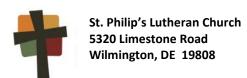
The Guidepost





April 2024



"As an inclusive and caring congregation, our mission is to make disciples, praise God, and serve the community"

From the Senior Pastor Pastor Pastor

Update on the Parking Lot and Basement Building

For the upcoming months here in my *Guidepost* article, my hope is to give you and update on the building process that we are currently engaged in. So, here goes the first update:

The Parking Lot

As of the week of March 24th, our revised site plan including the parking lot plan, water runoff plan, lighting plan, and landscape plan have been submitted to New Castle County. If you remember correctly, our hope is that this plan would be approved sometime in April. Since the plan is now submitted, we are at the mercy of New Castle County. Hopefully, they will move quickly. Once our plan is approved, we can put it out for official bids. We already have one or two companies who want to do the work, so I'm sure we'll start by getting bids from them first.

One of the things we discovered in the process is that New Castle County has revised some of it's building code in the last few years - they are requiring us to install a fence along the north border of the property to serve as a barrier for headlights, so that we don't bother the neighbors too much. That barrier could have been achieved by planting plants but our fear is that with the deer we could need to keep replacing them over the years and that would cost more than the fence, which would be a once and for all solution

The Basement Finishing

The general plan we showed the congregation following the annual meeting is still the plan we are going from. We are working with Kimmel Bogrette Architects (the same group we worked with who designed the church) to give us a plan for the basement. The essential basement layout is pretty easy overall, but we have learned a few things. First, rather than just a door to an unfinished area leading to the exit door down there - we'll need to have a finished corridor to the exterior basement door. Not a huge deal, just different than we thought. Also, we are working to figure out the elevator - what do we have space for? If the elevator requires a mechanical room, might we need to rethink how many bathrooms are downstairs? We are working on that

The Capital Campaign

The capital campaign launches in April and we are on track to get all the information to you by that time. Commitment Sunday is May 19th.

Should you have any questions or concerns on this project, don't hesitate to let me know at any time. Please keep all the folks working on this in your prayers.

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The Easter basket is full but the tomb is empty! Happy Easter!

In the spirit of Easter, there's a story I heard a while ago that I'd like to share:

"Excuse me," said the young man, standing awkwardly at the open church door. "I'm here to pick up an Easter basket for my daughter. Am I in the right place?"

"Well, we have baskets, but they're not Easter baskets for kids; they're food baskets," I explained. That morning I had arrived early at St. Michael's Episcopal Church here in Carmichael, California, to help distribute the baskets to needy families for Easter. To make sure everyone was taken care of, we had handed out numbers to the recipients that matched the basket they were supposed to receive. Each one contained a full Easter dinner—a whole ham, potatoes, bread, vegetables and a pie—plus enough staples to help feed a family for a week.

"Why don't you come in?" I offered the man. He looked disappointed. He shook his head, and peered over his shoulder. "I can't...my daughter is waiting for me in the car," he said. He gave her a little wave and turned back toward me. "I'm grateful for the food, but when I heard you were giving away baskets for Easter...well, I thought they would be Easter baskets for children," he continued. "I promised my daughter one." He glanced over his shoulder again. "I left her in the car because I wanted to surprise her."

I felt bad, but there was nothing we could do. Our volunteers had put together food baskets, not Easter ones. We didn't have the means to make up anything else. The man handed me his number, and I walked over to where the baskets were waiting for pick up.

A bulge in one of the baskets caught my eye. What is that? I wondered. Leaning in and looking more closely, I could see, unmistakably, an Easter basket—filled with an assortment of candy and Easter eggs—wrapped with ribbons and tucked inside with the food.

"One of the volunteers must have added it by mistake!" I thought. Then I looked at the man's number in my hand. Well, I'll be... "Happy Easter," I said to the man, handing him the only food basket with an Easter basket inside—the very same basket with his number on it. "Someone knew just what you needed." Someone sure did...

It's amazing what God can do! May we continue to be the *Easter People* we are called to be. It is because of Easter and the resurrection that we have hope and a future. We are inheritors of the Resurrection. Thanks be to God! It is an honor and a joy to serve with you and alongside you!



The Rite @ f INSTALLATION



Service of Holy Communion & The Rite of Installation for Pastor Amy Jensen-Wright as Associate Pastor









Sunday, April 14, 2024 3:00PM St. Philip's Lutheran Church Wilmington, DE

Installation Celebration Registration Form Link is Below. Go to: https://forms.gle/Nax9wJBXuyeDPXuG6

or				
*	(tear off and place in the offering plate or drop off at the church office)			
Family Name,	/s:			
Number of Fa	mily Members attending:			
Family Contact	ct E-mail and Phone:			





A Huge Thank You for providing so many wonderful soups and to Pam Sheffer and the entire Fellowship Team for such a successful Lenten Season!!!

O.W.L.S - March Presenter - Linda Burkum

Photos by Pastor Amy



Thank you **Linda** for Presenting!



Together in Faith - Water is Life Kenya

Photos by Pastor Amy



Christian Ed did another fabulous job with food and fellowship!!!



From the President Gerry Butler

Dear Friends:

Somehow the calendar this year has me a bit at odds and ends. Everything seems to be happening sooner and faster. Lent, Holy Week and Easter have come and gone already! Baseball began in March, not April as in years gone by. Daylight Savings is with us already, and spring began on March 19. I have mixed emotions about DST... I like the longer days in the early evening, but I am not at all happy with the dark mornings when I go out to breakfast!

