

The St. Matthew Messenger



St. Matthew Lutheran Church

February 2011

Volume Number XXXI
Issue Number 1

FROM PASTOR YEISER'S DESK:

I hope that one and all had a most happy and safe holiday season. I look forward to greeting you at worship and other church activities as 2011 unfolds.

I want to heartily thank you for your generous financial support in the month of December. As they say in a long distance race, "you had a strong finishing kick!" All told, our Parish Ministry Envelope giving in 2010 was just \$85 shy of the total received in 2009. It went from \$521,884 to \$521,799. However, our World Mission contribution this year was \$1,967 higher than that of the previous year — rising from \$90,420 to \$92,387. Our Special Needs contributions rose by \$2,775 from \$51,177 to \$53,952, and our Mortgage payments through 2010 grew from \$73,775 to \$76,317, which represents a growth of \$2,542. As I informed the council at our January meeting, while this may be nothing to write home about it does represent a step in the right direction. Of course, we also did not need to use the additional monies from the portfolio that were designated by the congregation this fall to make sure that we met our budget. Again, I am quite pleased by this response and want to lift it up as a "shot in the arm" to you.

The challenge is here for us in 2011 to continue to grow our financial offerings. Hopefully, we can roll on at a December like pace. Recall, that at our annual meeting last fall we did

lower our portfolio cap from \$265,835 in 2010 to \$199,890 in 2011. This is quite a reduction. We would not have met this targeted goal this past year. Should we approach the cap this year we will need to call another congregation meeting to either allocate more portfolio funds for the budget or to cut expenses. I hope neither decision needs to be made. As many of you know, in order to save funds we are not filling the position of Building Administrator left vacant upon the death of former employee, Jim Cress. Through some creative planning we believe we can save the church around \$35,000 by not filling this position. Obviously, the sky is not the limit when it comes to making cuts for we do not want to impede the ministry and mission of our congregation.

Through the efforts of our active and attune Stewardship Committee we seek to grow the giving throughout the new year. I join in asking you to prayerfully consider what you might be able to give of your time, talents, and treasures (finances) for the spread of God's work through St. Matthew Lutheran Church. It is a glorious privilege and responsibility that we have to be able to do God's work in the here and now. I welcome and encourage your help this year. Not only may our budgetary problems be alleviated, but more importantly, we will be better doing the ministry that God calls us to do as a congregation of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Inside this Issue:

From Pr. Yeiser's Desk	1
Church Council	2
Many Thanks	
Communion Kits	
Small Group Study	
Youth Group	
Smile Train	
Pastoral Acts	3
Christian Education	
Discovery Place Open House	4
Inserts:	
St. Matthew Ringers	
Habitat for Humanity	
Evangelism Committee	
Easter Lilies	
Church Council	
Calendar	
Service Assistant	
Schedule	



CHURCH COUNCIL

We heartily thank outgoing council members Bryan Doll, Randy Kline, Rol-
lie Kunde, Jane West, and Dirk Wildasin
for their time of service over the past three years. At
worship on January 16 we welcomed Claudia Clem-
ens, Diane Hoffman, Al Lundquist, Nan Sterner, and
Doug West to three year terms on council. Serving as
officers in 2011 are DeAnn Books, president; Barb
Thomas, vice president; and Claudia Clemens, secre-
tary. We are still in need of a volunteer to serve as
treasurer. If interested, please let DeAnn or Pastor
Yeiser know.

MANY THANKS TO Scott Fredericks, Karen Buckwal-
ter, Deb Smith and all choirs and musicians who par-
ticipated in our Christmas Eve worship services. We
very much appreciate all the time and attention to de-
tail that goes into enhancing our worship services on
Christmas Eve and throughout the entire church year
with your gifts of music.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER COMMUNION KITS are
used continuously. If you have one that
you are no longer using please return it
to the church office ASAP. THANKS!



