



*Alleluia!
Christ
Is Risen!*

Easter Sunday

March 31, 2024
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

ELW Setting 4

“Living God’s Love”

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church
400 North Broadway Street † Medina, Ohio 44256
330-725-8885 † office@stmatthewmedina.org
www.stmatthewmedina.org

St. Matthew invites you to join us in celebration of Holy Communion!

The Lord's table is open to all who believe and are baptized.

Please join us as we receive the means of grace, where Jesus promises to meet us in the bread and the wine.

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"Pages" are in the front of the hymnal.

"Hymns" are located toward the back of the hymnal.

*Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING

Prelude

The Strife is O'er

Shoemaker-Lohmeyer

Welcome and Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

P: We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.
We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.
Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.
Make us one, risen Christ.
Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life.
To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***Gathering Song:**

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Hymn 365

***Greeting**

D: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

*Prayer of the Day

C: O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children’s Sermon

Deacon Lindsay Stertzbach

WORD

First Reading

Acts 10:34-43

³⁴Peter began to speak to the people: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God’s mercy endures forever.

²**Let Israel now declare,
“God’s mercy endures forever.”**

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:
“The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!**

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

¹⁷**I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the LORD.**

¹⁸The LORD indeed punished me sorely,
but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

²⁰"This is the gate of the LORD;
here the righteous may enter."

²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and you have become my salvation.**

²²The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

²³**By the LORD has this been done;
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

¹Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia

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*Gospel

Mark 16:1-8

P: The holy gospel according to St. Mark, the sixteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

P: The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Steve Mahaffey

Hymn of the Day:

Thine is the Glory

Hymn 376

***Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

***Prayers of Intercession**

D: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

A brief silence.

D: Holy God, we pray for the body of Christ, the church. Where the church is persecuted, protect it. Where the church is privileged, grant it humility. Where the church is fractured, heal it. Guide us all to embody Christ's love in the world.
God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

D: Life-giving God, we pray for the earth, your good creation. Join our prayers with branches lifted in praise and roaring waters of new life, that together we may proclaim Easter hope. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

D: Merciful God, we pray for all peoples and nations. Free oppressed communities from occupation, exploitation, and abuse. Teach leaders your way of justice. Empower peacemakers and all who work to end violence and strife. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

D: Liberating God, we pray for people everywhere who long for good news. Roll away the stones that keep people from living with dignity and wholeness. Breathe new life and hope into people struggling to make it through each day. We pray especially for Karen, Ken, Karen, June, Steve, Tom, Adam and Family, Elizabeth, Clarence, Jerry, Todd, Logan, Sandi, and those we now name aloud or hold tenderly in our hearts. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

D: Loving God, we pray for this community of faith and for your Spirit in our midst. Feed us at your Easter table and fill us with your wisdom, that we may serve and care for others. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

D: Eternal God, we remember those who have gone before us in death. Renew our trust in your promises, that we live with joyful courage and compassion. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

D: Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

C: Amen.

***Sharing of the Peace**

D: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

MEAL

Offertory

Crown Him the Risen King
Larson

Luther Choir

Offertory Response

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Hymn 884

***Offertory Prayer**

P: Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

C: Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving**

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P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***Proper Preface**

***Holy, Holy, Holy**

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***Eucharistic Prayer**

***Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

***Invitation to Communion**

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

***Lamb of God**

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Communion Hymns:

Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

Hymn 382

This Joyful Eastertide

Hymn 391

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice & Sing

Hymn 385

***Prayer after Communion**

P: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

C: Amen.

SENDING

***Blessing**

P: The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.

C: Amen.

***Sending Song:**

Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!

Hymn 377

***Dismissal:**

D: Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

***Postlude**

The Trumpet Shall Sound

Handel

+++

Brass Ensemble

Luke Rohde, Trumpet

Rachel Knaggs, Trumpet

Hope Rohde, French Horn

Jenna Malloy, Trombone

PRAYERS

***Prayers for Healing:** Karen Rupert, Ken Ault, Karen Strange, June Trenty, Steve Combs, Tom Thornton, Adam and Family, Elizabeth, Clarence, Jerry Jakovic, Todd Costello, Logan, and Sandi.

TODAY'S WORSHIP & EVENTS

Easter Sunday, we worship in person at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. with ELW 4 and holy communion. Livestream at 8:30.

Luther League Easter Breakfast 8:00-8:30 and 9:45-10:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

No Sunday School - Spring Break.

NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 7, AT ST. MATTHEW

Next Sunday, First Sunday of Easter, we will worship in person at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. with Now the Feast and holy communion. Livestream at 8:30.

Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m.

Hat Making between services in the Library.

Youth Gathering Parent/Student Meeting - 12:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you to those who donated Lilies and Spring Flowers for Easter!

Flowers may be picked up following the 11:00 worship service.

The Kotick Family

David & Marcia George

Una Mae Gill

Pat Straub in memory of her Mom and Dad

Todd & Melody Costello in honor of Emily and Kacey

Carol Muhlbach in thankfulness for God's Blessings

Alan & Delores Ivan in memory of their parents

Tom & Joyce Davis in memory of loved ones

The Neate Family to the Glory of God

Scott & Beth Johnson to the Glory of God

Nancy McNeal in memory of Lorin & Mary Francis McNeal

Bruce Reed in honor of Eric & Linda Hellman

Tim & Melanie Brown in memory of loved ones

Bob & Teri Madey in memory of loved ones

Brittany Thompson in memory of Kathy Jenewein

The Obermeier Family in memory of loved ones

The Hulvey Family in memory of loved ones

Dale & Nancy Weygandt to the Glory of God

The Pamer Family in memory of Terry Jordan

The Taraschke Family in memory of loved ones

Jim & Jean Waite in memory of Helmut Simonis & Martin Waite

Sue Ogle in memory of loved ones

Donna Flanagan in memory of loved ones

Ron & Peg Huber in memory of loved ones

Sandy Andrews in honor of family

WORSHIP SERVANTS

Acolytes:	8:30 - Faith Taraschke James Walker	11:00 - Olivia Naida Addison Wierzchowski
Reader:	8:30 - Judy McLaughlin	11:00 - Beth Johnson
Ushers:	8:30 - Alan & Delores Ivan Bruce Reed	11:00 - Katie & Ron Heinz
Communion Servers:	8:30 - Helen Graf Jen Knaggs	11:00 - Melody Costello Julie Shrader
Sound:	8:30 - Joe Obermeier	11:00 - Larry Mohler
Video:	Melody Costello	
Altar Guild:	Nancy McNeal	

Cross Penny Ministry

The cross penny message:

Jesus is the One Sent(cent) to die and set us free (liberty) from our sins. He rose from the dead so that we could be saved when "In God We Trust".

You will find the cross pennies in the narthex and you are invited to take one for yourself and several to share with family, friends, and strangers. (We have over 2000 pennies, so don't be shy!!) Use the simple message above or open a conversation about the Good News, your faith journey, or even our church.

Here are some other ideas for using your cross penny:

- *send one in a greeting (or Easter!) card
- *put some in a plastic Easter egg
- *include one along with a generous tip to your waiter or waitress
- *give to someone who is struggling
- *attach one to your keychain
- *leave one on a park bench, a store shelf, in a take one/leave one change dish, on the sidewalk...the options are limitless! Pennies from heaven!!



If you have a special story to share about one of your cross pennies, please let someone from the Evangelism/Communication team know or share on St. Matthew's Facebook page!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Monday - The church office will be closed tomorrow, Monday, April 1.

New Member Classes Forming Soon! Contact Pastor Steve if you are interested in becoming a member of St. Matthew.

Care Package Ministry - During the month of March, we are collecting gift cards, notes, and words of encouragement to include in care packages for our college students. An Amazon wish list has been established for additional items. Packages will be assembled on Sunday, April 7. Further details are available in the Shout-Out. Please contact Deacon Lindsay with any questions.

Fun Fellowship - Do you want to be part of something exciting and new? Come be part of Fun Fellowship. All are welcome! Let's get ready to have some fun. Please join us for our first meeting, April 9, at 7:00 p.m. in the Brown Room. Feel free to contact Joyce Davis or Helen Graf with questions. Joyce Davis 216-780-0965, juicenomilk@aol.com or Helen Graf 330-421-2403, mhelg6216@yahoo.com

CPR/AED/Fire Extinguisher Class - Tuesday, April 30, 5-8 p.m. at Medina Fire Station 1, 300 W. Reagan Pkwy. (behind the movie theater). Minimum of 8 participants (Max. 12). This is an American Heart Association (AHA) "Friends and Family" class that Capt. Steve is offering to teach at NO CHARGE. *You must be present for the entire class.* No book or test involved; only participation and demonstration. Contact Brenda, Parish Nurse, at bdisbrow@zoominternet.net or leave a note in her mailbox if you would like to attend.

"Tree of Life" End-Of-Life Planning Classes - The adult Christian education class at St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church, Medina, will be focusing on end-of-life planning on April 7, 14, and 21, at 9:45 AM. Each participant will be preparing a "Book of Life" to have in a prominent place in their homes with the information for their next of kin to be sure their wishes are carried out. Topics covered will include legal forms, funeral home assistance, important documents, and inventories. The class is open to all adults.

