

The Guidepost



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



October 2024



Let the fields be jubilant, and
everything in them;
let all the trees of the forest
sing for joy.

Psalm 96:12

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



From the Senior Pastor - Pastor Patrick

Update on the Building Expansion Projects

Things are moving right along with the Capital Expansion projects that we are working on. Of course, one large part of this project is the clean water well we are digging in Kenya. There's lots of information later on in this newsletter that will fill you in on what's happening there. Plus, by the time you read this, we'll be very close to the September 29th Lunch and Learn presentation on that project. So, I'll keep my report to the projects right here in our building and grounds.

Expansion of the Basement and Installation of Elevator

So, a few weeks ago we submitted the plans for the basement to New Castle County to obtain a building permit. We also have received the bids for all the relevant parts of the construction (electrical, plumbing, drywall, painting, etc.) and we are not at the point that we are just waiting for New Castle County to give us the building permit. According to our own, Tom Krapf, we should have that permit in hand any day now. Our expectation is that we will be able to start working down there as soon as the next week or two.

In fact, we have already secured temporary storage for everything that is currently in the basement so that we can move everything into a "POD" during construction. That's our indicator that things are imminent.

Expansion of the Parking Lot

This has been the longer process with New Castle County because it doesn't just involve a building permit. We had to submit an entirely new site plan that is revised to reflect the new parking lot. That approval process takes a lot longer than the basement. However, we started that process long before we ran our capital campaign. That means that we are pretty far down the road with New Castle County. We have preliminary approval of our plan - enough that we were able to put our project out to bid. We have all our bids in hand and we are now finalizing our choice of which bid to accept. Depending on which bid we accept, we can probably start working on the parking lot as soon as November.

The expectation is that the project outside will take 13 weeks or so to complete once it is started.

As soon as we get going, keep you eyes out for pictures of the progress of the projects!!



From the Associate Pastor - Pastor Amy

It is an incredible time to be at St. Philip's!! Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel! With the program year back up and running, there's something for everyone to get involved in! There are 2 fantastic events coming up that I want to draw your attention to this month! The first: the Blessing of the Pets service on Sunday, Oct. 6 at noon in the back parking lot. The second: Reformation + Youth Sunday on Sunday, Oct. 27th! Mark your calendars!

The Blessing of the Animals - A brief worship service held on Sunday, Oct. 6th at 12pm

What is D-O-G spelled backwards? Answer: G-O-D! Animals are glimpses of God and all are invited to come and bring their animals and pets for a blessing!

"The animals of God's creation inhabit the skies, the earth, and the sea. They share in the fortunes of human existence and have a part in human life. God, who confers gifts upon all living things, has often used the service of animals or made them symbolic reminders of the gifts of salvation. Animals were saved from the flood and afterwards made a part of the covenant with Noah [Genesis 9:9-10]. The paschal lamb brings to mind the Passover sacrifice and the deliverance from the bondage of Egypt [Exodus 12:3-14]; a giant fish saved Jonah [Jonah 2:1-11]; ravens brought bread to Elijah [1 Kings 1:6]; animals were included in the repentance enjoined on humans [Jonah 3:7]. And animals share in Christ's redemption of all of God's creation. We therefore ask for the divine blessing on these precious animals. As we do this, let us praise our Creator and thank God for making us stewards over these precious creatures of the earth."

Reformation + Youth Sunday - Sunday, Oct. 27th

In celebrating the Reformation and the Lutheran faith we have, this year, we are enhancing it by having the Youth Group lead both worship services and present all about their summer trip to the ELCA National Youth Gathering at the "Together in Faith"! It is a Sunday where we take time to recognize the impact our youth have in our worship and life of the Church. Be sure and sign up in the Narthex to bring a casserole that day!

Why a "Youth Sunday"? Originating from the Youth Group members, the notion of our young people leading worship was one they came up with and we are here to make it happen and support them! This is an incredible group who "makes disciples, praises God, and serves the community" together! They are such a blessing and what better day to celebrate and learn from them than on a day where we recognize where the Lutheran church began and where it is now! We had a fantastic time at the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA in July, gathering with over 16,000 Lutherans from across the country, and we want to share it with *you*! The Youth Group's "Together in Faith" will be all about their trip, what they learned, saw, experienced, etc.! Come check it out in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, Oct. 27th from 9:15-10:15am! ****Don't forget to wear your "Reformation Red"!***



From the President - Gerry Butler

Do any of these phrases register with you? "When in the course of Human Events"

"A new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal..."

"Today I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the earth"

"Sharing horizons that are new to us, Watching the signs along the way"

I suspect that your answer is likely yes. The Declaration of Independence, the Gettysburg Address, Lou Gehrig's Farewell Speech, and the Carpenters' "We've Only Just Begun" strike a chord with many of us.

How about Bible verses? We all likely have several verses that resonate with us and bring us some sort of comfort or peace or lasting memory. But, do you have a "Life Bible Verse"? To help you figure it out, my questions for today are, What is a Life Bible Verse? and, How do I find it?

