

# The Guidepost



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



## APRIL 2025



### Jesus is Risen!

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

## Basement and Parking Lot Construction Update

The construction is moving right along. The basement is now just about complete. The carpet and flooring is in, the doors are on and the bathrooms and classrooms are complete as well. The elevator even works. The last items to be completed are the room signs. They have been slow to come in, but should be here any day. Once that is done, we'll be able to have our final inspections and the basement will be open for business.

The parking lot out back has been more of a problem. The winter weather with the extreme cold and multiple snows has delayed that project by about a month. While we haven't had enough rain to pull us out of our prolonged drought, it has still be enough to create wet conditions out back. Because of that, we had to bring in "stone dust" to try to help absorb the wet soil. Why is that important? Because when they compact it to build on it, they can't have their machines sinking in the mud—that's not a good surface to build on.

So as it stands we have about 46 days of work out back - our goal of having it done before



Easter Sunday is definitely in jeopardy. We are absolutely pushing to get it done as quickly as we can and, in fact, work resumed on the back part of the property on March 26th. Hopefully, if the weather cooperates they can keep on working and get us to the point where at least we might have stone in the back lot by Easter. That would help us with the crowds we usually have on that wonderful day.



We'll keep you posted as things continue to progress. Enjoy the pictures to the left and those that are on the website.

**From the Associate Pastor - Pastor Amy**

Spring Greetings all,

***\*\*Thank you to everyone who helped make our 2025 Spaghetti Dinner + Bingo Night a HUGE success! Final count: we made a whopping \$4,413!! And thank you all so much, in advance, for your support with our Youth Group's Annual Easter Breakfast on Easter Sunday! This congregation is truly remarkable!***



In the spirit of Easter, this story always manages to touch me and I pray it does for you, too: “Excuse me,” said the young man, standing awkwardly at the open church door. “I’m here to pick up an Easter basket for my daughter. Am I in the right place?” “Well, we have baskets, but they’re not Easter baskets for kids; they’re food baskets,” I explained. That morning I had arrived early at St. Michael’s Episcopal Church here in Carmichael, California, to help distribute the baskets to needy families for Easter. To make sure everyone was taken care of, we had handed out numbers to the recipients that matched the basket they were supposed to receive. Each one contained a full Easter dinner—a whole ham, potatoes, bread, vegetables and a pie—plus enough staples to help feed a family for a week.

“Why don’t you come in?” I offered the man. He looked disappointed. He shook his head, and peered over his shoulder. “I can’t...my daughter is waiting for me in the car,” he said. He gave her a little wave and turned back toward me. “I’m grateful for the food, but when I heard you were giving away baskets for Easter...well, I thought they would be Easter baskets for children,” he continued. “I promised my daughter one.” He glanced over his shoulder again. “I left her in the car because I wanted to surprise her.” I felt bad, but there was nothing we could do. Our volunteers had put together food baskets, not Easter ones. We didn’t have the means to make up anything else.

The man handed me his number, and I walked over to where the baskets were waiting for pick up. A bulge in one of the baskets caught my eye. What is that? I wondered. Leaning in and looking more closely, I could see, unmistakably, an Easter basket—filled with an assortment of candy and Easter eggs—wrapped with ribbons and tucked inside with the food. “One of the volunteers must have added it by mistake!” I thought. Then I looked at the man’s number in my hand. Well, I’ll be...

“Happy Easter,” I said to the man, handing him the only food basket with an Easter basket inside—the very same basket with his number on it. “Someone knew just what you needed.” Someone sure did...


It's amazing what God can do! May we continue to be the Easter People we are called to be.

Hello Friends!

Spring is upon us! As the winter weather subsides, the days get longer (my favorite), and we see animals and people emerging from hibernation, we start to make our plans to take full advantage of some of our busiest months. You could argue that the work of St. Philips does not ever take a siesta or go into hibernation. As an active congregation, we have been doing all of the things without a break. From the basement renovation to the funding of the well in Kenya, to the work of Stephen Ministries, the continued donations to the Grocery club, the amazing work from the Youth Group and Kids Club, and our consistent effort to engage in fellowship with events like the Spaghetti dinner and Together in Faith. The constant donations of time, talent, and treasure do not go unnoticed. Thank you so very much for all that you do.

Over the next few weeks, I hope you can take a long walk outside, listen to the birds sing, feel the sun on your face, walk barefoot in the grass, or just breathe in the fresh air. How lucky are we to live in a world that is so beautiful? A world that is exactly, in its most basic form, everything we need to thrive.





