



Saint Matthew Lutheran Church
A congregation of The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Messenger

Mission Statement:

Saint Matthew Lutheran Church is a community of disciples reaching out through Christ in loving worship, witness and service.

May 2015

Vol. 4 Issue 5

A publication for your information.

SUNDAYS IN MAY



Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:30/11am Worship Service
9:45am Sunday School
Adult Forum: *Trends in the Delaware Mission District* led by Pastor



Sixth Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day Flower Sale
8:30/11am Worship Service
9:45am Sunday School
Adult Forum: *Trends in U.S. Christianity* led by Pastor



Seventh Sunday of Easter

8:30am Worship Service
9:45am Sunday School (*Last Day*)
Adult Forum: *Memorial Fund Update*
11:00am Worship Service
Baptism: *Anthony Joseph Steck*



Day of Pentecost (*Summer Worship Begins*)

9:30am Worship Service



Holy Trinity

9:30am Worship Service
Baptism: *Miles Lucas Carrasquillo*
5:30pm Taizé (*Evening Worship Begins*)



This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here.
We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace.
Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person —
questions, complexities and all.

Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

Wed., May 20, 7pm *Pentecost Vigil* 7pm at SMLC

with The Rev. Dr. David Lose
(See pg. 2)

Sun., June 7, 9:30am *Choir* *Appreciation*

Following the Service:
Semi-Annual Meeting

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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 - 7. Social Concerns; Hand-Up Sunday
 - 8. Bridge of Peace; Women of ELCA
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Articles for next newsletter
due May 15, 2015



Pentecost Vigil Wed., May 20 7pm at SMLC

Delaware Mission District will hold a Pentecost Vigil at Saint Matthew – **Wed. May 20, 7pm.** The preacher will be the new president of The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, The Rev. Dr. David Lose. There will also be a combined choir.

The Delaware Mission District is comprised of the 32 ELCA congregations in Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Salem and Cumberland counties, and Pastor Ingrid Wengert is the Dean.

Pastoral Acts

Baptism

4/5/15

Lucas Jackson Malatack

Funeral

4/29/15

Charles von Wrangell

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and 'like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood... (1 Peter 2:4-5)

Declining Christianity & Fear of the Future*

In recent years, Christians in the U.S. have heard depressing news about statistical trends. It can be summed up with a grand overview by *Religion News Service* "During the post-war, baby-booming 1950s, there was a revival of religion. Then came the societal changes of the 1960s, which included a questioning of religious institutions. The resulting decline in religion stopped by the end of the 1970s, when religiosity remained steady. Over the past fifteen years, however, religion has once again declined. But this decline is much sharper than the decline of 1960s and 1970s."

Many "mainline" congregations in NJ and Philadelphia are valiantly struggling to keep their doors open, and I have witnessed much fear, doom & gloom, and even scare tactics spoken by pan-Christian leaders "If we don't do such-and-such, Christianity will die."

We do indeed live in a rapidly changing world. But for Christians, there is no need to fear Christianity will die – or to think that the church's failure (or success) rests on our shoulders. In the end, it's not *our* church, it's *God's* church – and God has seen it through many other eras of very rapid change (e.g., the enlightenment & the industrial era). Thus, on one hand, we can stay calm in the face of dire, depressing reports about Christianity, and continue steadfastly to give away what has been given to us – the "living stone" (*see First Peter, above*). That is, Jesus Christ. The heart of the church really is that simple, and hasn't ever changed, even though societies have utterly changed since the early church.

Realistic Expectations and a Royal Priesthood

On the other hand we should have *realistic* expectations about our era and what that means for being church in the coming decades. There were many grand visions and strategies created by mainline denominations in the 1990's and "the church growth movement" for extensive ministry programs and ploys to "market" to younger people to attract them to church. Unfortunately, the opposite happened, and fewer people are now gathering around Word & Sacrament in all denominations. Not to mention that believing "if we just do such and such, they'll come..." also takes the church out of God's hands and puts it into ours.

Here, then, are both ends of the spectrum: There's no need to tremble in fear for the future of the church...and there's no need to have wild or false expectations about our power and influence.

Humbly Confident

So then, with humble confidence, let us face the future. Humble, because we see that many friends, family, and people in general don't find the Christian faith as meaningful or life-giving as we do. But confident, too, because the church rests upon the rejected cornerstone – Jesus Christ. First Peter's advice continues to be helpful: "*let yourselves be built into a spiritual house...*" that is, Christ is the living & rejected cornerstone, who continues to build us up to be a living, spiritual community held together by him.

Come to adult forum in May 3 and May 10 to learn about some of the trends among our sister Lutheran congregations in southwestern NJ, and Christianity in the U.S. I'm hoping these presentations will help to ground us in our present reality, but also give hope and courage in Christ as we face our future together.