I recently came across an article that posed these very questions and found it interesting and inspiring to consider the topic. In fact, the article suggested that a Life Bible Verse is a Bible verse or any small passage of inspirational Scripture that speaks to your heart directly. It's one of those verses that you feel was written just for you and jumps off the page whenever you read it.

So, how did I (and how do you) find your Life Bible Verse? (Note: this is not a test, and there is no right or wrong answer...this is a fun, and hopefully inspiring, exercise during which God will speak to you.)

Here are the five easy steps to follow as you search for your own Life Bible Verse:

Write down your favorite Bible verses - the ones that come quickly to your mind.

Read the verses aloud and "listen" to the message. Pick two or three of these pieces of Scripture, write them individually on a Post-It note or other paper, and place them where you will see them all daily. Take your time to consider them, even memorize them, and ask if they encourage you, or give you hope, or bring you a sense of peace, or inspire you. Pray over the verses you have selected. Does one of them give you rest, peace of mind, inspiration for your life? If so, that is your Life Bible Verse.

You may want to post your Life Bible Verse where you see it daily, and you may want to share it with family and friends, but most of all, you can use it to help you share the ups and downs of life and your Love of God.

I liked the article that I read, and I did the exercise as outlined. I started with five verses that I had previously considered as the ones most comforting and supportive to me. It turns out, my Life Bible Verse is Philippians 4:13. I find that as I face times of trouble or pressure, I ask the Lord to strengthen me to deal with them.

I hope that you find this exercise as meaningful and fulfilling as I did. In today's hectic world, I know that it is comforting for me to have my Life Bible Verse to turn to whenever I need it.



From Council - Coleman Bye

Facing the Future with Assurance from God

In a world of 24/7 media coverage, we are constantly exposed to the fear, chaos, and uncertainty of the times: the economy, global warfare, racial injustice, climate change just to name a few. It seems like every election cycle polarizes us and generates even more fear, chaos, and uncertainty. This is often used to invoke very powerful emotions that can be used to manipulate and divide us.

As followers of Christ, what can we do?

As Christians, it is how we respond that is far more important. What seems overwhelming, important, and urgent today will pale as it fits into a far larger plan...God's plan. Christ followers need to keep the "big picture" in mind in order to face the future with confidence.

To those who feel threatened because of the current crisis and chaos, remember God is sovereign. The Lord has used all kinds of leaders, from all kinds of backgrounds, with all kinds of idiosyncrasies to orchestrate and fulfill His sovereign purposes in world history. Today is no exception.

For those who feel disappointed and hopeless because of the growing evil, immorality, and persecution they may be experiencing, God reminds us that trials are inevitable. Living in the United States does not preclude us from these realities. We must adjust our expectations accordingly.

Finally, and most importantly, we must remember that we are called by God to be the Salt and Light of the world. Light brings life, healing, love, and holiness. Light prays for those that persecute them, loves their enemies, and does good deeds of kindness to all people so they will glorify their Father in heaven. Light shines brightest in the darkness, and crisis and difficulties are not only times of chaos, but of great opportunity.

Now is not the time to blame, withdraw, retreat, or lose hope. We cannot control what has or will happen in our country, the world, or our circumstances, but we can control how we respond! Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. James 1:2-4 NIV

All Saints' Sunday—Alpha and Omega Saints!!!

November 3, 2024

On November 3, 2024, at our worship services, we will recognize the annual celebration of All Saints' Sunday. In the past, on All Saints' Sunday we have celebrated our connection as members of the Body of Christ to all those saints who have gone before us as witnesses to the same Gospel that we celebrate today. These people, like us, are children of God and have been provided an important gospel witness to us through their faith and life. In that sense, we could call them "Omega" Saints . . . "Omega" being the last letter at the end Greek Alphabet and these "Saints" being at the end of their journey with us on earth. However, we proclaim as people of faith that our God is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. So, in addition to recognizing the "Omega" Saints who have completed their journey on earth, we will also be recognizing the "Alpha" Saints - those who have been born this year and are beginning their journey with us as "Saints": those claimed by Christ.

So, on this day, during our worship services, we will be remembering all those saints who have been born this past year and those who have died before us whether during the past year or any time prior. If there is a loved one, friend, or family member that you would like to have named and/or remembered by name on this special day, please clearly write their name and either their date of birth or date of death below. We will read the names of those who were born or who have died this year and will print and remember all names during our prayer time on this very special day.

