must include sharing the Good News of Life, Hope, and Eternity with others. The Apostle Paul encourages us to share what we have. *“As God’s fellow-workers we urge you not to receive God’s grace in vain.”* (2Co 6:1) Do we think God’s grace is just for our own personal private salvation? Did Christ die for me alone? We have a mandate to share this fantastic grace with others and we only have a specific amount of time in which to take advantage of the opportunities.

Lastly, we need to scrutinize our own lives as products of the time we have been given. Who I am today is in part a reflection of the use of my time. What I’ve chosen to study, the places I’ve chosen to visit, the people with whom I have chosen to partner, have all had a bearing on who I have become.

2 Corinthians 13:5 tells us to *“Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test?”* Take a look at your life and how you spend your time. Is your time spent in line with your profession of faith? Are the things you choose to spend your time doing congruent with your principles and ideals?

*“Time is what we want most, but what we use worst.” ~ William Penn*

**Let’s consider how we might take advantage of the time we have.**

Welcome back to our ongoing series about growing towards radical balance in your spiritual life. Last month, we explored the three primary colors of the Trinitarian Compass: Green, Red, and Blue spiritualities. These represent different ways we encounter God through creation, salvation, and the Holy Spirit. This month, we'll dive into the nine specific ways we can encounter God, each rooted in one of these colors.

## The Nine Spiritual Styles

Each of us has a native spiritual style, the way we most naturally connect with God. These styles can be broken down into three categories: Green, Red, and Blue.

### The Green Styles: Sensory and Rational

- (1) **Sensory Style:** Encountering God through the material world—nature, art, and physical experiences.
- (2) **Rational Style:** Approaching spirituality through intellect and reason, focusing on understanding God's truth.

### The Red Styles: Scripture-driven and Sharing

- (3) **Scripture-driven Style:** Focused on applying God's Word to personal life.
- (4) **Sharing Style:** Emphasizes passing on the Word of God through evangelism and meeting others' needs.

### The Blue Styles: Enthusiastic and Mystical

- (5) **Enthusiastic Style:** Centered on vibrant worship and the active presence of the Holy Spirit.
- (6) **Mystical Style:** Focused on a deep, intimate, and contemplative connection with God.

### The Borderline Styles: Doctrinal, Ascetic, and Sacramental

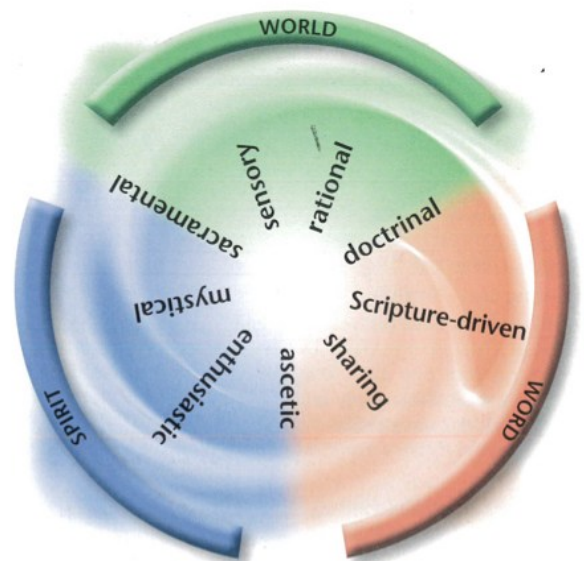
- (7) **Doctrinal Style:** A mix of rational and scripture-driven styles, emphasizing sound doctrine.
- (8) **Ascetic Style:** Focuses on purity and discipline, blending scripture-driven and enthusiastic approaches.
- (9) **Sacramental Style:** Combines sensory and mystical approaches, seeing the divine in both the material and supernatural realms.

## Why Does Your Spiritual Style Matter?

Your spiritual style is like an antenna for receiving God's divine messages. While you may naturally gravitate toward one style, God reveals Himself in many ways. By recognizing your native style, you can cultivate it, while also exploring other styles to deepen your spiritual connection. Think of it like tuning a radio to all nine spiritual channels God offers.

## What's Next?

In the next article, I'll provide a resource where you can take an online survey to discover your native spiritual style. We'll also explore how to nurture it and broaden your understanding by engaging with styles you may not be as familiar with. Embrace the diversity of ways to encounter God, and get ready to grow in your spiritual journey toward balance.



## Lenten Services



Ash Wednesday Service will be held at 7pm here at St. Matthew's.

Services will be held at 7pm for the next 6 Wednesdays.

Locations will be announced once all information is gathered.

March 5—7pm—St. Matthew's ECC Kunkletown

March 12—7pm—TBA

March 19—7pm—TBA

March 26—7pm—TBA

April 2—7pm—TBA

April 9—7pm—TBA

April 16—7pm—TBA

### January 2025

January 5 — 56 attending—\$3,210.00

January 12—67 attending—\$3,146.00

January 19—60 attending—\$1,135.00

January 26—71 attending—\$2,494.00

Total \$9,985.00

### January 2024

January 7—service cancelled—\$785.00

January 14—76 attending—\$3,819.00

January 21—54 attending—\$1,427.00

January 28—70 attending—\$2,420.00

Total \$8,451.00

### CIA EASTER LILY SALE

CIA will be selling lilies again this year.