But the Church and its activities move forward! There is always something to do, to support, or to share in our prayers. I don't know about you...but when life gets a bit hectic for me, and has me out of sorts, I look for moments of quiet, of prayer (both at home and in church), of service, of talking with fellow parishioners, and of hearing wonderful music.

If you too are a bit unsettled, let me share with you a prayer of peace I recently found. It has roots in Psalm 94. It is simple and direct, but it might help you (as it does me) to deal with all the turmoil around us:

"Lord may your presence and your consolation bring me joy and calm my mind amid the stress, sorrow, and chaos of life." Amen.

I wish you fresh courage to face all of the tasks the Lord puts before you!

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From Council Amanda DeWeese

Hello Friends of St. Philip's Lutheran Church,

I had the honor of leading the devotions at the Tuesday, March 12th church council meeting. I would like to say that I get in my daily dose of devotionals DAILY. Truth be told, which is the same truth that I told the council members before I started my devotions on Tuesday, is that I had only looked at what I was going to read moments before coming into the room. And before that, I didn't look at my 365 devotional book Trusting God Day by Day written by Joyce Meyer for at least a few months. I can place blame on any number of things, including work, kids activities, travel, illness, other extra circular activities, not enough hours in the day, and so on. Yet, if I am to boil is down to brass tacks, it is because, unfortunately, I haven't made it a priority. However, I am determined to turn that around.

Coming to church on a weekly basis and listening to Pastor's Patrick and Amy preach is something that I have done a much better job of prioritizing. They stand at the pulpit and open about their own lives and vulnerabilities to remind us they are the same as we are (and that we are enough). Then finally bringing it back full circle to the scriptures in the bible, which allows us to understand the bible more clearly and ultimately inspire hope for each of us. Starting off every Sunday with a sense of connectedness to the people around us centers us back to the importance of reflection and meaningful conversation among our friends, family, and acquaintances.

The devotional book by Meyer is laid out to provide you with a reading for every single day of the year. Each time that I have flipped to the respective date in the book I am always so pleased by the chosen verse. They always resonate with me. It is like God knows that if I only open this book a few times a year, then he is going to make it mean something. The verse from Colossian's is about forgiveness, which is a common word, yet holds a lot of meaning and weight. I encourage you to read it and I hope it provides you with as much thought and consideration as it did for me.

Forgiveness is Yours to Receive and to Give: Colossians 3:13

"Be gentle and forebearing with one another and, if one has a difference (a grievance or complaint) against another, readily pardoning each other, even as the Lord has (freely) forgiven you, so you must also (forgive).

Best, Amanda DeWeese From the O.W.L.S Pastor Patrick



O.W.L.S. (older, wiser, Lutheran seniors) will gather on Tuesday, April 9th. Our presenter that day will be Anna Grieder who is a physical therapist and member of St. Philip's. She'll be talking about balance and falls. Please bring whatever you would like to eat or drink that day. We look forward to seeing you on the 9th!

From Ministries at St. Philip's - Stephen Ministry

Gigi Mueller

What is Stephen Ministry? And what is a Stephen Minister? How do I know if I need one? To answer those questions, we will be having a Lunch and Learn on Sunday, May 5, after the late service where our Stephen Ministers will present the benefits of Stephen Ministry. Watch for a sign up soon..

Ministries at St. Philip's - Women's Ministry

Gigi Mueller & Dawn Downes

Women's Gathering at Harvest Ridge Winery - Women of St. Philip's are invited to gather with one another for a few hours of relaxation and sharing whatever comes to mind - really just a time to connect and enjoy being together. The date is **Saturday, April 20th, 2:00 p.m**. All are welcome! More details to follow. Please let Gigi Mueller know if you would like to join us.



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The annual Spring Clean-up day has been scheduled for

Saturday April 6th from 8:00am to noon

(Rain Date-April 13th).

This year we will again be focusing on sprucing up the outside property. We will have both big and small jobs so something for all abilities.

This is a great opportunity to serve and help beautify the church property. Whatever time you can give would be most appreciated.

St. Philip's Property Committee -

Please contact Mark Myers with any questions!





An exciting ministry has returned to St. Philip's!
"DINNERS OF EIGHT"

There is within all three Abramic Faiths (Judaism, Christianity, Islam) a deep appreciation for and practice of hospitality. In the modern era, there are few opportunities available to experience its main expression, that is, meal fellowship. "Dinners of Eight" seeks to offer members of our congregation, their friends, and, possibly in time, people of other faiths, opportunities to experience each other. It is a smaller gathering (eight is a manageable number to fit around a dinner table allowing those with smaller homes to also participate as host), relatively easy to pull off, and, once established, tends to sustain and grow itself.

Signup sheets have been posted in the Narthex allowing all congregation members the opportunity to join a "dinner of eight". Those that choose to host should provide the main course and ask the others coming to dinner to bring an appetizer, vegetable, salad, or dessert. The offering of wine and/or beer should be decided by the whole group.

After meeting and sharing dinner, it is encouraged that the guests then host a dinner of their own, which is again open to the members of the congregation to join. Following these gatherings, the ministry would expand again in the same way with the guests hosting their own "dinner of eight". I look forward to witnessing our congregation come together and grow into a community bound together in fellowship.