Detach the bottom of this form and return it to the church office or place it in the offering plate. If you prefer to submit online, use the following link <https://forms.gle/yFH8PhgGjyfhwaDG6>

Please Recognize the Following Saints:

Alpha Saint Name:

Date of Birth:

Omega Saint Name:

Date of Death:



From Finance - Teri Suddard

9/9/2024 03:26p		St. Philip's Lutheran Church			
		Treasurer's Report by Major Group			
		August of Fiscal Year 2024			
		Responsibility: All			
		Fund: 01 - General			
		August Actual	Year-to-date Actual	Year-to-date Budget	Percent of Budget
Income					
Group 00		37,189.93	360,138.63	330,283.31	109.04 %
Total Income		37,189.93	360,138.63	330,283.31	109.04 %
Expense					
Administration		1,626.23	26,729.01	25,266.72	105.79 %
Committees		11,853.49	129,751.70	126,313.28	102.72 %
Pastor		10,860.70	86,774.16	87,841.28	98.79 %
Staff		16,992.60	136,485.97	136,735.20	99.82 %
Utilities		2,050.85	13,221.06	15,466.64	85.48 %
Benevolence		1,458.33	11,666.64	11,666.64	100.00 %
Total Expense		44,842.20	404,628.54	403,289.76	100.33 %
Income Less Expense		-7,652.27	-44,489.91	-73,006.45	



Service of Healing - Feast of St. Luke
Tuesday, October 15, 2024
at 6:30 p.m.

St. Luke was not only the writer of the third Gospel. He is also known as “the physician”. As part of the celebration of his life proclaiming the gospel for the healing of the world, we will be having a healing worship service on October 15th. This worship service is for anyone who would like to attend, but in particular those who have friends, family, loved ones, etc. who need prayers for healing . . . Even prayers for the healing of the world. We hope you will join us for this meaningful celebration of the ways in which God is constantly healing our broken worlds and spirits.



Thank you!

Dearest St. Philip's,

I wanted to forward along the message below from the family engagement team at Ferris. I'm not sure who or how to send this out to the congregation, and I leave it to your discretion, but what a wonderful blessing St. Philips is to the community. So grateful for you all.

Dr. Stephen Benscoter

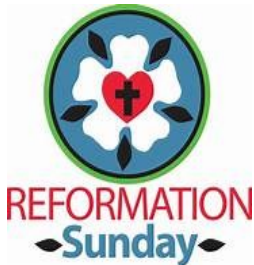
DSCYF Ferris School Principal

The Family Engagement Committee wants to say THANK YOU SO MUCH to Dr. Benscoter and his church members for such a generous donation of book bags, lunch bags, and so much school supplies! We all are elated to see how much items were donated! Families will have the opportunity to select the items that their children need for school at our Family Night event next week. We at Ferris are all so thankful and appreciative of your kind gestures and donations that we know will be beneficial for our families. Thank you all so much.

Megan Burrows, M.S.



Daylight Saving Time is ending on Sunday, November 3, 2024. Don't forget to turn your clocks back. We don't want to lose out on an extra hour of sleep that day.



Reformation Sunday is Sunday, October 27, 2024 - Don't forget to put this special day in the life of the church on your calendar. Everyone is encouraged to wear **red** clothing that day - **red** is the color of the Holy Spirit and the liturgical color of this special day!

Fall Men's Retreat

St. Philip's Men's Group will be on retreat October 3rd to 6th. If you are interested in joining this Band of Brothers for the weekend in Western Virginia, contact Chuck Cory for details.



Returning in OCTOBER:

O.W.L.S. (older, wiser, Lutheran seniors) will gather on Tuesday, October 8th - Have you ever wondered what it takes to become a Pastor? What did Pastor Patrick and Pastor Amy need to do in order to do what they do? Pastor Patrick and Pastor Amy will be doing a presentation on that special process. Please bring whatever you would like to eat or drink that day. We look forward to seeing you on the 8th!



Fall Women's Retreat - Gigi Mueller



Mark your calendars now for the

Fall Women's Retreat

Saturday, November 2nd, 2024 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Potter and the Clay is our very interesting topic.

Gigi is being joined this year by Pastor Arlene and Crystal Solie.

We are planning some neat things.

Let Gigi know if you have any pottery you would like to bring
and share something about it.

Sign up on the poster in the Narthex or use the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050949A9A62CA3FC1-50836693-womens>



From Women's Ministry

Women's Ministry

The Daytime Women's Book Club meets once a month. *The Taster* is the book discussion for **October 15th**. *The Women*, by Kristin Hannah is the discussion for **November 19th**. Our Annual Christmas Social is **December 17th**. Fall meetings will all be held at St. Philip's in **Room #127**.

THE YOUNG AT HEART GROUP has grown to 20 women. We are taking a late summer break and will meet again at Gigi's on **Saturday, October 26th, from 1:30-3:00 p.m.**... as the date gets closer, please let Gigi know if you are coming.

Fall Women's Retreat—Saturday, November 2nd, 2024 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. *The Potter and the Clay* is our very interesting topic. Gigi is being joined this year by Pastor Arlene and Crystal Solie. We are planning some neat things. Let Gigi know if you have any pottery you would like to bring and share something about it. Sign up on the poster in the Narthex or use the link below: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050949A9A62CA3FC1-50836693-womens> **HELP IS NEEDED, PLEASE..A FEW OF YOU TO TAKE CARE OF HELPING WITH FOOD AND SET UP.** Please let Gigi know.