Look for the order forms in March.



The cost is unknown at this time.

The deadline for orders will be March 30th.

### DON'T FORGET TO FILL YOUR SHOEBOXES

THERE ARE A COUPLE BOXES REMAINING ON THE ROUND TABLE IN THE COMMON ROOM.

THERE IS ALSO A PHAMPLET THAT WILL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT THE PROJECT AND IDEAS FOR FILLING YOUR BOXES.





**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

**Jacqueline Mock**—Mrs. Bush's Personal Care—302 Kunkletown Rd, Kunkletown, PA 18058

### Prayer List

Leah Jane Sterner, Tony and Marlette Palermo, Sterling and Ellen Kresge, Jason Frantz, Dawn Hockman, Brenda Hawk, Todd Kresge, Wendy Peddigree, Beverly Frantz, Lee Byrne, Barbara Souders, Debra Kemmerer, Joan Madden, Janet Smith, Kyle Frable, Diane Bonser, Janet Gower, Joyce Gower, Gene Borger, Ronald Frantz, Margaret and Larry Hahn, Marlene Long, Conner Brawley, Gabrielle Collins, Sharlee Ahner, Sheila Sherer, Jessica Speer, Doris Neumeyer, Alysha Katz, Hudson Stewart, Conner Bittenbender, 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), Sandy Christman (Marie's sister-in-law), Ralph Wunder (Dan's brother), Rhonda Cramer (Randy's sister), Marilyn and Howard McCloud, Wayne Halliday, Roy Barankovich and Denise and Dale Stuck (friends of Hubers).




Proverbs 17:6 "Children's children are a crown to the aged, and parents are the pride of their children."

In keeping with our church's 245<sup>th</sup> celebration, the ThanksLiving committee would like to honor our ancestors. Our hope is that our present church family will share tender memories of family members who are no longer here. Here is how it works:

The second handout is a short form with space for your ancestor's name and a brief explanation of why you are honoring him/her. Or perhaps you would like to describe the impact he/she had on your life. There is also a place at the end to attach a picture of your ancestor if you wish and write your name if your desire.

In addition, you can also donate to the next ThanksLiving project. The ThanksLiving fund takes on projects that help improve our church. Your donations will be used to help pay the cost of a new and improved cement slab at the downstairs entry.



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*Honor Certificate*

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ANCESTOR'S NAME:

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AWESOME IMPACT:

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**Peanut Butter Pie** – This is an easy and delicious recipe for peanut butter lovers.

Ingredients:

I use the ready-made Pecan pie crust. It gives it an even nuttier taste.

1 cup creamy peanut butter

1 – 8 oz. package cream cheese, softened

1 ¼ cups powdered sugar

1 - 8 oz. package cool whip, thawed

Beat the peanut butter with the creamed cheese until smooth. Add the powdered sugar & beat until smooth. Add the cool whip & beat until smooth, scraping the sides as needed. Pour the filling into the pie crust. Chill at least an hour before serving. I put mini chocolate chips or seasonal sprinkles on top. **YUM!**

**Brownie Batter Dip** – I made this for our book club & they loved it! And it's also easy to make.

Chocolate makes everything better! 😊

Ingredients:

1 – 8 oz. package cream cheese, softened

¼ cup butter, softened

2 cups confectioners' sugar

1/3 cup baking cocoa

¼ cup 2% milk

2 Tablespoons brown sugar

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Optional : M & M minis, dark chocolate chips

Dippers: Graham crackers, pretzels, fresh strawberries, or anything else you like to dip

In a large bowl, beat the cream cheese & butter until smooth. Beat in the confectioners' sugar, cocoa, milk, brown sugar, & vanilla until smooth. If desired, sprinkle in M & M minis or dark chocolate chips. You can't ever have too much chocolate!!!



Enjoy!

## March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Bingo 1pm	3	4	5 Ash Wed. 7pm St. Matthew's	6	7	8
9	10 Council 7pm	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 	18	19 Laymen's 10am	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 Band & Breakfast	31					

- 1 Tyler Mc Inaw
- 2 Leah Jane Sterner
- 3 Brenda Dorshimer
- 5 Kayleigh Beidleman, Pastor Rick Rufenacht, Diane Stuart
- 6 George Huber, Wanda Smith
- 7 Marlette Palermo
- 9 Colton Courtright, Richard Frantz
- 10 Shirley Brotzman, Chapman Buskirk, Jessica Petzold-Slawter  
Bailey Burger
- 12 Irene Rundle
- 13 Amy Burger, Jessica Meckes
- 17 Danielle DeSieno, Brandi DeVivo, Joyce Gower, Dean Zacharias, Staci Gower
- 18 Zachary Huber
- 19 Ali Snyder

- 20 Boyd Gannon, Joan Madden,  
Anthony Palermo
- 21 Corey Smith
- 22 Randy Smith
- 25 Brielle Mc Inaw
- 28 Mark Neeb
- 30 Annabel Beers

**MARCH  
BIRTHDAYS!!!**