



LIVING FAITH

ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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OCTOBER 2011



FAMILY OKTOBERFEST Sat., Oct. 15, 5 p.m.

The original Oktoberfest occurred in Munich on 18 October 1810, to commemorate the marriage of Crown Prince Ludwig and Princess Therese of Saxe-Hildburghausen. By 1960, the Oktoberfest had turned into an enormous world-famous festival, and today is visited by over 6 million people from around the world. On **Saturday, October 15, 5 pm** bring your family and join the Fellowship Committee in celebrating our Oktoberfest! Bring your own beverage and enjoy the Bratwurst (German Sausage), Potato Salad, Hot Dogs, Pretzels, Apfelstrudel (Apple Strudel) and fun and games! The Occhiuzzo's will host this event at 13676 Andorra Dr, 22193, 703-670-6110. Please sign up on the poster in the narthex.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION Sunday, October 30, 2:30 p.m.

If you are interested in joining St. Matthew's in our worship and work, please speak to Prs. Bohannon, Stevenson or Johns. New members will be received on Sunday, **November 6** at the **11:00 a.m.** service.

SAINTS ALIVE! LIVING GENEROUSLY 2012 STEWARDSHIP THEME

Our 2012 Stewardship emphasis "Saints Alive! Living Generously" is based on a passage from 1 Corinthians 16:1-4.

This scripture speaks to the promises of God to nurture and sustain us, to provide the resources for our life together in faith and our outreach and service to others.

In the days ahead we are called to consider our stewardship, to reflect on God's promises and to determine our response to God's intention for our life and our "portion" that provides the support for our life together in Christ.

Our Stewardship Calendar Ministry Meeting

Sunday, October 23, 9:45 a.m.
Meet by Flocks

CONSECRATION SUNDAY
Sunday, November 20, 8:30 & 11 a.m.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 9:45 a.m.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

1-Jeffrey Bushmire
Richard Krauss
Debra Baron
Stephen Albanese
2-Shelby Lukes
Courtney Laird
Mae Gessler
3-Julie Schwentner
Marleya Mendoza
4-Christine Johns
Korey Jackson
5-Gary Eckhardt
Emily Stutz
6-Michael Cartwright
7-Lynn Schreiber
Joy Cowgill

8-Danielle Bouchery
Rob Humphreys
9-John Dorer
Erin Smith
Michele Dowling
Ruth Loyd
Lisa Truesdell
10-Jerry Larson
Caroline Skelley
11-Alex Stone
Steven Muschler
13-Seikou Kaba
Tyler Gordon
14-Christine McDaniel
Rick Knudson
Shauna Werling
15-Mark Petty
16-Kathy Lundgren
17-Agnes Wells
Nancy Joseph
Maggie Blazek
18-Sasha Parrish
Marcia Cote
19-Brandt Nethercutt
Michael Bertrand

20-Helen Baumgardt
John Stageberg
Craig Gerhart
Gretchen Wilcox
21-Taylor Petty
22-Avery Ouellette
Greg Seubert
Godiva Kormah
25-Gavin Tameris
Bill Woessner
Daniel Laird
26-Obediah Baker, III
Kathy Meier
Anna Pound
27-George Orr
28-Eric Crowder
Barbara Carr
Nolan Jampole
Jackie Anderson
Jessica Hata
29- Linda Tuttle
30-Nicole Dowling
Kailey Hoppe

ANNIVERSARIES:

3-Eric & Ashley Tubbs
4-Dave & Kathy Lambert
Kevin & Pam Hoppe
5-Hal & Brenda Lambert
Tom & Nancy Blazek
6-J.R. & Diana Lyons
8-Paul & Melanie Laster
Michael & Cyndi Murphy
10-Robert & Laura Dowling
11-Ron & Cindy Schmitt

12-Kristopher & Dawn Kuhn
13-Robin & Mitchell Kanefsky
14-Steve & Cheryl Gordon
17-Mike & Barbara Jones
23-Christel & Michael Merk
26- Kathy Brown & Ted Bean
Kerry & Todd Sullivan
27-Rick & Lisa Knudson





Tables of Fellowship

Fellowship dinners are small group gatherings that bring together church members from single adults and couples to senior adults. This casual event is a great opportunity to meet new friends and re-unite with old friends while sharing a delicious meal. The objective is to get to know each other and build strong relationships. Sign up for four evenings of dinner and fellowship and meet those interesting people who sit on the other side of the church!