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. **Our next meeting is October 11th.** 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!

From Pub Theology - Pastor Amy



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 this month from 6:30-8:30pm on Thursday, October 17th! It will be every 3rd Thursday, and for this month, it will be in the back room at Miller's Ale House in Newark (1323 Churchmans Rd.). November's Pub Theology will be at a new location! Stay tuned!

ALL are welcome at any time! Sign-Up in the Narthex! You won't want to miss this!

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 then! Cheers!

Pr. Amy

Together in Faith

**A Community Learning
Experience for all Ages**

REFORMATION SUNDAY

October 27th

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

- Adults and Youth will share breakfast and fellowship
- The Youth will talk about their experience at the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this past summer
- Kid's Club will meet as usual.
- Sign up to bring food on the poster in the Narthex or with this link:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054DA5AB2BA7FE3-together1>



Back Pack Blessing - Pastor Amy, Anna Grieder and Pam Brenneman (Photos)



Back Pack Blessing at the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service



**Back Pack Blessing at the 8:00 a.m. Worship Service!
We are Blessed!!!!**



Kid's Club and Mission Kids! - Anna Grieder and Liz Freburger

Hello Mission Kids!

We have so exciting events planned for the next few months and we hope to see you all there! Look for emails to be sent out with updates and signups!

October – On Sunday, October 13th at 1:00 PM, Mission Kids will be teaming up with the Youth Group to pick apples and go on a hayride together at Milburn Orchards!

Please use this sign-up link to let Pastor Amy know that your family will be attending.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScAemmSkZYUjAwKRfD9Ja7tQVNyz5MBXBpXUDvF7DL7cQROIA/viewform>



November – On Saturday, November 23rd from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM we will be hosting our annual Mission Kids Friendsgiving! We will gather in the Social Hall at St. Philip's. Please bring a side dish or a dessert to share. An RSVP and sign-up link will be sent out towards the end of October for this event.



December – On Sunday, December 8th from 9:15 AM to 10:15 AM we will have our annual Advent Workshop! Join us for crafts, snacks, and learning about the Advent season! This is a great event that is open to kids of all ages! And as always, friends and neighbors are more than welcome! An RSVP will be sent out for this event in November.





From Christian Education - Sharon Kittle

HELP BUILD OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH!

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

The **nursery** is open during both services on Sunday morning and during the Christian Ed hour in between.

Programming for all ages continues on Sunday morning. **Kid's Club** (The Bible According to Bluey), **Breakfast Club** and **Adult Small Group Bible Study** (Rappin' with Luther) meet at 9:15; Adults also have a group that meets on Tuesday morning. For additional information or questions contact: Anna Grieder (Kid's Club), Pastor Amy (Breakfast Club) or Sharon Price (Adult Bible Study).

Mission Kids and **Youth Group** are both gathering regularly again. They combined their efforts and chalked the sidewalk to welcome the congregation to Rally Day!

Our first **Together in Faith Breakfast** will be on **Sunday October 27 at 9:15** in the fellowship hall. Join us for food, fellowship and a presentation by the youth group about their trip to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans last summer. If you are able to bring a breakfastole, muffins, donuts, coffee cake or fruit sign up on the poster in the narthex or online using the sign up genius below.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054DA5AB2BA7FE3-together1>

Check out the Lending Library in Rooms 128 and 129, 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.



RALLY DAY 2024!

Amazing Weather * Fellowship * Great Food



Pastor Patrick
slides down
in the
Bouncy
House

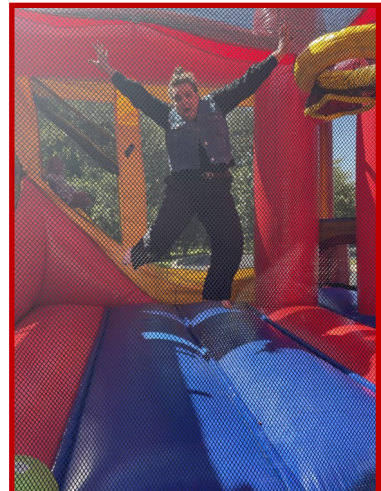
Pastor Amy
slides
down in the
Bouncy
House

#WeHaveCoolPastors





From Rally Day 2024!





**Thank you to the
Fellowship Committee
for all you do!**

**Looking forward to
seeing you ALL next
year!!!**





From Foundation of E.A.G.L.E.S. School Supply Pictures - Liz Freburger



**E.A.G.L.E.S
Project**

**School
Supplies
For
the
Dominican
Republic**



**Summer
of
Service**



**BIG
Smiles**



From Youth Group Pool Party! - Pastor Amy



Chuck Cory made Home-made Ice Cream! Yum!!!





