



St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

Around the Church

August 3, 2025



"WHO NEEDS TO BE A MILLIONAIRE?"

That was the cover of a *Thrivent* magazine article from over 10 years ago. Thrivent is a financial services company with its origins in the Lutheran church. They are a great organization, helping out people financially and giving back in all kinds of ways. The article had to do with retirement, recommending each household should have \$1,000,000 saved up, in order to continue to live comfortably into the golden years. It's good advice—it really is!—but....

The Gospel this Sunday is about a wealthy man who gets even wealthier when a bumper crop comes in and his barns aren't "big enough" (Luke 12:13-21). So he decides to tear them down and build BIGGER ones!! Can never get too big! And then he says to his soul: "Soul, NOW you have *enough*. Rest, eat, drink, and be merry!" But God demands his life that very night.

How much is *enough*?? In the ideal world of faith according to Jesus, God provides the basics which are enough (Luke 12:22-31). On the one hand, Jesus is *not* beating up on wealthy people. The man's wealth is *not* the problem—believing he needs more than the ton of money he already has in order to "rest" is the spiritual issue. He's already wealthy—why not give the "extra" away? Which raises some uncomfortable questions for us. Why do we believe that "growth" is always "good"? Just read today that China is giving couples \$500 to have kids, because 1.5 billion people aren't enough. Will 3 billion people be enough? Apparently not when they all grow old... What will happen to the earth when every country decides it needs more people, more money, more resources, more stuff, more... more...??? That's the wealthy man's problem—believing he always needs more.

The Good News is that we *don't have to buy into* that false promise. (Pardon the pun) How many of us miss out on "life" because we're too busy trying to get more and more and more? Why couldn't the rich man in the parable relax with what he already had? To be clear, this parable is directed to those of us who are *not* poor. How freeing it is to know we have enough!

Peace,

Pr. Christian



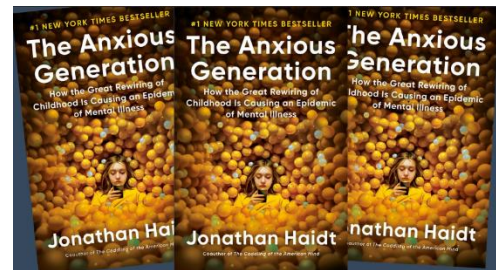
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP

We have changed our Sunday Evening Worship services to the first and third Sundays of the month. Our **August services will be held on August 3 and 17 at 6:30pm.** Sunday Evening Worship services are great for those with busy schedules! Hope to see you next time!



This Sunday's Altar Flowers are provided by **Ken and Pat Easterday**, in celebration of their **60th Wedding Anniversary!**

The Sign Up Genius for the remainder of July and August is posted in the online ATC and church website!



"THE ANXIOUS GENERATION" BOOK GROUP, STARTS SEPT. 14

This fall, our St. Matthew's/St. Paul's Family Ministry Team is offering a group book study around the New York Times bestseller "The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness," written by social psychologist Jonathan Haidt. This compelling book discusses the impacts that smartphones, social media, and other societal trends have had on our youth, and offers practical (but counter-cultural) ideas on how to establish important boundaries for younger children and adolescents. **We are particularly encouraging parents with young kids to join us, so that you can think about these things *before* you experience the pressure to get a smartphone for your child.**

Our get-togethers will be held once a month on the second Sunday from 5:00-6:00pm, alternating between churches. The first gathering will be an information and introductory session on Sunday, September 14 in the Fellowship Hall at St. Paul's; childcare will be provided. Copies of the book will be available for purchase at a reduced cost or can be bought at Barnes & Noble, Amazon.com, or other major book sellers.

If you are interested in attending the September 14 informational session, please find the Sign Up link in the online ATC and church website, so that we make sure to have adequate childcare in place. If you have any questions, contact Craig Miller at craigyouthmin@gmail.com, or 484-320-0785.



ST. MATT'S SPONSORED RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE, SEPT. 2

St. Matthew's and the American Red Cross are hosting our annual Blood Drive on Tuesday, September 2 from 2:00-7:00pm in the CLC. Come to give blood and you could receive an exclusive Peanuts x Red Cross shirt, while supplies last!

To sign up, call 1-800-733-2767, or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter "St. Matts Lutheran Church."

Links and QR codes to register and for the RapidPass can be found on our church website, and are linked in the online ATC. The QR code to register is located below!

If you have any questions, contact Meghan Comegys, megcomegys@gmail.com, 484-684-3109.



