



**Monthly Newsletter:**

# **THE GUIDEPOST**

**May 2026 Issue**



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

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## Good Friday Darkness to Easter Sunday Brightness

It is the Easter Season . . . I know that for many of us, we've put away the Easter decorations and all the Easter baskets. There might be a chocolate bunny with no ears or no head (having been partially consumed at this point) lurking in your cabinet somewhere—probably forgotten at this point. But Easter is a season that is 50 days long (Until the Feast of Pentecost). A season that we really try to honor here at St. Philip's, which is why we continue to proclaim "Christ is Risen" at the beginning of our Sunday services . . . To remind us of that truth that we are Easter people!!!!

And I think that is an important truth that was emphasized for me this year, in ways that I didn't experience as powerfully. And it was led by the music on Good Friday. I would like to take this moment to publicly commend all of our music folks: Lauren, Stephen, and our wonderful Chancel Choir for the music of Holy Week, but especially on Good Friday. If you were not at our Good Friday service, Stephen started the service with an absolutely astounding piece of music entitled: *Jésus accepte la souffrance (literally, Jesus Accepts Suffering)* by Olivier Messian. This piece contains stark, startling sounds—it was haunting and alarming and jarring at times. Stephen explained to me that the jarring chords of the piece were meant to mimic the hammering of the nails in the cross. It dragged us right to the foot of the cross.

Then in the Tenebrae Service, just as Jesus is condemned by Pilate and rejected by the crowds to be crucified, Lauren and the chancel choir sang their anthem that night, *Forsaken* by Dan Forrest. It is a piece of music based on Psalm 22 and its text reads like this: *"How long, O God, will You neglect My prayer? Will You forget these tears of dark despair? Yet not My will, but Yours alone be done: Forsake not man, but Me—Your sinless Son. I, Christ the Son, obey Your great command, Enduring punishment for sinful man. As Son and silent Lamb, I choose this path: Accept rejection to appease Your wrath. O why, My God, have You forsaken Me? Why have You now refused My final plea? Though I cry out in sorrow, pain, and fear, You turn Your back; in silence, disappear. I, Christ the Son, bear all their sin alone, Embracing judgment from Your glorious throne. As Son and spotless Lamb, I shed My blood To bring them boldly to Your face, My God."* It's the same theme as Stephen's prelude and was just so powerful.

Hearing the music (which you can still do online) and the words—it lent weight and darkness to a night that was punctuated by the darkness outside and the shadowy cross we left the room with. Easter Sunday was rainy but there was profound joy and brightness still . . . And I wonder, for me, if that was because of the depth of darkness on Friday. The truth of Good Friday makes Easter Sunday all the brighter. It got me to wonder about the dark moments of our lives—if we can see the Christ who takes on and walks with us in our suffering in those moments as well, maybe the resurrection promise that we hope for shines all the brighter. That is our hope and faith as Easter people, who live 50 days and our whole lives: resurrection people!!

Greetings all,

I just have to say: I had an absolute BLAST teaching the Adult Class on the **Dead Sea Scrolls** in the latter half of March! It was such an honor and joy to present and teach you all about a topic that is near and dear to my heart. I have always been interested in archaeology, especially if it pertains to biblical times and scholarship. Not to mention I've always wanted to be Indiana Jones! The Dead Sea Scrolls (the oldest copies of the Old Testament that have ever been found - and found on accident) has become a topic that continues to mesmerize me. If you ever have any questions or want resources for further study I am always available.

It blew me out of the water that you all found this topic as mesmerizing as I did. It is because of you all and the incredible amount of people who wanted to further dive into this topic that the idea of taking a bus trip to the Museum of the Bible to see the Dead Sea Scrolls came alive! This is a super special opportunity to see them outside of Israel and I hope you join us on Wednesday, June 3rd when we go. Bring a friend! Everyone is welcome to join us. We have 54 slots available and it's first come, first served. Registration is open until Sunday, May 17th (or when all 54 slots are taken). We will leave, promptly, at 8am and return around 6:30/7PM. **Details are on Page 21!**



## Here Comes the Sun

As George Harrison wrote in one of the most iconic of Beatles tunes: 'Little darlin', it's been a long cold lonely winter....'

