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The MESSENGER

JUNE 2018 Newsletter

Message from Pastor Lynn...

A Habit I Recommend

It's been more years than I care to remember since I read Stephen Covey's classic, *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*. Since I am fairly ineffective, I can't recall all of them, but the one I recommend most of all to St. Matthew's as you walk through this time of transition is this: begin with the end in mind.

In any enterprise, if you would be successful, it is imperative that you know where you're headed. If you'll allow me to flash the union card, I would say that a teleological perspective is called for. Teleological is 'acadamese' for studying the outcome or trajectory of a thing. You'll notice the Greek root 'telos' which means distant or far (tele-vision, tele-phone, tele-graph). One looks ahead to the hoped-for or expected outcome before charting a course. If you want to go surfing, packing snow shoes makes no sense at all.

St. Matthew's is engaged in a process of charting a course. It is doing more than selecting a pastor. In fact, I assert that choosing a pastor is rather closer to the end of the process than the beginning. The first step is discernment: to determine together the way in which God is calling you as the people of God to fulfill your mission. Secondly, you need to ask yourselves how you might best achieve that goal: what areas you need to strengthen and on which you need to focus. Then, and only then, is it time to ask, what kind of pastor might help us achieve this mission?

The simple thing would be to simply identify the traits you like and don't like in a pastor and try to match those qualities up with the available candidates. If you'll pardon me saying it, that is a very worldly approach to what should be a prayerful and spiritual task. I mean, I understand the urge to look for someone who is not too dull in the pulpit and not too disagreeable in committees, who will visit the sick and troubled and generally not be an embarrassment in public. You probably wouldn't go wrong with using those criteria, but you might be missing just what God has in mind for you. Remember when God sent Samuel to select a king for Israel from Jesse's sons. It was the least auspicious, the runt of the litter that was chosen. The unlikely selection was David, a man after God's own heart.

As you journey through this time of transition, I urge you to pray for your church and for this community that God would lead you to respond to the mission which is your true calling. Pray for your search committee members that they will prayerfully select a candidate who will help you grow in ways that will allow you to fulfill your calling. Pray that God will lead the right person to you as well; that he or she will have keen sense that their proper field of service is here, with you.

Don't rush this thing or focus only on filling a vacancy. Begin with the end in mind. See you in church.

-Pastor Lynn

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Worship & Picnic
 at Dunkirk Camp & Conference Center

Sunday, June 24
10:30 Service

(see next page for more information)

JUNE

Worship Participants

Sunday, June 10

*Last day of Sunday School classes

*During worship, there will be a Mission Moment presented by a representative from Massachusetts Avenue Project, a new mission opportunity for St. Matthew's.

(See page 5 for more information.)

The Mission Committee will host coffee hour, and the MAP representative will be there to answer any questions you may have. Hope you can join us!

* * *

Sunday, June 24

Annual day at Dunkirk Camp & Conference Center beginning with

Worship

at 10:30am, Vesper's Point

(golf carts are available if unable to walk the distance)

Church Potluck Picnic

follows the service, Activity Center

(Please bring a dish to pass; hot dogs and drinks will be provided. Also, if sitting at a picnic table is not comfortable for you, remember to bring your own lawn chair.)

A sign-up sheet will be posted on the landing.

There will not be a church service at St. Matthew's this day.



Altar Guild

Shirley Haberman
Karen Cuddihy

Lay Readers

6/3 Cheryl Larson
6/10 Bob Velasquez
6/17 Bill Hamm
6/24 Beth Stormer

Ushers: Team 1

Andy Federmann
Donn Mergenhagen
Clayton Errington
Jeff Rich
Kurt Rich
Don McMillan
Ken Kruszka

Childcare Volunteers

6/3 TBD
6/10 TBD
6/17 TBD

Coffee Hosts/Greeters

6/3 Beth Stormer
6/10 Mission Committee
6/17 Greeter: LaDonna Painter
No Coffee Hour—
Happy Father's Day
6/24 Day at Dunkirk



Sunday, July 1

Summer Outdoor Worship begins!

9:00am in the Pavilion



The dedicated singers in our Choir and Praise Band deserve to be thanked – not only by me, but more importantly by all of St. Matthew's.

You are wonderful to work with, and your musical efforts grow more cohesive all the time. You add inspiring moments to the services, and you are blessed to worship in a special way. There are only a few members in each group, but that just means that the effort of each

of you is all the more important.

We pray that a few more parishioners will join us, but we are all very grateful for the excellent members we have.

-Norm Wahl



Nancy Jankowski
 Lena & Vera (Andy Federmann's sisters)
 Karen Kaitanowski
 Ruth Stormer
 Jeanette Haberer
 Family of Robin Kester (Gail Vara's sister)
 Family of Kevin Lach (Pam's husband)



2018 Graduates
 All those in need of healing
 Chronic pain sufferers
 Military personnel & veterans
 Those who are homebound
 St. Matthew's Church and the Search
 Committee

If you would like prayers publicized here, please contact the church office or fill out a Prayer Request Form. If you have a more immediate prayer concern, text Michelle Kemp at 245-1692 or call Dolly Errington at 823-6210 to begin the prayer chain.