Kid's Club First Day September 2024! - Anna Grieder and Pastor Amy

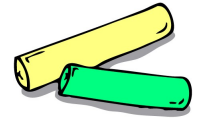


Mission Kids and Youth Group Chalk Walk - Pastor Amy and Anna Grieder



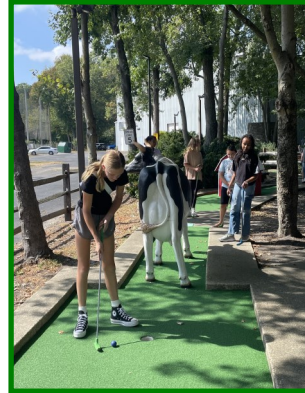


Mission Kids and Youth Group Chalk Walk - Pastor Amy and Anna Grieder





Youth Group Mini Gold and Ice Cream - Pastor Amy





Reformation Sunday/Youth Sunday - Pastor Amy



***Reformation Sunday + Youth Sunday - Sunday, Oct. 27th!**

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We had a fantastic time at the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA in July, gathering with over 16,000 Lutherans from across the country, and we want to share it with *you*!

The Youth Group's "Together in Faith" will be all about their trip, what they learned, saw, experienced, etc.! **Come check it out in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, Oct. 27th from 9:15-10:15am! *Don't forget to wear your "Reformation Red"!**



Youth Group News! - Pastor Amy

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- September 29 - Karaoke + Dinner + Friendship bracelets + Game Night (5-8pm)
you will NOT want to miss this!

October 2024

- October 6 - Blessing of the Pets Service (12:00pm)
Reminder: the Youth Group will help Pr. Amy with this service in the back parking lot.
- October 13 - Milburn Apple Orchard + apple picking (12:15-4pm) - Make sure to RSVP!
bring a lunch/snack to eat before we leave
- October 20 - Pumpkin Carving + Blind Taste Test + Caramel Apple Dipping + showing
of *"It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown"* (12-2:30/3pm)
lunch will be provided. *We will also be going over the *Together in Faith* presentation set
for the following Sunday.
- **October 27** - YG Presentation at "Together in Faith" (9:15-10:15am) about the ELCA
National Youth Gathering. The entire YG will lead both worship services (8 &
10:30am).



Confirmation Classes are back beginning in October!

If you haven't already signed up yet, please use the QR code or contact Pr. Amy. Most of the times & dates correspond to following Youth Events so no one misses out.

We are going to have a fantastic time together!

Sunday, Oct. 6 (1-2:30pm)

Sunday, Nov. 3 (3:30-5:30pm)

Sunday, Dec. 8 (12-2pm)

Sunday, Jan. 19 (12-2pm)

Sunday, Feb. 2 (3:30-5:30pm)

Sunday, March 30 (2-4pm)

Sunday, March 30 (2-4pm)

Sunday, April 13 (1-3pm)

Sunday, April 27 (3-5pm)

Sunday, May 18 (final class) - 2:30-4pm

Sunday, June 8 - Confirmation Sunday

at the 10:30am worship service



Youth Group Fall Clean-Up Day Service Project – Nov. 3!

As fall rolls in, are there leaves collecting on your lawn? What about leftover weeds from the summer heat? Do you need a little teenage muscle to help move things, winterize rooms, etc? The Youth Group is having their Clean-Up Day Service Project after worship on **Sunday, November 3rd from 12-3:30 pm**. The youth can help with landscaping, taking out the trash, cleaning, or whatever you may need. Please contact Pastor Amy if you would like assistance that day.



Ministries available at St. Philip's

Stephen Ministry

As our days seem shorter and darkness is earlier, some folks may feel a bit sad or "down" to say "goodbye" to summer. Where did it go? You can always talk about those feelings and emotions with a Stephen Minister. Let one of the pastors or Gigi Mueller know.

Shepherding Team

The next
Shepherds meeting **Monday,
November 4th @
1 p.m.** in the
Fellowship Hall.



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! The **first Koinonia Group** that meets at St. Philip's will be **meeting, Sunday, October 27th at 6:30 p.m.** we will be studying the book of Parables. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. A **second group**, that meets with the Mueller's, that Koinonia group will meet on **Sunday, October 20th at 6:30 pm at the Mueller's home.** The discussion will be a continuation of Pastor Mueller's lunch and learn on the current condition in Palestine. Please let Gigi Mueller know if you have any questions and if you are coming. Questions about Koinonia? Contact Sharon Kittle.



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 **October 8th at 1 p.m.** in Room #128. For more information, contact Erica Holmes.



Ministries available at St. Philip's

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 **October 10th 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.



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. Any questions contact Dave or Donna Porter

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.



From Grocery Club

Nancy Zinnato

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, October 9, 2024 and October 23, 2024



CLOTHING NEEDED!!!

Nancy Zinnato and Gigi Mueller

The Grocery Club and Orphan Grain Train need **winter clothing for men, women and children.** There are a few moms due to give birth in December so **infant clothing** is also needed. We are also asking for gloves and winter hats.