## From Council - Dave Porter

Lent is a time of introspection, a period to examine our hearts and align ourselves more closely with Christ. Just as Jesus was led into the wilderness, we, as the church, often find ourselves led into and needing to navigate challenging issues and make difficult decisions. Most would agree with me that we are currently in a “wilderness” of unseen before and difficult times due to major changes to our country’s leadership and the resulting chaos that has ensued here in our country and abroad. All human rights and associated dignity seem to be in jeopardy and we must wonder to where can we turn. I look to Jesus’s decisions in the wilderness as our best example for making sense of this world we are in. I will pose many of our concerns as questions for us to consider related to Jesus and our work as a church. I encourage you to spend time in personal reflection and prayer as we conclude our Lenten season, focusing on these themes.

**CONSIDER: The Wilderness of Decision-Making (Matthew 4):** Jesus faced temptations that tested his identity and his commitment to God’s will. As church members, we are called to make decisions too that impact the life of our church and our neighbors as evidence of God’s will at work in the world. **SO...WE MIGHT ASK:** How do we ensure that our decisions are rooted in prayer and discernment, rather than personal agendas or worldly pressures?

**CONSIDER: the temptations Jesus faced:**

1. Turning stones to bread (as in addressing immediate needs vs. trusting in what God provides),
2. Throwing himself from the temple (as in seeking validation through spectacle),
3. Bowing to Satan for worldly power (as in compromising faith for immoral convenience).

**SO...WE MIGHT ASK:** Where do we see these temptations mirrored in our own decision-making processes? How can we, like Jesus, use the Word of God to combat the temptations that arise within us?

**CONSIDER: Bearing Fruit as Branches (John 15)** Jesus reminds us that we are branches connected to the true vine, and that our ability to bear fruit depends on our abiding in him. As church members, we are called to be fruitful in our service to the church and our neighbors. **SO...WE MIGHT ASK:** What does it mean for us to “abide” in Christ? What kind of fruit are we called to bear as a church member? Are we bearing the fruit of the Spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control? Or are we bearing the fruit of discord, stagnation, or self-interest? What are the dead branches that need to be pruned, so that the living branches can grow stronger?

**MORE QUESTIONS WE MIGHT ASK:** What are the “wilderness” experiences we are facing today? How can we better support one another in times of challenge and temptation? What practical steps can we take to deepen our connection with Christ and cultivate a spirit of prayer and discernment? How can we identify and prune the “dead branches” within our church? What fruits of the Spirit do we need to cultivate more intentionally in our roles as members of the church? How can we better ensure that our church is bearing fruit that glorifies God and serves the community?

**PRAYER:** Gracious God, as we conclude our journey through this season of Lent, we acknowledge our own wilderness experiences – times of doubt, temptation, and uncertainty. We ask that you guide us, as you guided Jesus, to rely on your Word and your Spirit. Open our hearts to your presence, and empower us to bear fruit that glorifies you, even in the midst of the many challenges we face. Amen.



# HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2025

## Passion/Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025

Holy Communion Worship Service

**8:00 a.m.**

**10:30 a.m.**

## Easter Egg Hunt, Sunday, April 13, 2025

Mission Kids

**11:45 a.m.**

## Maundy Thursday, April 17, 2025

Upper Room Worship Service

With Stripping of the Altar

**7:30 p.m.**

## Good Friday, April 18, 2025

Tenebrae Service of Darkness

**7:30 p.m.**

## Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025

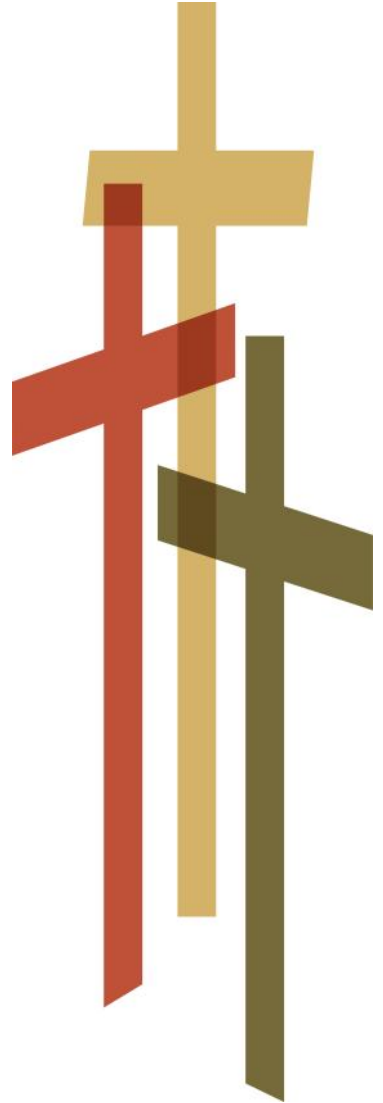
Easter Celebration **7:45 a.m.**

Easter Celebration **9:00 a.m.**

Easter Celebration **10:30 a.m.**

*(Easter Breakfast will be served continuously  
from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.)*

There will be **no** Christian Education Today



**Plan on joining us!** Our youth will be serving breakfast on Easter morning from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

**Cost will be: \$6.00 for adults, \$4.00 for children  
\$15.00 for family**

The Youth are raising money for their trip this summer.