How It Works

Sign up to participate. After sign ups are completed, participants are randomly divided into groups of eight. Each group has an individual or couple who is chosen to host that month's dinner. The host(ess) provides the main course and beverages, and the guests are each assigned an item to bring (a vegetable, a salad and rolls or a dessert.) Everyone contributes part of the meal and comes ready for a good time of fellowship! One evening you host a group at your home, the other three you enjoy dinner in another church members' home. Each time there are different people in your group. You host only 1 time and will not be grouped with the same people more than once.

Our first gathering is **Saturday, Oct. 29, 2011**—other dates for 2012 are **Jan. 28, Mar. 3** and **April 14**. In order to make this a successful event, you should sign up as a full participant if you are reasonably sure of being able to attend at least 3 of the 4 scheduled dates. Also, you must be able to handle a dinner party of 8 at your home. The sign-up sheet requests you identify which of the dates you will be able to host.

If you cannot obligate to all four dates or do not wish to host, please sign up as a *substitute*.

(Last year, substitutes **frequently** had the opportunity to participate.) Please sign up on the poster in the narthex by **Sunday, October 16**.

The assignments for all four dates will be mailed to each participant by October 25. The host is requested to call the other participants to

arrange the menu and time. If any of the participants cannot make it, the hosts should contact the fellowship committee representative to arrange a substitute. We look forward to your participation!

BIBLE STUDIES

Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays

10:00 a.m.

Child Care Provided

Pr. Tarja Stevenson

Weekday Bible Study

Thursdays

10:00 a.m.

Pr. David Bohannon

Women's Evening Study

3rd Monday of the month

7:30 p.m.

Men's Bible Study

Sundays

7:00 p.m.

Pr. David Bohannon

Prime Timers

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events.

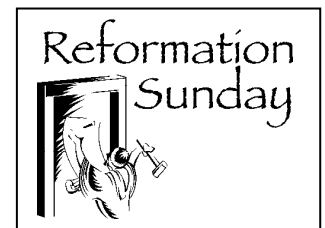
October 13 Leaf Peeping and Lunch at Griffin Tavern

November 10 TBA

December 8 Christmas Lunch

Watch the bulletin for details and times. If you have any questions about the Prime Timers contact Molly Parker at 703-490-8958 or Pastor Stevenson.

**Reformation
Sunday
October 30**



**BLOOD DRIVE
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22
OLD BRIDGE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
Watch for a sign up poster
in the narthex**

**Financial Secretary & Treasurer's
Report, August 2011**

August Giving by Category

Current	\$ 41,337
Benevolence	5,152
Building	12,759
Memorial	155
Pass Through	89
Total	\$ 59,492

Year to Date \$ 683,149

To date we have given \$121,954 toward our congregation's benevolence commitments. \$15,588 has been disbursed through the Samaritan Fund to emergency assistance for utilities, rent, gas, food, car insurance and medicine. Thank you for your faithfulness in giving as we move into the fall.

ONGOING MINISTRIES

Are you planning your fall calendar to include service to our congregational and neighboring community? Volunteer opportunities include --

ACTS Thrift Store -Volunteer at the ACTS Thrift Store in Woodbridge from noon to 2:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, October 4**. Would you like to join us for lunch at the Dumfries Cafe? We meet there at 11:00 a.m. Volunteer tasks include sorting, dusting, straightening, and organizing.

Collators -Circle **Friday, October 21** as our work date this month to collate newsletters and

stewardship material. Meet in the church narthex at 10:00 a.m.

Daytime Drivers - A Special Thank You to our Daytime Drivers. This is a much-appreciated service to the residents of Fellowship House, a retirement community in Tackett's Mill. We drive round trip to medical appointments on the eastern end of the county. We suggest that appointments be arranged for weekdays between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. We could use your help. Most drive once a month. Could you serve as a substitute driver, telephoned occasionally after the rest of the list has been called?

Call 491-2898 for more information about any of these ministries.



Women's Fellowship
CHURCH WOMEN'S NEWS

Tuesday, October 11, at church, 7:30 PM:
Do Religious Differences Matter? We often hear of the things major religions have in common. But it has been said by some religious leaders that the way forward to understanding each other is by grappling with the differences. Pastor David Bohannon will present information on various religious cultures – How they differ and where they converge.

Monday, October 17, 7:30 p.m. Women's Evening Study Group will meet at Pat Moler's house, 13014 Sturbridge Rd., 22192, 703-494-2373. This month's assignment is Chapter 1 – *All You've Ever Wanted*. Join us for discussion and refreshment. New members are welcome.

