

The Guidepost



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



May 2024



Memorial Day
Monday, May 27, 2024

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

Why Water is Life Kenya?

When St. Philip's began its turnaround 22 years ago, we started having some extra money; and it didn't take long for social service agencies in our area to take notice of both our desire to help and our ability (financially) to help. And they wanted us to give money . . . federal funding of nonprofits began to decline at that time (as it has continued to do) and agencies needed money to keep doing the great things they were doing. But we wanted projects that transformed us . . . it is one thing to write a check for a group like Friendship House or LCS . . . it is another thing to be in partnership with them so that not only are the lives of those they serve transformed, but that we are transformed as well.

That thinking was why we partnered with LCS to start our Produce Distribution, which later became our Grocery Club, which exists to this day. Serving dozens and dozens of families each month providing supplemental groceries. It costs us thousands of dollars each month to keep that program going. But more than that . . . our volunteers know these clients and their struggles, and their families - if you are a part of that ministry, you are invested in the lives of the people who come and you know that they receive not just food coming here, but they are given a little taste of loving community too.

That thinking is why when Friendship House wanted our money to help their homeless, we researched and started the Family Promise network here in New Castle County. We discovered that not one homelessness ministry/agency provided sheltering that would keep a husband/wife and kids together and so homeless families were broken up during that time and boys over age 9 could not stay with their moms in any shelter at that time. St. Philip's spearheaded Family Promise to shelter families in our churches and keep families together while they were going through difficult times. We alone in 2007 chartered and incorporated it as a 501(c)(3), raised \$110,000.00, found a day center, bought a van, hired an executive director, and recruited 12 other churches to make the network whole. Then we gave it away to the community and it has been a massive success . . . now there are more than 30 churches involved . . . they have their own facility where the families are housed.

These are two of the examples of ministries where we took huge leaps to do something big - it was more than doing a hunger walk or giving money or check writing . . . we made a big commitment. We called it "majoring in the majors." It is when we take these leaps to do big, exciting things, that we are transformed. We learn something about the people that we are serving because there is a personal and long term commitment not just to a task, but a commitment to their humanity and their personhood and their well being.

This is what is being envisioned with Water is Life Kenya. All of these ministries involve money, as does this one. But more than that, WILK, like Family Promise and Grocery Club . . . takes a commitment not just to give, but to transform an entire community permanently. The goal is to take \$80,000 to do the engineering surveys and research, dig a clean water well in Kenya, and then create a storage facility that is elephant proof. Our hope is to even send representatives from St. Philip's over there to dedicate the well and create a connection between the Masai people and St. Philip's. In doing this, water is the start of developing a new life for the people there, whose women spend most of their time fetching water. With clean water, children can go to school because they are clean and don't have to help with water collection; women can begin to work earning money for their families; and the entire community is transformed.

This is what majoring in the majors looks like and it is why we expand parking lots and basements . . . so that we can welcome in more people who want to be part of this kind of ministry that is transforming lives in the world. And I think WILK fits right into what we are about as people who Serve the Community. In fact, the Outreach team here at St. Philip's already has several excited volunteers who are leading this project and have started meeting with WILK folks and making plans. The hope is that we'll be able to start this work either in late 2024 or early 2025 with the goal of having that well producing water sometime in 2025. And then from there we get to follow along with this community as life begins to develop for them. We'll figure out what that engagement looks like as we move forward.



Thank you to everyone who came to my Installation Service!! What a wonderful day it was to praise God and celebrate this amazing church!

There have been very few times I am speechless but Sunday was one of those moments – for which I am so grateful! I cannot express my gratitude enough to you all (yes, you)! Thank you to this phenomenal congregation! Thank you for calling me and for boundlessly embracing and welcoming me. I give so much thanks to this church's Call Committee, its members, its youth, its leaders, its teachers, and its staff (shoutout to the phenomenal Patrick, Lisa, Lauren & Stephen)! It is an honor to do ministry with and alongside you.

I can't wait for what is to come here at St. Philip's! Thanks be to God for YOU! Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel!





Invasive Alert from the Habitat Restoration Crew

GARLIC MUSTARD

Looks lovely, sounds yummy!