Spring has finally sprung. Officially and from personal experience, this past winter was one of the coldest on record. Those grey clouds seemed to never go away. The winter weather, combined with the growing political angst including an unexpected war has weighed heavy. Never in my lifetime have I experienced anything remotely like what we're going through, where the things we have always taken for granted have become so uncertain. The anger and fear and frustration are born from a values-based deep love and affection for our way of life that has divided communities, work places, friends and even families. In these circumstances, it is remarkable how a change in weather and sunshine can have such a positive affect. It's a breath of fresh air.

Speaking of the environment, I was in high school when the first Earth Day was celebrated on 22 April 1970. Twenty million Americans took to the streets - about 10 percent of the entire USA population. As a direct result, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was created, and laws to protect our land, air and waters were enacted. The term ecology became hugely popularized. Until recently, protecting the environment was a topic of general agreement. With the recent changes taking place regarding environmental protections, let us take a quick look to see what the Bible has to say about it.

Environmentalism and ecology go way back: Genesis, the first chapter.

*26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle and livestock, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.*

*27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*

*28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.*

Let us focus on two specific words: dominion and subdue.

*(The article continues on the Next Page)*

Religious scholars widely agree that dominion (Hebrew: radah) refers to a unique authority granted by God to humanity to rule and manage the earth. Humankind was assigned this critical role by God as his direct representative. Dominion does not imply a God-given right to exploit, but rather as a mandate for good stewardship. It was part of the deal from the get-go: *Go and manage these Earthly gifts roughly 3.7 billion years in the making. Don't be destructive. Earth is a planet that has been meticulously designed and created as a perfect and beautiful home where everything required is provided.* God's instruction has been crystal clear from the very beginning.

God's command to subdue the Earth refers to harnessing Earth's natural resources in its raw form, such as cultivating the land to improve life for all people. Our actions must be managed responsibly as part of this sacred trust between God and humankind. Earth is designed to support billions of people. But people do not own the Earth. We are commanded to be good stewards. The evidence is clear. No other instruction from God came before this one - take care of our home we call Earth.

Herbal medicines have been around for thousands of years. Modern science has invested a little more than 100 years to develop most of our conventional medicines. Still, nearly half of all current prescriptive medicines are plant based. As humans increasingly impact the health of the Earth, native species are going extinct at a rate 500 times greater than the so-called background rate. There are countless reasons why protecting Mother Earth is a key part of God's plan.

We are filled with gratitude for the God-given gifts that bring us happiness, and we accept the responsibility to clean up after ourselves. Yes, just as we all learned at an early age, our bedrooms were our special space. It was often our safest space. Still, our parents made it a point to remind us constantly about keeping our space clean and tidy. That was always part of the deal. It was perhaps our first lesson in practicing good stewardship as kids. In the same way, the Earth is communicating quite clearly that taking care of our world is a priority. We are here to enjoy these incredible gifts, and we must use our time and talents to make sure that our dominion and subjugation and caring stewardship ensure that the Earth remains a healthy home for God's children. It's not optional. We search the heavens with our most advanced scientific equipment for another Earth within this universe of billions of galaxies and trillions of stars and planets. We've yet to find another place like Earth.

It's the time of year to celebrate the Earth and remind ourselves of our sacred agreement. Spring is here. Trees are turning green. Flowers are blooming. The world turns. Life is good. And yes, here comes the sun! And I say, it's alright.

~~

*Nothing worthwhile in the world is unworthy of my zeal,  
for all things are working together for good.*



Little Ones singing on Palm Sunday



Maudy Thursday Crew



GOOD FRIDAY



EASTER



Pub Theology will return in September. Have a great summer!