Please drop off donations in the grey bin in the Narthex.

Thank you!





From Family Promise

Marty Budd and Rebecca Bardenhagen

St. Philips Next Host Week: November 17-23, 2024

Many thanks to all of you who have contributed food, time, and supplies during St. Philips Family Promise host week! Our next host week will be November 17-23. Sign-up posters will be in the Narthex with menus listing food you can provide in mid-October. We will also email out a Sign-Up Genius link for perishables items which will be collected before November 17.

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

The week of: November 17, 2024 to November 23, 2024

The poster features the Family Promise logo at the top, followed by the event title and date. The text is set against a light blue background with a faint house silhouette. The bottom section provides the location and address.

Family Promise
of Northern New Castle County

Please Join Us For Our

12th Annual Breakfast
Tuesday, October 1
7:30 - 9:00 AM

This year is especially meaningful as we will be unveiling the plans for our new Hospitality Center and officially kicking off our Capital Campaign.

We would love for you to join us in celebrating this significant milestone.

White Clay Creek Country Club
879 Delaware Park Blvd Wilmington, DE 19804



Four-legged friends get ready! St. Philip's will be hosting its annual

We are inviting all members of the congregation with
pets to join us in the back of the church for a
short service of prayer and
blessing. If you have any questions,
please contact Pastor Amy.



**An exciting ministry is returning to
St. Philip's!
“DINNERS OF EIGHT”**

Meal fellowship, in the form of our “Dinners of Eight” ministry, seeks to offer members of our congregation, their friends and possibly, in time, people of other faiths, opportunities to experience and foster relationship with one another. With smaller gatherings of eight people the dinners are relatively easy to pull off and those with smaller homes are also able to participate as host. Once established, with guests taking their turn at hosting a gathering, the ministry tends to sustain and grow itself.

Look for signup sheets to be posted in the Narthex in the coming weeks allowing all congregation members the opportunity to participate in a “dinner of eight”. Those that choose to host should provide the main course and beverage and ask the others coming to dinner to bring an appetizer, vegetable, salad, or dessert. After meeting and sharing dinner, it is encouraged that the guests in attendance host a dinner of their own, with an open invitation to members of the congregation to join. As this process is repeated the ministry is able to expand.

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.



LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY at the University of Delaware

LCM FALL FUNDRAISER



SATURDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 2

Another great year is underway for LCM! Students have gathered for coffee and conversation, enjoyed a retreat to Ocean City, Maryland, together with students from other campus ministries in our synod, volunteered with FISH, and continued to grow in faith, leadership, discipleship, and service.

We're excited for our next LCM fundraiser, "Tree of Life," set for **Saturday afternoon, November 2**, beginning at 1:30 PM at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd (1530 Foulk Road) in Wilmington. We look forward to a joyful time of fellowship, tasty hors d'oeuvres and dessert, a fun auction (once again led by the bishop, the Rev. Bill Gohl!), student presenters, and the gift of gathering with our wider LCM community. Please mark your calendar and come join us!

You're also invited to assemble a raffle basket to donate for the event. Past basket themes have included chocolate lovers, Italian dinner, puzzles, book lovers, holiday themes, and more. We welcome new ideas and creativity. ☺ Please list the contents of the basket on a small attached tag. Ideally, we'd love to collect the baskets by Wednesday, October 23. Thank you! If you have questions, please contact the LCM office at 302-368-3078 or via office@lcmde.org.

We also welcome your ongoing prayers for LCM:

- Please pray that God's Holy Spirit will draw new students to our group and bless our gatherings.
- Please pray for wisdom in identifying new members for our Directing Committee (governing board), as we expand and strengthen our leadership team.
- Please pray for a meaningful, fun, and successful fundraiser next month, to the glory of God. Thank you!

We'd love for you to visit us at LCM's chapel, located at 247 Haines Street in Newark, on a Tuesday evening. We're so grateful for the many prayers, home-cooked meals, and contributions from supporting congregations in this area. We look forward to connecting with you on November 2nd at our "Tree of Life" fundraiser. Until then, may good health and God's peace, grace, courage, and hope be with you and your loved ones.

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



Our May Senior Honor Night, together with parents and friends!

Putting Grant Money to Work



As the new school year began, the **Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center** began implementing its recently awarded Prevent Child Abuse Delaware grant with a series of activities for students and staff. Center Deputy Director, Brandon Furrowh, says the grant will be used “to promote knowledge of protective factors to reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect, and provide family-centered activities free of charge to the families.” Brandon reports that the program “began with a workshop on child abuse, followed by a family movie night.”



Hilltop Executive Director, Michelle Williams, explains that movie night was held at the Wilmington Riverfront. “Two Penn Cinemas...were rented out for *Hilltop Movie Night*. Children, families, and staff enjoyed watching *Inside Out 2*, a story about emotions and trying to navigate a new city, house, and school. It was a great night out! Everyone in attendance.” Michelle continues, “received popcorn and a drink. The kids are still referencing the movie when expressing their feelings.”