# EASTER LILY ORDER FORM



**Let's Fill Our Sanctuary with Easter Lilies  
on Easter Morning!**

**If you wish to order Easter Lilies this Year,  
please fill out the form below by  
Sunday, April 6, 2025  
and return to the church office or  
drop it in the offering plate.  
The cost per plant will be \$23.**

**Please make your check payable to St. Philip's.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Lilies @ \$23 Each** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dedication:**

**In honor of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In loving memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**To the Glory of God:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Or submit form to: <https://forms.gle/Per4h5fhEfEWMDh7>**



## Wednesday Evenings at St. Philip's:

*Each of the following Wednesday Evenings **here at St. Philip's**, we'll have Soup and Bread at 6:30 p.m. followed by a Lenten Vespers Service*

**April 2 \* April 9**

## **Ecumenical Lenten Worship Services & Community Lunches**

*Theme is "The Signs of Jesus in the Gospel of John"*

### **Wednesdays at Noon:**

**April 2 \* April 9**

**Noon to 1:30 p.m.**

This year hosted by: St. Philip's Lutheran Church  
5320 Limestone Road, Wilmington, DE 19808

# **Lenten Luncheons**



**St. Philip's  
Fellowship Committee**





We are well into our Lenten journey. Pastor Amy said a few weeks ago that Lent reminds us of our need for God. It's a season of reflection, penance, and preparation for the Paschal promise, moving each week toward the silence after the closing of the book on Good Friday – all leading to Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday. Lent is also a time rich in music that reflects the gravity of Christ's passion and our need for Christ's sacrifice. Through his death on the cross, we are freed to live out the Gospel. Our music becomes a powerful tool, providing space for prayer, contemplation, and interaction with God. As we continue in the final weeks of Lent, here are a few perspectives on moving from the triumph of Palm Sunday to the somber darkness of Good Friday.

Holy Week begins with Christ's glorious entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. The day starts with cries of "Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord" and the jubilant hymn "All Glory, Laud, and Honor," leading to the high point of the celebration. The crowds praise Christ as He rides into the city, and the music reflects this moment with triumphant organ music, congregational singing, and the waving of palms. But like that day so long ago, tensions linger, and the liturgy transitions to the Passion reading, the passion chorale, and a solemn postlude, foreshadowing the coming sacrifice.

As Lent progresses, our music shifts, focusing on Christ's last supper with the Apostles. From joyous praise to reflective tones, we sing hymns like "Where Charity and Love Prevail" and "It Happened on That Fateful Night." The most poignant part of the week is taking communion together, as the Apostles did, 12 at a time in a dark upper room, followed by the stripping of the altar, singing "Jesus, Remember Me."

Good Friday brings us to Golgotha, where Christ's sacrifice for the world is realized. Hymns like "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded," "Were You There?" and "Ah, Holy Jesus" mark the music of the Cross, reflecting Christ's sorrowful final moments. The crucifixion at Golgotha, "the place of the skull," is marked by silence in our liturgy, notably the absence of a postlude, underscoring the weight of Christ's death. Yet, even in this silence, the music of Lent tells a story of reverence and reflection.

Through its melodies and harmonies, Lent walks us through the tension between joy and sorrow, hope and despair. From the exuberant Hosannas of Palm Sunday to the stillness of Good Friday, the journey of Christ's passion and the solemnity of the Cross prepare us for the ultimate victory of Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday. Blessings on your Journey this Lenten Season.

From Mission Kids - Get Messy - Anna Grieder, Liz Freburger, Pastor Amy





In March, Mission Kids had a blast at the “Get Messy” event where they worked together on a craft that will be used to decorate the church!

Our next event is the annual Easter Egg Hunt! This will be held on April 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be provided immediately following the 10:30 AM church service. Once everyone has completed lunch, the egg hunt will proceed! The event will then conclude with a festive dessert in the Fellowship Hall. Please use the QR code above or the following link:

<https://signupgenius.com/#!/showRSVPSignUp/60B0A4BACAF2FA7F94-55159573-stphilips>

to let us know if you will be joining us for this event.