For more information please contact Allyson Myers or Gigi Mueller.

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PUB + HEOLOGY

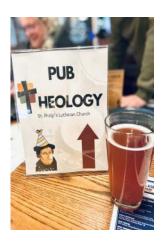
Martin Luther once said: "Whoever drinks beer, they are quick to sleep; whoever sleeps long, does not sin; whoever does not sin, enters Heaven! Thus, let us drink beer!"

Get excited because *Pub Theology* is back AND is coming up THURSDAY, April 18th from 6:30-8:30pm! It is every 3rd Thursday, at Chuck Lager. We will meet in May, then take a break over the summer and be back in September. ALL are welcome at any time!

Pub Theology is all about open and honest, faith-filled conversations about things that matter. A table where all perspectives are welcome and appreciated. The format is simple: *beer, conversation, and God.* Come and bring your questions and thoughts, bring a friend, pull up a chair, and join Pastor Amy. You'll be able to share your own wrestling's and thoughts while learning something new along the way, and hey—there's likely to be a good craft beer you haven't tried yet!

See you there! Cheers!

Pr. Amy

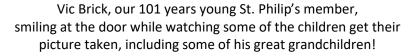


P U B



THEOLOGY













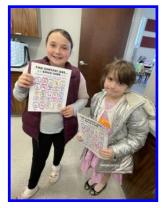








What a great turn out and fun time for ALL!!!!!!!!!







Thank you so much to everyone who made our Youth Group Spaghetti Dinner + Bingo Night, & our Easter Sunday Brunch fundraisers HUGE successes! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

This is YG calendar of events for the remaining events up until summer time:

4/7 - Youth Room Ceiling Tile Decorating (12-2pm) *Lunch will be provided

*Confirmation Class (2:30-4pm)

4/14 - *Pr. Amy's Installation @ 3pm

4/21 - Sky Zone Trampoline Park + Cold Stone Creamery (12-3/3:15pm)

Sign-up in the weekly emails

*Confirmation Class (2:30-4pm)

4/28 - Spring Cleaning Service Project (12-3pm)

5/3-5 - Beach Retreat Weekend

Sign-up NOW AVAILABLE in weekly emails!

5/12 - No Youth Group - Mother's Day

5/19 - Last Day of Breakfast Club - Ice Cream Social (12-2pm)

Graduate Quilt Blessing (10:30am service)

*Confirmation Class (2:30-3:30)

6/2 - ELCA National Youth Gathering Meeting & Potluck @ 5pm

All youth attending the National Youth Gathering + parents invited to this informational meeting as we gear up for our trip to New Orleans, LA in July! You won't want to miss this! Mark your calendars!

















Picture from Brunch with Pastor Amy Silent Auction Winner Molly Grieder!

Raffle For Pie in the Pastor's Face!!!

Won by Allie Pouser and lan Stirk!!!

Good Sport Pastor Patrick!!

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HELP BUILD OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH!

Build relationships, meet new people, find an activity that works for you!

The **Nursery** is open for both services and during the education hour in between services. Contact Maryann Shovestul if you have questions.

The **Adult Small Group Bible Study** continues on Sunday and Tuesday mornings. The groups will finish the study of the HOLY SPIRIT and begin the study of RESURRECTION in April. **Breakfast Club** and **Kid's Club** continue to meet on Sunday morning. These groups will NOT meet on Easter Sunday or April 7th.

Youth Group and **Mission Kids** are busy with various activities. Check out other pages of the Guidepost for specific information.

Looking ahead: the final **Together in Faith Breakfast** will take place on Sunday, May 19 at 9:15 a.m. More information to come.

Check out the **Lending Library** in room 128 where you'll find bible reference books and books by Christian authors with a wide range of topics. Use the sign out sheet if you want to borrow a book; when you return the book sign it in and drop it in the basket next to the book shelves.

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Mission Kids

Mission Kids are preparing for the annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 24th. We have a great crowd expected and the kids will enjoy lunch in the Fellowship Hall before searching for hundreds of Easter eggs.

Our next event will be Mission Kids get messy! We will be rescheduling this event to later in April so please stay tuned to your email for a new date. In the meantime, don't miss Pastor Amy's installation on April 14th:)

Mission Moms! In the coming weeks you will see an invitation in your mailbox for a new event on Saturday, May 11. Mission Moms Night out will be a great opportunity to meet and hangout with other moms, enjoy dinner, drink wine, and paint a canvas! If you have any questions please contact Pastor Amy, Anna Grieder, or Liz Freburger.

Kids Club

Our Kids Club has enjoyed battling Goliath and becoming Fishers of Men over the past few weeks. Next they are learning about the Easter Story and will be constructing scenes with Lego. Stay tuned for those pictures next month!

If you have any questions about joining Kids Club, please contact Sandy Budd or Anna Grieder.







Koinonia: If you're looking for a small group that has fellowship, food and support for one another a koinonia group (Greek for fellowship) might be right for you! Our next koinonia gathering is on **Sunday, April 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall**. We will watch and discuss the video series *The Walk: Five Essential Practices of Christian Life* by Adam Hamilton. A second group, that meets with the Mueller's, that Koinonia group will meet on **Sunday, April 28th at 6:30 pm** at the Mueller's home. Dave will lead a discussion which was previously scheduled. Please let Gigi Mueller know if you have any questions and if you are coming. Questions about Koinonia? Contact Sharon Kittle.