The activities didn’t end there. Brandon says the movies were followed by a BBQ! And there’s still more to come. “Families and employees are looking forward to the final event, a Hilltop Family Reunion to be held on Saturday, September 21.” We’ll have a report on that event in our November article.

From its inception, the Hilltop Center has had as its motto, “Education is the Key.” To that end, Brandon reports that the entire Hilltop staff continues to look for ways to “introduce our youth to learning opportunities and support families through programming.” Therefore, Brandon says, this fall, “Hilltop’s ECAP (Early Childhood Assistance Program) will participate in its annual trip to Milburn Orchards and receive an in-person presentation of a children’s book by the author herself.” In addition, “our Youth Services program will have the opportunity to participate in an 8-week cooking course led by Chef Angell Morris (pictured here). We are excited,” Brandon points out, “to close out the calendar year with these events, activities, and more.” It does indeed sound like an exciting year.



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



From the Outreach Team - Susan Mack



Upcoming Events:

Water is Life Kenya

Watch for future events as the water well project in Kenya progresses and we celebrate important milestones! Visit the information table set up in the Narthex and ask Chuck and Tom any questions you may have about the project. Also, the Women's Ministry is sponsoring a feminine products collection that will in part raise money to purchase supplies for the school students in Inkisinjani. Details on the project are featured elsewhere in the Guidepost.

Lunch and Learn – Sunday October 20th

Did you know that Christians still live in Israel/Palestine? Join Outreach and Racial Justice teams for a presentation by Pastor David Mueller on the Israel/Palestinian conflict with particular focus on the Christians living there. Light lunch will be served at 11:45, presentation starts at Noon. Sign up on the poster in the Narthex.

Pastor Dave wrote for the September Guidepost:

I am not given to making prophetic projections, but there is, unfortunately, a good chance that between this writing (08/12/24) and over two months from now, the Hamas-Israel conflict will have gotten worse. Of course, the worst case scenario is a widening of an already deadly and dreadful situation. Of all the other wars and rumors of wars, this one has a particular relevance to Christians: A) our Christian population in Palestine/Israel has already decreased to under 1%; and B) this is the “Holy” (?) Land of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Knowing as much as possible about circumstances over there, especially now, mitigates against both bad theology and politics. We will gather for a Lunch and Learn on Sunday, October 20th from 11:45 to 1:00 p.m. to enhance our awareness.

Family Promise Fundraising Breakfast – October 1st at 7:30 a.m.

Please join Marty Budd at a St. Philips table(s) for the annual Family Promise fund raising breakfast. It is Tuesday, October 1st at the White Clay Creek Country Club, 879 Delaware Park Blvd. Wilmington, 19804. Doors open at 7:30. It will be especially meaningful as Family Promise will be unveiling the plans for the new Hospitality Center at the Jesus House on Milltown Road. In 2023 alone, Family Promise served 26,208 meals, provided 9928 beds and served 148 families and the need continues. Contact Marty Budd for more information.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to provide food and served at the Family Promise service week on Sept 1-7.



From WILK - Donna Porter



The challenges of southern Kenya 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

WILK's success is not only extremely important for the long-term economic development of the community, but also for the opportunities available to women. In most Maasai families, women and girls are charged with securing clean water, leaving little time for other pursuits. **At one well alone, 1,936,000 hours annually were freed up for women and girls who no longer must walk 12 hours a day in search of water.** This has opened the door to educational opportunities, improved physical health, increased safety by not traveling alone long distances, and unleashed new economic activities and entrepreneurial spirit. Through WILK programs, women blossom into entrepreneurs with powerful leadership skills, all while gaining much needed income for their families.



Keeping you up to date!



**For Up To Date Information,
Visit our Website!**

at: <http://www.stphilips.us>

**We are updating and working on the website all of the time,
to keep you up to date and informed.**





From the Racial Justice Task Force and Outreach - October Lunch and Learn - Susan Mack

LUNCH AND LEARN

PRIMER FOR PRESENTATION ABOUT ME CONFLICT

I am not given to making prophetic projections, but there is, unfortunately, a good chance that between this writing (08/12/24) and over two months from now, the Hamas-Israel conflict will have gotten worse. Of course, the worst case scenario is a widening of an already deadly and dreadful situation.

Of all the other wars and rumors of wars, this one has a particular relevance to Christians: A) our Christian population in Palestine/Israel has already decreased to under 1%; and B) this is the “Holy” (?) Land of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Knowing as much as possible about circumstances over there, especially now, mitigates against both bad theology and politics. We will gather for a **Lunch and Learn** on **Sunday, October 20th from 11:30 to 1:00 p.m.** to enhance our awareness. Rev. Dave Mueller will speak. Look out for the sign-up information at the end of September.