—Pastor Wengert

*Parts of this article are taken from my 2014 pastor's report, which doesn't get a very wide readership – being 30 pages long - so I thought I'd revisit it here.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

SMLC Constitution

At the June 2014 Congregation Meeting the Congregation Council recommended, to the congregation, the approval of an amended constitution. During that meeting a motion was approved to delay a vote on that recommendation in order for the congregation to have more time to review the amendments and allow for additional opportunity for discussion regarding the proposed amendments.

The Congregation Council subsequently approved a plan to review and discuss the amended sections of the constitution at 5 scheduled Adult Forum sessions which were then conducted throughout the fall and early winter of 2014. During these 5 Adult Forum sessions there were open discussion aimed at understanding the nature of the amendments.

Following a one-year period of opportunity for congregation members to become familiar with all the amendments and as a result of the 5 Adult Forum sessions, the Congregation Council is planning to recommend to the Congregation they approve the amended constitution at the June 7, 2015 Congregation Semi-Annual Meeting.

Our current church constitution, last revised in May 2006, requires updating as a result of the amendments to the ELCA Model Constitution made by previous ELCA Church-wide Assemblies dating back to 2003. The majority of the amendments are ELCA-required and do not lend themselves to change by a congregation. However, some of the changes are non-required sections which may be amended by a congregation. ELCA congregations are encouraged to incorporate the amendments into their church constitution as expediently as possible so, should it become necessary for a congregation to act on business requiring Synod participation or deal with internal matters—we are all following the same process and procedures. In other words, these changes are necessary to maintain good order regarding the execution of the business of the church. Good order, in this case, means we all collectively understand, in conducting the business of the church, what the Synod, Congregation Council and Congregation are responsible for and authorized to do.

In accordance with our current Constitution, amendments to the Constitution must be made available to the Congregation 30 days prior to a properly called congregation meeting for that purpose. Therefore copies of the proposed amended Constitution, along with instructional information, will be made available in the church foyer on Sunday, May 3, 2015. The document will also be available on the church website.

I encourage you to take the time to review the documents which will detail every proposed change, both addition or a deletions, which will be clearly annotated for your ease of identification.

—Yours in Christ, Dick

2014-15 Council Officers

President:

Dick Graybill

VP & Mutual Ministry:

Chair: Kris Burns

Secretary:

Lorraine Horton

Treasurer:

Tom Cassel



Council Members

Evangelism:

Pete Boal

Fellowship & Parish Life:

Brandie Plasket

Property:

Steve Cathcart

Social Concerns:

Bob Ganskopp

Spiritual Life:

Pete Boal

Stewardship:

Jack Horton

Worship & Music:

Peter Jensen

Youth & Family:

OPEN

Youth Rep.:

Taylor Nieto

Alternate Youth Rep.:

Kylee Miller



Evangelism: Pam Bowen

Facilities Planning

Task Force: Jim Merrill

Memorial: Bill Acheson

Property: Brian Schultz

New Members To Join Saint Matthew

We will receive new members in May or June date TBD.

Joining Saint Matthew involves attending a 4-hr. Saturday class for adults, and being present on the Sunday when we receive new members during worship.

We like for all new members to make every effort to attend both events if at all possible.

Saturday Class

Half of the Saturday class is "Lutheran 101" taught by retired seminary professor The Rev. Dr. Tim Wengert, and the other half is "Saint Matthew 101" taught by Pastor Ingrid Wengert. We are discerning which of 2 dates would work for new members: May 16 or June 13.

Sunday Reception

We like to receive members on a festival Sunday, and in the spring, Pentecost is that Sunday. However, this year, Pentecost falls on Memorial Day week-end. We are discerning which of 3 dates would work for new members: May 24, May 31 or June 11.

So, if you are thinking about joining the congregation - please let Pastor Wengert know which Saturday/s and Sunday/s work for you.

YOUTH & FAMILY

Mother's Day Flower Sale ~ Sun., May 10

Proceeds to benefit Participants of the 2015 Youth Gathering.

Mentor's Dinner ~ Tues., May 27 6:30pm

8th Grade Confirmation Students are introduced to their mentors as the last part of the Confirmation program.

Congratulations to our College Graduates

Jacob Brodie
Drexel Univ.

Madison Galvin
Fordham Univ.

Jeana Lowy
Widener Univ.

Jacob Nice
Neumann Univ.

Emily Van Fossen
Cornell Univ.

David Westad
East Carolina Univ.