Ministries at St. Philip's - Women's Evening Book Club Dawn Downes and Donna Daugherty

The Women's Evening Book Club meets on the second Friday of the month at 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall or individual homes. Our time together is much like a happy hour with good friends! Feel free to bring a snack or beverage to share. If you have any questions please contact Dawn Downes or Donna Daugherty. Mark your calendars and plan to come . . . we hope you will join us. Everyone is welcome! Our upcoming reads are:

April - The Violin Conspiracy by Brendan Slocumb (NCC Reads book)

Ministries at St. Philip's - Women's Daytime Book Group

Gigi Mueller

The April daytime book group will be Tuesday, April 16th, at 12:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. We will be discussing, THE AVIATOR'S WIFE, by Melanie Benjamin.

Ministries at St. Philip's - Women's Ministry

Giqi Mueller

Women's Gathering at Harvest Ridge Winery - Women of St. Philip's are invited to gather with one another for a few hours of relaxation and sharing whatever comes to mind - really just a time to connect and enjoy being together. The date is **Saturday, April 20th, 2:00 p.m**. All are welcome! More details to follow. Please let Gigi Mueller know if you would like to join us.

Together in Faith

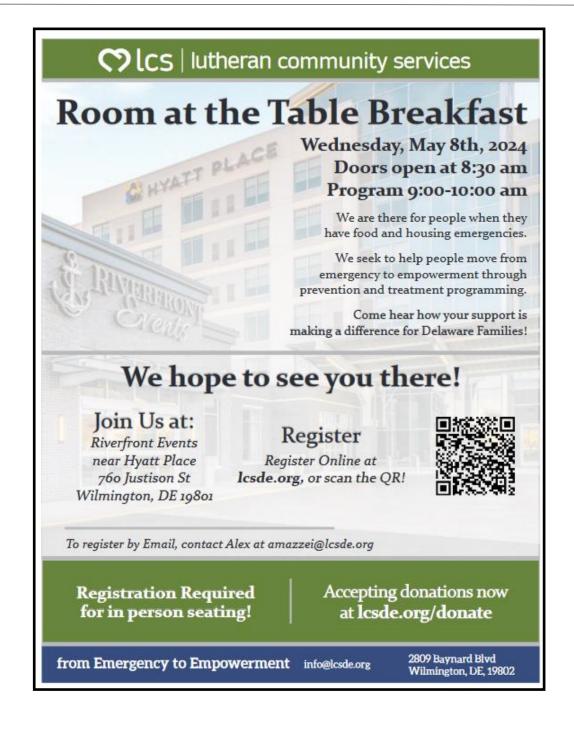
A Community Learning Experience for all Ages

Sunday, May 19, 2024

*9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

- Adults and Youth will share and fellowship
- Kid's Club will meet as usual
- Presentation TBD
- There will be a Sign up Poster in the Narthex for food needed.

*The Nursery Will Be Open!



DE-VINE INTERVENTNION COMING

TO ST. PHILIPS!!

Join the Environmental Stewardship Crew on April 6 to participate in the Spring clean-up day at St Philips! Among other things, we will conduct de-vine interventions to save trees from encroaching vines that are strangling them. If you have them, bring loppers, strong hand clippers, and sturdy leather gloves.



Pinners and Knotters, a longtime ministry at St. Philip's, is meeting on the third Wednesday of the month at noon in the Fellowship Hall, and always seeks new volunteers for this important work. Ellen Lenker or any current worker can answer any questions about the ongoing projects. Consider joining for the fellowship, a chance to be creative, and continue this important ministry. The next meeting is on April 17th at noon in the Fellowship Hall.

Ministries at St. Philip's - Care Kits

David & Donna Porter

CARE KITS for homeless persons are available under the coat rack in the narthex. Consider picking up one or two to share with homeless persons you may encounter in your travels.

Help Us Restock the Care Kits for the Homeless – As you may know, we provide care kits for our members to keep in their cars or wherever to help people in need when we come across them in our daily life. Our supply of care kits are running low and we need help restocking our care kit bags. It's winter, so socks, hats, gloves, band-aids, etc. are needed. There is a bin in the narthex into which you can place all the items you donate. Thank you so much for your care and generosity. A signup for the things we need can be found here:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050949A9A62CA3FC1-47073305-homeless

Ministries at St. Philip's

Sally Krapf

Attention Widows, Widowers, and Those Who Have Lost Loved Ones!! If you have lost a spouse, partner, or close loved one and would like to have some fellowship and support, there is now a support group meeting for fellowship and to provide comfort and support through this life transition. The next gathering is April 11th at 12:30 p.m. lunch/1 p.m. meeting in the Social Hall here at church. If you are interested in being a part or learning more, contact Sally Krapf.

Worship Assistants Are Needed!!! We could use everyone's help as we work through this pandemic time. A small group of us have taken on the task of leading worship and ushering and greeting during the pandemic. Before COVID, we had a huge team doing this task. We need our worship assistants to begin returning to their jobs. We also would love to welcome new servants into this ministry. Contact Louise James if you are willing to help.

Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregiver Support Group Continues to Meet at St. Philip's - The Alzheimer's Assn. of the Delaware Valley is sponsoring a monthly support group for anyone who has a loved one with any form of dementia, including Alzheimer's. Living with or caring for a person with dementia can be extremely challenging, overwhelming and exhausting. The group offers education, support, and the opportunity to connect with others in a similar situation. Free and open to the public, the group will meet on the second Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be on April 9th at 1 p.m. in Room #128. For more information, contact Erica Holmes.

Every year we provide the members the chance to signup to dedicate chancel flowers (we used to call them altar flowers when they sat on the altar, but now they are on the shelf in the chancel area) in memory or in honor of loved ones. In order to make it easy for you to signup for flowers for the 2024 Calendar Year, below is a link to a signup genius form that will allow you to dedicate flowers for the coming year. The flowers for 2024 will be \$50. You will pick the date you want to sign-up for and then it will ask you to type in your dedication and then click the submit button. Like last year, we are asking that you please mail in your payment for the flowers AT THE TIME YOU FILL OUT THIS DEDICATION SIGNUP. The only reason we are asking this is that many people forget that they signed up and then forget to send the money in. Altar Guild is trying to avoid coming after the dedication money months afterwards. Thank you so much. To make a dedication, click here:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050949A9A62CA3FC1-45509019-flower

YOUTH GROUP



Need help with some spring cleaning? Is there something around your home that could use some TLC (tender loving care)? Do you need a little teenage muscle to help move things? You are in luck! The Youth Group is having its annual Spring Cleaning Service Project after worship on Sunday, April 28th. The youth can help with landscaping, taking out the trash, cleaning, or whatever you may need. Contact Pr. Amy if you would like to sign up.

Food Insecurity due to inflation is on the Rise! Can you help? Food demand still continues to be very high. If you are at the grocery store or if someone goes for you, you can pick up needed items and drop them in the box in the narthex. We are especially in need of: Pasta, Pasta Sauce (cans are best and Dollar Store has good prices), Shelf Milk (2%, Almond Breeze, Whole, or Soy – Again, the Dollar Store is a good source), Mac & Cheese, Cereal, Canned Vegetables, Toilet Paper, Salt & Pepper, Crackers, Coffee, Tea Bags, Cake Mix/Frosting. Thank you so much for your generosity!!

GROCERY CLUB CLOTHING

We have been getting requests from members for clothing, so Grocery Club is once again accepting donations. We are especially in need of children's clothing of all sizes but are also looking for men's and women's clothing. Summer clothing is preferred. **Please contact Nancy Zinnato if you have items to donate.**

GROCERY CLUB

Wednesday, March 13, 2024 and March 27, 2024



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St. Philips Host Week: April 7-13 then again May 12-18.

Thank you to everyone for their continued support of our Family Promise host weeks! Family Promise, as well as the families they serve, are so appreciative of the food, supplies, and time given to them. We have our next two host weeks coming up with only a month between them. These host weeks will be April 7-13 and then again on May 12-18.

Before COVID, the families (usually 3 or 4 families) were housed in different churches throughout New Castle County. During their stays, the hosting churches provided breakfast, lunch, and evening meals. During the three years of the pandemic, the host's duty was to provide the evening meal. Beginning in 2023, Family Promise families now live at the Jesus House off of Milltown Road. That change has resulted in how and what the host churches provide food. The families live in a cottage that has a kitchen and a laundry shared by all, and separate quarters for each family. To make the families comfortable, host churches now provide food for breakfast and lunch, staples such as laundry detergent, etc., and an evening meal. As the needs have changed, so is our way of asking for help.

Currently, there is a sign-up poster in the Narthex with menus for our April host week. Sign-up posters for our May host week will be available in late April. The Sign-Up Genius link for perishables items is below and includes items needed for both our April and May host weeks. These items can be placed under the Family Promise sign up poster in the Narthex.

Sign up Genius Perishables items for Family Promise https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050949A9A62CA3FC1-48375655-family

A huge thank you in advance for your continued support. Feel free to contact Rebecca Bardenhagen or Marty Budd with any questions.

Blessing to all.

FAMILY PROMISE

Our Next Host Week: April 7, 2024 to April 13, 2024 Then, the week of: May 12, 2024 to May 18, 2024 In February I was one of several St. Philips members who attended Thi Bui's talk highlighting her book, <u>The Best We Could Do</u>, a memoir of her family's experience during the Vietnam War. In listening to her presentation, I was very aware that what I know of the Vietnam War is solely through an American lens (American casualties, threat of Communism, widespread protests, etc.), so it was valuable to hear a Vietnamese perspective.

It is nearly impossible for me to accurately comprehend what daily existence is like for an IDP (Internally Displaced Person) or refugee. The compromises one has to make to survive, the trauma and grief multiplied with every loss or act of violence experienced, and the shifting ground of wondering who can be trusted are beyond my realm of thinking, but they all fundamentally shape the world of a refugee. When Thi Bui researched news from the time of the largest arrival of Vietnamese 1975/76, two articles stood out to her. One headline was "Widespread Hostility Found Toward Vietnamese" and "Black Americans Urge Admission of Indochinese Refugees." Vietnamese entering our country were often greeted with suspicion and anger, yet black Americans, as a group, offered a more apparent welcome despite facing their own challenges of acceptance.