Tuesday, October 25, 7:30 PM, share in the dialogue of the Women's Steering Committee.

FALL WORKDAY

Saturday, October 29
8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

See the sign-up poster in the narthex to indicate your participation as we prepare the church interior and grounds for fall & winter.



St. Matthew's "No Room at the Inn" Christmas Card Project

"And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn." — Luke 2:7

Once again this Christmas season, St. Matthew's is conducting a "**No Room at the Inn**" **Christmas Card Project** to help those for whom there is also "No Room at the Inn" — the homeless of Prince William County's Bill Mehr Drop-In Center. There is a limited supply of unique St. Matthew's Christmas cards which may be purchased \$12.00 for a set of 20 Cards and Envelopes in the narthex. We will also have cards available for purchase from The Printery House. Catalogs and samples will be available in the narthex where you may place your order. All proceeds from the sale of these distinctive cards go to support the Drop-In Center.

**Thank you for your support of the
homeless in our community!**

CHECK OUT BOOK GROUP

On Sunday, October 2, at 2:30 PM, join in the discussion of Paris Wife by Paula McLain. We'll gather at Pat Knock's home and Pat Victorson will guide our conversation. There is a sign-up sheet on the church bulletin board to indicate your participation.

Set primarily in the shabby-chic artists' arrondissements of post-World War I Paris, the young Hemingways hobnob with Gertrude Stein, Alice Toklas, Ezra Pound, and F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald. Ernest is in his literary element, gathering the material that will eventually become his breakout novel, The Sun Also Rises. However, the life of a writer's wife is anything but glamorous. The Paris Wife offers an intimate acquaintance with one of America's greatest writers, lifting the curtain of history to reveal the tragic casualties of literary genius. — (from a Bas Bleu catalog review)

CALLING "SPRING TIMERS"

For many years, St. Matthew's has had a PRIME TIMERS seniors' group meeting for luncheons, theater outings and field trips. The activities of this group are now largely limited to activities at church.

We now have an emerging number (45) of "sub-primers" who have recently retired or are considering retirement. In 2010 we formed a group called SPRING TIMERS for those who might be interested in daytime outings and/or fellowship activities such as theaters, museums, exhibits, lunches, field trips, etc. As the schedule has played out, it has included Friday or Saturday quarterly social gatherings in a member's home which opens participation to our "sub primers" who are still working and are not available for daytime activities.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list for SPRING TIMERS activities, please call the office at 703-494-3090 or contact Pam Orr at 703-590-7568.

Looking for Volunteer Drivers

Volunteers are needed to drive two of our parishioners to worship services on a rotating basis. If you are interested, please contact Marie Luedke at mluedke066@gmail.com or 703-304-3968. Thanks for your help!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As summer draws to a close and the leaves begin to change with the seasons, I am made aware that this article is evidence of changes, both immediate and gradual, at St. Matthew's.

Since you called me on May 15th and I officially began my first call as the newest member of the pastoral staff here on September 1st, I have already had the privilege of teaching, preaching, and visiting with you in your homes. These are among the activities that I will be focusing on in the coming months as I seek to connect and reconnect with members and potential members of our faith community.

Through our shared time on Sundays and throughout the weeks, I hope to garner the ideas and support needed to further build up already strong expressions of our community, like the youth groups and young adult group, and to find ways to make Christ known in our neighborhoods through the St. Matthew's family to the glory of God.

I appreciate the warmth of welcome I have received so far at church and in people's homes and know that your hospitality will continue to shine to all those seeking it. As I make my way out to visit, please also feel welcomed to visit me at church. My study is upstairs in room number 8 of the education wing. It is currently a work in progress, and as part of that work I am envisioning help from you all. There are two empty tack strips on one of my walls that I would love to line with homemade religious artwork – scribbles and stick figures are welcome.

Though I have said it before, please allow me to reiterate how thankful and excited I am to be back among all of you serving in a new capacity as together we seek ways to serve God and our neighbors, building upon the tradition of faith and service that has marked St. Matthew's for nearly forty years.

In Christ,
Pastor Brandon Johns

KUDOS TO OUR BATHROOM & KITCHEN CREWS & PAINTERS

Did you know that all of the general maintenance, repair, and weekend cleaning required to “keep” St. Matthew's in good shape is done by volunteers?

This summer, our hallway and church narthex were cleaned and painted by Mike & Linda Mazzucchi, Keith Cotner, Sam Holbrook, Nancy Zimmerman, Carol Moonan and Julian Kiedrowski; Dave Heffernan repaired the ceiling.