Blood Pressure Cuff - A new blood pressure cuff/monitor is now located in the narthex closet (next to the first aid kit) to be used for any medical issue or emergency.

First Aid Kits - There will no longer be Ammonia Inhalant ampules ("smelling salts") in our First Aid Kits. Due to the regulation of OTC (over the counter) products, as part of the Cares Act signed into law, this product will no longer be available for general public use. If there is a medical emergency in church, call 9-1-1. *Source: ASHP (American Society of Health System Pharmacists) 11/6/23*

"Getting to Know You" - St. Matthew started featuring a St. Matthew family in our weekly Shout-Outs as a way to get to know our fellow St. Matthew members. We would love to feature your family! Go to your most recent Shout-Out to access the link to complete your profile or grab a form from the Narthex. See Beth Johnson with any questions. We look forward to *GETTING TO KNOW YOU!*

Do You Have OLD St. Matthew Treasures? The Archival Committee of St. Matthew is desiring to scan all old, archival, documents and/or photos related to St. Matthew and its ministry, dating back to the late 1930's. If you have old treasures, please share them! Bring them to the church office, or to one of the members of the Archive Committee (Dale Weygandt, Chair, Mary Dunham, Rebekah Neidig, Beth Johnson, Barb Woodard). Once

scanned, the documents and/or photos will be safely stored in acid-free folders and boxes in an archival safe... unless you prefer to have them returned for sentimental reasons. Any questions? Contact Dale at (330) 725-5894.

Church Directory Photographs - The Evangelism & Communication Committee will be adding and updating photos for St. Matthew's Online Church Directory on an ongoing basis. If your individual or family photo is not currently available in the directory or you would like to update it, please contact Stephanie Hess at hessstephanie15@gmail.com or 330-441-1130. You can provide your own image or a photograph of you can be taken at St. Matthew before or after church services.

The Personnel Committee is still in need of a list of members who are willing to volunteer to watch the children in the nursery on occasion. This is a service we have for parents who want a safe place for their preschool children during worship services. Our current nursery attendant is conscientious about being here each Sunday morning, but there are times when she is unable. Please see Barb or Jim Woodard or Jan Sullivan. We will call those on the list to fill in on occasion. If we do not have an attendant, parents may sit with their child in the nursery at their discretion.

The St. Matthew Prayer Group meets on Thursdays at 2:00 to lift intercessory prayers to God. You are welcome to join us whenever you are able. We also have members who pray from wherever they are. If that works better for you, we will add your name to our email list and will send updates if you are unable to attend on Thursdays. If you have prayer requests you would like for us to pray, please leave the information in our Prayer Group mailbox. Or you may email the information to barbwoodard.bw@gmail.com. Please be sure that the person we are praying for knows that you have shared that information. We assure you that we keep the details of the prayer confidential.

The LGL Samaritan Fund Board of Trustees meets the second Thursday of each month to discern the division of the quarterly grant received to help members of our congregation and other residents of Medina County who are in financial need. Our purpose is to help those who need assistance in gaining a foot up in their financial needs. If you need financial help, please pick up an application on the table in the hallway by the staffs' offices, fill it out and place it in the LGL Samaritan Fund mailbox in the large brown envelope that remains in the mailbox. All applications need to be received by the Friday prior to the second Thursday of each month to allow time for processing. You may give an application to a family member in need, or to a non-member friend who lives in Medina County, or suggest they pick one up. Additional applications are in the drop box by the office outside entrance door. Or you can find the application at stmatthewmedina.org and fill it out online or print it off and fill it out by hand. For more information, please see Pastor Steve, Deacon Lindsay, Barb Woodard, or Emily Faust. You can also find more information about the LGL Samaritan Fund in the 2023 Annual Report.

Offering Envelopes - If you are not receiving offering envelopes and would like to, please contact Deb in the office. If you are receiving offering envelopes in the mail and no longer need/want them, please contact Deb in the office.

Reading Glasses - are available on the windowsill in the narthex to borrow. If you borrow a pair, please remember to return them.

Lost & Found - Are you missing something? Check our lost and found basket or the table in the narthex.

Finance Committee Update

Offerings-Budget: Expected offerings for the month based on the approved budget.

Offerings-Actual (General): Offerings that are for the church that can be dedicated to any area that is needing support of these offerings.