BUT left unchecked on the forest floor and in gardens it readily sets seed and crowds out native plants...eek!

THE GOOD NEWS? It is easily identified by flower and leaf and is easily pulled. The Habitat Restoration Crew is on the lookout at St. Philips.

We encourage you to look in your yards, too.

Pull it, bag it, and throw it in the trash. Composting Garlic Mustard is not a good idea.



Pic by Phil Duncan: **Bluebirds have occupied nestbox #4 - - upper south side of property-- with 4 eggs in a very nice nest. This the first of the season. Most boxes are presently empty, but it is relatively early yet. Will provide updates as events warrant.**



Dear Friends: Your Church Council has been busy working with the Capital Campaign Committee on our current initiatives.

By now you have picked up or received the folder containing materials for the Capital Campaign for which we are currently involved. On the front of the folder are the words: “We can do all things through God who strengthens us.” I have seen this scripture many times in my life. I’ve seen it on plaques to hang in your house, on stones, on jewelry and much more. It is one of the most quoted and misquoted bible verses. If I look up Philippians 4:13 in my Women’s Devotional Bible, it states:” I can do all **this** through him who gives me strength.” In my Life Application Study Bible, it states:” For I can do **everything** through Christ who gives me strength.” So, what does this passage mean to you? Does it mean strength for one thing or everything? Does it mean give me strength right now?

Several years ago, during a Koinonia session we were asked to share our favorite piece of scripture with the group. Also, several years ago we were given a Discipleship Journal with our favorite bible quote on the cover. You guessed it! Mine was Philippians 4:13. Since that time I have spent many hours reading what commentators have said about this verse. One of the things I have learned is to not take it out of context.

Does it mean that Christ will give us strength to do all that we want? Will he give us strength to cure disease? Homelessness? Maybe even war? In my search for meaning, I have found that you need to read the entire passage—what comes before and after. If we do that here, Paul is telling us it’s not about realizing our personal dreams but being content with God’s will.

I’ve recently come across some interpretation of this passage by Lynn Cohick, a Distinguished Professor of the New Testament & Director of the Houston Theological Seminary at Houston Christian University. Dr Cohick asserts that these verses are not a blanket endorsement that God will support anything we set out to do or empower us to do whatever impossible things we can imagine, but it is an assurance that we can do whatever God calls us to do, not whatever we decide to do. It is an endorsement that God can give us strength to be content no matter what.

I think that is what we are doing at St. Philip’s. He is calling us to do His work. We are not only creating a space for worshipping and praising God, but also, as John Newcomer mentioned in his letter, by supporting water security in Kenya, we are given the opportunity to support the mission outside of our walls that God has put before us. As always: His will be done!

Armenian-American, abstract-expressionist painter, Arshile Gorky (1904 – 1948), once said, “I believe in everlastingness. I never finish a painting. I just stop working on it for a while.”

As an artist myself, one aspect of my career has been abstract-expressionistic painting and like Gorky, when working on a painting in this manner, it’s everlastingness is apparent. I can say that I never finish an abstract-expressionist painting. I just stop working on it for a while. Unless sold or given away it will exist, perhaps forever, with potential for change.

This painter’s perspective helps me understand God’s creative purpose and perhaps my part in God’s creation. Like God’s paint brush, paint, or canvas, I can be an instrument in God’s creative work, believing that work to be for peace, love, and kindness. As I work alongside other church council members, I see our willingness to progress at St. Philip’s Lutheran Church as we are able and as God inspires us to move forward. In the three years as a member and one year that I have been on council, I have seen this congregation and its leaders embrace gender equality, environmental sustainability, racial justice, the plight of refugees, mission-based fiscal responsibility, and love of our neighbors. We are painting that part of God’s canvas that God has entrusted to us here and beyond St. Philip’s Lutheran Church and it is an everchanging everlasting canvas for sure. We are his instruments of creation. The peace prayer of St. Francis of Assisi says it best...

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

O.W.L.S. (older, wiser, Lutheran seniors) will gather on Tuesday, May 14th. Our presenter will be Erica Holmes from the Alzheimer's Association. This is our last gathering of the program year. So, please bring whatever you would like to eat or drink that day. We look forward to seeing you on the 14th!

