



St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

Around the Church

October 5, 2025



THE RIGHTEOUS LIVE BY FAITH

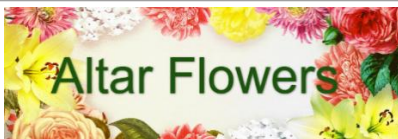
Adapted from Sundays and Seasons.com.

Faith is the theme for today's readings, but not just any faith. It is a life-transforming faith, one that demonstrates the very presence of God moving, alive, and active in God's people. In response to the prophet Habakkuk's oracle in our first reading this Sunday, the Lord answered him that "the righteous live by their faith" (Hab. 2:4b).

But just what does it mean to be righteous? It's a righteousness imparted by God, who creates and claims each of us as God's own sons and daughters, bringing us into this family by our baptisms and by the faith God gives us makes us holy children. Being part of this divine family gives us our worth, even at those times we may not think of ourselves as worthy. In II Timothy 1, Paul writes a history of the faith in Timothy's family, beginning with his grandmother, Lois, and then passed on to his mother, Eunice, and himself. This is how many of us were first brought into the family of God: we had faithful parents who knew of their own God-given righteousness and then passed this gift on to their children.

But again, it's all God's doing! Jesus' disciples boldly ask their teacher to "Increase our faith" (Luke 17:5). They knew that faith was something needed, and Jesus explains that even a small amount of faith can do great wonders. What does it mean to have this sort of faith, a faith that can serve God's purposes here to truly be *God's work* and yet it's done with our hands? On this Sunday, help the assembly experience this faith that God has given us. It's a gift and connection to our God.

*Copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reflections adapted from Sundays and Seasons.com.*



Today's Altar Flowers are given in memory of Kay Simon, from the Simon Family.
Check this week's online ATC for the link to sign up through the end of October.



RISE AGAINST HUNGER MEAL PACKAGING EVENT, OCT. 19: **REGISTER NOW!**

The annual Rise Against Hunger meal packaging event will be held on Sunday, October 19. According to our liaisons at Rise Against Hunger, our packaging event is the second largest community event in our region.

As of press time, 138 volunteers have signed up (51% of the 300 volunteers we need), and we've raised \$18,047.25 (75% of our goal...we still need to raise \$6,052.75 to purchase the 60,000 meals to be packaged on Oct. 19). We are looking for individuals who are interested in volunteering, fundraising, and contributing to the event. **Also, if you are interested in helping to organize and plan this event, please reach out to Troy and Diana Sisum (tdsisum1@yahoo.com) or Kathy Meltzer (kmeltzer@comcast.net).**

To register, click the link in the online ATC or on our Church website, or click the QR code above.

ST. MATTHEW'S SCHOOL FALL CHILDREN'S CONSIGNMENT SALE, **OCT. 10-11**



Children's Consignment Sale Benefitting St. Matthew's School
New Sellers Always Welcome!

Friday, October 10:
Special Parent/Church Shopping Day
9:00am-12:00pm

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: 5:30pm-7:30pm
Saturday, October 11:

50% OFF SALE! 8:00am-10:00am

If you would like to consign or volunteer to help, contact Chrissy Guyer at stmatssale@gmail.com.



NEW SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP MEETING, OCT. 5

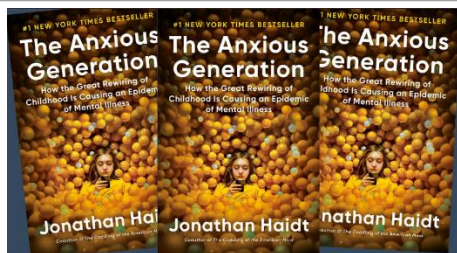
In the Gospel of Matthew (22:37-40), Jesus tells us to love God and to love our neighbor. He then says *everything* hangs on these two commandments. Everything. The mandate is straightforward: **SHINE THE LIGHT!**

In our world today...

- Immigrants and refugees are being treated in inhumane ways
- Increasingly, the marginalized (i.e. LGBTQ+) are being singled out and left behind
- Healthcare and food service programs are being cut
- Women's rights are slowly being chipped away...

These are just a few ways we are failing to deliver on Jesus' mandate proclaimed during the Sermon on the Mount. They run counter to what is expected of us as Christians.