Activity Group



Hot dogs & Charlaps!

Please bring a side dish to pass.

Thursday,

June 21, at 12noon.

*We will not be meeting in July
 or August. Mark your calendar
 for September 20.*

Enjoy your Summer!

Happy Birthday!

6/1	Marilyn Fenske	6/18	Gary Burdick
6/2	Joann Ertel	6/18	Curt Pitcher
6/4	Andy Federmann	6/19	Maxine Helm
6/6	Jessie Gillette	6/22	Juliet Hoffritz
6/9	Aaron Ertel	6/27	Roger Corlett
6/12	Steve Jankowski	6/29	Shea Hamm
6/15	Joan Haney	6/30	Tammy Kruszka

Anniversary Blessings

*Ken & Tammy Kruszka
 June 10, 1989*

*Ken & Shirley Haberman
 June 24, 1967*

I wish to thank everyone for their prayers and get well wishes following my surgery.

Thank you for the cards, visits to rehab and my home; especially to Pastor Morgan, before and after surgery.

Recovery is somewhat slower than I expected but I'm getting there.

And thank you to David, my husband and caregiver—You're doing a good job—Keep the faith!

Pamela Kaznica



Dear Friends,

During this difficult time of my life, it is reassuring to know my fellow members are holding me in their prayers.

Visits, cards, phone messages by members and Rev. Lynn have greatly lifted my spirits. The next several months will be a challenge for both Steve and myself. He is my rock, nurse, cook, housekeeper and all around caregiver. God blessed me with him!

A return to church (between surgeries) is my goal.

"Thank you all" for your prayers and loving support.

God Bless,
 Nancy Jankowski

A look back...

The last quarter of the 19th century was a busy one for St. Matthew's. The building committee had purchased land at the corner of Swan and Hagerman for \$1,000 and the cornerstone was laid on August 16, 1868. The building was of brick and within the year the Church opened on February 3, 1869.

The members were Christian Education minded and a school house was erected adjoining the church. Classes were held in German as were the church services. The church and school building cost \$22,000; and in 1870, they held a mortgage for \$9,000.

In 1875, The St. Matthew's Cemetery on Clinton Street in Gardenville was purchased for \$3,000. That same year, St. Matthew's joined the Evangelical Synod of the West and later the Evangelical Synod of North America.

1876 found the congregation purchasing and installing their first pipe organ. It was purchased from a Jewish Synagogue on Niagara Street for \$400 and served the church for 25 years.

In 1880, Buffalo and St. Matthew's was growing and under the leadership of Rev. G. Berner, Friedens Church was organized on Eagle Street.

A steeple was added to the building in 1890 and two bells were installed at a cost of \$1,729. Steam heating was also installed at a cost of \$1,673. Don Ruff, Perry Kaupa, and Kathee Simon are members from the old Church who I'm sure could tell you stories of their experiences of ringing the bells with the long ropes!

In 1896, the school building was enlarged with the money raised by the Young People's Society for \$2,000; and in 1898, under the leadership of Rev. G. Robertus, Christ Church was organized on Clinton Street.

We should be very proud of our forefathers who had a wonderful vision for a meaningful religious life in Buffalo.

-Marilyn Rich

Stay tuned for more of our history next month...



Coming Soon...

information on our
church-wide
150th Anniversary
Blanket project!

Check out the photos of Confirmation classes dating back to 1902! They are displayed in the classroom at the bottom of the stairs.

If you have a confirmation class photo from 2010 to 2013, please email them to the office. Thank you!

**If you have any pictures or memories to share,
please contact one of the committee members:**

LaDonna Painter, Chairperson

Marilyn Rich Brenda Carver

Steve Jankowski Perry Kaupa

Mark your calendars for our special
anniversary luncheon: **Sunday, October 28!**

And God Said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. Genesis 1:11-12

The Massachusetts Avenue Project (MAP) is a human services organization on the West Side of Buffalo. Its mission is to nurture the growth of a diverse and equitable local food system and promote local economic opportunities, access to affordable, nutritious food and social change education. In short, they give families access to fresh, healthy food and engage them in growing their own food. MAP does this by operating Mobile Markets, turning vacant lots into community gardens and engaging the neighborhood residents in policy development and planning.



They proudly host the *Growing Green Program*, a youth development and urban agriculture program. At the farm youth work together to grow, market and distribute organic produce for communities, restaurants and retail establishments in Buffalo, learning valuable skills.

St. Matthew's Mission Committee members recently paid a visit to MAP to view their work first hand and determine if we wanted to invest in a relationship with them, through funding and volunteer opportunities. We had a chance to tour the grounds of MAP and saw a new 11,000 sq. ft. urban barn they are finishing up on Massachusetts Avenue. We were very impressed with their mission and successes in reaching and empowering local youth.

