HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT

St. Matthew

LUTHERAN CHURCH of HANOVER

November 8 - 15, 2026

Sun.	Worship with Holy Communion (Nave)	8:30 a.m.
	Veterans Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)	9:30-10:15 a.m.
	Worship with Holy Communion	10:30 a.m.
	Congregational Meeting (Nave)	11:30-12:15 p.m.
	Pajama Storytime (Second Floor, Upper Room)	5:00-6:30 p.m.
Mon.	Grief Share (Upper Room)	3:00-4:30 p.m.
	Girl Scouts (Girl Scout Room)	6:00-7:30 p.m.
Tue.	Junior Choir Rehearsal (Children's Rehearsal Room)	4:30-5:15 p.m.
	Cub Scouts Den Meeting	6:30-7:30 p.m.
	All Committee Night (Fellowship Hall)	7:00-9:00 p.m.
Wed.	Boy Scouts	7:00-8:30 p.m.
Thur.	Children's Choir Rehearsal (Children's Rehearsal Room)	4:15-5:00 p.m.
	St. Matthew Ringers Rehearsal (Adult Rehearsal Room)	6:00-7:00 p.m.
	Adult Choir Rehearsal (Adult Rehearsal Room)	7:00-8:00 p.m.
Fri.	Youth Lock-In	5:30 p.m.
Sat.	Music JAM (Children's Rehearsal Room)	9:00-11:00 a.m.
	Surviving the Holidays (second room, upper floor)	10:00-12:00 p.m.
	Tiny Tunes (Children's Rehearsal Room)	12:00-12:45 p.m.
	Worship with Holy Communion (Fellowship Hall)	5:00 p.m.
Sun.	Worship with Holy Communion (Nave)	8:30 a.m.
	Intergenerational Ornament Making (Fellowship Hall)	9:30-10:20 a.m.
	Worship with Holy Communion	10:30 a.m.
	Youth Choir & Bells Rehearsal (Adult Rehearsal Room)	11:45-12:45 p.m.



This Sunday: Veterans Breakfast
This Sunday, November 8 at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.
The Youth invite all Veterans and their families to join us for a special breakfast as we honor and celebrate those who have served our country.

St. Matt Gifted Historic Pew
Thanks to the generosity of former member, Barb Bell, St. Matthew has been given a pew that was once used in our fourth church which stood from 1877-1970. We are grateful to Barb for allowing us to bring this piece of our history back to St. Matthew. The pew is now located in the parlor.



Congregation Meeting
This announcement serves as official notice of our Congregation Meeting on Sunday, November 8, immediately following the late worship service (approximately 11:30 a.m.). The purpose of the meeting is to approve a budget for 2027 and elect four new council members and a youth representative. You can find short bios from our council member nominees below. During the Faith Connections hour (9:30- 10:15 a.m.), members of the Finance Committee will be in the Upper Room to answer questions regarding the budget. All voting (active) members of the congregation are asked to attend this important meeting.

Meet Our Council Member Nominees:

Carolyn Markle
My name is Carolyn Markle, and I am happily retired after 35 years of dedicated service with Waste Management.
My faith has always been an important part of my life. I have been a member of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church for 40 years, where I have had the blessing of serving in many different ways. I have served as an Usher, communion preparer, communion assistant, sang with SoulFire, assisted with VBS, music camp and also previously served on the Church Council. I have also attended the Grief Share group here at St. Matthew Lutheran Church. Being able to serve and give back to my church family is a true blessing.
I love to travel, especially cruising/traveling with my family. Some of my happiest moments are spent making memories with family who are very important to me. I also have a dog, Gibbs, which I love to take on walks and play in the backyard with when the weather is nice. In the last year, I added a cat, Binx, to my household as well.
Music is also a big part of my life. Whether I am listening to music or going to shows, music brings me joy and is always one of my favorite ways to relax and have fun.

I often can be seen at the Eichelberger Performing Arts Center attending the many shows that they bring to Hanover.
I am grateful for the many blessings God has provided me throughout my life, and I look forward to enjoying each new chapter that lies ahead.

Robin A Culp
In April 2002, I relocated to Hanover. Currently, I reside with my mother and my four-legged companion, Snickers. In May 2014, I joined the church, and I became actively involved in its activities in June 2023. Prior to my retirement in September 2024, I dedicated 44 years to working for PNC Bank.
Presently, I serve as the treasurer on the Board of Directors at Discovery Place. Additionally, I provide substitute teaching services as needed. I am also a member of the GLOW Committee and volunteer at VBS and Music Camp.