We will be meeting today, Sunday, October 5 at 10:45am in the CLC, to discuss how we might respond to the current challenges in ways consistent with our calling as Christians. If you have questions, reach out to Mary Kwiatkowski (marykkwiatkowski@gmail.com), Jeff Foltz (autooutlook@icloud.com), or Drew Ortyan (andrew.ortyan@nimble-leader.com)



THE ANXIOUS GENERATION BOOK GROUP: NEXT MEETING OCT. 12

PARENTS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN - IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN "THE ANXIOUS GENERATION" BOOK GROUP. We will meet every second Sunday of the month from 3:00pm-4:30pm over the next 5-6 months, alternating between churches. Child care will be provided, too. Here's the anticipated schedule:

- October 12 at St. Matthew's – Book Introduction and Part 1, A Tidal Wave
- November 9 at St. Paul's – Part 2, The Backstory: The Decline of the Play-Based Childhood
- December 14 at St. Matthew's – Part 3, The Great Rewiring: The Rise of the Phone-Based Childhood

- January 11 at St. Paul's – "Buffer" session, additional time for discussion of Parts 2 & 3
- February 8 at St. Matthew's – Part 4, Collective Action for Healthier Childhood
- March 8 at St. Paul's (if needed) – Where Do We Go From Here?

Copies of the book may be obtained from the church office for a \$10 donation, or can be purchased through any major bookseller. **If you would like to join us on October 12, please sign up in the online ATC so that we make sure that we have adequate childcare in place. If you have any questions, contact Craig Miller: craigyouthmin@gmail.com, or 484-320-0785.**

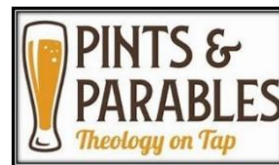


TRUNK OR TREAT: OCT. 25

Please join us for our second annual Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 25 from 3:00-5:00pm on the church grounds! Admission is free.

We will be needing trunkers and volunteers for stations.

Check this week's online ATC for the link to sign up!



PINTS AND PARABLES, OCT. 6

Come join us for stimulating conversation & fellowship, in a laid-back relaxing atmosphere on **Monday, October 6,**

7:00pm, Liberty Union in Chester Springs.



FAITH DISCUSSIONS, OCT. 7

The Faith Discussions Group will resume meetings on Tuesday,

October 7 at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary. We will be discussing the wisdom of the desert fathers and mothers. This group of early Christians fled to the desert where they emphasized lifestyle practice as an alternative to empire and its economy. Hope to see you there!



MISSION IN: **NEXT MEETING OCT. 12**

The next Mission In meeting will be Sunday, October 12 at 10:45am in the CLC.

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.



MEN'S BREAKFAST: OCT. 18

Please plan on bringing something to cook and share with the group on **Saturday, October 18** Food prep begins at 8:00am with breakfast starting at 8:30am. Please contact Tim Guyer at ttguyer@gmail.com with questions.



YOUTH NEWS

THE NEXT HIGH SCHOOL OASIS GATHERING will be next Sunday, October 12 from 6:30-8:00pm at St. Matthew's; if the weather cooperates, we'll be at the outdoor fire pit. All 9th-12th graders are welcome to come and 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!

HELP WITH RISE AGAINST HUNGER! On Sunday, October 19, we would like to have our 6th-12th grade youth show up in force for the 1:00pm-3:00pm shift at St. Matthew's! Bring your family and friends along too, if you can. If you show up in the downstairs lounge at 12:15pm, there will be pizza and beverages available before our shift begins. Even if you can't do the 1:00pm time slot, you still have opportunities to serve from 11:00am-1:00pm, or 3:00pm-5:00pm. Sign up in the online ATC or church website to participate!

HERE IS A LOT OF YOUTH STUFF HAPPENING ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25:

OUR NEXT GOOD WORKS YOUTH WORK DAY is scheduled for Saturday, October 25 from 8:15am-3:45pm (meet at the Good Works warehouse in Coatesville). Come spend the day helping fix up homes for families who don't have the means to do it themselves. Anyone in eighth through twelfth grade is welcome to join us, including friends. Sign up in the online ATC or church website to participate by **Monday, October 13.**

OR...

HELP WITH ST. MATTHEW'S TRUNK OR TREAT from 2:30-5:00pm. Anyone in 6th-12th grade is invited to help with setup, then be stationed at one of our youth "trunks" to help hand out candy to our neighborhood guests! Sign up in the online ATC or church website to participate. Then afterward, stay for...

YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT AT ST. MATTHEW'S! Come from 5:00-7:30pm for food and movie fun for all 6th-12th graders. Even if you can't help with Good Works or the Trunk or Treat, you're still welcome to come. No signup needed; just bring a lawn chair or blanket!