We have standing committees that are tasked to clean the kitchen and bathrooms each weekend.

Kitchen Committee: Bathroom Committee:

Linda Brown	Linda & McFred Brown
Vi Freeman	Sally Cotner
Pam Hoppe	Patti McCormack
Evelyn Langman	Chuck Moler
Christel Merk	Judy Siciliano
Chuck Moler	Kate Strand
Carol Moonan	Mark & Pat Victorson
Wendy Morton	Judy Woronicz
Linda & Mort Tuttle	
Pat Victorson	

We would love to add to their number to spread the task. A quarterly schedule is provided for this weekend service. If you would like to serve with one of these “special forces”, please call the church office 703-494-3090.

Library Books – Due & Overdue

Our librarian, Lyn Gates, reports that there are some two dozen books from the church library that are overdue for return. Please check your shelves.

Our library is a resource for biblical commentary and books on a variety of theological, ethical, historical and social topics. It's located on the second floor of the Education Building.

ACTS Operation Turkey

Last year, ACTS distributed 1,705 Operation Turkey Thanksgiving Food Baskets, ensuring that 1,421 individuals in eastern Prince William County were able to celebrate with a Thanksgiving meal. This year, ACTS expects to feed 1,600 families with 2,000 bags of food.

Giant Grocery Tote bags will be available in the Narthex beginning October 30 for you to take to the store and fill with the contents for the Operation Turkey Food Baskets. A list of what is included in each basket is stapled to the bag.

Please return the bags with food items to the church by Sunday, November 13 to ensure delivery to the ACTS Food Pantry in time for distribution.

If you have any questions, please speak to Julie Moessner

Thank you for your generosity to those in need.

Thank You and Congratulations to Gretchen Wilcox

Gretchen Wilcox was selected as St. Matthew's 2011 Thrivent Bull Run District Volunteer of the Year.

Gretchen's work in our community was honored at the annual Thrivent Potomac Nationals Cookout and Ballgame on August 24, 2011. Several members of St. Matthew's and other Lutheran churches in the area were on hand to honor Gretchen and volunteers from other churches, watch the ballgame, and enjoy a picnic dinner provided by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

If you are interested in learning more about the work done by Thrivent in our community, please contact Marty Cox at 703-331-4901 or by email at: martin.cox@thrivent.com

Retirement and Estate Strategies Workshop

Tuesday, October 25 at 7:00

p.m.: Please join us for a Retirement and Estate Strategies

Workshop hosted by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and your local representatives, Marty Cox & Rory Test. Guest speaker Jonathan Doering, Thrivent Financial Consultant from San Diego, with 20 years experience, will share strategies on:

- How to accumulate and distribute money for retirement.
- How to pass money onto heirs or charities in a tax wise manner.
- How to reduce IRS impact on your money.
- Successful investing in today's market conditions.

To reserve a seat for you and a guest call Monique Jouglet at 877-593-1195 x207 or email Monique.jouglet@thrivent.com.

Thank You

Dear Pastor Bohannon and Friends,

I attended the Autumn Luncheon on Saturday and wanted to say a Big THANK YOU.

[Thank you] Also to the children's presentation. I've been to your senior luncheons and am amiss at not writing before now.

Once again THANK YOU.

Sheila Copeland

Size 5-6X "Dress Ups" Wanted

Do you have outgrown dressy dresses or little boy sports jackets that would make dress ups for 3-5 year old Day Schoolers? If you do, please bring them to the office.

October 2011 Calendar

See the Church Bulletin and Posters on the Narthex Bulletin Board for more information.