Ministries outside of St. Philip's - Alzheimer's/Dementia Group

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 **May 14th at 1 p.m.** in Room #128. For more information, contact Erica Holmes.

Ministries at St. Philip's - Shepherding

Sally Krapf

Shepherds meeting **Monday., May 6 @ 1 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall.

From Ministries at St. Philip's - Stephen Ministry

Gigi Mueller

Hopefully, the May 5 Lunch and Learn has shed some light on what Stephen Ministry is and who Stephen Ministers are. If you have any questions or feel you would like a Stephen Minister, please speak to Gigi Mueller or let one of the pastors know.

Ministries at St. Philip's from Koinonia

Sharon Kittle and Gigi Mueller

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, May 5 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 **TBD 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.



**Pastor Amy's
Installation
Worship Ser-
vice!**

**Amazing Ser-
vice full of
Love and
Wonderful
Music!**

**We are so
Blessed to
have Her!**





Youth Sign the
Memory Board for
Pastor Amy!



Kylie reads the Prayer
of the Day!

The Youth Advisors
read for the
Installation!
Maranda, Mattie
and Danielle



Youth Celebrate Pastor Amy at the Reception!

PUB THEOLOGY

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, May 23rd from 6:30-8:30pm at Chuck Lager! After this upcoming one we will 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







We have had a blast this past month and there's still lots of great events coming up before summer starts! Be sure & check out the events coming up and let's get pumped, especially, for the ELCA Youth Gathering in July!

5/3-5 - Beach Retreat Weekend
Sign-up NOW!

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!

LUNCH & LEARN

Lunch and Learn!

**Sunday, May 5th
in the Fellowship Hall
11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

Join us for a light lunch and
a presentation
on **Stephen Ministry**

Look for the signup poster in the
Narthex so we know how many
to expect for lunch.

PENTECOST

Pentecost Sunday is May 19, 2024!! On that Sunday we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit descending on the people of God who undertake the work of the Church to proclaim the gospel in all the world. Mark your calendars for that special day and wear **red**.

Our Mission Kids Get Messy event was a blast! Check out our amazing creation!!



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** concludes their study of Resurrection on Sunday May 12th. **Breakfast Club** and **Kid's Club** will pause their programs on Sunday May 19th. All programs will return in the fall.

The Together in Faith Breakfast will take place on **May 19** at 9:15 in the fellowship hall. Come celebrate with your St. Philip's family and get an update on our new building project. Hear about where things stand at this point and get answers to questions you might have. Sign up on the poster in the narthex if you can

provide a breakfast casserole, coffee cake, muffins, donuts or fruit.

The **Youth Group** and **Mission Kids** continue to gather. The Youth Group will have a Beach Retreat **May 3-5**; Mission Kids will have a Mission Mom's Night Out on **May 11th**.

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.

The Easter Egg Hunt was a SUCCESS! Thank you to everyone who came out to be a part of our largest egg hunt yet! Below is a picture of some of the egg hunt participants!



Below are the upcoming events for May and July.



May – Mission Moms Night Out – Sip and Paint!

Saturday, May 11th 5-8pm in the Fellowship Hall

This event is specifically for Mission moms! Join us for a wine and paint night in the Fellowship Hall. We will enjoy dinner together and festive drinks (both alcoholic and non-alcoholic options will be available). There will be a small cost to this event and the church will offset the rest. However, if the cost is a deterring factor, please see Pastor Amy, our events are meant to be enjoyed by all who want to be there! Invitations were sent in the mail. If you are a mom of a Mission kid and did not receive an invitation, please reach out to Pastor Amy.



July - Pool Party!

Saturday, July 13th (time TBD)

In the summer, Mission Kids and Christian Ed events slow down considerably but the kids still love to spend time together! One of our Mission Kids families generously allows us to spend time at their backyard pool. Meet up with friends for food and pool time in the middle of the summer. More details to follow but mark the date on your calendar!