SMALL GROUP STUDY

The Small Group that met at the Yeiser's home in 2009-
2010 to study prayer is now dividing into two groups.
Pastor Dan and Christy will continue to meet with a
group in their home while Bob and Jan Marten
(members of the initial group) will form a new small
group. The first meeting at the Yeiser's this year will
take place on February 21 at 7:00. The topic of study is
Our Personal God. If interested in being a
part of this group (whether you have ever
been a part of a small group before or not),
see either pastor or Christy. Bring your Bi-
bles to the first class. Refreshments will be
served.



THE CHURCH STAFF THANKS all of the members
and friends of the congregation who remembered
them with cards, gifts, candy and other treats dur-
ing this past holiday season. It is a blessing to
serve you.



YOUTH GROUP has a great February planned! It's "**Souper Bowl Weekend**" and
"Super Bowl Sunday" February 5th and 6th. We'll be collecting Souper Bowl offerings
at the Saturday evening and both Sunday morning services. Whatever goes in our
soup pots will be given to the Hanover Area Council of Churches for food. Sunday
evening we'll gather at the Crawford's for the gridiron match-up. Watch the bulletin
for more details.

Three "Family Times" are also on the calendar for the 10th, 17th and 24th. These
might be hanging out at Panera, a youth member's house or another surprise place.
Matt Mann and Jim Hyde will let you know where and when to meet for these
evenings.

OUR POINSETTIA DONATIONS THIS YEAR, after the cost of the plants, was \$2,982 and has
been sent to The Smile Train. The Smile Train is the world's leading cleft charity with thousands
of partners and programs in 76 of the world's poorest countries. Their mission is to help the more
than 4.7 million children in developing countries who are suffering with unrepaired clefts. They
provide free cleft surgery to children from poor families that give children not just a new smile,
but a new life. Now in its tenth year, The Smile Train will help its 500,000th child this year. Our
donation will pay for twelve full surgeries!



Smile Train - Changing the world one smile at a time.

**Thank you to all those who have baked cookies, muffins, bereave-
ment cakes and communion bread. All is greatly appreciated!**

PASTORAL ACTS

November 16, 2010 - January 15, 2011

Baptisms

November 21 – Keirsten Leigh Smith and Kendall Ann Smith, daughters of Bryan and Amber Smith

November 21 – Kole Dale Smith, son of Bryan and Amber Smith

December 5 - Addyson Sophia Youngman, daughter of John Christopher and Lisa Marie Fisher with sponsors Gregory Lockard and Cristine Reynolds

January 9 – Remlee Isabella Forest & Nadya Gabriella Forest, daughters of William and Debbie (Barnes) Forest



Weddings

August 14 – Christopher and Ruth Marie (Crabbs) Gunnell

Deaths

November 20 – Jim Cress (NM)

November 21 – Rodney Torrence Ernst

November 22 - Mary (Miller) Moul

December 8 – Ira L. Geiselman, II

December 12 – Roderick Haywood

December 19 - Harold Bixler (NM)

December 28 – Hazel M. Blocher

January 5, 2011 – Wayne

Augenbaugh

January 12, 2011 – Raymon Jeremiah (Jere) Dubs Jr.

To all THRIVENT FINANCIAL account holders: St. Matthew has recently been approved to participate in its charitable grant program. You may now direct your Choice Dollars to the church as you see fit. Please contact your Thrivent rep with any questions you may have.



A CHILDREN'S SERMON

will be offered on February 20 at the 8:00 and 10:45 a.m. services. All children through the sixth grade are invited to experience God's Word spoken especially for them at this time. Come and see which stained-glass window we do this month!

THE AWAY IN A MANGER GIFT totaled \$484.00 this year. We have sent this to Tender Care Pregnancy Center to use for diapers and formula. Thank you for sharing your offerings with these families!

BAROS BUDDIES meets on Monday, February 14, 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor. All women are welcome to join us as we support each other in our battles with the scale. "Baros" is Greek for "weight" and we depend on our "buddies" to encourage us. Skip the Valentine chocolates and come have fun with us!



THE CONFIRMATION RETREAT will be held at Camp Nawakwa February 4 to 6. Our 7th and 8th graders will be taking a

closer look at the Small Catechism with a "Roadtrip" theme. Please keep our youth and their leaders in your prayers as we learn and laugh together at Nawakwa!