One of the statements Thi Bui made during her talk was that "you cannot understand the refugee experience if you do not ask the questions." Consider some of these questions: What was it like to live in a country where safety is constantly an issue? At what point do the risks for your family outweigh your desire to stay in your home area? What if you cannot get all family members to a safer place at the same time? Is it worth the risks if the place you get to considers you, at best outsiders and at worst, a threat? How do you preserve your traditions, yet embrace a new life? While it is not appropriate to interrogate a person who has been traumatized, it is important to develop relationships with those who have experienced a life different from our own and begin to understand a person's individual story. This was true with the refugees from Vietnam and it remains true today with refugees and asylum seekers from so many areas around the globe. As Christians we are called to welcome the stranger and treat others as we wish to be treated.

Note: On April 11th there will be a book discussion of <u>The Best We Could Do</u>

Donna Porter

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Sponsored by the Racial Justice Task Force

Sign up for pizza and discussion of this powerful book.
Sign up poster in the narthex.

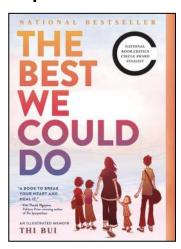
What: The Best We Could Do

When: Thursday, April 11th, 2024

6:30 p.m. -- PIZZA

7:00 p.m. -- Discussion led by Donna Porter

Where: Fellowship Hall



From the publisher: The Best We Could Do ...by Thi Bui is an intimate look at one family's journey from their war-torn Vietnam to their new lives in America. Exploring the anguish of immigration and the lasting effects that displacement has on a child and her family...after the fall of South Vietnam in the 1970's...



Outreach Update

Upcoming Partner Events

Lutheran Community Services:

- -- Room at the Table free breakfast event on Wednesday May 8th at 9 a.m., Riverfront Events at Hyatt Place. Bring friends and family to share breakfast and hear testimonials and stories from LCS clients from the past year. Register at Icsde.org!
- -- **Golf Outing**, June 3rd at Fieldstone Golf Club. 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. If you are interested in joining a foursome from St. Philip's, see Jim Stevens.

Family Promise:

-- 5K Walk/Run Fundraiser. Sunday April 14th at the Green, University of Delaware. Registration begins 11 a.m, walk/run begins at 12 noon. Preregister at www.familypromisede.org.

Family Promise Host Week!

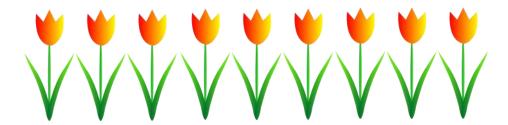
The next host week for St Philip's to provide meals for families is April 7-13. Look for the signup poster in the Narthex for food items needed, and the signup genius for household goods wish list to support the homeless families in the FP program. See Rebecca Bardenhagen or Marty Budd for more information.

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Share Dinner with Univ. of Delaware Students at Lutheran Campus Ministry! Several volunteers are needed to provide dinner for the students at the Lutheran Campus Ministry in Newark on Tuesday April 23rd. Volunteers from St Philip's will decide on the meal (consulting with LCM) to bring for the students on their weekly dinner and worship night. Volunteers are encouraged to stay and share the meal with the students. Contact Susan Mack at msm1620@aol.com if you can help.

Presentation by Rob Gurnee of Lutheran Community Services

At the Lunch and Learn in January, Rob Gurnee updated us on the programs at LCS in Wilmington. You probably are aware that LCS manages a very busy food pantry network including those as St Stephen's Lutheran Church, Unity Church, and the main LCS building on Baynard Blvd. These pantries served 41,781 people in 2023. St Philip's has collected food items to benefit the LCS pantries and several members volunteer at the pantries. Recently LCS has been offering more healthy food items through the pantries, including fresh food items obtained through local farmers. This emphasis on healthy foods as a way to improve clients' health ("Food is Medicine") is reflected in the new Food Farmacy program. LCS has partnered with Christiana Care to provide medically tailored boxes each week to food insecure people with chronic health conditions such as diabetes. LCS provides the healthy food boxes and Christiana provides case management and patient support to those in the program. A similar program offers medically tailored food to children and families with Sickle Cell Disease through a partnership with Nemours. LCS has also opened pantries at three public schools that will offer nutrition education in addition to healthy food items. LCS has funding to build a FOOD HUB on its property on Baynard Blvd for storage and distribution of healthy foods and space for packing the medically tailored food boxes. LCS has new volunteer opportunities for those who want to help with packing these food boxes. Contact LCS through lcsde.org for more information. If you would like a copy of Rob's presentation at St Philip's, contact Susan Mack for a link to the powerpoint slides.





FIELDSTONE GOLF COURSE

Play the award winning course!

Monday, June 3rd, 12:30 pm, shotgun start

Pricing:

Ticket Packages





Per Corporate Foursome

\$100

Per Extra Dinner Guest

Sponsor Packages

- \$5000 Dinner Sponsor
- \$3,000 Lunch Sponsor
- \$2,000
- Cocktail Hour Sponsor
- \$1.500
- Halfway Hut Sponsor
- \$1.500
- SWAG Sponsor
- \$500 Hole Sponsor

The Day Will Include:

- Hole-in-one Car Giveaway
- Contests & Silent Auction
- Gift Bags

- Boxed Lunch
- On Course Beverages
- Reception & Dinner 5pm

For Questions:

For information on how to become a sponsor, or any other questions, contact Alex at AMazzei@LCSDE.org



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One of only four Philly area golf courses with this technology!