Extra-Ordinary Sunday Grades K, 1, 2, 3	Sun., Oct. 2, 9:45 a.m. Parents invited
Book Group	Sun., Oct. 2, 2:30 p.m.
Sr. High Youth	Sun., Oct. 2, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Men's Bible Study	Sun., Oct. 2, 7 p.m.
Volunteers to ACTS	Tues., Oct. 4, 12-2 p.m.
Social Ministry Committee	Tues., Oct. 4, 7:30 p.m.
Women's Bible Study	Weds., Oct. 5, 10 a.m.
Confirmation	Weds., Oct. 5, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Sr. Choir	Weds., Oct. 5, 8 p.m.
Bible Study	Thurs., Oct. 6, 10 a.m.
Cherub/Youth Choir	Thurs., Oct. 6, 7-7:45 p.m.
Teen Choir	Thurs., Oct. 6, 8-8:45 p.m.
Finance & Stewardship Committee	Thurs., Oct. 6, 8 p.m.
Sr. High Youth Midnight Madness & Overnight	Fri., Oct. 7, 9 p.m. – Sat., Oct. 8, 9 a.m.
Men's Breakfast	Sat., Oct. 8, 8:30 a.m.
Council	Sun., Oct. 9, 7 p.m.
Church Women	Tues., Oct. 11, 7:30 p.m.
Women's Bible Study	Weds., Oct. 12, 10 a.m.
Confirmation	Weds., Oct. 12, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Sr. Choir	Weds., Oct. 12, 8 p.m.
Bible Study	Thurs., Oct. 13, 10 a.m.
Prime Timers	Thurs., Oct. 13
Cherub/Youth Choir	Thurs., Oct. 13, 7-7:45 p.m.
Teen Choir	Thurs., Oct. 13, 8-8:45 p.m.
Evangelism Committee	Thurs., Oct. 13, 8 p.m.
Oktoberfest	Sat., Oct. 15, 5 p.m.
Sr. High Youth Corn Maze	Sun., Oct. 16, 1:30-9 p.m.
Men's Bible Study	Sun., Oct. 16, 7 p.m.
Nominating Committee	Mon., Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m.
Women's Evening Study	Mon., Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m.
Worship & Music Committee	Tues., Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m.
Women's Bible Study	Weds., Oct. 19 10 a.m.

Confirmation	Weds., Oct. 19, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Sr. Choir	Weds., Oct. 19, 8 p.m.
Bible Study	Thurs., Oct. 20, 10 a.m.
Staff Meeting	Thurs., Oct. 20, 12:30 p.m.
Cherub/Youth Choir	Thurs., Oct. 20, 7-7:45 p.m.
Teen Choir	Thurs., Oct. 20, 8-8:45 p.m.
Fellowship Committee	Thurs., Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m.
Property Committee	Thurs., Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m.
Collating	Fri., Oct. 21, 10 a.m.
7 th & 8 th Grade Youth Overnight	Fri., Oct. 21-22
Blood Drive	Sat., Oct. 22
Sr. High Youth Donut & Bagel Sale	Sun., Oct. 23
Stewardship Meeting	Sun., Oct. 23, 9:45 a.m.
Acolyte Training	Sun., Oct. 23, 2 p.m.
Men's Bible Study	Sun., Oct. 23, 7 p.m.
Thrivent Presentation	Tues., Oct. 25, 7 p.m.
ACTS Board Meeting	Tues., Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m.
Women's Steering Committee	Tues., Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m.
Women's Bible Study	Weds., Oct. 26, 10 a.m.
Confirmation	Weds., Oct. 26, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Sr. Choir	Weds., Oct. 26, 8 p.m.
Bible Study	Thurs., Oct. 27, 10 a.m.
Cherub/Youth Choir	Thurs., Oct. 27, 7-7:45 p.m.
Teen Choir	Thurs., Oct. 27, 8-8:45 p.m.
Christian Ed. Committee	Thurs., Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m.
Fall Work Day	Sat., Oct. 29, 8:30 a.m.
Tables of Fellowship	Sat., Oct. 29
New Member Orientation	Sun., Oct. 30, 2:30 p.m.

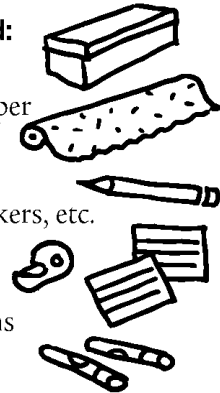


PRAYER BOX

Family prayer time is a good habit. Make it fun with this activity for all family members. They can use this special box whenever they have a prayer request.

What you need:

- Shoebox
- Wrapping paper
- Scissors
- Tape
- Stickers, markers, etc. (optional)
- Index cards
- Pencils or pens



What you do:

1. Wrap the shoebox like a present. Be sure to wrap the lid separately so it can be removed.
2. Let the whole family help decorate the box. You can write Bible verses about prayer, draw pictures, glue on pictures or add stickers. Be creative!
3. Put the box in a prominent location of your house. Keep a pile of index cards and pencils or pens near the box.
4. Whenever a family member has a prayer request, he or she can write or draw it on a card and put it inside the box.
5. Family members can share the cards in a prayer circle, or people can take turns praying for all the requests. Throughout the week, family members can check the box for new prayer needs.