The Mission Kids season will be wrapped up with the final event scheduled on May 18<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM at Woodside Creamery! Please bring a bag lunch, and we can congregate and enjoy lunch at one of the many picnic tables at the creamery. Afterwards, we will finish the event off with ice cream! (Rain date is June 8<sup>th</sup>.)



**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. Contact Maryann Shovestul if you have any questions.

**Kid's Club** and **Breakfast Club** continue to meet at 9:15 on Sunday morning.

The **Large Group Adult Forum** continues each Sunday morning through April 13 at 9:15 in the fellowship hall. We are exploring **conflicting scriptures** to better understand the differences we encounter in the Bible. All are welcome....no homework....just show up!

The annual **Easter Egg Hunt** will be held on April 13 after the second service. There will be lunch before the egg hunt.

**Mission Kids** and **Youth Group** continue to gather each month. See separate pages in the Guidepost for details on their activities.

There will be **no Christian Ed on Sunday April 20 and Sunday April 27** due to the Easter break.

**Looking ahead:** The Adult Large Group topic in May is Dietrich Bonhoeffer. There will be a Together in Faith Breakfast on May 18.

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.





## **A Community Learning Experience for all Ages**

**Sunday, May 18, 2025**

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

- **Adults and Youth will share and fellowship**
- **Kid's Club will meet as usual.**
- **Topic: TBD**

**\*The Nursery Will Be Open!**





# UPCOMING EVENTS:

## April 2025

- April 6 – No YG
- April 13 – Easter Egg Hunt with Mission Kids @ 11:45am
- April 19 – Easter Breakfast Bacon Prep (9-11am)
- April 20 – Easter Sunday Breakfast!!
- April 27 – Spring Clean-up (12-3pm)

## May 2025

- May 2-4 – Youth Beach Retreat
- May 11 - No Youth Group - Mother's Day
- May 18 – Ice Cream + Superlative Awards (1-2:30pm)
  - Last Breakfast Club
  - Tool Training for Hurricane Relief work (12-12:45pm)
- May 25 - No Youth Group - Memorial Day Weekend

## June 2025

- June 1 – Graduate Quilt Blessing (10:30am service)
- June 8 – Pentecost Sunday – Confirmation Sunday (10:30am worship service)
- June 15-20 – Hurricane Relief Work Trip to NC





The  
**Escape**  
ROOM



Large Group Adult Forum - March 9th to April 13th  
9:15 am in the Fellowship Hall  
Conflicting Scripture Stories



What do we do when different stories in the bible conflict each other? If God is the way, THE TRUTH, and the life, what is the “Truth” when we are told two different things?

In this class, we’ll examine six examples of scriptural conflicts and we’ll learn how to understand the differences we encounter. By learning these things, we enrich and expand the meaning of God’s Word to us.

All are invited . . . No registration needed . . . No Homework to prepare each week. Just show up, meet new people, and enjoy yourself.

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From O.W.L.S.



**O.W.L.S. (older, wiser, Lutheran seniors) will gather on Tuesday, April 8th.** This group is geared towards retirees in the congregation that would like to engage in a time of food, fellowship, and light learning. The next meeting will be held **April 8th from 11:30 am to 1 pm.** This month we’ll be joined by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans who will talk about the way they serve the members of churches in the Lutheran community. Come, bring a lunch, share some fellowship and learn something new.



## From O.W.L.S - March Meeting - Pr. Dave Mueller and Rabbi Peter Grumbacher



## 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 this month from 6:30-8:30pm on Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at Chuck Lager's!

Please note: the months of April & May have date changes. For April, our original date falls on Maundy Thursday so we will push it back a week. And I have been invited to participate in the UD Lutheran Campus Ministry Senior Night that has been scheduled for our original timeframe: the third Thursday of every month. For the month of May we will push it back a week so we will meet on Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

ALL are welcome at any time! 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!



**From Environmental Stewardship - Dave Porter**

The Next **Environmental Stewardship Team** meeting will be on **Wednesday, April 23, 2025** at **7 pm** in Room #127.



**From Altar Guild - Carol Oesterbo**

Greetings from Altar Guild – Spring is just around the corner – Lent and the Easter season has begun and Altar Guild would like to welcome 4 new members to our Team – **Pam Cory, Anne Hamilton, Cindy Hoydt, and Debbie Pauser**. We welcome anyone who would be interested in joining our team. We meet four times a year.. ALSO: The Bread Baking Ministry is always open to new members to join the team to bake the bread for Sunday's communion – currently there are 9 bakers and they rotate on the calendar -baking approximately 5 times/year – Both Altar Guild or Bread Baking are a great way to share your time and talent !