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Take your game further, with Fieldstone's TrackMan tracking appl



Apple



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Spring Blessings from LCM at UD!

April is a beautiful month, as the days grow <u>longer</u> and many delicate flowers come into view. For students, who are juggling such full and demanding schedules, it's also retreat time! We're looking forward to a spring getaway near Rehoboth Beach, which will include beach games, meals, worship, and a service project component. Please pray for good weather during the weekend of the 20th.

Our next **property workday** has been scheduled for Saturday, April 6, beginning at 10 AM. Students, staff, board members, and community members are all invited to chip in to help spruce up the LCM property at 247 Haines Street for the spring season. If you have a few hours to spare, please drop by.

We're also looking for new members for our **Directing Committee** (governing board), as well as members for LCM's sub-committees, such as property care and Mutual Ministry. If you have a heart for this ministry and you'd like to get more involved in LCM at UD, please reach out. Thank you!

We're very grateful for all the tasty meals that have been provided to LCM since September by teams from local congregations. Yum! We still have open dates for meals in May. For more information, please call our office or refer to our website: https://lcmde.org/bring-a-tuesday-dinner. Our students are always grateful for the dinners and shared fellowship.

Thank you again for your ongoing support, care, and prayers! Please pray for our students, as the intensity of projects, papers, and other activities builds up, that they will continue to prioritize faith in the midst of all that they're navigating... and that they will know the peace of Christ amid their daily walks of faith.

May God's love and joy surround and delight you during this blessed Easter season!

In Christ, Mindy Holland, Minister of Word and <u>Service ±</u>
Chaplain, Lutheran Campus Ministry at UD
302-368-3078; chaplain@lcmde.org



Joyful greetings from some of our student leaders...and UD's cows!
Gabby and Elizabeth, in the foreground, are two of our seniors.

"Education is Key"

Since the overall mission of the Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center is educating young people, it should not be surprising that history, literacy, and STEM projects dominated activities at the center these past couple of months.

During Black History Month in February, student learning centered on African American artists. Center Youth Services Director, Teresa Allen, says the artists spanned several genres.

"In an activity entitled 'Paint the Person' participants painted portraits of their friends. They also completed two projects involving paper cups, one in which they created monsters and the other where they decorated a cup using any art materials they chose. Several of our older youth," Teresa continues, "researched and completed posters on their chosen African American artist/person. Some of the youth had the opportunity to make dot art like the painter Alma Thomas. Staff printed photo examples and let the children pick a design idea. The students recreated the art style in their own way."



Teresa says the literacy project centered on online resources. "MyOn - digital library of level specific books, magazines, Mangas, and comics; Accelerated Reader — digital quiz platform integrated with MyOn; Literacy station - Beginning Sounds learning kit, (featuring) various activities with the overall goal of helping young readers develop a deeper understanding of beginning sounds; Grab and Play - reading games like Informational Text, Reading Literature, and Context Clues."

According to Teresa, the STEM program included fun stuff! "STEM/Math station: Addition and subtraction kit, various fun games and activities centered around addition and subtraction concepts. Math card games and manipulatives. STEM activities include Lego Coding, Binary codes, popsicle stick catapult."

Finally, Hilltop benefited from 2 monetary grants during the first quarter of 2024. Deputy Director, Brandon Furrowh says each grant totaled \$10,000!

"The United Way of Delaware awarded Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center \$10,000.00 to implement the Study Break Live program, an original program designed to provide a fun mental health break to high school students while integrating the exploration of post-secondary educational options as well as employment options."

Center Executive Director, Michelle Williams, says the other grant was through Wilmington City Council. "The \$10,000 grant submitted to Councilwoman Bregetta Fields to continue providing quality youth programs in the evenings was approved."

Eric F. Mease - Member, Board of Directors - Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center

Remember Us When You Pray

We believe in the power of prayer, so please remember to keep the following persons and their families in your prayers. Even if you do not know them it means so much to them to know that they are remembered in our daily prayer lives. Also, it would be a wonderful gift for them to hear from their church family:

We Pray for the Members of St. Philip's:

Ron Henry, Judi Parsons, John & Barb Williams, Charles & Ruth Bowles, Lois Hardy, Carol Ruckle, Lamont & Sharon Smith, Louise James, Ethel Reichley, Helga Kissell, Bob O'Brien, Sam Cory, Sherry Thompson, Eleanor Georgiana, Carol Goodman, Dave Frampton, Amy Papili, Donna Hokanson, Lynn Pouser, Bev Reedy, Tony Calvarese, Elizabeth Stirk, Barbara Stadelberger, Jeff Stirk, Charlie Boss, Debra Gelesh, Richard Braun