Ella Hostetter
My name is Ella Hostetter and I am a life-long member of St. Matthew. I have been a member of the Adult Choir for close to 40 years. I am a Stephen Minister and a Visiting Minister. I have been a long-time member of the Social Ministry Committee. I look forward to serving on Church Council.

Jody Ruhlman
I have been a member of St. Matthew for more than 40 years. My wife Deb (who is a life member) and I were married here in 1977. We have three grown children and six grandchildren. I have previously served 2 terms on council, with my final year as president. Currently I'm on Property Committee, which has given me an insight as to what keeps our church working.
I have met many amazing people here through the years and I'm looking forward to this opportunity to serve.

John Mancini
I have been a member at St. Matthew since 1995. Both of my children were baptized at St. Matthew. I have been active on multiple committees over the years. have served 2 times on both Church Council and Call Committee's and am currently a member on the Personnel Committee. I am honored to be serving again in any capacity.

NEW: Welcome Pew



As a sign of good hospitality, we will be implementing a Welcome Pew on Sunday, November 15th during our 10:30 a.m. service. This pew, staffed with volunteers, would be for visitors who would like to get to know people in the congregation as well as those who may be feeling lonely and would welcome company. The pew will be marked with a "Welcome Pew" sign, as well as a box of tissues at either

end. It would be offered as a choice, not a requirement for new people. If you see some unfamiliar faces in the Welcome Pew, make sure to welcome them to St. Matthew!

Welcome Pew Volunteers Needed!

We are looking for those who wish to volunteer to accompany visitors in the Welcome Pew and help them get acquainted with St. Matthew. If you are interested in volunteering, scan the QR code or contact the church office, (717)637-7101 or email info@stmattlutheran.org.

Our First Live Nativity – Volunteers Needed!



St. Matthew invites everyone to participate in our **first Live Nativity** on Monday, December 21! We will have two performances, one at **6:00 p.m. and one at 7:00 p.m.**, on the lawn outside the Fellowship Hall doors.

We are looking for volunteers to help make this special event a success! There are opportunities for everyone to participate, including:

- **Actors and Actresses:** No speaking lines required! Rehearsal will begin 30 minutes before the performance.
- **Setup Crew:** Help prepare the area for the Nativity.
- **Stage Crew:** Cue the actors and actresses.
- **Cleanup Crew:** Help with teardown after the event.
- **Hospitality Team:** Prepare and serve coffee and hot chocolate.
- **Cookie Donations:** Help us share some holiday sweetness!

Whether you would like to be part of the Nativity or help behind the scenes, we welcome your time and talents. Let's come together as a church family to share the joy and wonder of the Christmas story with our community!

Please consider volunteering and being part of this special new St. Matthew tradition! Scan the QR code to register TODAY!

ADULT MINISTRY

Generations Class
Join us from 9:30 a.m. to 10:20 a.m. as we gather in the Parlor (right off the Gathering Place). This class uses a digital resource called *Wired Word*. The leader uses this for discussion on current everyday events and how they connect with scripture and our daily walk in Christian life. Contact Beth Koontz for more information, bethk9245@gmail.com.

Angel Tree
Help us make the holiday special for others by participating in our Angel Tree, located in the Gathering Space. There are opportunities of all price ranges to help brighten someone's Christmas. This tree benefits local families through New Hope Ministries and gift cards benefit the members of Oakview Manner, a HUD facility. Gifts on the Angel Tree should be returned by December 6.

Join us for Seniors Hang Out
Monday, November 16: Andy Smith, artist (he will speak about his art style). **Visual Realia** is



the online presence of Andrew T. Smith, one of only a few professional clay monoprint artists, a grant navigator, and a nonprofit board member in south-central Pennsylvania. Before his visual artist work, he was a 32-year public school music educator. He also curates and runs the Gallery at the Old Post Office in Hanover, PA.

Andy has shown his monoprints in solo, group, and juried exhibits throughout Pennsylvania and Maryland. Recent solo clay monoprint exhibits included Gallery @ 227, The Grotto, York's Out Door Country Club, and the Adams County Arts Council. The collaborative group exhibit, *unentitled*, was displayed in Gettysburg at the Adams County Arts Council and in York at Marketview Arts.

Christmas Cheer Bags
Know someone who has had a tough year and could use some extra cheer? A friend? A relative? A co-worker? You can help cheer them up by submitting their name and contact information. We will deliver gift bags to folks who are grieving, who have lost their job, are sick, injured, lonely, or sad for any reason.

Note: Bags are not limited to St. Matthew members, but they must be located within 15 miles of Hanover.