HELP IS NEEDED NOW! RISE AGAINST HUNGER MEAL PACKAGING EVENT, OCT. 19

St. Matthew's and St. Paul's are hosting a Rise Against Hunger meal packaging event on Sunday,

October 19 in the St. Matthew's CLC. According to our liaisons at Rise Against Hunger, our packaging event is the second largest community event in our region.

While we will kick off planning for the 2025 event around Labor Day, we need 3-4 people to help send emails to local businesses and groups to find co-sponsors for the event (seeking financial contributions and also groups of people interested in packaging meals). We also need help in applying for grants from local grocery stores, insurance companies and banks.

Please contact Troy Sisum at (610) 724-7357 or tdsisum1@yahoo.com if you are available to help.



SAVE THE DATE: ST. MATTHEW'S YARD SALE, SEPT. 6

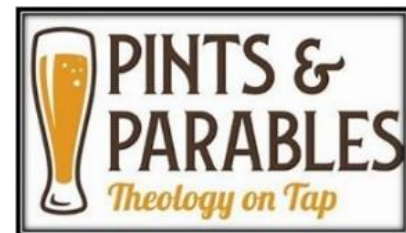
Come sell and shop at the St. Matthew's Yard Sale on Saturday, Sept. 6 from 8:00-11:00am. Rain Date: Sept. 13.

Do you have home decor, games, craft supplies, records, jewelry, clothes, tools, etc collecting dust? Time to clean out your basement! Space/Table fees are \$15.00. Would you like to donate items without selling? Please contact Desiree Lee (contact info is below) for coordination.

Donated items will have a special area at the sale. Donated proceeds and table fees will be given to benefit the Chester County Food Bank.

To rent a space/table or to donate items for the sale, please contact Desiree Lee at 610-425-0484 or DAL2123@yahoo.com

Volunteers are always needed and appreciated.



PINTS AND PARABLES, SEPT. 8

Come join us for stimulating conversation & fellowship, in a laid-back relaxing atmosphere on Monday, September 8, 7:00pm, Liberty Union in Chester Springs.

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church 2025 Golf Event

Drive Out Hunger.

~ Proceeds Benefit ~
Grace Crossing Community Food Pantry
Chester County Food Bank,
Coatesville Youth and Women's Alliance

**Raffle Prizes, Mulligans, Hole Sponsors,
Fun, Food, and Music!**

Kimberton Golf Club

\$125 Per Golfer— Includes
a BBQ Lunch

\$20 Lunch Only— Children
under 10 Eat Free!

September 18, 2025

7:00 am Registration

8:00 am Shot Gun

Live Music



Questions? Contact Patrick Miller, 610-291-3002 or pjmill98@yahoo.com

2ND ANNUAL DRIVE OUT HUNGER, **SEPT. 18**

**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN! Thursday,
September 18 at Kimberton Golf Club.**

Cost is \$125 per golfer (including BBQ lunch), or \$20
just for lunch. Children under 10 eat free.

To register:

Step 1: To register to Golf or for just the lunch,
please fill out the Google form (in the online ATC
and Church website) and hit "Submit."

Step 2: To pay for your registration, go the giving
page at the St. Matthew's Church website, go here:

<https://stmatthews-church.org/give>

Once you're there, click "Give Online Now," select
"Golf Event Fundraiser" from the drop-down menu,
and pay.

If you have any questions, contact Patrick Miller:
pjmill98@yahoo.com or 610-291-3002.



MISSION IN: **NEXT MEETING AUG. 10 &** **PRAYER SQUARES NEEDED!**

The next Mission In meeting will be Sunday, August
10 at 10:45am in the CLC.

For anyone who likes to crochet, Mission In needs
prayer squares to send to members needing

encouragement. Prayer squares can be dropped off in
the basket in the CLC near the bulletin boards. Thank
you in advance!

The Mission In team is asking for your help. If you know
of someone in the congregation who is in need of
support, please let us know. Maybe we can offer a card,
a phone call, a visit, a dessert, or a meal. You can reach
a Mission In member by contacting the church office.