THE FALL 2025 YOUTH CALENDAR IS AVAILABLE on the Youth page of the church website. Events, dates, times, locations, and signup links may be found on the calendar; check it out to see what's happening for our Middle School (6th-8th grade) and High School (9th-12th grade) youth! Unless otherwise indicated, friends are *always* welcome to participate!



COMMUNITY GARDEN: **HARVESTING UPDATE!**

We had a fantastic summer growing season in the garden and to date have donated **1271 pounds** of veggies to the Chester County Food Bank. We recently transitioned to growing our fall vegetables including several types of lettuce, turnips, radishes, and kale. Thanks to all our gardeners for your efforts in maintaining the garden and for your generous donations to the food bank! **If you are interested in helping in the garden or want to donate your extra vegetables, please contact Meghan Comegys** (megcomegys@gmail.com/484-684-3109), **Desiree Lee** (dal2123@yahoo.com/610-425-0484) or **Jim Rutledge** (jrutman2005@yahoo.com/484-459-3255).

COFFEE & CHRIST, NOV. 1



Join us for coffee and good conversation at our next session of Coffee & Christ, **Saturday, November 1 at 8:30am at Starbucks in Chester Springs!**



FINAL BAND-B-QUE NOV. 5

Do you love music? Singing? Playing? Wanna be in a band?! **We will be hosting one more Band-B-Que, on Wednesday, November 5. Join us for food at 6:00pm, and then we'll move to the Sanctuary to make some music at 7:00pm.**

All are welcome: All skill levels, all musical styles, and all commitment levels! For more information, contact Music Director Daniel Bower at worship@stmatthews-church.org.



HONEY SUNDAY, NOV. 2

HONEY SUNDAY IS
COMING!

On Sunday, November 2, our youth will have a table outside of the sanctuary after worship to take honey orders and accept donations. This honey is produced by the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch organization, which provides residential, educational, and support services for at-risk youth and their families in North Dakota. Proceeds benefit this organization, as well as our own St. Matthew's/St. Paul's youth ministry.

DRIVE OUT HUNGER 2025 WRAP UP



Thanks to your generosity, each beneficiary (Coatesville Youth and Women's Alliance, Chester County Food Bank, and



Grace Crossing Food Pantry) will receive a **\$3,000 check!** Above are the check presentations to the CYWA and the CCFB.

Thank you for making Drive Out Hunger a success! Also, a big thank you to our Hole Sponsors and those businesses which contributed raffle prizes! Many are local businesses, please be sure to patronize them if you can!

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church 2025 Golf Event

Drive Out Hunger.

THANK YOU
to our Generous
Hole Sponsors!

The Sisum Family

Morgan Stanley
BARTOLI WEALTH MANAGEMENT GROUP
AT MORGAN STANLEY

Rock Pointe
INSURANCE

SHEER VENTURE
SOLUTIONS

Four J's Carpet
Downingtown
610-269-5555

CHESTER COUNTY
FUEL OIL, INC.
"First in Customer Satisfaction"

DiBiase
HEATING + COOLING
Leap into Comfort!

colorful Remedies LLC
painting - carpentry - home remodeling

Auto Dealers CARing
for Kids Foundation

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church 2025 Golf Event

Drive Out Hunger.

THANK YOU
For Raffle Prize
Donations

ACE
The helpful place.

ALPASTOR

ANTHONY'S
COAL FIRED PIZZA

BRICKSIDE
GRILLE

BISTRO ON
BRIDGE

EVERGREEN
COFFEE CO.

GATEWAY
PHARMACY

Limoncello
Ristorante & Caterers

L29K
MONT CLARE, PA

MAGERKS
PUB & GRILL

GARDNER'S
GENTILI'S

Lionville
NATURAL PHARMACY

HOT PIZZA

MEAN BEAN
COFFEE & CREAM

MONTESANO BROS
Restaurant & Catering

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church 2025 Golf Event

Drive Out Hunger.

THANK YOU
For Raffle Prize
Donations

Ladd's

BARNES & NOBLE

JUICE
POD

Kimberton

REVIVAL

STONE HOUSE

TAPHOUSE

the pour
house

VKK
BREWING CO. & SATELY

Worrell's
BUTCHER
SHOP

TWIN VALLEY
COFFEE

WEITZENKORNS

The Epicurean Club
AT
FLOWING SPRINGS INN

X GOLF