From O.W.L.S (Older, Wiser, Lutheran, Seniors)



**O.W.L.S. (older, wiser, Lutheran seniors) will gather on Tuesday, May 12th.** 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 **May 12th from 11:30 am to 1 pm.** We'll be joined that day by Aaron White-Palmateer from Family Promise. He'll be talking about the dramatic expansion project they are doing for Family Promise, an organization that St. Philip's started almost 20 years ago!!! Bring a lunch and join us.

O.W.L.S - Orphan Grain Train - Gigi Mueller and Pastor Amy



# See You In September!



# **TOGETHER IN FAITH**



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

**Sunday, May 17, 2026**

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

- **Adults and Youth will share and fellowship**
- **Kid's Club will meet as usual.**
- **Kickoff for Summer of Service**
- **Poster in the narthex to sign-up to bring breakfast casseroles, muffins, coffee cake, donuts or fruit**

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





# SUMMER OF SERVICE



## June



## July

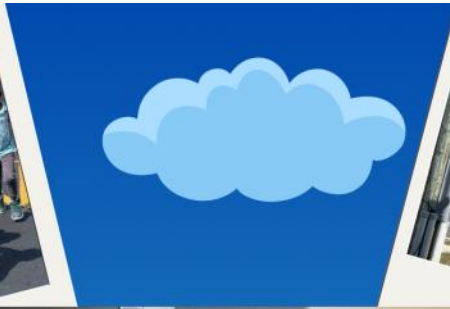


## August



**More  
Information  
Coming  
Soon!!!**





# Mission Kids Egg Hunt

Special thanks to our Youth Group for making this event so much fun!



HAVE A  
GREAT  
SUMMER

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## 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 and during the Christian Ed hour on Sunday morning. Contact Maryann Shovestul if you have questions about the nursery.

**Kid's Club** and **Breakfast Club** continue to meet at 9:15 on Sunday morning through May 17. After a summer break programming will resume in September.

The **Adult Voices of Faith** program wraps up in May. The schedule is:

**May 3** Pastor Wayne Moritz "Creation Care Ministries"

**May 10** Pastor Dave Mueller "Evangelical and Mainline Divide"

Check separate pages for information about **Mission Kids** and **Youth Group** activities as they wrap up their programs this spring.

Five children received **1st Communion** on Sunday April 12. On **Sunday May 17** there will be a **Quilt Blessing** for six youth who are graduating from high school this year. Congratulations to all!

The final **Together in Faith Breakfast** for the program year is on **May 17** in the fellowship hall at 9:15. Come enjoy food and fellowship; learn about the changes to our **Summer of Service** program this year. If you are able sign up in the narthex to bring a breakfast casserole, fruit, donuts, muffins or other breakfast food.

Check out the Lending Library in Room #128 and #129, where you will 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.

From the Easter Egg Hunt - Pastor Amy and Anna Grieder





## **Join Us for “Voices of Faith” Large Group Adult Learning**

This year we have switched up what we are doing for adult learning. We are working from a large group format on Sunday mornings at 9:15 am. Each component focuses on different areas of faith and scripture and will be taught by a different Pastor here at St. Philip’s.

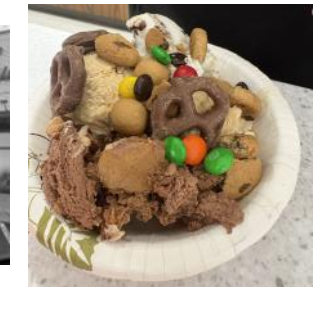
### **The Remaining Schedule is:**

April 26-May 3 - Pastor Wayne Moritz - Creation Care  
May 10 - Pastor Dave Mueller - Fundamentalist/Modernist Controversy  
May 17th - Together in Faith - Summer of Service Presentation

From Altar Guild and First Communion - Lorraine Velez, Carol Oesterbo, Nancy Griffith and Pastor Amy



From the Youth Group Scavenger Hunt and Ice Cream Sundaes - Pastor Amy



The next **Daytime Book Group** will be **May 19th**, *Silent Sister*. **June 16th**, will be our Summer Salad and Dessert Luncheon at Gigi's at Noon. **July 21st**, *Say You'll Remember Me* and **Aug 18th**, *Speak to me of Home*. All are welcome!! We meet at **St. Philip's in Room #127 at 12:30 p.m.** In the summer we meet at Gigi's House.