OUR LIBRARY has a lot of new books, but we need some help getting them onto the shelves. We are looking for a librarian willing to catalogue our books. We have some great assistants, but we need someone with library experience to get them started. If you would like to share your gifts in this way, please contact Jan Davis at 637-7101 or Jane West, Chair of Parish Education, at 630-2131.

THE MITTEN TREE was beautifully decorated this Advent and Christmas season with lots of "ornaments." There were a total of 58 hats, 19 scarves, 80 gloves, and 1 pack of socks. Thank you for helping keep others warm this winter!



You can help reduce postage costs and save paper as well by receiving this newsletter by e-mail. Simply send an email to info@stmattlutheran.org with "email newsletter" in the subject line. Also, please add your name to the body of the email so that we can have your name taken off the mailing list.

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Fax: 717-637-4961
Email: info@stmattlutheran.org
www.stmattlutheran.org

Return Service Requested

Discovery Place Preschool Open House

Monday, February 7

6-7:00 p.m.

Begins open enrollment for the 2011/2012 preschool year.

Call Kris Rudisill in the church office, 637-7101, with any questions.

Classes for
2-year olds, 3 year olds
& 4-year olds



The Rev. Daniel M. Yeiser, Ph.D., Senior Pastor 634-4025 (cell phone), 793-8059 (Home)
The Rev. Arthur L. Ruths, D.D., Pastor Emeritus
The Rev. Dr. E. Edward Keyser, and The Rev. Jack R. Hoffman, Cong. Visitation Pastors
Miss Jan M. Davis, A.i.M., Minister of Christian Education
Mr. Scott G. Fredericks, Minister of Music
Mrs. Karen L. Buckwalter, A.i.M., Associate Minister of Music
Chelsea Miller, Seminarian

**CHURCH COUNCIL MOTIONS
AND SPECIAL NEEDS DISBURSEMENTS
For October**

Motion: To move into executive session; was made by Bob Curlen; seconded by Randy Kline; and passed. The purpose of this was to review/agree to the discussion notes from the October 5, 2010 executive session meeting regarding the 2011 proposed budget.

Motion: To move out of executive session; was made by Barb Thomas; seconded by Sandy Little; and passed.

Motion: To accept the 2011 Finance-proposed budget, with revisions to expenses that were discussed during the October 5 executive session, and with those reductions in expenses being reflected as a reduction in Parish Ministry Envelope Giving income line item; was made by Bob Curlen; seconded by Randy Kline; and passed.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the September 21, 2010 council meeting; was made by Jane West; seconded by Dirk Wildasin; and passed.

Motion: To file the Treasurer's Report for audit; was made by Randy Kline; seconded by Bob Curlen; and passed.

PARISH MINISTRY	\$ 40,517
ENV. GIVING (\$31,998)	
WORLD MISSION	\$ 4,463
SPECIAL NEEDS	\$ 3,184
MORTGAGE	<u>\$ 4,468</u>
TOTAL	\$ 52,632

Motion: To approve the August disbursements for Special Needs (listed below); was made by Warren Miller; and passed.

<u>September, 2010 Special Needs</u>	
World Hunger	\$2,000.00
LSS-SCP	<u>\$1,000.00</u>
	\$3,000.00

(corrected from \$4,000 in Finance minutes)

Motion: That all pamphlets titled "The St. Matthew Legacy Fund" be destroyed, with only one kept for archives as an official record because this fund no longer exists in the list of invested funds; was made by Warren Miller; and passed.

Motion: To re-instate Cristy Sanders into church membership; was made by Bob Curlen; seconded by Steve Bell; and passed.

Motion: To accept a non-member wedding request from Karen Frock (September 17, 2011); was made by Dirk Wildasin; seconded by Sandy Little; and passed.

Motion: For the Personnel committee to: 1) Create an organization reporting chart for all church staff personnel, 2) Review and revise all job descriptions, 3) Prepare a plan on ways to reduce personnel expenditures (these three are due to council by March 15, with a progress report at the January council meeting), and 4) Review/revise the current personnel policy (to be presented at the June council meeting); was made by Bob Curlen; seconded by Warren Miller; and passed.