We'll need volunteers on Friday, December 18 to help pack bags at 10:00 a.m. and deliver them at 11:30 a.m.

You can submit names and sign up to volunteer by scanning the QR code or by completing a form available on the Hospitality Desk and placing it in the offering plate. Deadline to submit names is December 14.

For questions or more information, contact Deb Smith through the church office (717-637-7101) or by email (dsmith@stmattlutheran.org).

Hanging of the Greens

Hanging of the Greens will take place on Sunday, November 29 immediately following the 10:30 worship service –if you are available to help transform our beautiful Nave for the Advent and Christmas seasons, please plan on staying to help decorate! Pizza will be provided.

Registration Deadline is November 10th

GRIEFSHARE®

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

Saturday, November 14, 2026 at 10 AM – 12 PM

St. Matthew Upper Room #201

A helpful, encouraging seminar for people facing the holidays after losing a loved one.

The seminar will help you with...

- Being prepared for surprising emotions that may hit over the holidays
- What to do about traditions and possible changes
- How to handle holiday parties and invitations
- How to survive awkward moments with other people
- Where to find comfort, strength, and hope in a seemingly hopeless time

Attendees will receive a Survival Guide with practical tips, encouraging words, journaling ideas, and daily help throughout the holiday season. There is no cost.

For more information or to register, call Pastor Faye Snyder at 717-637-7101, Ext 225 or email nicksong@comcast.net. Registration deadline is November 10.
Scan the QR Code to register.

ST. MATTHEW COOKIE WALK RETURNS
Saturday December 5, 9:00-11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

HELP NEEDED:
¨ Cookie Bakers (we are asking you to make 6 dozen cookies)
¨ Set Up-Friday December 5-6:00pm
¨ At the Cookie Walk-we will need volunteers to help oversee the
¨ Cookie tables and to put the cookies in the shoppers boxes, to refill
¨ Trays as needed, and anywhere else help is needed.

If you are willing to bake cookies, or help at the cookie walk, please let either the office, info@stmattlutheran.org or Amy Beck, abeck1976@comcast.net know.
Our goal is to raise $1800 to pay the remaining tuition for Scarlett and Nahomy.

St. Matthew sponsors the education of Scarleth Zuleyma and Nahomy Natasha at the Hope Academy in Guatemala. For 2026, the sponsorship is $150 a month for each girl. We have already paid the first half of the year for both and our goal with the Cookie Walk is to raise the remaining $1800. This will cover the tuition for the remainder of the school year for both of these girls.

Christmas Poinsettias

Members and friends who wish to honor or memorialize a loved one by placing a poinsettia in the chancel this Christmas are asked to complete and return the form below with $18 per listing to the church office. After the cost of the poinsettias is met, the memorials/honorariums will support Lutheran World Relief. The deadline is Monday, December 7. Please print clearly when filling in names. Please make checks payable to "St. Matthew Lutheran Church" with "Poinsettias" in the memo line.

I/We wish to (please check one): _____ Honor _____ Memorialize

Person(s) to be memorialized or honored:_____

_____

Given by: _____

Your offering envelope number: _____

After the costs of the poinsettias are met, the remaining monies will be sent to Lutheran World Relief.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Contact Ethan Draper for more information, *edraper@stmattlutheran.org*.

A reminder that there will NO youth choir on Sunday, November 8.

Christmas Concert Festival Choir



Interested in participating in our Christmas concert, scheduled for December 20? Join our Festival Choir which will join our Adult Choir and sing several pieces during this program. Additional rehearsals are scheduled below, and all singers are encouraged to attend as many of these rehearsals as they can: November 19, December 3, December 17 at 8:00 p.m.
Dress Rehearsal: Saturday, December 19 at 10:00 a.m.
Concert: Sunday, December 20 at 4:00 p.m.

Caroling and Pizza



We will meet for Caroling on Wednesday, December 16 at 5:30 p.m. at St. Matthew and then we will go caroling to many of our homebound members. Caroling packets will be provided for all. Following the caroling, we will return to St. Matthew for pizza and fellowship. Join us to share the joy of the season!

YOUTH MINISTRY

Contact Tim Peck for more information, *youth@stmattlutheran.org*

Youth Group

There will be **no Youth Group on Nov. 15th**, get some rest after the Lock-In weekend!

Youth Lock-In 6-12th grade



Put it on the calendar for November! A lock-in for all 6-12th graders. We will have a cook off, games, lessons, midnight worship, and lots of fun, right here in our church! Start time will be 5:30 p.m.
Please mark November 13 and 14th for this event! More details will be coming soon. Contact Tim Peck youth@stmattlutheran.org, 717-476-9920 for questions.