We Pray for our Loved Ones: (Though we do not explicitly name these beloved ones in worship during our prayer time, please lift up their names in prayer aloud or silently during the time set aside for other intercessions): Our soldiers serving overseas and their families; Bud & Ruth DiDonato & Family of Earl & Irene Meyer, family of Linda Burkum; Emily Ruckle & Tina Davis, family of Carol Ruckle; John & Carly Hoeni, family of Lynn Muller; Beckie McNelly, sister of Bob Gibble & Barb Williams; Lou Cookson, father of Nick Cookson; Beth Cookson, mother of Nick Cookson; The Greer Family, friends of Bob Warner; Dorothy Owens, sister of Ruth Henry; Stuart Emerson & Family, friends of the Swift Family; Jacob Buckworth & Dawn Cupsie, grandson & daughter of Lamont & Sharon Smith; Donald Oesterbo, Jr., son of Carol Oesterbo; Linda Allen, friend of Faith Simpers; Mary Jane Myers, mother of Mark Myers; Joe Cilento, Jr., son of Yvonne Cilento; Paul Budd, Sr., father of Scott, & Lee & Patricia Craig, friends of The Budds; Greg Moore, friend, David Martin, Diane Balinski, Debra Jennings, & Barney Jennings, family of Russ Hokanson; Molly Wagner, granddaughter of Margaret Wagner; Jermaine & Joslyn Sanders, friends of Nancy Zinnato; Norman Richards & Phyllis Mensinger, family of Mark & Marge Davis; Carol Henzy, sister of Beth Molnar; Mildred Marine, grandmother of Heather Stirk; John, Sr. & Anna Longo, parents of John Longo; Lew & Donna Longhenry, parents & Brad Oliver, brother-in-law of Bryan Longhenry; Steve Gibson, friend of Jean Kunkle; The Family of Robert Schuh, family of Diana Longhenry; Martin Page & Family, friends of Mike Rosen; Craig Shechter, father of Amanda DeWeese; B J Lawson, daughter of Jean Kunkle; Pastor Tom Carlson & Ken Worme, friends of Bob & Delores Wardwell; Family of Rosemary Herron, Loved ones of Edna Basilio; Henry Houtmann, grandson of Anne Hamilton; Erich Molnar, son, Jackson Molnar, grandson, & Shana Molnar, daughter-in-law of Beth Molnar; Zoe Kenaley, great-granddaughter of Vic Brick; John Lehne, friend of Carol Goodman; Donna Reeves, sister of Pam Sheffer; Doris S., Kathleen K. and Chris Lariola, friends of Anne Hamilton; Frank Kulick, brother of Ruth Bowles; Christopher Longo, son of John & Kim Longo; Marilynn Kelley, Mother of Dawn Downes; Lisa Santak, daughter of Marion Santak, Dave and Sharon Potter, Friends of Lila Hall; Maria Perdikis, friend of Donna & Monika Daugherty; Michele Levanduski, Family of Paul Gelesh



Shelly Meador	4/1	Jennifer Florschutz	4/16
Jane Newcomer	4/2	Dawn Downes	4/18
Grant Meador	4/4	Robert Gibble	4/18
Paul Stadelberger	4/4	Devon Gregg	4/19
Joann Stevens	4/4	Noelle Obara	4/20
Trevor Freburger	4/6	Patrick Bailey	4/21
Lisa Kenney	4/7	Benjamin Cookson	4/21
Rev. Patrick Downes	4/8	Benjamin Swift	4/21
Wendy Davis	4/9	John Lion	4/21
Matthew Sanderson	4/9	Sarah Litterst	4/26
Rebecca Litterst	4/12	Mary Duncan	4/27
Brea Stirk	4/12	Elise Bardenhagen	4/28
Gregory Oesterbo	4/13	Molly Grieder	4/30
Yvonne Cilento	4/15		
Pat Spae	4/16		

May God Bless You on Your Special Day!



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Please call the church office at 302-239-2100 when:

- You or a member of your family is sick or in the hospital
- You are planning a meeting or scheduling an event so it can be placed on the church calendar, in the bulletin, and in the Guidepost.
- A baby is expected in your family.
- You want to arrange for a baptism or a wedding.
- Your telephone number, address or email address has changed or you are planning to move, locally or out of town.
- You have a prayer request.
- You feel the church can help you in any way.

Who Does What at St. Philip's

Staff:

Rev. Patrick V. Downes, Senior Pastor Rev. Amy Wright, Associate Pastor

Dr. Stephen Benscoter, CAGO Music Director Dr. Lauren Conrad, Director of Choir Ministry

Lisa Kalinowski, Office Administrator

.....email: stphilipswilmington@gmail.com

Officers:

Gerry Butler, President

Amanda DeWeese, Vice President

Teri Suddard, Treasurer

Liz Freburger, Secretary

Mike Berkheimer, Financial Secretary

Council:

Coleman Bye

Carol Johnson

David Kenney

Mary Kay LaRue

John Longo

Council (continues):

Debbi Miller

Dave Porter

Mike Rosen

Jim Stevens

Committees/Activities:

Altar Guild......
Christian Education......

Enviro. Stewardship.....

Fellowship.....

Finance/Audit.....

Grocery Club...... Habitat Restoration Group

Outreach.....

Prayer Ministry.....

Property.....

Racial Justice Task Force

Worship and Music......

Carol Oesterbo Sharon Kittle

David Porter

Pam Sheffer Coleman Bye

Nancy Zinnato Phil & Mary Duncan

Susan Mack

Contact Church Office

Dave Frampton

Mark Myers Phil Duncan

Louise James

Phone: (302) 239-2100

Address Service Requestea

Website: www.stphilips.us

St. Philip's Lutheran Church
5320 Limestone Road
Wilmington, DE 19808

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:00 a.m. Worship Service In Sanctuary 9:15 a.m. Small Groups, Christian Ed for All Ages 10:30 a.m. Worship Service In Sanctuary ** Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall Between Services