YOUTH NEWS

WE'RE HAVING A POOL PARTY! On Sunday,
August 24, all youth going into 6th-12th grades are
invited to join us for a pool party from 1:00-3:30pm
at the Hummerstons' home in Downingtown (contact
the office if you need the address). Bring a munchie or
dessert to share with the group; drinks and pizza will be
provided. **Sign up in the online ATC to save your
spot!**

**OUR SECOND ANNUAL YOUTH KICKOFF LOCK-
IN** will be held Saturday evening, September 6-
Sunday morning, September 7 at St. Paul's! All 6th-
12th graders (including friends) are invited to spend
an overnight in the church building playing games, doing
activities, eating food, and just generally getting to know
more about each other. The event starts at 6:00pm
Saturday evening and ends with us leading worship at
St. Paul's on Sunday morning, where our ASP
participants will share stories from their trip to West
Virginia this summer. Come late or leave early if you
need to (with parental permission). **Sign up in the
online ATC to avoid missing out on the excitement!**

**HIGH SCHOOL OASIS RESUMES ON SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 14 from 6:30-8:00pm in the St. Paul's
Youth Room.** Come welcome our rising 9th graders to
this opportunity to relax, chill out, and decompress from
the stresses of school, activities, and other pressures of
life. No heavy discussions or deep Bible studies; just a
chance to breathe. Advance sign-up isn't required,
either; just show up! As with most of our youth events,
friends are welcome, too.

YOUTH EVENTS COMING IN SEPTEMBER -

OCTOBER: Watch for information on a ropes
course/teambuilding event, a canoe trip, a fall festival,
and more!



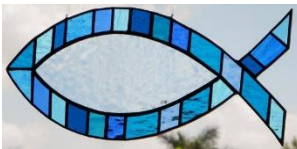
St. Mary's
Franciscan Shelter
For Homeless Families

ST. MARY'S MEAL DELIVERY **NEXT MEAL, AUG. 24**

Our August meal will be delivered on August 24. The August sign up is now posted in the online ATC and the church website.

St. Matthew's will be providing a meal for 15 people the 4th Sunday of the month. **Based on the Board of Health regulations - they can only accept prepared food from grocery stores/restaurants.** We will continue to have signs up for 2 entrees, side, veggie, salad, dessert and delivery. **ALL items must be purchased from a grocery store/restaurant. Ex. Rotisserie chickens, bags of salad, frozen veggies/fresh veggies, cookies/cakes from the bakery.**

If you have any questions, contact Mindy Elmer at mlong1011@comcast.net or 484-319-8998.



DEEP DIVE INTO THEOLOGY, **AUG. 24**

You are invited to join a discussion group that is different from a bible or book study. For more information, contact skip.craft@verizon.net

We'll meet after the service Sunday, August 24 in the lounge. All are welcome.



COFFEE & **CHRIST, SEPT. 6**

Join us for coffee and good conversation at our next session of Coffee & Christ, **Saturday, September 6 at 8:30am at Starbucks in Chester Springs!**



MEN'S BREAKFAST: SEPT. 20

There will be no Men's Breakfast in August.

Please plan on bringing something to cook and share with the group on **Saturday, September 20** Food prep begins at 8:00am with breakfast starting at 8:30am.

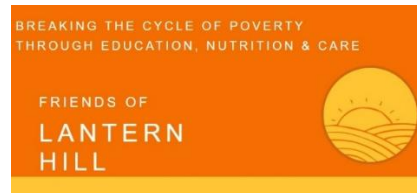
Please contact Tim Guyer at ttguyer@gmail.com with questions.



COMMUNITY GARDEN: **HARVESTING UPDATE!**

Our summer growing season is off to a fantastic start! We have already started to harvest some of our earliest summer vegetables including zucchini and yellow squash, cucumbers, beets and banana peppers. **We have donated 460 pounds of veggies to the Chester County Food Bank so far this season.** Even if you are not renting one of our 16 beds, we would love to have some new faces join us in helping plant, maintain, and harvest the vegetables we grow in the five dedicated food bank beds. No experience is necessary! Also if you have gardens at home or belong to a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) and have extra vegetables that you would like to donate we would be happy to help coordinate.

If you are interested in helping in the garden or want to donate your extra vegetables, please contact Meghan Comegys (megcomegys@gmail.com or 484-684-3109), Desiree Lee (dal2123@yahoo.com or 610-425-0484) or Jim Rutledge (jrutman2005@yahoo.com or 484-459-3255).



MEXICO TRIP INTEREST MEETING, **SEPT. 21**

We are seeking families and individuals of all ages who want to attend a culture-rich trip to Lantern Hill, outside of Ensenada, Mexico the week of June 21-27, 2026. We will have an informational meeting once we get a sense of who is interested. Lantern Hill is relational and our eyes will be opened as we live, play, work, and interact with the students and staff. The nature of the trip and service we contribute is personalized to our group. There is a cost of the trip that covers airfare, room and board. We will discuss more details at the meeting. Prepare to be changed and led by God. **The form can be found in the online ATC and on the church website.**