Ministries at St. Philip's - Women's Ministry**Gigi Mueller**

At the Galentine's Brunch, several women showed an interest in forming a Women's Ministry Committee. That group is planning a meeting on **Wednesday, May 1st, 7 p.m.**, at Gigi's. Stay tuned for some exciting things coming up.

Ministries at St. Philip's - NEW "Young at Heart" Group**Gigi Mueller**

A NEW women's group is being formed called, "Young at Heart". Our first gathering will be **Saturday, May 18th, from 1:30-3 p.m.** at the home of Gigi Mueller. This is a group for senior (or younger) women who just want to share how aging is affecting our lives, both good and not so good. Any questions or if you would like to join us, let Gigi know.

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

The next Daytime Women's Book Group will be meeting on **Tuesday, May 21, 12:30 p.m.**, in the fellowship hall. The book for discussion will be "The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store", by James McBride. In June, the Daytime Book Group will meet on **June 25th at 12:30 p.m.** and is Salad, Dessert and Sangria event at Gigi's.

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

The **Evening Women's Book Club** gathers once a month on the second Friday of the month to discuss popular fiction. We start off with happy hour from 7:00 - 8:00 PM and then move into our book discussion. It is great fun! Our next meeting is on **May 10th at 7:00 PM**, and we'll discuss *Mad Honey* by Jodi Piccoult. Join us! Contact Dawn Downes for more information.

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 Celebrate your St. Philip's family. Get an update on the progress of our building project and get answers to questions you might have.**
- **There will be a Sign up Poster in the Narthex for food needed.**

***The Nursery Will Be Open!**



Ministries at St. Philip's - Holy Week/Easter

Pastor Amy





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 May 15th at noon in the Fellowship Hall.**

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>

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 **May 9th 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.

2024
Christian
Music
FESTIVAL!

Come Join Us at
St Philips Lutheran Church,
5320 Limestone Road,
Wilmington De. 19808
On 6/22/24
from 11am to 7pm

Featuring:

Richard Porto, Harps to Halos, Gina Miller, Steve Harkey,
Lisa and Paul Fenstermacher, Aaron Smith, Kayla,
L Carlton Allen, Mike Rosen, Nykisha Treasure Gaines,
Rhonda Christina, Highland, Larry Belote, Angelo, and Fashion Steppers



**Summer of Service
Coming Soon!
More details in the June Guidepost!**

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, May 8, 2024 and May 22, 2024

Many thanks to all of you who have contributed food, time, and supplies during St. Philips Family Promise host weeks! Our next host week was to be May 12-18, but we have been notified that no hosting duties are needed for this week. The Family Promise cottage we provide food for is undergoing renovations. These renovations will not be completed until the end of May, so we have no families to serve during our scheduled week. Our next host week will be November 17-23.

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

Then, the week of: November 17, 2024 to November 23, 2024



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

There is within all three Abrahamic 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.

PRAYERS FOR AYITI'S [HAITI'S] FORGIVENESS

*With honor and respect to the indigenous Taino people of the Caribbean and **Ayiti [the original Amer-Indian name for Haiti]** who were destroyed by war, disease, and slavery after Christopher Columbus's discovery of Ayiti in 1492.*

First, I must express respect and honor for all efforts by many people who are in a right relationship with Ayiti's people. Many have joined the people of Ayiti to help them survive and succeed. Organizations like N a Sonje Foundation, Groundswell International, Beyond Borders, Doctors Without Borders, Haiti Partners, the United Nations, and more are doing abundant work to help Ayiti develop despite the many obstacles to progress Ayiti has faced.

The very hopeful and independent people of Ayiti have survived many abuses to this day, trying to solve as many problems as possible on their own, but Ayiti is now in her most dire of straits. Decades of gang violence has escalated into a situation in which smaller gangs are uniting into army-gangs and violently fighting for control of the country.

The reasons why Ayiti is experiencing the violence, chaos, and disorganization we see today are many and varied, but most reasons can be cast clearly upon the past oppressive relationships that the white European ancestors of Spain [from 1492 through the 1600s], then of France [through the 1700s], and then of the U.S. [from 1803 to the present] have imposed upon Ayiti's black, African, kidnapped, enslaved, and abused people.