Motion: To send out notice of the November 14, 2010 congregation meeting, along with the full budget (duplexed to save cost) to each household; was made by Bob Curlen; seconded by Dan Saltzgiver; and passed.

Motion: To adjourn at 10:45 p.m.; was made by Bob Curlen; seconded by Jody Ruhlman; and passed.

**CHURCH COUNCIL MOTIONS
AND SPECIAL NEEDS DISBURSEMENTS
For November**

Motion: To approve the minutes of the October 19, 2010 council meeting; was made by Randy Kline; seconded by Dirk Wildasin; and passed.

Motion: To file the Treasurer's Report for audit; was made by Dirk Wildasin; seconded by Jody Ruhlman; and passed.

PARISH MINISTRY	\$ 45,291
ENV. GIVING (\$35,857)	
WORLD MISSION	\$ 5,586
SPECIAL NEEDS	\$ 3,506
MORTGAGE	<u>\$ 6,369</u>
TOTAL	\$ 60,752

Motion: For council to approve a three-person task force to review all categories of membership as defined by our constitution, starting with voting member; was made by Warren Miller; seconded by Barb Thomas; and passed.

Motion: - To make the following two changes to the St. Matthew Use of Building Facilities Policy Statement; was made by Dirk Wildasin for Property; and passed.

#6 under Specific Requirements for Use would read—Facilities shall be left in the same condition as they were prior to their use. Failure to do so will result in a clean up fee @ \$30.00 per hour. This charge will be established by the Building Administrator. Until this fee is paid, use of the facility will be denied.

Under Fees for Facilities Usage – Gym – One-time use will be \$30 per 2-hour session. Two or more uses per week will be billed @ \$30/session and a 10% discount for the week will be given.

Motion: To approve the October disbursements for Special Needs (listed below); was made by Warren Miller; and passed.

<u>October, 2010 Special Needs</u>	
World Hunger	\$2,000.00
LSS-SCP	\$1,000.00
Red Cross Food Bank	<u>\$ 450.00</u>
	\$3,450.00

Motion: That during a weekend in December, the loose plate offering, along with money placed in receptacles in the back of the church for extra offering, be designated for Human Needs; was made by Warren Miller; and passed. Pastor Yeiser will designate the appropriate Sunday in December.

Motion: That council make a contingency plan with an amount to pay the December mortgage payment in a timely fashion; was made by Warren Miller; and passed.

Motion: That the payoff date for Pastor Pensinger's mortgage be extended from December 1, 2010 to February 1, 2011; was made by Warren Miller; and passed.

Motion: To allow a Community Aid Clothing Box to be placed on St. Matthew property; was made by Jody Ruhlman; seconded by Sandy Little; and passed. Pastor Yeiser stated that St. Matthew will not need to do anything with the box, as it will be locked and emptied by the people working for Community Aid. The church will receive \$.04/lb. of clothing collected. Property committee will decide the best location for the box to be placed.

Motion: To approve the New Member Class for Fall, 2010; was made by Dirk Wildasin; seconded by Rollie Kunde; and passed.

Motion: To have only one council member on the Mutual Ministry committee; was made by Dan Saltzgiver; seconded by Warren Miller; and failed with one yes vote and two abstentions.

Motion: To adjourn at 10:30 p.m.; was made by Barb Thomas; seconded by Dirk Wildasin; and passed.

KUDOS TO OUR ST. MATTHEW RINGERS for the outstanding job they did as the guest bell choir for "Music in the Valley," an annual event held at St. Matthew every January! They were privileged to ring for a "packed house" of 600 choir directors and others in the audience who gathered to hear composers Joe (and Sue) Martin, Joel Raney, Lee Dengler and our own Karen Buckwalter in a Friday evening concert. We are blessed to have such a wonderful bell choir and we appreciate all their hard work throughout the year!