Keep a watch out for the **Women, Whine and Wine** information. For any questions about this group, please contact Mary Kay LaRue or Gigi Mueller.

**The Young at Heart Group** is a gathering of women who are 70 years old and up—we gather to have fellowship and connect with each other on our mutual experiences in this time of our lives. The next gathering will be **Saturday, May 30th** from **1:30 to 3:00 p.m.** at Gigi Mueller's home. If you have questions or need more details contact Gigi Mueller.

The **Fall Womens Retreat** is coming on Saturday, **November 7th**. Help is needed!

# Women's Ministry

**A New Committee for Women's Ministry** has been formed. Besides our spring and fall retreats, we would like to have more events during the year. Our first event will be a special hands-on soap making class to be held at church on **Saturday, June 27th, 1 to 3 p.m.** Learn to make 100% natural soap. **The class is \$30.00** which includes all ingredients and a complete hands-on soap recipe. More details to follow. The class will be limited and a sign up genius will be coming soon. Any questions ask Gigi Mueller. We also discussed outreach projects. More info later. *if you are interested in becoming part of this important ministry, let Gigi or Pastor Amy 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. The next meeting will be **May 8th** - *The Great Alone* by Kritin Hannah (NOTE: This book is a bit longer than the books that we typically read - 576 pages, so plan ahead! You'll have two months to read this book.), **June 12th** - *The Book of Lost Names* by Kristin Harmel. 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!



*women's  
retreat*



**Stephen Ministers** You may see a few people in church wearing a blue and white Stephen Ministry pin. If you feel a need to talk to him or her or have someone pray with you, please approach one of them. Stephen Ministers are always available to help you.

**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 Pastor Amy know if you are interested.

**The Shepherding Team Needs Your Help!!** As you may be aware, St. Philip's has a team of people known as Shepherds who call or write each quarter to check in with members to see if there are any problems or needs - it's a way a congregation as large as ours can help the Pastors keep in touch with everyone. We are in need of one or two people who are willing to send notes or make calls once per quarter to check in with people. If you are willing to help, contact Sally Krapf or one of the Pastors and we can tell you more about how you can help.

**Habitat Restoration Crew** - The Crew is always looking for additional members. The only requirements are a heart for the land and a couple of hours on one Saturday or Wednesday each month. We meet in the morning (10:00 a.m. to Noon. currently) on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month *throughout the year*, weather permitting. Contact Mary or Phil Duncan for more information.

**Attention Widows, Widowers, and Those Who Have Lost Loved Ones!!** If you have lost a spouse, partner, or close loved one and would like to have some fellowship and support, there is now a support group meeting for fellowship and to provide comfort and support through this life transition. The next gathering is **May 14th at 12:30 p.m. lunch/1 p.m. meeting** in Room #031 here at church. If you are interested in being a part or learning more, contact Sally Krapf.

# MINISTRIES AT ST. PHILIP'S

**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** meets at church on the **second Wednesday** of the month from **Noon - 1:30 p.m.** The next gathering date is **May 13th in Room #031**. New people are welcome!! Contact Sharon Kittle. A **second group** is meeting Sundays after church. **The next meeting will be Sunday, TBD**, after the **10:30 service**. New people are welcome. Bring a lunch and come to the Mueller's home. We will start our discussion on prayer around **12-12:15 p.m.** Any questions, contact Gigi.

**Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregiver Support Group Continues to Meet at St. Philip's** - The Alzheimer's Assn. of the Delaware Valley is sponsoring a monthly support group for anyone who has a loved one with any form of dementia, including Alzheimer's. Living with or caring for a person with dementia can be extremely challenging, overwhelming and exhausting. The group offers education, support, and the opportunity to connect with others in a similar situation. Free and open to the public, the group will meet on the **second Tuesday of the month**. The next meeting will be on **May 12th at 1 p.m.** in Room #129. For more information, contact Erica Holmes or Jane Newcomer.

**Worship and Music Team** has had a lot of changes lately due to members of the team having life changes that has required them to retire from their jobs. If you are interested in helping out with this team which helps plan worship services through the year, we can use your help. You don't need to know anything about worship. Pastor Patrick is currently chairing the team—let him know if you can help.

**Pinner and Knotters** meet on the **third Wednesdays of each month**. The next meeting is **May 10th in the Fellowship Hall at 1:00 PM**. We have a number for projects ready to get underway. Consider joining us for this important ministry. No special skill is required.

# MINISTRIES AT ST. PHILIP'S

**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), **Cereal, Canned Vegetables, Toilet Paper, Salt & Pepper, Crackers, Coffee, Tea Bags, Cake Mix/Frosting.** Thank you so much for your generosity!!

### **GROCERY CLUB CLOTHING**

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

### **GROCERY CLUB**

**Wednesday, May 13, 2026 and May 27, 2026**

### **PET FOOD DONATIONS**

We are asking for pet food donations for the individuals and families in Grocery Club. It can be a one-time donation, a monthly donation or however many times you would like to donate.

If you don't want to shop for the food yourself, you can donate a gift card from Petco, PetSmart or Concord Pet and I will shop for you!

As an owner of 20 pets over the last 40 years, taking care of animals is very important to me.

If you are interested in helping, please email me, and I will send you a list of pet food that is needed.

Thank you,  
Nancy Zinnato



Thank you to everyone who donated food, non-perishables, time, and money to help make our March Family Promise host week a success. Our next host week will be May 10 -16. A sign-up poster will be in the narthex and a Sign-Up Genius for donations of food and other supplies is: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050949A9A62CA3FC1-63535296-family>

Family Promise has a wish list of items needed for families when they are in the Family Promise shelter, as well as when they move into their own housing. This list can be found at <https://www.familypromisede.org/wish-list>. If you would like to donate any of the items they are requesting, you can give them to Marty Budd or Rebecca Bardenhagen, or email us at the contact information below, and we will make sure they are delivered.

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 10, 2026 to May 16, 2026**

Thank you to all who have contributed to the Care Kits and to those who have taken one or more kits to distribute in the community! We can use any items, but are running especially low on the items that are asterisked (\*):

- Tooth paste**
- Tooth brush**
- Men's Deodorant (travel size) \***
- Small pack of tissues \***
- Band-Aids**
- Soap (unscented) or body wipes (non alcohol)**
- Socks (thick in winter, athletic in summer)\***
- Cracker sandwich packets (peanut butter or cheese)**

- Hat \***
- Gloves \***
- Sunscreen (summer)**
- Hand warmers**
- Rain Ponchos**
- Snack bar (chewy not hard)**
- Water bottle**
- Fruit cup or applesauce**



**Trip to Museum of the Bible:** Join us to experience the "*greatest archeological find in history*": **the Dead Sea Scrolls!** Due to great interest and excitement after the three-week adult class on the Dead Sea Scrolls, we will be taking a bus trip down to the Museum of the Bible in Washington D.C. to see them for ourselves! **We will be going on Wednesday, June 3rd and we hope you can join us!** You won't want to miss this incredible and rare experience! We will have a special group guided tour of the Museum, time to explore on your own, a catered lunch, designated time to see the Dead Sea Scrolls, and comfortable coach bus transportation to and from the church. You can register in the Narthex from Sunday, April 12th to Sunday, May 17th (payment is due upon registration). Total price for everything included is \$110 per person. ***We have 54 slots available for anyone to come and join us!*** We can't wait! If you have any questions see Pr. Amy &/or Janet Shechter.