In January of 1804, not long after our own U.S. Declaration of Independence from England in 1776, Ayiti declared its independence from France, having defeated France by destroying Napoleon's Caribbean armada in 1803. Soon after that France sold the Louisiana Purchase to the U.S. This was a great benefit to the U.S. Ayiti gained no such benefit.

In fact, no country would recognize this now sovereign nation of freed black slaves. In doing so would have jeopardized their own slave empires and this included the U.S. This tactic effectively cut off all international discourse with Ayiti. The many abuses of Ayiti continue over the next two centuries and that information is easily found with Internet searches for "Timelines of Haiti Oppression" or similar phrases.

I don't know what solutions are possible now. I fear every day for the people I have grown close to and love in Ayiti. They face danger every day and anxiously await possible Humanitarian Parole to the U.S. through sponsorships by U.S. citizens.

Work toward repairing and sustaining positive relations with Ayiti should be a goal for us. Perhaps all we can do is offer prayers for their safety with hope for the reestablishment of a viable government, for protection from violence, for restoration of their beautiful land and of all their human rights, and finally for their forgiveness of us for our part in these problems.

 | lutheran community services

Room at the Table Breakfast

Wednesday, May 8th, 2024
 Doors open at 8:30 am
 Program 9:00-10:00 am

We are there for people when they have food and housing emergencies.

We seek to help people move from emergency to empowerment through prevention and treatment programming.

Come hear how your support is making a difference for Delaware Families!

We hope to see you there!

Join Us at:
 Riverfront Events
 near Hyatt Place
 760 Justison St
 Wilmington, DE 19801

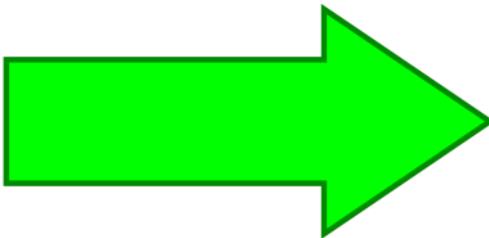
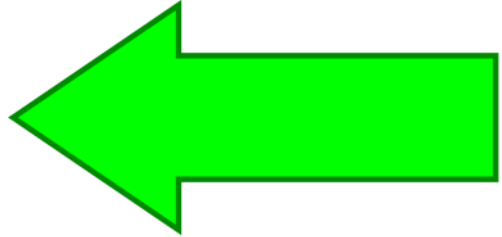
Register
 Register Online at lcsde.org, or scan the QR!



To register by Email, contact Alex at amazzei@lcsde.org

Registration Required for in person seating! | Accepting donations now at lcsde.org/donate

from Emergency to Empowerment | info@lcsde.org | 2809 Baynard Blvd
 Wilmington, DE, 19802



 2024 Golf Classic
 To Support Housing Stability



FIELDSTONE GOLF COURSE
 Play the award winning course!
 Monday, June 3rd, 12:30 pm, shotgun start

Pricing:	
\$250	Per Golfer
\$1,500	Per Corporate Foursome
\$100	Per Extra Dinner Guest
Sponsor Packages	
\$5,000	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

TRACKMAN
 Virtual ball tracking technology
 One of only four Philly area golf courses with this technology!
 Ask about the virtual course and warm up area!

Take your game further, with Fieldstone's TrackMan tracking app!




Apple | Android



Outreach Update

Upcoming 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 lcsde.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 Host Week!

The next host week for St Philip's to provide meals for families is May 12-18. 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.

Musicians and Music Lovers! Join us for Christian Music Festival on Saturday June 22nd.

Chuck Cory is once again working on a great lineup of music for this daylong festival at St. Philip's. This a great chance to invite family and friends to St Philip's for good music and fellowship. Watch for more details and signups for volunteers. We would love to have some musicians from the St. Philip's family on the stage that day. See Chuck if you are interested!

