

Greetings, Beloved Church of God!

First and foremost, I want to say a sincere “Thank You!” for welcoming me and my children so warmly! I appreciate your patience, grace, and kindness as I get to know you all, ask questions and start to develop a sense not only of who this family at St. Matthew’s is, but where God is calling us as a community. I am excited to continue hearing your stories, and I hear your excitement as you share your stories with me - of what God has done in your life, how you connected with the St. Matthew’s family, and the hopes you have for the future...

And there is a lot of **Hope!**

Hope of being **Equipped** – of growing in our faith through Bible Studies or book studies, conversations and so forth – to learn about topics we are curious about, gain fresh perspectives, and expand our knowledge and abilities.

Hope of being **Encouraged** – of journeying together, building one another up, sharing our joys and concerns with one another.

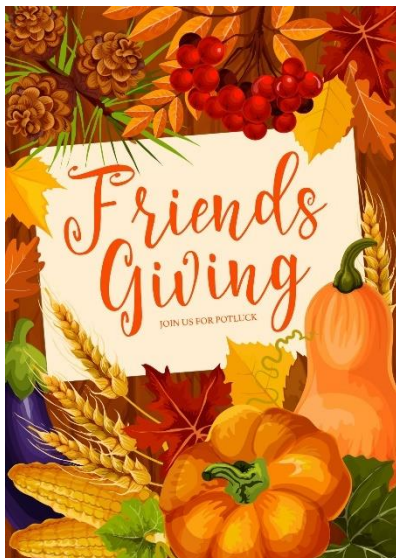
Hope of being **Empowered** – of having opportunities to use what we’ve learned to advocate and mentor, uplift and care for others, extend invitation and step forward to face new tasks and challenges, trusting God and trusting ourselves with each step.

Hope of being able to **Excel** in whatever tasks God asks us to complete – to reach out, connect, care for and extend invitation to the best of our ability. To shine in how we love God and love others!

And Hope of being able to **Endure** – of being able to continue the legacy of faith that the generations of Believers began when they joined together to form St. Matthew’s, both in original Church building in Buffalo as well as when they stepped forward in faith and answered God’s call to Hamburg.

In the next several months, we will have opportunities to equip, encourage, and empower one another – through Bible Studies and/or book studies, Membership classes and mission projects, Outreach opportunities and fellowship activities. There will be times when we’ll be uncomfortable or feel unprepared, as well as times when we feel confident and ready – but no matter what happens, when we step forward to share God’s Love through our words and actions, lives will be changed and we will be blessed. I sincerely cannot express how excited I am to be on this journey with you!

Blessings,
Rev. Kayti Dean, Pastor



1st Annual Friendsgiving at St. Matthew's!

Sunday, November 10 after Worship

Please call the office today if you'd like to attend.

Please let the planners know what side dish/dessert you will be sharing with others. The Hospitality Committee will provide the turkey and drinks.

All are invited...

bring a friend!



St. Matthew's in the Hamburg Holiday Parade!!

If you are interested in joining the festivities and fun, or if you'd like more information, please contact Corey Wilson (wilscl17@gmail.com or text 716-258-0173, or Amanda Rosewicz.(wilroz423@gmail.com or text 716-515-8924)



someone or write
by Sunday,

Time to plan ahead and order your poinsettias!

Your red and white poinsettias will adorn and beautify our Sanctuary on Christmas Eve. To place an order, use the special envelopes on the windowsill in the Narthex or call Ken and Shirley Haberman (716-649-4919). You can memorialize or honor out a message to be published in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Orders need to be in November 10.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, November 17. The Annual Meeting will immediately follow worship.

All are welcome; members will vote on next year's budget and Board/committees' nominations.



Coffee & Connection with Pastor Kayti!

Connect with Pastor Kayti in the office, Panera Bread, Comfort Zone Cafe, or your home or hospital. Here is her weekly schedule:

Mondays: Office 9am-2pm

Tuesdays: Office 9am-12noon * Panera Bread 12:30-3:30pm

Wednesdays: Comfort Zone Café 9am-12noon

Thursdays: Office as needed

Fridays: Sabbath day of rest

Note: Bookmarks with this information are on the table in the Narthex or call the office.

If you'd like to receive a visit or Communion at home from Pastor Kayti, or if you know someone who would, please contact the church office and Pastor Kayti will be happy to follow up to set a time to meet.



Thank you for the opportunity to be present with those I called on over the last eleven months. I enjoyed the visits and getting to know many of you. Thank you as well for the Dunkirk Camp and Conference Center gift certificate. I am sure that I will make good use of it. If I run into any of you while out and about, I will look forward to those moments catching up with you.

God bless you for the privilege of knowing you.
Rev. Paula Gustafson

Fellowship & Fun Events



Game Night Fun!

A group of five enjoyed friendly games of Rummikub and Pictionary! Thanks go out to the Hospitality Committee who set up this evening of fun and fellowship!



Cardmaking Craft Day a hit!

Saturday, October 19, was our first card-making get-together. Fourteen ladies enjoyed creating cards for themselves and extra cards for Meals on Wheels recipients (spreading joy with the meals).