Our next meeting will be **May 5th, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.** – We invite you to come to the meeting, or please give me a call or email Carol Oesterbo, Altar Guild Chairperson with any questions

*As a side note: Worship & Music is another Committee that is looking for members – Contact Gerry Butler for information on serving and sharing your time & talent .*



**From Habitat Restoration Crew - Phil and Mary Duncan**

**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, **10:00 a.m. to Noon.** 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.



# Women's Ministry

**The Daytime Book Group** will next meet on **Tuesday, April 15th at 12:30 p.m.** *The Silent Patient*, by Alex Michaelides is our book of choice. On May 20th, we will read and discuss *The Berry Picker*, by Amanda Peters. New members are always welcome. We will be meeting at the church in Room #127!

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The next **Young at Heart Group** will be **Saturday, April 26th** from **1:30 to 3:00 p.m.** at Gigi's. Any questions, ask Gigi Mueller.

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It's not too early to start planning our **Women's Fall Retreat** on **Saturday, November 8th, 2025!** Mark your calendars NOW!

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**Women, Wine, and Whine** - Our next get together will be in **May!** Details TBD. All are welcome!

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**The Women's Evening Book Club** meets on the second Friday of the month at 7 p.m. 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. For **April 15th (NOTE that this is a TUESDAY)** at 5:00 p.m. we will gather at River Rock Restaurant at the Westin by the Chase Center on the River-front. We'll enjoy dinner and then go to the New Castle County Reads presentation to hear the author of *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt speak about her book. **Also for April - Reader's Choice** - Since we already read the NCC Reads book, in April, read a book of your choice. We can talk about them at our May meeting and use this discussion to plan the next books through the fall of 2025. Then for **May 9th** we'll discuss *By Any Other Name* by Jodi Piccoult. On **June 13th** we'll discuss *First Lie Wins* by Ashley Alston. 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!

There is a lot of pain out there. People are dealing with death and illnesses of loved ones. Depression is real. A **Stephen Minister can walk with you for anything you may be experiencing.** Let Pastor Patrick or Gigi Mueller know if you are ready for a Stephen Minister or have any questions about Stephen Ministry.

**Shepherding Team**  
The next  
Shepherds meeting **Monday,**  
**May 5th @**  
**1 p.m.** in the  
Fellowship Hall.



## MINISTRIES

**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. The next gathering is **Sunday, April 6th at 6:30 p.m.** We are now reading *A Week in the Life of a Greco Roman Women*. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. A **second group** that meets with the Mueller's will meet on **TBD at 6:30 p.m. at the Mueller's home.** We will again be reading and discussing a book of Hebrews. Questions about Koinonia? Contact Sharon Kittle.



**New Supplies needed for Care Kits** for the Homeless. As the seasons are changing our winter kits need to be refreshed with new supplies. Please consider signing up below to help replenish supplies. Also, kits can be found under the coat rack in the narthex. Consider picking up one or two to share with homeless persons you may encounter in your travels.

**<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050949A9A62CA3FC1-53363560-homeless>**



## 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 **April 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!!!** In particular we are in need of Assisting Ministers. This is an easy job because the pastor helps you during the entire service. Assisting with communion and the prayers. Let Pastor Patrick or Louise James know if you are interested.



## MINISTRIES

**Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregiver Support Group Continues to Meet at St. Philip's** - The Alzheimer's Assn. of the Delaware Valley is sponsoring a monthly support group for anyone who has a loved one with any form of dementia, including Alzheimer's. Living with or caring for a person with dementia can be extremely challenging, overwhelming and exhausting. The group offers education, support, and the opportunity to connect with others in a similar situation. Free and open to the public, the group will meet on the **second Tuesday of the month**. The next meeting will be on **April 8th at 1 p.m.** in **Room #128**. For more information, contact Erica Holmes.

**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, April 9, 2025 and April 23, 2025**

From Habitat Restoration Crew

Phil Duncan

Before and after pics from a portion of the meadow west of the wetlands.  
Dave and Donna Porter and Michael Pushkarewicz (Pictured below)





**Family Promise**  
**St. Philips Next Host Week: May 25-31**

Thanks to all who continue to support Family Promise through time, donations, and prayers! Our next host week will be **May 25-31**. Sign up posters will be in the Narthex with menus listing food you can provide in early May. At this time a Sign-Up Genius will be sent out by email for those who are able to contribute non-perishable items.