MEET THE JOHNSONS – Beginning in 2011 our congregation will be sponsoring the Rev. Peter and Michele Johnson, ELCA missionaries in Cairo, Egypt. Peter serves as pastor of St. Andrew United Church of Cairo and as Director of St. Andrew's Refugee Services (STARS). The congregation serves the international and ecumenical English-speaking community in downtown Cairo. The refugee program provides education programs, legal aid and other vital community services for over 1,200 people each week from the Horn of Africa and Iraq. Peter's parents live in Lancaster, PA. Peter and Michele have three sons: Alex, Andrew and Liam. To learn more about Peter's ministry in the Middle East follow his blog at: www.johnsonegypt.blogspot.com. Please remember Peter and his family in your prayers. For further information contact Roland Kunde, Chairman of the Evangelism Committee.



THE YORK COUNTY CHAPTER OF HABITAT FOR HUMANITY will be renovating two homes in the Hanover, PA area. These two locations are located at 416 Pleasant St. (during 2011)

and 227 2nd Ave (during 2012). Volunteers are being sought to assist with the planning and coordination of both the fundraising and construction volunteer recruitment. The ultimate goal is to raise \$20,000 and in-kind contributions per house and to involve Hanover area community members in the rehabilitation of both homes. If interested in donating your time, treasures or talents, please contact Kent Spencer at 717-630-8974 or kentspencer@spencerkeystone.com.

ELCA Good Gifts, the giving catalog of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, lifts up more than 65 gift ideas filled with meaning and love. ELCA Good Gifts are a special way you can help make a significant impact on the mission and ministries of our church while giving a birthday or other gift to a friend, family member, teacher, neighbor, or other loved one. To view the catalog on-line, go to www.elca.org/goodgifts, or call 1-800-638-3522 to order a copy. You can also see a copy of the catalog in the church office. "Thanks" from the Evangelism Committee!



Members and friends who wish to honor or memorialize a loved one by providing an Easter flower for the Easter Garden are asked to complete and return the form below with **\$10** per listing to the church office by **Monday, April 4, 2011**.

All of the Easter flowers will be delivered to our shut-ins by volunteers on **Monday, April 25**.

After the cost of the plants and the printing of the list of contributions is met, the balance of the memorials/honorariums will be divided to support Lutheran Disaster Relief.

Easter Lilies

I would like to place an Easter lily in the church.

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Name(s) _____

Given by _____

Envelope Number _____

Please include \$10 per listing. Make checks payable to **St. Matthew Lutheran Church**.

Deadline is Wednesday, March 6, 2011. We cannot accept any listings after this date.

Below are additions to the Poinsettia list which has recently been published. Thank you to all who contributed!

IN MEMORY OF:

Donna Mae Yost by the family

Lloyd and Elsie Yost by the family

Roger and Viola Waters, son Wayne, daughter Doris O'Connor by Pastor and Juanita Ruths

Mr. Dillard Reichart by Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Hartman and families

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Geiselman by Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Hartman and families

Mr. John Neiderer Jr. by Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Hartman and families

Mr. and Mrs. George Geiselman by Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Hartman and families

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hartman by Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Hartman and families

Russell and Richard Hartman by Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Hartman and families

IN HONOR OF:

Our children and grandchildren by Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Hartman

Rev. John D. Yost and his family by his parents



Did you know that for every 100 newsletter recipients that elect to receive the Messenger online, the cost savings to the church would be approximately \$600? Email the church office at info@stmattlutheran.org to receive your newsletter by email.



DAFFODIL DAYS ARE COMING!

The American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days will be springing into St. Matthew on Sunday, March 20. For over 35 years Daffodil Days have been bringing hope to those affected by cancer, and with that hope they are also bringing progress. During the past 35 years, Daffodil Days have raised over \$26 million dollars for the American Cancer Society's service programs, educational initiatives, advocacy, and national cancer research. Daffodils are available by contacting Erika Kovacevic, (h) 225-5094, (c) 968-2864. They are available with a donation of \$10 per bunch of 10 flowers, \$15 for a vase and a bunch of flowers, or \$25 for a bunch with a Boyd's Bear. Donations are welcome for a gift of hope.