Water is Life Kenya Update

By now you have heard about the St Philip's capital campaign and the plans to use a portion of the funds raised for a major outreach project in Kenya. St Philip's plans to work with Water is Life Kenya, a local nonprofit, to drill a well and provide life giving fresh water to a rural community in Kenya. Sarah Swift and Amanda DeWeese of the outreach committee are leading a team to work with WILK on the details as this project develops over the coming months. Keep a watch for future updates and events related to the project! The WILK website also has some great information and stories about their work in Kenya: <https://waterislifekenya.org/>

A few excerpts from the WILK website:

The Maasai people of Kenya say: Enkare Enkishui, Water is Life. Without water, families suffer, livestock die, and life all-too-often ends. That's why Water is Life Kenya (WILK), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Delaware, exists — to spark personal, economic, and community development in marginalized communities in Kenya, according to existing customs and culture, by providing clean water, sanitation and hygiene, empowering women, and equipping people to develop income by managing their resources.

We operate according to these impactful and empowering guiding principles:

- Love your neighbor as yourself
- Don't do for others what they can do for themselves
- Involve the community at every phase of the project
- Real lasting change will occur when people recognize the reality around them and their ability, with others, to change it.

We work with Maasai communities in southern Kenya, specifically Kajiado County. Thus far, we have brought clean water and economic growth to 35 communities, impacting tens of thousands of men, women and children.

The day-to-day reality of the communities we serve is often dire, and their challenges are primarily caused by a drought-prone climate and lack of sustainable access to clean water, exacerbated by climate change.

People fight water-borne diseases, women and girls walk six or more hours every day to find water to survive, children are so thirsty they can hardly participate in education, and men despair because their cattle are dying.

Average Water Conditions in southern Kenya:

- Average distance to water: 4 miles
- Average rainfall: 15 inches/year
- Average time spent fetching water: 4 hours a day per family
- Diseases caused by fouled water: Diarrhea, Typhoid, Cholera, Dysentery
- Percentage of households in rural villages with no toilet or latrine: 92%
- Livestock losses during periods of drought (such as 2010, 2017, and 2022)
- e.g. Up to 80% of the total cattle herd died in 2009-2010

But there is hope thanks to the—literally—groundbreaking work WILK has accomplished since 2007 to bring clean, accessible, sustainable water to drought-prone, rural communities.

The Bayard School Food Hub Grand Opening

We are excited to announce that Monday, April 8th was the start of our Healthy Food Hub at The Bayard School in Wilmington. The program allowed students and their families to receive fruits, vegetables, low-fat proteins, whole grains, and other healthy foods.

In the first day of the program, Maria was present, both receiving her initial selection of food and helping translate for other parents. She expressed her gratitude by saying, "This program is a gift from God; I can't thank all of you enough!

Antoinette, mother of William a Bayard student, was also there to collect food, "If you're not getting your nutrition, you're looking forward to aches and pains. I'm just so grateful for this program and that we have the opportunity to participate. And just really really excited!"

Participants are also provided with a unique learning opportunity to help them nourish their families. The University of Delaware Cooperative Extension is presenting a six week Around the Table course that includes mindfulness, live demonstrations, meal planning, and nutritional information.

LCS is looking forward to taking this next step in bringing our approach of Food is Medicine to our clients. Expanding on the lessons we learned from the Delaware Food Farmacy, Food is Medicine aims to improve the quality of health by providing healthy foods and the skills needed to utilize them.

"I'm really grateful that so many partners have agreed to help us bring this important program into schools," said Rob Gurnee, Executive Director of LCS. In addition to the University of Delaware nutrition training, the Food Hub is also supported by a ChristianaCare Community Health Worker, and a partnership with Children and Families First. Funding for this program was generously provided by Christ Church Christiana Hundred. A portion of the food will also be provided by local Delaware farmers under an agreement LCS has with the Delaware Department of Agriculture.

If you'd like to learn more about our school-based food hubs, our other Food is Medicine programs, or hear from some of the clients who benefit from these programs, we hope that you'll join us for our Room at the Table Breakfast on Wednesday, May 8th for our Room at the Table Breakfast! Registration is open now!





Another school year has flown by for LCM!

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for Lutheran Campus Ministry at UD, as we've journeyed through another academic year filled with happy Tuesdays, deep conversations and coffee runs, fun activities and volunteering for FISH. It's been a great season, and we're especially thankful for meaningful times of worship, fellowship, and service, as well as our successful fall fundraiser.