Thank you for attending - especially Vanessa, Devon, LaDonna and Michelle for making this possible. This card day was at no cost to the church, and I thank you all for making cards for others to share and spread joy!

-Dawn Chmielowiec



The Hospitality Committee would also like to thank Dawn for her part in organizing the Card Craft Day.

Do you have hobby or other interests (music or program presentation, etc) that you would like to share? We would be happy to put you on our activities calendar. Please contact LaDonna Painter at 716-715-7310.



While Tracy & Marna were traveling home from vacationing in Myrtle Beach, they ran into Laurie & Mark who were traveling home from vacationing at Hilton Head. Who knew Princeton, WV was a St. Matthew's reunion hub?!

pictured L to R: Laurie, Tracy, Mark



11-26
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"Grandma says a lot of her friends are like the birds. They fly south for the winter."

Progressive Dinner at a Glance

Thank you to Deb Zdrojewski for hosting our Progressive Dinner. It was a nice night as you can see from the pictures everyone was enjoying the food. There were trivia questions between the courses but the best part of the evening... getting to enjoy each other's company.



Thank you to everyone who attended.
-LaDonna Painter

Ongoing Recycling to Support Our Children's Ministry & Ronald McDonald House

St. Matthew's Board of Christian Education has set up a fundraising account at the Can Bottle Return Company (CBR) on 4255 Clark Street in Hamburg. Funds will support children's activity days and missions throughout the year. When you go to CBR, ask that your return money go to St. Matthew's.



Before you take your cans to CBR, remove the tab and bring your supply to church. The metal tabs are delivered to Buffalo's Ronald McDonald House and recycled. The money pays for their utility bills. There are 2 plastic containers for your donations on the collection table by the back door.

September 8, 2024... a day of ushering in a new church year with Sundae Sunday and of bidding farewell to our supply pastor Rev. Pat Ludwig and her husband Mark. During Coffee Fellowship, we were treated to make-your-own ice cream sundaes and a delicious cake in honor of Pastor Pat and Mark.

They have been a part of the St. Matthew's family of faith for 11 months and **we are grateful and blessed** for their presence in our time of transition.



ADVENT begins December 1, 2024

We'll celebrate with an **ADVENT WORKSHOP**.

Come enjoy a bowl of soup followed by craft-making!
Young and old alike are invited to create gifts!



Christmas Eve Candlelighting Service

December 24 – 7:00 pm



Anne, Jami, Jessica, Karen & John Kaitanowski, Kathee & Ed Simon
 our members & friends in assisted living or homebound: Helen Wilson, Jewell McFarland,
 Joan Haney, Lola Donner, Yvonne Shearer;
 those serving in the military: Alex Steinbronner, Aydan Stormer

Condolences & prayers to ...

The family and friends of Joan Haft who passed away on October 12. Joan is the mother of long-time member Diane Whytas and grandmother to Brandi Whytas. Visitation will be held on Thursday, November 14, from 3-7pm at the Hoy Funeral Home (3855 Seneca St, WS). A funeral service will be held on Friday, November 15, at 10:00 AM at St. Matthew's.



The family and friends of Tyler Pilgrom, who died suddenly October 21. including his grandmother Gail Burdick. The family will receive friends and loved ones Saturday, November 9 at 3 p.m., in Pilgrim-St. Luke's UCC (355 Richmond Ave, Buffalo) with a reception to follow.

Would you like prayers for yourself or a loved one?

As your brothers and sisters in Christ, we'd love to pray for you. Please contact Michelle in the church office or cell phone (716-245-1692) to request prayer. You have a choice to put name(s) on the prayer list in the bulletin and Newsflash and/or for more immediate prayers, contact Michelle for request to go to text chain.*

*If you would like to be a prayer warrior on the text chain, text Michelle.



Happy Birthday!

November: Amanda Rozewicz (11/1), Sean Dabney (11/4), Aubrie Muszynski (11/7), Mary Hamm (11/8), Tracy Meyers (11/8), Aydan Stormer (11/8), Corey Wilson (11/17), Cheryl Larson (11/23), Hope Dean (11/24), Kara Corlett (11/27), Debi Dinkuhn (11/27)

December: Jeff Rich (12/5), Beth Stormer (12/11), Rose Asboth (12/17), Lynne Duewiger (12/19), Chelsea Kanaley (12/28), Ann Marie Leverentz (12/28)



Happy Anniversary!

Andy & Robin Federmann (11/3/1973)



It's a  Girl!

Annie Joy Asboth was born on Friday, August 23, to Devon and Bill. Annie was 8lbs, 21" long and doing great. She is joining big sis Rose. Grandparents Vanessa and Kurt Rich are excited to welcome another granddaughter.

Thank You

Thank you for your continued generous support of the day-to-day operations and ministries of St. Matthew's.

St. Matthew's United Church of Christ
5289 McKinley Parkway
Hamburg, NY 14075
www.stmattsucc.org



Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

† Worship Service: 10:00 am Sunday mornings
2nd & 4th Sundays: Children's Sunday School and Coffee Fellowship