Cookie Making Evening



Join us on **November 29th from 6:00-8:00 p.m.** as we come together to make cookies for the church's Cookie Walk! Bring your favorite cookie dough and recipe, and enjoy a fun evening of baking, fellowship, and delicious treats.
Parents and guardians are welcome and encouraged to attend to help supervise and spend time with the youth.

St. Matthew Confirmation Class

Confirmation is not just a class. It is a journey of faith, where we ask honest questions and explore what it means to honor Jesus. Join us for Faith Formation for grades 6 through 8 on Sundays from 9:30 to 10:20 a.m. in the third floor Youth suite. Sign up today using the QR code!

LutheranHANDS Day of Service



Looking for a way to make a difference? Join us on **December 5th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** as we partner with Lutheran Hands for a Day of Service! This is a wonderful opportunity to give back, help those in need, and show God's love through service. Best of all, there's **no cost**. This year we will be volunteering at the Midwest Food Bank in Middletown. We'll meet at church and travel together in the church van. This opportunity is for those in 6-12th grades. Don't miss this chance to make an impact while serving alongside your friends!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Contact Missy Smith for more information, *msmith@stmattlutheran.org*

GLOW

During the 10:30 service, all children ages 3 years old to 5th grade are invited to GLOW (God Lights Our Way.) They will gather at the back of the Nave to participate in a lesson and activity after the first prayer and return before communion. When children 5th grade and under are dismissed, those ages 5 and under will go to the pray ground.
Our 3-5 year olds will be in the Pray Ground in Fellowship Hall. Kindergarten-2nd grade will be in the Faith Connections room in the Lower Level and 3rd-5th graders will be in the Children's choir room in the Lower Level. Please contact Missy Smith with any questions, msmith@stmattlutheran.org or 717-637-7101, ext. 232.

Fall Programs for Children

Tiny Tunes | Sat., Nov. 7; 14; 21 - 12:00-12:45 p.m.

Join us in the Children's Choir Room for music, games, songs, and instruments for children ages 2 1/2-4 years old.



Pajama Storytime | Sunday, November 8 - 5:00 pm

Join Ms. Lindsay, Mr. Ethan, and Ms. Deb in the Upper Room for a meal (chicken nuggets, cookies, etc.) followed by songs and stories.

Music JAM (Jesus and Me) | Saturday, November 14 - 9 to 11 am

Kids in K-4 grade are welcome to join us in the in the Children's Choir Room for a morning of singing, music games, playing instruments, making their own instrument, and snack.

These programs are FREE but registration is required. Scan the QR Code to register! For more information, please contact Deb Smith at dsmith@stmattlutheran.org.

Intergenerational Ornament Making



On November 15th during Faith Formation time, 9:30-10:20, we will be helping to make Christmas ornaments for the Cheer Bags. This allows youth and their families help spread joy for the many grateful recipients of the Cheer Bags. It is a great time to work beside old and young. Confirmation class will be meeting upstairs in youth suite and going down together. What a joy to work side by side with our friends of all ages as we create something that will spread joy to many!

Christmas Pageant

We are excited to begin a new tradition at St. Matthew! This year, our Christmas Pageant will be part of the 4:30 p.m. Family Service on Christmas Eve.

We invite you to register your child to be part of the wonderful story of our Savior's birth. It's a special opportunity for children to share the joy and wonder of Christmas with our church family.

All rehearsals will be held at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall on the following Sundays:

- November 29
- December 6
- December 13
- December 20

We look forward to sharing this new tradition with our children and families as we celebrate the birth of Jesus! Scan QR code to register today!

INFORMATION UPDATE FORM

Please fill out the pertinent part(s) for you, tear off this page and put in the offering basket or email the church office at *info@stmattlutheran.org*.

_____ I'd like to receive _____ e-mail updates and/or _____ newsletter in the mail. (Provide name, e-mail, and/or mailing address)

_____ I am a member of St. Matthew and below is updated contact information.

_____ _____

Name Phone Number

_____

E-mail

_____

Mailing Address

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

30 W. Chestnut St. Hanover, PA 17331 | stmattlutheran.org
717-637-7101 | General Mailbox: ext. 221
info@stmattlutheran.org

Pastor Nancy Goede, Interim Pastor, ext. 231
njgoede@gmail.com

Rev. Faye C. Snyder, Visitation Pastor, ext. 225
nicksong@comcast.net

Ethan J. Draper, Minister of Music & Organist, ext. 235
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