With our wonderful spring retreat behind us, May is a bittersweet month, as we celebrate and honor some amazing outgoing **seniors**. This year, we're wishing farewell and Godspeed at Senior Honor Night to Gabby, who will pursue a career in nursing; Julie, who hopes to attend vet school in a year; and Lucca, who is seeking employment in human resources. We're also celebrating Elizabeth, who will stay at UD one more year to complete a master's degree in education.

We continue to look for new members for LCM's **Directing Committee** (governing board), as well as members for 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 especially thankful to all those who've shared delicious, home-cooked meals with us since September—bless you!

Please keep our students in **prayer** as their final projects and exams approach, for good time management, careful retention of content, and successful outcomes. Please also pray that they will continue to know how precious and beloved they are in God's sight! Thank you for your heart and care for LCM.

*In Christ, Mindy Holland, Minister of Word and Service †
Chaplain, Lutheran Campus Ministry at UD
302-368-3078; chaplain@lcmde.org*



We shared a great Easter meal together at Home Grown!

Learning with Dr. Suess at Hilltop!

March was Dr. Suess month at the Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center as the students celebrated the legendary writer's birthday with science and reading experiences.



Youth Services Coordinator, Teresa Allen, says the students worked together on their projects. "Our K-1st grade friends read *Green Eggs and Ham* in small groups, while our 2nd-3rd grade friends tackled *The Lorax*. Our big kid friends in 4th-5th grade read *The Sneetches*. All the stories focused on trying new things and looking at different situations from all perspectives, not just our own, and how, in doing that, you can potentially make yourself feel better on the inside."

As for the science side of things, Teresa says "the kids had an opportunity to look at different sea life, insects, and reptile specimens from fossils to minerals that are indigenous to their specific habitats. Some little ones helped prep our center's garden, pulling weeds and laying soil for fresh flowers, fruits, and vegetables. Other students," Teresa noted, "put their engineering side to the test, building sturdy towers as high as they could with Jenga blocks. Others took to food science and prepared No Bake Chocolate Oatmeal Cookies. They enjoyed gathering, and measuring out the ingredients, while enjoying a fun snack that they made on their own."



If only science had been this much fun when I was in school...

With an eye toward higher education, Hilltop Deputy Director, Brandon Furrowh, reports "with much excitement, the Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center enters its third year of stewarding the Clarence and Helen Pettit Scholarship. To date, this venture (established by Rev. Clarence and Hellen Pettit to assist with post-secondary education costs) has impacted 11 students and their families, totaling nearly \$17,000.00 in aid."

Recently, Brandan says, scholarship access information has expanded on the internet. "The updated textbook assistance and tuition assistance applications have been added to the scholarship page of Hilltop's website (<https://www.hilltopinc.org/about-1>). We are looking forward to another impactful and productive year."



Finally, another big story at Hilltop also comes from Deputy Director Furrowh who says the Center recently teamed up with Jobs for Delaware Graduates. We co-sponsored) "a job fair with educational resources and a mental health break for high school students. Together, the components of the event exceeded the standards for the Study Break Live program funded by the United Way of Delaware. This event hosted over 150 teenagers and their families and engaged the families with 36 vendors ready to hire teenagers, food from Chick-fil-a, and several gaming trucks."

*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, Elizabeth Stirk, Barbara Stadelberger, Jeff Stirk, Charlie Boss, Debra Gelesh, Richard Braun, Vic Brick