Orders will be taken in the Gathering Place after the 8 a.m. service or prior to the 10:45 service on February 6, 13 and 20. Orders must be placed by February 20 with Erika.

Daffodil pickup will be on Sunday, March 21, in the Gathering Place after the 8 a.m. service and prior to the 10:45 service.

I would like to order _____ Bunches of daffodils for a donation of \$10 per bunch

I would like to order _____ Vase and a Bunch of daffodils for a donation of \$15

I would like to order _____ Bunches with a Boyd's Bear for a donation of \$25

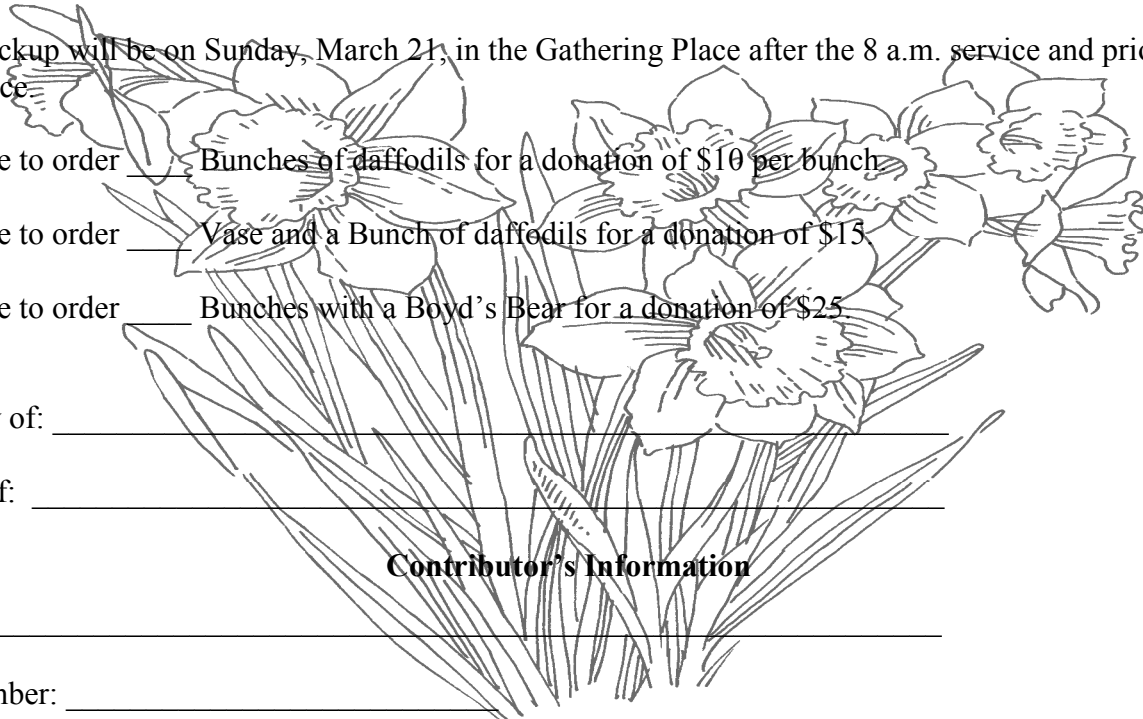
In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Contributor's Information

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____



Help the homeless in our community!

Support the



Marathon
on WHVR 1280 AM

to benefit the:

***Changing Lives Homeless Shelter provided by the
Hanover Area Council of Churches
and Turning Point programs***

February 10 & 11
on WHVR 1280 AM

Donation cards available *in the church office*
-or-

call WHVR at 717-637-0052 during the marathon
to make your pledge

Supported by:

*Stephen W. Eyer Jewelers, Hoffheins Bros., Lenig's Coin and Jewelry,
Flower Shop, Horne's Auto Body, Innerst Sales & Service, JNB
Appliance, Re-Source York, Winklestein's House of Fabrics, L&M Tire &
Wheel, Laslow's Pharmacy, Weber Insurance, Abbottstown Repair, Webb
Insurance, Wetzel Funeral Home and your community
service leader, **WHVR 1280 AM***