

HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT



St. Matthew
LUTHERAN CHURCH *of* HANOVER

July 26 – August 2, 2026

Sun.	Outdoor Worship with Holy Communion (Parking Lot)	8:30 a.m.
	Call Committee Focus Group (Fellowship Hall)	9:30-10:15 a.m.
	Worship with Holy Communion (Nave)	10:30 a.m.
Mon.	Seniors Hang Out (Fellowship Hall)	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
	Visiting Minister Meeting (Upper Room)	6:00–8:00 p.m.
Tue.	Becoming the Singer You Want to Be (Nave)	4:00-6:00 p.m.
Wed.	Boy Scouts	7:00-8:30 p.m.
Sat.	Worship with Holy Communion (Fellowship Hall)	5:00 p.m.
Sun.	Outdoor Worship with Holy Communion (Parking Lot)	8:30 a.m.
	Call Committee Focus Group (Fellowship Hall)	9:30-10:15 a.m.
	Singing Hymns Confidently (Lower Level – Adult Rehearsal Room)	9:30-10:20 a.m.
	SoulFire Rehearsal	9:45-10:20 a.m.
	Worship with Holy Communion (Nave)	10:30 a.m.

Becoming the Singer You Want to Be - A Performance Masterclass

Tuesday, July 28 at 4:00 p.m.

Bring a prepared song or aria and receive a short coaching focused on authentic communication, musical storytelling, and connecting with your audience.

Together we'll explore how technique and artistry work together to help you become the singer you want to be. Work with Courtney Ross, a Hanover native that is now a professional opera singer in Germany.

Free; Registration required: bit.ly/StMattVocal

Call Committee Focus Group

The Call Committee is seeking feedback as we begin the journey of calling a new lead pastor. A brief, three question survey has been created, and feedback can be provided in a variety of ways:

1. There is an insert in the bulletin that contains the Pastoral Call Survey.
2. The survey has been placed on the home page of the church's website.
3. There will be a variety of focus groups that will provide the opportunity for any member of our congregation to ask questions related to the Pastoral Call Survey. All focus groups will be held in the Fellowship Hall on the following dates/times:
 - a. 7/25/26 at 6:00 p.m. (immediately after 5:00 pm worship).
 - b. 7/26/26 at 9:30 a.m.
 - c. 8/2/26 at 9:30 a.m.

All surveys are **due by Monday, August 10, 2026**. We value your feedback and look forward to collaborating together in the coming weeks.

Call Committee Members: Brian Blake, Richard Carson, John Mancini, Stacy Parsons, Kelli Reed, Barbara Strangfeld, and Ellen Shenk, Council Representative.

Kids Acting Troupe Performance

The St. Matthew Kids Acting Troupe will be performing on **Monday, August 3** at 6:30 pm at the Guthrie Library.

Back to School Event: Donations Needed

St. Matthew, Community Progress Council, and Three Retired Teachers Making a Difference are partnering in hosting a back to school event. The event is on Saturday, August 8 from 12-2 in Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in volunteering, please see Deb Smith. Donations can be dropped off in designated boxes found in the Church Office and Gathering Space. We are collecting the following school supplies:

Glue sticks

Packs of #2 pencils

Boxes of tissues

Boxes of 24 count crayons/16 count crayons

Headphones (NO wireless/NO ear buds)

Pocket folders

Pencil pouches or cases

Black expo dry erase markers

Yellow highlighters

Seniors Hangout

Our next Seniors Hangout is on **Monday, August 17** from 10:00-12:30. Gracie Troup will do a presentation on her trip with Campus Ministry to the Dominican Republic.

Music Camp is Next Week!



We are in need of donations of cheddar cheese goldfish crackers for Music Camp. Please bring them to church or drop them off in the church office.

Spanish Classes

Looking to learn a little Spanish? Register for Beginning Spanish taught by Martha Hernandez from CASA. Classes are September 5, September 19, September 26, and October 3 from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. in the Upper Room. Classes are FREE but registration is required. To register please visit: bit.ly/stmattspanish.



Save the Date: Our fall blood drive here at St. Matthew will be held Wednesday, September 23. Please pass the word to friends and family. This time, we will be celebrating Leo's birthday with special treats!

Music Opportunities for the Summer!

New Education Opportunity: Singing Hymns (old *and* new)

Confidently! This summer there will be a two-week adult education series between the two services (9:30 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.) on **August 2 and 9** about hymn singing. This class will discuss a brief history of hymnody, how congregational singing impacts our faith, and will work on ways to sing hymns confidently...both hymns you know *and* new hymns we may introduce! Being able to attend both classes is not a requirement, so feel free to just attend one if you are able. If you have any questions, contact Ethan Draper.



THE ANNUAL HYMN SING will return on **Sunday, August 16 at 4:00 p.m.** - mark your calendar for this event which has become a tradition in our community!

JOIN THE HYMN SING FESTIVAL CHOIR! Sign up now for the festival choir for our Hymn Sing on August 16 at 4:00 p.m. **Rehearsals for the festival choir will be on August 9 at 12:30 p.m. and August 16 at 2:30 p.m. (the day of the hymn sing).** With questions, email Ethan Draper at edraper@stmattlutheran.org.



To register, use the QR code or fill out this form:

<https://stmattthewlutheranchurch.breezechms.com/form/HymnSingChoir2026>



Sunday, August 23rd is the second Summer Choir opportunity! This is for anyone (no experience required!) to come and sing in this low-commitment choir. We will gather at 9:30 a.m. in the Adult Rehearsal Room, learn a simple anthem, and share it with the congregation during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. No need to sign-up...just join us on those Sunday mornings! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ethan Draper.

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

In between services on **August 9 from 9:30-10:20 in Fellowship Hall**, we will have a special presentation about our July mission trip to Philadelphia. I'm hoping to see everyone so we can share our experiences and insights with you!

August 16, 2025 at 8:30 and 10:30 services.

As a new school year begins, we want to send students, teachers, staff, and school volunteers back with our love and prayers. During both services we'll offer a moment of encouragement and support for learners of all ages. Bring your backpack, briefcase, or laptop bag as we ask God's blessing on this year of learning, growth, and connection!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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



Blessing of the Backpacks | August 16, 2025 at 8:30 and 10:30 services.

As a new school year begins, we want to send students, teachers, staff, and school volunteers back with our love and prayers. During both services we'll offer a moment of encouragement and support for learners of all ages. Bring your backpack, briefcase, or laptop bag as we ask God's blessing on this year of learning, growth, and connection!

INTRODUCING: GLOW

As we look forward to new things this year, we will be changing how we have our children's faith connections. Instead of having it during the fellowship hour between services, we will be changing Children's Church during the 10:30 service.

Please join us as we introduce GLOW! God Lights Our Way! The children 3 years old through 5th grade will be asked to join us after the first prayer and we will return before communion. 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. **This will start on Sunday, Sept 20th.**



We will have a Rally Day at 9:30 prior to the service.

We will be needing some volunteers who would be able to help with lessons (which will be provided) and a craft. If you would be willing to give some time to help us share how God Lights Our Way, please contact Missy.

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

Rev. Richard Michael, Interim Pastor

richardmichael1@mac.com

Rev. Faye C. Snyder, Visitation Pastor, ext. 225

nicksong@comcast.net

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

edraper@stmattlutheran.org

Deb Smith, Associate Minister of Music, ext. 236

dsmith@stmattlutheran.org

Tim Peck, Youth Ministry, ext. 230

youth@stmattlutheran.org

Melissa Smith, Children & Family Ministry, ext. 232

msmith@stmattlutheran.org

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