*Join us!*

# UPCOMING EVENTS:

## May 2026

- May 1-3 – Youth Beach Retreat at Bethany Beach!!!!!!!
- May 10 - No Youth Group - Mother's Day (We do have Breakfast Club – last Breakfast Club for this program year)
- May 17 – Graduate Quilt Blessing + Ice Cream & Superlative Awards (1-2:30pm)
  - Tool Training for Work Camp (12-12:45pm)
- May 24 - No Youth Group - Memorial Day Weekend

## June 2026

- Work Camp!!!!
  - Ohio – June 14-20, 2026

## Our 2026 High School Graduates!!!



**Isaac Armstrong - Great Options! - Undecided as of 4/22/2026**

**Jon Downes - Headed to West Virginia University**

**Megan Ierien - Headed to University of Delaware**

**Sarah Myers - Great Options! - Undecided as of 4/22/2026**

**Arden Shindel - Headed to University of New Hampshire**

**Avalon Sparrow - Headed to Bay Path University in Massachusetts**



# lcs | lutheran community services



2026 Room at the  
Table Breakfast



Wednesday,  
May 6th

**Rooted & Rising: Growing Stability, Cultivating Change & Empowerment**

[Register Now](#)

- Where: Riverfront Events, 760 Justison St, Wilmington, DE 19801
- When: May 6th
  - Doors Open: 8:30 AM
  - Breakfast & Program: 9:00 – 10:00 AM

[Donate](#)

Join us for a morning of community and impact. Hear client stories of moving from emergency to empowerment and remarks from our new Executive Director, Maryum Lee.

Hello  
May



# 2026 Golf Classic

To Support Homelessness Prevention



## FIELDSTONE GOLF COURSE

Play the award winning course!

**Monday, June 8th, 12:30 pm, shotgun start**

### Pricing:

#### Ticket Packages

**\$325** Per Golfer

**\$1,750** Per Corporate Foursome

**\$100** Per Extra Dinner Guest

#### Sponsor Packages

**\$5,000** Dinner Sponsor

**\$3,000** Lunch Sponsor

**\$2,000** Cocktail Hour Sponsor

**\$1,500** Halfway Hut Sponsor

**\$1,500** SWAG Sponsor

**\$500** Hole Sponsor

### The Day Will Include:

- Hole-in-one Prize Giveaway
- Boxed Lunch
- Contests & Silent Auction
- On Course Beverages
- Gift Bags
- 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)



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



Apple



Android



## *Joyous Spring Blessings to All!*

We're celebrating an amazing year of ministry, fellowship, abundant new students, faith, growth, and laughter-filled community at Lutheran Campus Ministry at UD!

April included a wonderful day at Longwood Gardens for our spring retreat; a fun and meaningful Tuesday visit from our bishop, the Rev. Bill Gohl; a beautiful Saturday morning hike; and joyous Easter celebrations, including worship conversations, an Easter egg hunt, and egg dyeing and painting. (Please see the photo below.) We're excited for May's events, including celebrating our graduating senior, Meghan, and finishing out this academic year well and faithfully together.

We continue to seek new members for our Directing Committee (governing board.) If you have a heart for young adults and campus ministry, and you'd like to connect with LCM in a new way, please contact me. We'd also like to welcome you to two upcoming events at the LCM chapel:

**Senior Honor Night** on Tuesday evening, May 12: Group photos at 6:30 PM, with worship beginning at 6:45 PM, with a light reception to follow.

**LCM's Thank You Party** on Saturday afternoon, June 13: An open house at the chapel from 1 to 4 PM. All students, alumni, and friends of the ministry are welcome, as we kick off the summer before our 75<sup>th</sup> year by giving thanks for all who help this ministry to grow and thrive. We're grateful for you!