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

Blessings to all

**FAMILY PROMISE**

**The week of: May 25, 2025 to May 31, 2025**





# From Spaghetti Dinner/Bingo Night - Youth Group Fundraiser



BINGO							
14	29	38	52	74			
4	18	33	46	62			
7	16	★	60	71			
9	27	44	51	67			
12	23	35	47	73			





# From Spaghetti Dinner/Bingo Night - Youth Group Fundraiser



## 2025 Lutheran Community Services Room at the Table Event is May 7th



The LCS Room at the Table Breakfast is an opportunity for our giving circle to get to know our clients. Enjoy a delicious and healthy catered breakfast while hearing powerful stories from LCS clients and supporters about how we are making a real difference in the community.

We love having the opportunity to share our vision with new and returning members of our community, as well as to foster connections between our supporters and the clients who benefit from their contributions. All are invited and encouraged to bring their friends and family!

To register use the following link: [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2025-room-at-the-table-breakfast-registration-1245121434729?aff=oddtcreator&blm\\_aid=32939](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2025-room-at-the-table-breakfast-registration-1245121434729?aff=oddtcreator&blm_aid=32939)



### 2025 Golf Classic

To Support Homelessness Prevention



## FIELDSTONE GOLF COURSE

Play the award winning course!

**Monday, June 9th, 12:30 pm, shotgun start**

**Pricing:**

<b>Ticket Packages</b>	
<b>\$325</b>	Per Golfer
<b>\$1,750</b>	Per Corporate Foursome
<b>\$100</b>	Per Extra Dinner Guest

**Sponsor Packages**

<b>\$5,000</b>	Dinner Sponsor
<b>\$3,000</b>	Lunch Sponsor
<b>\$2,000</b>	Cocktail Hour Sponsor
<b>\$1,500</b>	Halfway Hut Sponsor
<b>\$1,500</b>	SWAG Sponsor
<b>\$500</b>	Hole Sponsor

**The Day Will Include:**

- Hole-in-one Prize 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](mailto:AMazzei@LCSDE.org)



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

Virtual ball tracking technology.

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


"Ask about the virtual course and warm up area!"



Apple




Android



### 2025 Golf Classic

To Support Housing Stability



## Registration Form

**PERSONAL INFO:**

Golfer Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check One: ☐ Foursome ☐ Threesome ☐ Twosome ☐ Single

Golfers in your group	Golfer #2
	Golfer #3
	Golfer #4

**PAYMENT TOTAL:**


Total # of Golfers	_____ x \$325 = _____	} <b>TOTAL ENCLOSED</b> \$ _____
Total # of dinner only	_____ x \$100 = _____	
Corporate Foursome	\$1,750 = _____	

**COMPLETE YOUR REGISTRATION:**

Send completed form to:  
Lutheran Community Services  
2809 Baynard Blvd,  
Wilmington, DE 19802

Submit Payment by:  
Enclosed Check  
(Made out to Lutheran Community Services)

Online Donation at  
[LCSDE.org/donate](https://LCSDE.org/donate)  
(Select 2025 Golf Outing from the drop down menu)







## 🕊 Spring Greetings from LCM at UD! 🕊

We give thanks to God for continued blessings upon Lutheran Campus Ministry at UD! Our students have been enjoying a **wonderful spring**, with great fellowship and conversation. Whether attending Tuesday dinners and worship gatherings, participating in Wednesday Bible studies, volunteering with FISH, or enjoying local coffee outings or a special lunch at Home Grown, the LCM students bring a wonderful spirit of hope, mutual care, service, concern for our world, and growing faith. Plans are under way for a May retreat to Ocean City, New Jersey, along with special end-of-term events to honor our seniors, as we seek to finish the school year joyfully and well.

We continue to look for new members for our Directing Committee (governing board), including a new treasurer, as well as members for our property care team. We invite you to join us for our upcoming **property work day** on **Saturday, April 12**, beginning at 10 AM, for a morning of minor repairs and beautifying the LCM property. If you're interested in becoming more involved with Lutheran Campus Ministry at UD, please contact me. Thank you!

If you'd like to visit the LCM chapel this spring, we enjoy spending time with congregational members and other LCM supporters. We're so grateful for the many tasty, home-cooked meals that have been provided over the years. Perhaps you'd like to partner with friends to bring a **Tuesday dinner** for students. For more information, please call our office or refer to LCM's website: <https://lcmde.org/bring-a-tuesday-dinner>. You're welcome to drop in and see us on Tuesday for a visit any time. 🍕

Thank you for your continued **prayers** for the students and volunteers of LCM. We continue to welcome prayers for Drew, a sophomore studying abroad in Copenhagen, Denmark, as well as for our seniors: Gretchen, Karen, Regan, and David. Please pray that their final weeks of undergraduate study at LCM will be blessed, fruitful, and meaningful. In return, we wish you abundant blessings as we persist in our Lenten journeys toward the joy of Easter!