Offerings-Restricted: These are offerings that members/visitors of the congregation provide to the church that are dedicated to a specific purpose. It could be for renovation projects, youth gatherings, flowers, and many other options that an individual can choose. These offerings are unable to be used for general church purposes. **These are usually unanticipated offerings and are not included in the budget variance which is why they are separated out.**

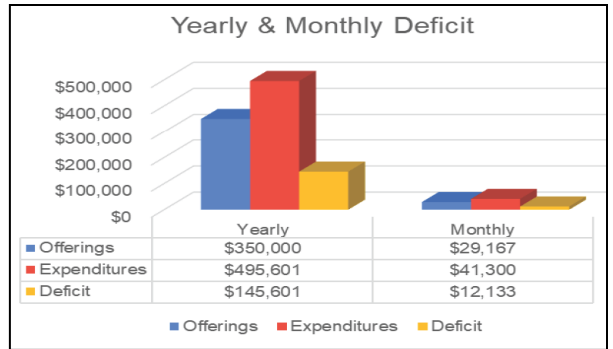
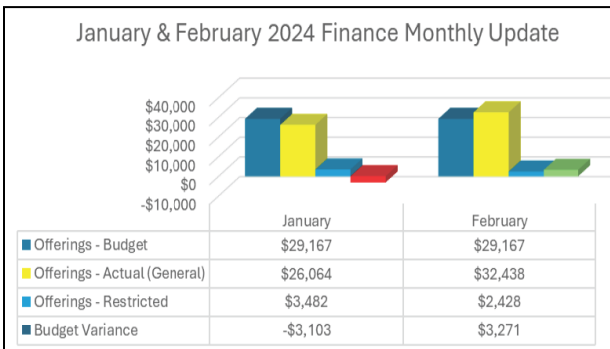
Budget Variance: The budget variance is the actual offerings minus the total offerings expected. **This does not include restricted offerings.**

Offerings: By setting up recurring offerings online, you enable us to maintain financial stability and plan for the future of St. Matthew. Please consider signing up for Simply Giving at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z4MP/home> or use your smart phone with the QR code below. Please prayerfully consider increasing your offering to support the church and its mission of Living God's Love.

NOTE: You can select between recurring or one time donation for General Church Operations, St. Matthew Renovation/Refresh Project, or choose Other if you'd like to dedicate your offering to another purpose.

Estate planning is for everyone, it is an opportunity to create your legacy at St. Matthew. Thank you for your continued generosity.

If you have any questions about your current account or setting up your account, contact our Financial Recording Secretary, Mary Dunham at 330-421-4730 or via email at Recording_Secretary@stmatthewmedina.org





WELCOME TO SILENT BOOK CLUB

What is a Silent Book Club?

It is a group of people who enjoy reading and gathering in public bars, Cafes, bookstores, libraries, people's homes, online. anywhere really, also they can read together in quiet camaraderie. In traditional book clubs there's the scramble to finish the selected book, and the pressure to have something prepared. Or what if you started the book and didn't like it? wouldn't it be great to have a book club where you could just enjoy books, friends, and drinks-without homework? At silent book club, there is no assigned reading. All readers are welcomed: eBooks, audiobooks, textbooks, comic books, its BYOB (Bring Your Own Book)! Members gather at a set time and location, share some refreshments, share what they are reading, and settle in for an hour of silent reading. At the end those that like to socialize can stay -or not!



Why have a Silent Book Club?

Because reading with friend enriches our lives and makes us happy. We love hearing about what other people are reading (often in their other book clubs) and it's important to put down our phones and be social. Real, live, breathing the same air social, not just heart reacting your posts on social media.



Who can join Silent Book Club?

Everyone is welcome!
I am gauging the interest in forming a group like this at St. Matthew, do you think you would you be interested? let me know by email jenknaggs@yahoo.com, send me a text/Call 330-413-0529, drop a note in my mailbox or just come up and say hi!

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Staff

The Rev. Steven Mahaffey	Pastor
Deacon Lindsay Stertzbach	Director of Youth & Family Ministries
Cindy Piovarchy	Organist
Deb Musil	Office Administrator
Joyce Davis	Maintenance Supervisor
Brenda Disbrow	Parish Nurse
Nancy McNeal	Luther Choir Director
Rachel Knaggs	Kids of the Kingdom Director
Kaitlyn Taraschke	Nursery Attendant

Pastor Steve's Contact Information

Email: pastorsteve@stmatthewmedina.org

Cell Phone: 740-525-6149

Deacon Lindsay's Contact Information

Email: lindsay@stmatthewmedina.org

Cell Phone: 440-376-8338



Hearing Loop
System available.