Thank you for your ongoing prayers for the students and volunteers of LCM. We especially welcome prayers for confidence, grace, and courage for **Meghan**, our graduating senior, as well as prayers for God's continued blessings, guidance, and protection for **Rachel** and **Vanessa**, who were both baptized this academic year. Please also pray for doors to open wide before our students to summer employment and internships as this school year draws to a close. Thank you! We wish you all God's blessings and peace! □

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



*The students had a great time dyeing Easter eggs in early April!*

## So Much Fun and So Little Time!

Of all the articles I've had the honor to write detailing activities at the Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center, this one is the most action packed!!

Last month, the Center's youngest scholars were on the move! Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator, Dashaba Fielder, says they went everywhere. "On the floor, in the crib, climbing on the table, walking, eating, singing and dancing!!!! They love to clap, clap, clap! Object permanence was very prevalent in the infant room this month. Playing "Turtle hide and seek" was so much fun!! Seeing the delight on their faces when the object was revealed reminded us of why we do what we do each day."

The toddlers were active too. Dashaba says they enjoyed what's called "Life in the Pond." "(It's) a unit all about pond friends. Fish, turtles and ducks. They loved singing, "'The Five Little Ducks.'" During sensory play, the (toddler) twos practiced pouring water into different size containers." Meanwhile, Dashaba reports the preschoolers were looking at objects and creatures in their backyard. "The children made their own binoculars using empty paper towel and toilet paper rolls to help them find bugs in the yard. Creating a "nature" face using leaves, pinecones, pine needles, and flowers was a great experience. Our science area was filled with living objects such as seashells, plants, soil, and even bugs!"

After all of that work, the kids needed a fiesta, which Dashaba says was turned into a learning experience. "We read; *Let's Have a Party* and *The Sombrero*. The children enjoyed taking turns wearing the big 'ol sombrero. The fiesta was a hit. The children enjoyed chicken empanadas, rice and beans, chips and salsa, music and of course; a pinata! What a way to bring in Spring Break!

Hilltop's kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade scholars got in on the act by celebrating Dr. Suess' birthday in March. Center Youth Services Coordinator, Teresa Allen, reports that her team used the Dr. Suess Reading is FUNdamental curriculum. We decided to celebrate him by doing activities that highlight his work." "The first activity was (using) Sight Words to color the sheet. Each color had a sight word attached to it and the children colored the sheet by identifying the sight word and the color. They also... (used) numbers and a Dr. Suess word find sheet to help increase their vocabulary. In honor of Dr. Suess," Teresa says "we made large paper Birthday cakes which the children colored and hung on the wall by their hooks."

Teresa reports our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders worked on Dr. Suess' book *Oh the Things You can Think* to work on parts of speech. "(They played) a game entitled Can Do Reading Games Prefixes & Suffixes. The parts of speech the game specifically concentrated on were Prefixes, Suffixes and Root words.

But wait, there's more fun! Not wanting to be left out, Center Deputy Director, Brandon Furrowh says young evening scholars who met after Easter took part in numerous activities. "The week kicked off with a cooking class, where the students learned how to make their own barbecue sauce. The students shredded rotisserie chicken, toasted slider rolls, and slathered a sweet and tangy handmade barbecue sauce on each sandwich. The room was filled with messy and smiley faces." Brandon says the fun didn't end there. "Tuesday and Thursday consisted of Springtime Bible Study. There, the students learned the meaning of the Great Commission, the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and key components when reading the Bible. Last but not least, the students spun tunes and their bodies during the DJ workshop led by DJ Mega Skills."