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



*LCM students gathered for coffee and conversation!*

## Celebrating Black History Month at Hilltop

Children at the Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center celebrated Black History Month in a wide variety of ways.

According to our Youth Services Coordinator, Teresa Allen, the older students concentrated on researching Black men and women of the labor movement from 1800.



"The project was researching different important members of the Labor Movement and then making a 3-panel poster displaying what they learned about the person they researched. We then set up the posters in the Gym for everybody to see. Some of the people we researched were A. Phillip Randolph, Bayard Rustin, Christian Smalls, and Velma Hopkins."

Meanwhile, our preschoolers took a different track. Curriculum Coordinator, Dashaba Fielder says some students dressed as their heroes.



"We had children dressed as Bessie Coleman, Rosa Parks, Jackie Robinson, and Ruby Bridges and they each were able to correctly recite a 'little known black history fact' on each of their persons. They enjoyed our *Black On The Job Exhibit* and (Hilltop Executive Director) Dr. Michele came dressed as Ruby Bridges as she read, *The story of Ruby Bridges.*"

Back in February, we learned about the new Hilltop Food Pantry. Center Deputy Director, Brandon Furrowh tells us the pantry is popular.

"In the month of February, nine families sought out goods from the center's food pantry. Totalling 45 people, these nine families ranged from family sizes of as little as 2 members and as large as 8 members within the household. Popular items such as peanut butter, Kraft macaroni and cheese, tuna, spaghetti and spaghetti sauce are flying off the shelves."

At some point soon, Brandon says "Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center staff will solicit donations... with an understanding that many families will be negatively impacted by nation-wide cuts to programs that assist with food for under-employed families."

Center Executive Director, Michelle Willilams, updates us on the impact of possible Federal funding cuts to local non-profits.

"In the wake of last month's directive by the federal Office of Management and Budget to freeze funding and the ensuing court challenges to block implementation, nonprofit organizations have struggled to gain clarity and stability regarding the situation. *While Hilltop has not been directly affected* (emphasis added), some nearby nonprofits are discussing the potential impact which includes layoffs, no longer providing meals to seniors and scrapping prospective partnerships with state agencies on infant early childhood mental health consultations. We will continue to watch for programs that affect the agency and the children and families such as Head Start, Medicaid and Social Security."

*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:***

Judi Parsons, John & Barb Williams, Charles & Ruth Bowles, Lois Hardy, Carol Ruckle, Sharon Smith, Louise James, Helga Kissell, Bob O'Brien, Sherry Thompson, Eleanor Georgiana, Dave Frampton, Amy Papili, Donna Hokanson, Lynn Pouser, Bev Reedy, Elizabeth Stirk, Paul & Barbara Stadelberger, Jeff Stirk, Charlie Boss, Debra Gelesh, Richard Braun, Ellen Lenker, Janette Saxton, Phyllis Bolgiano, Yvonne Cilento, Shelly Meador, Danny Mason, Kim Longo, Mark & Marge Davis, David Nevins, John Frink, Erica Miller, Vince Suddard, Meghan Newcomer & Family, The Family of Ron Henry

***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; Sgt. Tyler Harris**, nephew of Susan Mack; **Ruth DiDonato**, family of Linda Burkum; **Emily Ruckle & Tina Davis**, family of Carol Ruckle; **John & Carly Hoeni**, family of Lynn Muller; **Beckie McNelly**, sister of Bob Gible & Barb Williams; **Lou Cookson**, father & **Beth Cookson**, mother of Nick Cookson; **Dorothy Owens**, sister of Ruth Henry; **Stuart Emerson & Family**, friends of the Swift Family; **Linda Allen**, friend of Faith Simpers; **Joe Cilento, Jr.**, son of Yvonne Cilento; **Paul Budd, Sr.**, father of Scott, & **Lee Craig**, friend of The Budds; **Diane Balinski & Debra Jennings**, family of Donna Hokanson; **Molly Wagner**, granddaughter of Margaret Wagner; **Norman Richards & Phyllis Mensinger**, family & **Myron Davis**, brother of Mark & Marge Davis; **Mildred Marine**, grandmother of Heather Stirk; **John, Sr. & Anna Longo**, parents of John Longo; **Craig Shechter**, father of Amanda DeWeese; **Alistair Black**, grandson of Bob & Delores Wardwell; **Carol Henzy**, sister of Beth Molnar; **Zoe Kenaley**, great-granddaughter of Vic Brick; **John Lehne**, friend of Carol Goodman; **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; **Michele Levanduski**, Family of Paul Gelesh; **Kristi Barnett**, friend of Angela Klemens; **Rick Ricciardi**, brother of Nancy Warner; **Henry Jones**, father of Derrick Thompson, **Craig Florschutz**, husband of Jennifer Florschutz; **Mark Doyle**, friend of Harold and Sharon Holeman; **Mark & Jeanne Favreau**, family of Rev. Arlene Favreau-Pyscher; **Chuck Stirk**, son of Elizabeth Stirk, **John Stachowski and Family**, Friends of Tom Krapf, **Kevin and Aniela Meinhaldt**, son-in-law and daughter of Virginia Frattarola