Hamburg has a strong history tied to agriculture; if we weren't farming, we were certainly gardening. MAP seems like a good fit for our outreach. The Mission Committee has decided to lend support to MAP's summer program and hopes to work on helping the Mobile Markets in the future.

We are looking forward to a visit by a MAP representative to speak to our congregation on June 10th. There will be an opportunity to give a free will offering during coffee fellowship as well as converse with the representative and Mission Committee.

I hope you will be in church that day and will get as excited about this worthy organization as much as the Mission Committee has.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Velazquez, Mission Committee Member



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
JUNE 2018					1	2 Prayer Shawl Ministry 9:30am
3 Worship 10:30am	4	5	6 Adult class 7pm Friends of Night People	7 Praise Band 6:15p Choir 7:00p	8 UCC Annual Conference (7th-9th)	9
10 Worship 10:30am	11	12 Church Council 7:00pm	13 Adult class 7pm	14 Praise Band 6:15p Choir 7:00p	15	16
17 <i>Father's Day</i> Worship 10:30am	18	19 Mission Com. 7:00pm	20	21 Activity Group 12noon	22	23
24 Worship & Picnic at DCCC 10:30am Service	25	26 Spiritual Life Com. 7:00pm	27	28	29	30



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Rev. Lynn R. Morgan
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Director of Music:
Norman D. Wahl
716-440-5176
normwahl@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant:
Michelle Kemp
716-245-1692
Office Hours: Mon. & Wed. 9am-2pm,
Thurs. 9-12, & Fri. 12:30-3:30pm

Custodians:
David & Pamela Kaznica
716-913-6927 (David)
716-913-7504 (Pamela)

Congratulations GRADUATES

Aydan Stormer will be graduating from Hamburg High School in June. He is heading to University of Dayton, studying Civil Engineering.



Luke Rich graduated from Alfred University in Ceramic Engineering. Seen here with mom, dad, sister and grandma.



Devon Rich graduated from St. Bonaventure University with a Masters in Special Education. Seen here with her grandma.

“For I know the PLANS I have for you” declares the LORD “plans to PROSPER you and not to harm you, plans to give you HOPE and a FUTURE.”
Jeremiah 29:11



Emma Rich graduated from Marist College with a BA in Finance with minors in Fashion and International studies. See here with dad & friend.

Jessica Goetz graduated from St. Bonaventure University with a degree in Communication.



Emma Hoffritz received a Bachelor of Science degree from UB. Her major was math.

Reminder: DCC Flea Market & Craft Sale

June 1st & 2nd
8am-4pm



Sign up and be part of St. Matthew’s monthly outreach to FoNP on the first Wednesday of every month.

Volunteers from St. Matthew’s prepare a meal at the church, then deliver and serve it to the visitors at the mission site. We also deliver your donations of brownies/cupcakes.

Join us in June! The sign-up sheet is on the landing.

* * *



St. Matthew’s Caregivers There are behind-the-scenes volunteers at St. Matthew’s —

“Caregivers” — who give of their time to help friends in the congregation by making/delivering a meal; driving to a doctor’s appointment; cleaning house/yard and other ways. The Caregiver Volunteer Form lists ways we support those in need. (Look for forms in the red folder posted on the Missions & Outreach bulletin board near the Fellowship Hall.)

If you’d like to volunteer to do any of the above, please fill out the form and give to LaDonna Painter (or put in mailbox #67).

Also, if you or someone you know could use help by receiving a meal or ride, etc., please contact LaDonna, Pastor Lynn or the church office.

Join us June 10th to hear about a new mission opportunity for St. Matthew’s!

For a sneak peak, go to the website of Massachusetts Avenue Project—
mass-ave.org/.

* * *



Prayer Shawl

**First Saturday of the month, 9:30am, Parlor
Join us June 2nd!**

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry is a way of showing our church’s concern for people going through crises or at a place in life when a warm shawl may bring them comfort. Shawls are knitted/crocheted, blessed in worship service and then given out. Our hope is that they would be comforted by the shawls, as they remember St. Matthew’s is praying for them.

Come be part of this new ministry. All skill levels are welcome! If you have any questions or know of anyone in need, please contact Alva Looze (866-5121).

* * *

WAYS TO SUPPORT OTHER MINISTRIES

(Friends of Night People, Blasdell Food Pantry, Matthew 25: Ministry)

***Seasonal clothing, children’s books, toiletries for FoNP.**

Collection bins in classroom near Fellowship Hall.

***Plastic bill bottles go to Matthew 25: Ministries.** They meet the dual needs of improving medical care in developing countries and caring for our environment.

***Canned/nonperishable food items go to Blasdell Food Pantry.** Food items can be brought to the church on the first Sunday of the month (to be delivered that week). Volunteers are needed to deliver the items once a month. Please sign up on the bulletin board.

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Our church building is fully accessible.

No matter where you are in your life's journey, you are welcome here!