*Our thanks to the students and staff of Hilltop for sharing all their fun activities with us.*

*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:***

John and Barb Williams, Charles and Ruth Bowles, Carol Ruckle, Sharon Smith, Louise James, Helga Kissell, Sherry Thompson, Dave Frampton, Amy Papili, Donna Hokanson, Lynn Pouser, Elizabeth Stirk, Jeff Stirk, Charlie Boss, Ellen Lenker, Phyllis Bolgiano, Yvonne Cilento, Danny Mason, Kim Longo, Mark Davis, David Nevins, John Frink, Kelly Krapf, Trudy Gilgenast, Carol Goodman, Tony Calvarese, David Kenney, Cathy Snyder, Allison Hewitt, Diane Murray

***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 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; **Louise Cookson**, grandmother & **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 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; **Doris S. & Kathleen K.**, friends, & **Caleb Houtmann**, grandson of Anne Hamilton; **Frank Kulick**, brother of Ruth Bowles; **Christopher Longo**, son of John & Kim Longo; **Lisa Santak**, daughter of Marion Santak; **The Family of Maddy G.**, friends of Angela Klemens; **Rick Ricciardi**, brother of Nancy Warner; **Mark & Jeanne Favreau**, family of Rev. Arlene Favreau-Pysher; **Chuck Stirk**, son of Elizabeth Stirk, **John Stachowski & Family**, friends of Tom Krapf, **Lael Zinnato**, granddaughter of Nancy Zinnato; **George Rice**, son of Vicky Rice; **Mark Fawzi**, son of Judy Fawzi; **Bob Gilmour**, friend of John and Jodi Newcomer; **Kevin Hewitt**, brother of Rebecca Litterst; **Rory Manhard**, granddaughter of Suzanne Bradley; **Paul Throne**, brother of Pam Brenneman; **Quintin Barrett**, grandnephew of Yvonne Cilento



Kate McGovern	5/3	Barb Hewlett	5/18
Pat Colucci	5/4	Cole Opderbeck	5/20
Abby Litterst	5/5	Sharon Price	5/21
Valerie Aunet	5/6	Xavier Garbacz	5/22
Karen Stahl	5/9	Lillian Freburger	5/23
Ruth Henry	5/9	Harold Holeman	5/26
Malcolm Anderson	5/13	Debbi Miller	5/26
Matthew Grieder	5/15	Joseph Papili	5/28
Tom McDonough	5/15	Sara Budd	5/29
Gigi Mueller	5/16	Olivia King	5/29
Kelly Sanderson	5/16	Logan Cookson	5/30
Anna Bardenhagen	5/18	Sadie Armstrong	5/30

## May God Bless You on Your Special Day!

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### **Welcome baby Lorelei Ann!**

Born on April 13th at 2 a.m.

to Samantha (Sam) Gustaitis

She weighed 6 lbs 15 ounces and 19.5 inches long

Niece and Great Niece of Tom and Katie Gustaitis



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  
Rebecca Bardenhagen, Secretary  
Mike Berkheimer, Financial Secretary

### **Council:**

Donna Daugherty  
Tom Gustaitis  
Michael Imgarten  
David Kenney  
Rebecca Litterst  
Kate McGovern

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

Debbi Miller  
Steve Nkurlu  
Jim Stevens

### **Committees/Activities:**

Altar Guild.....  
Christian Education.....  
Enviro. Stewardship.....  
Fellowship.....  
Finance/Audit.....  
Grocery Club.....  
Habitat Restoration Group  
Kenya Outreach Team..  
Outreach.....  
Prayer Ministry.....  
Property.....  
.....  
Stephen Ministry.....  
Worship and Music.....

Carol Oesterbo  
Sharon Kittle  
David Porter  
Pam Sheffer  
Coleman Bye  
Nancy Zinnato  
Phil & Mary Duncan  
Sarah Swift  
Susan Mack  
Contact Church Office  
Dave Frampton  
Mark Myers  
Gigi Mueller  
Pastor Patrick(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. Christian Education for all ages  
9:15 a.m. Large Group Forum in the Fellowship Hall  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service In Sanctuary