**Happy Birthday from your Church Family!**



Shelly Meador	4/1	Dawn Downes	4/18
Jane Newcomer	4/2	Robert Gibble	4/18
Grant Meador	4/4	Noelle Obara	4/20
Paul Stadelberger	4/4	Patrick Bailey	4/21
Joann Stevens	4/4	Benjamin Cookson	4/21
Trevor Freburger	4/6	Benjamin Swift	4/21
Lisa Kenney	4/7	John Lion	4/21
Rev. Patrick Downes	4/8	Jeff Kelty	4/24
Wendy Davis	4/9	Jeannine Denzler	4/25
Matthew Sanderson	4/9	Tobi Litterst	4/26
Rebecca Litterst	4/12	Mary Duncan	4/27
Brea Stirk	4/12	Elise Bardenhagen	4/28
Gregory Oesterbo	4/13	Molly Grieder	4/30
Yvonne Cilento	4/15	Sal Morabito	4/30
Pat Spae	4/16		
Jennifer Florschutz	4/16		

**May God Bless You on Your Special Day!**



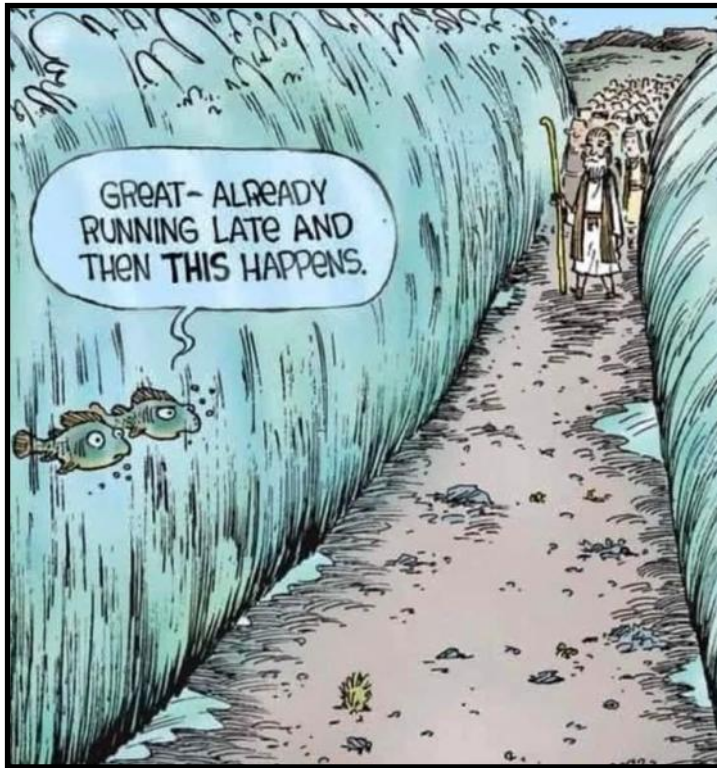
**Congratulations!**

**Meghan Newcomer and Family welcomed**

**Nicholas and Maude**

**Grandparents: John and Jodi Newcomer**

**Great Grandmom: Jane Newcomer**



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:**

Amanda DeWeese, President  
Mary Kay LaRue, Vice President  
Teri Suddard, Treasurer  
Liz Freburger, Secretary  
Mike Berkheimer, Financial Secretary

### **Council:**

Coleman Bye  
Donna Daugherty  
Tom Gustaitis  
Michael Imgarten  
Carol Johnson

### **Council (continued):**

David Kenney  
Debbi Miller  
Dave Porter  
Jim Stevens

### **Committees/Activities:**

Altar Guild.....  
Christian Education.....  
Enviro. Stewardship.....  
Fellowship.....  
Finance/Audit.....  
Grocery Club.....  
Habitat Restoration Group  
Outreach.....  
Prayer Ministry.....  
Property.....  
.....  
Stephen Ministry.....  
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  
Gigi Mueller  
Gerry Butler (Interim)

St. Philip's Lutheran Church

5320 Limestone Road

Wilmington, DE 19808

Phone: (302) 239-2100

Website: [www.stphilips.us](http://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