From the Habitat Restoration Crew - David Porter

Join the HABITAT RESTORATION CREW! The current project is removing invasive plants and vines from around the trees and in meadow areas. Upcoming work dates follow a **first Saturday, third Wednesday of each month** pattern, **8:30 to 10:00 a.m.** each day. Mark your calendars now!! Helpful tools to bring: Large loppers, large digging shovels, sturdy hand-held garden pruners, small bow or pruning saw, sturdy leather [or other thorn-resistant] gloves, leaf and grass rakes. Be sure to mark your personal tools. Contact Phil Duncan to let him know you are coming.



From Racial Justice Task Force - Chuck Cory

As our Church Community expands our efforts with international efforts in Kenya and helping another Sudanese family to settle in the US. We have had some additional training, and a new concept (for me) was brought up. This concept is Ethnocentrism and according to Cambridge is “the belief that the people, customs, and traditions of your own race or country are better than those of other races or countries”.

We need to think deeply about how we interact with others in other cultures, so we do not judge or compare their ways of life by our own environment. The book on the Maasai really got me thinking how when we encourage western values and education, we can be sowing the seeds of dissatisfaction by assuming that their path to success is the same as ours. Technology and education must be carefully introduced so they can maintain the way of life that they have been happy with for hundreds of years. As an example, it may be more beneficial to help with teaching ways to keep the grasslands sustainable for their cattle, rather than a western education that has little application to their community. We just need to understand more about their culture and what their true needs are rather than assuming what works for us will work for them.

I pray that our efforts promote their well-being, and we do not sow dissatisfaction by introducing change that upsets their way of life. What we are trying to do is a great ministry, and we just need to try and view things from their point of view.

Thanks and God bless.

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, Sharon Smith, Louise James, Ethel Reichley, Helga Kissell, Bob O'Brien, Sherry Thompson, Eleanor Georgiana, Dave Frampton, Amy Papili, Donna Hokanson, Lynn Pouser, Bev Reedy, Elizabeth Stirk, Barbara Stadelberger, Jeff Stirk, Charlie Boss, Debra Gelesh, Richard Braun, Ellen Lenker, Janette Saxton, Phyllis Bolgiano, Rev. Arlene Favreau-Pyscher, Allison Hewitt, Anita Sterling, Donna Daugherty, Rev. Amy Wright and Family

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; Ruth DiDonato, Family of Earl & Irene Meyer, Christina Ruble & Family**, 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; **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; **David Martin, Diane Balinski, Debra Jennings, & Barney Jennings**, family of Donna Hokanson; **Molly Wagner**, granddaughter of Margaret Wagner; **Jermaine & Joslyn Sanders**, friends of Nancy Zinnato; **Norman Richards & Phyllis Mensinger**, family of Mark & Marge Davis; **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; **The Family of Robert Schuh**, family of Diana Longhenry; **Martin Page & Family**, friends of Mike Rosen; **Craig Shechter**, father of Amanda DeWeese; **Alistair Black**, grandson of Bob & Delores Wardwell; **Family of Rosemary Herron**, Loved ones of Edna Basilio; **Carol Henzy**, sister & **Bill Molnar**, husband of Beth Molnar; **Zoe Kenaley**, great-granddaughter of Vic Brick; **John Lehne**, friend of Carol Goodman; **Henry Houtmann**, grandson & **Doris S. & Kathleen K.**, friends of Anne Hamilton; **Frank Kulick**, brother of Ruth Bowles; **Christopher Longo**, son of John & Kim Longo; **Lisa Santak**, daughter of Marion Santak, **Dave and Sharon Potter**, Friends of Lila Hall; **Michele Levanduski**, Family of Paul Gelesh; **Kristi Barnett**, friend of Angela Klemens; **Rick Ricciardi**, brother of Nancy Warner; **Henry Jones**, father of Derrick Thompson, **Carla Solano and Family**, cousin of Bonnie Anderson



Happy Birthday from your Church Family!

October Birthday's

Sophie King	10/1	Anita Sterling	10/18
Sherry Thompson	10/1	Bill LaRue	10/19
Katie Spae	10/5	John Longo	10/19
Lois Hardy	10/6	Carl Hewlett	10/20
Tina Malatesta	10/6	Michael Rosen	10/20
Nancy Griffith	10/9	Georgia Solie	10/20
Anthony Schuessler	10/9	Carol Oesterbo	10/21
Pamela Sheffer	10/10	Tom DeWeese	10/23
Jacqueline Kyle	10/11	Jan Evans	10/24
Damian Garbacz	10/15	Crystal Solie	10/24
Teri Kennedy	10/16	Phil Duncan	10/25
Carol Ruckle	10/16	Kenny Zinnato	10/25
Brittney Garbacz	10/16	Nicholas Kennedy	10/26
Bryan Longhenry	10/18	Debbie Pouser	10/28
Robert Schuessler	10/18	George Spae, Jr.	10/29

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 Bencoter, 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

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