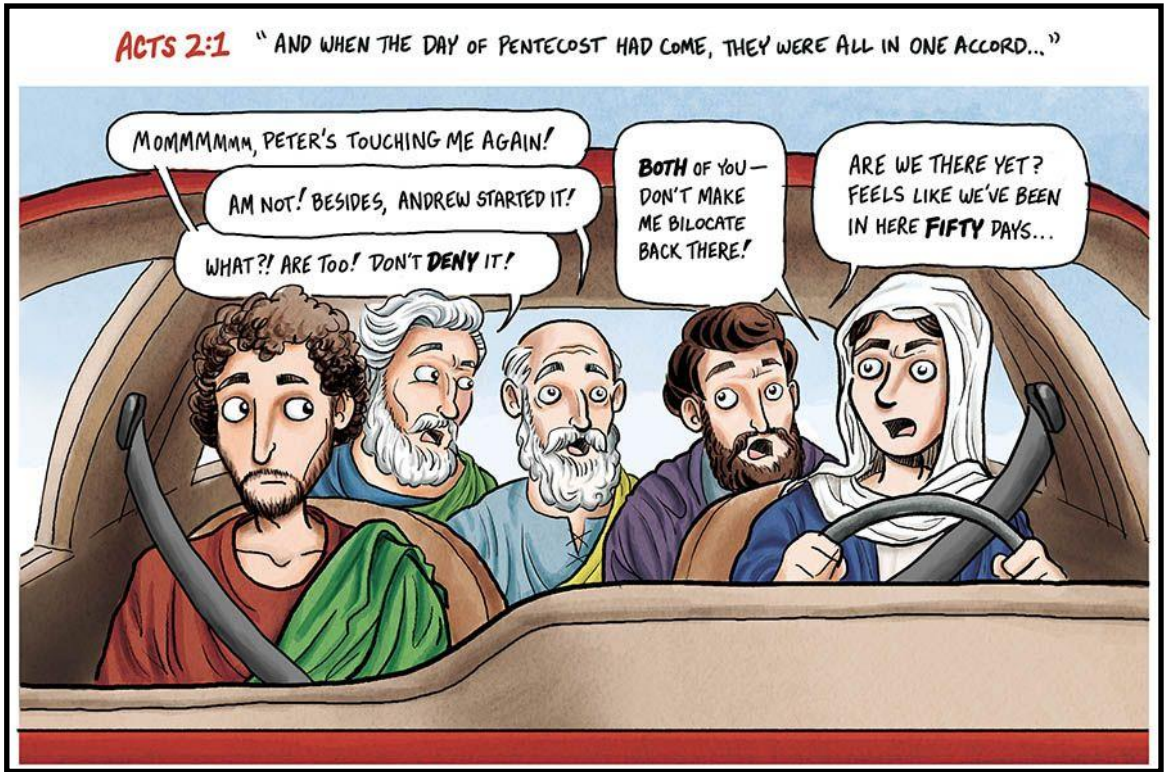
We Pray for our Loved Ones: *(Though we do not explicitly name these beloved ones in worship during our prayer time, please lift up their names in prayer aloud or silently during the time set aside for other intercessions):* **Our soldiers serving overseas and their families; Bud & Ruth DiDonato & Family 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 Simperts; **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; **Bill Molnar**, husband 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



Pat Colucci	5/4	Anna Bardenhagen	5/18
Abby Litterst	5/5	Barb Hewlett	5/18
Valerie Aunet	5/6	Cole Opderbeck	5/20
Karen Stahl	5/9	Xavier Garbacz	5/22
Heather Nolan	5/9	Harold Holeman	5/26
Ruth Henry	5/9	Debbi Miller	5/26
Matthew Grieder	5/15	Joseph Papili	5/28
Tom McDonough	5/15	Sara Budd	5/29
Fred Pratola	5/15	Logan Cookson	5/30
Gigi Mueller	5/16	Rhys David	5/30
Kelly Sanderson	5/16		

May God Bless You on Your Special Day!





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.....	Carol Oesterbo
Christian Education.....	Sharon Kittle
Enviro. Stewardship.....	David Porter
Fellowship.....	Pam Sheffer
Finance/Audit.....	Coleman Bye
Grocery Club.....	Nancy Zinnato
Habitat Restoration Group	Phil & Mary Duncan
Outreach.....	Susan Mack
Prayer Ministry.....	Contact Church Office
Property.....	Dave Frampton
.....	Mark Myers
Racial Justice Task Force	Phil Duncan
Worship and Music.....	Louise James

St. Philip's Lutheran Church

5320 Limestone Road

Wilmington, DE 19808

Phone: (302) 239-2100

Website: www.stphilips.us

Address Service Requested

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