Those who received First Communion 4/19

Lily Abbruzzi
Jonah Borris
Derek Coceano
Ryan Coceano
Oliver English
Jake Every-Clayton

Isabella Feliciano
Angela Fury
Alexa Masserini
Drew Milstead
Madeline Schoenberger
Noah Stapleton

Feeding the World

We thank God for all who participated in the ELCA World Hunger Piggy Banks project. Just thought you'd like to know that over \$300 in loose change (and one old button) was collected. Well done – good and faithful servants! —*Bill Lawrence*

Crossroads Camp and Retreat

Take a tour of the camp, hear stories, ask questions and finish with a delicious lunch in the dining hall. RSVP 908.832.7264 by the Monday before. **OPEN HOUSE:** May 16 or June 6 (10:30am Cross Roads Camp & Retreat Center 29 Pleasant Grove Rd, Port Murray, NJ 07865 (1 1/2 hours from Moorestown—Skylands Region)

MEMORIAL FUND SCHOLARSHIPS



Scholarships will be awarded this year to college bound high school seniors. Students who currently are enrolled in colleges will be not be eligible. Applications will be available on the tables in the church foyer. The deadline for submitting applications is **Sunday, May 24, 2015.**

—*Bill Acheson, chair*

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Altar Flower Price Increase

Nearly every Sunday we are blessed with the gift of beautiful fresh flowers that adorn our chancel and enhance our worship experience. These flowers are often given by members and friends to remember or to honor loved ones and sometimes they are given to recognize special occasions. These ever changing floral arrangements are a weekly reminder of the beauty of the unfolding creation and are always given *To The Glory Of God*. For well over a decade there have been no price increases. What was once a mutually agreed upon price has with time become an incredible bargain for us and not such a great deal for our florist. The time to re-set the price has arrived and **beginning May 1** the cost to donate these flowers will be **\$40** per arrangement. —*Peter Jensen, W&M chairperson*

A Special Thank You: To Anne and Paul Otto for their faithfulness in coming out to help unload the Easter plants on Good Friday. I am also grateful for the wonderful volunteers who helped in arranging the flowers in the sanctuary the following day: Barbara DeLamater, Dennis Lawrence, Sandy Meany, Paul Otto and Joy Wadleigh. The cross looked beautiful with special thanks to the artistic talents of Chris Cassel and Joy Wadleigh. What a special blessing to have so many dedicated friends decorate our church for the Easter season. My deepest thanks to each and every one! —*Lynne Ganskopp*

STEWARDSHIP



In previous articles on SIMPLY GIVING we emphasized the convenience for the parishioners. However, we are coming off a very severe winter that reduced attendance at worship. It is worth noting that on those Sundays of reduced attendance the offering was also greatly reduced-except for those members who signed up for SIMPLY GIVING. Their offerings were received even if they were not in attendance and therefore they helped maintain a healthy cash flow for meeting the obligations of the congregation.

Now we have summer approaching and many of us will be vacationing and if we aren't signed up for SIMPLY GIVING there will be further difficulties for our treasurer as he meets the financial obligations of the church.

So our message is simple, please sign up for SIMPLY GIVING. There are forms in the information rack in the foyer, or see Kim in the office.
—*Jack Horton*

FELLOWSHIP & PARISH LIFE

Calling All Knitters, Crocheters & Quilters

Tues., May 5 & 19

9:30am in Fellowship Hall



St. Matt Readers

7:30pm in Library

- ♦ **Mon., June 22**
Lila
By: Marilynne Robinson
- ♦ **Mon., Sept. 28**
Go Set a Watchman
By: Harper Lee



Media-Movie- Munchies

- ♦ **Fri., May 1, 7pm**
Featuring: *Philomena*
- ♦ **Fri., June 5,**
6pm Pizza Party
7pm
Featuring: *Boyhood*

OLDER WISER LUTHERAN SENIORS (OWLS)

Thursday, May 7, Noon

Guest Speaker, Earnest Kaufman

A remarkable 94-yr old Holocaust survivor will be with us on May 7th as he recounts his amazing life story. We will meet in Fellowship Hall as we anticipate other congregations to join us. Please bring a sandwich; beverages and dessert will be provided.

—Bob Ganskopp

Thank You from Mary Cross

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

Thank you dear members of SMLC for the many prayers you offered on my behalf during my year long battle with mental illness. I also appreciate the kindness of so many of you who sent me encouraging messages and cards and for the meals you prepared for my family. Praise the Lord for a wonderful caring church family!

Thank you! —Mary Jane Cross

IN THE COMMUNITY

May Friendship Day

Friday, May 1, 12 Noon

Sponsored by Church Women United

Evergreens on Bridgeboro Rd., Moorestown

Guest Speaker: Sue Harris

Theme: "Journey of the Caregiver"

For more info call or email Mae Trebing

609-239-4942. ironhorse2102@gmail.com.

Bach Festival Cantatas

Sunday, May 17, 7:30pm

First Presbyterian Church

West Jersey Chamber Symphony & Chorale



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

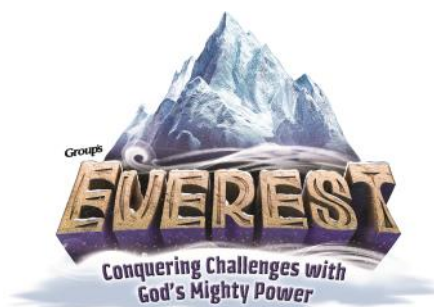
EVEREST, Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power

Sunday, July 12 through July 16, 6-8pm

For 3 yr. olds through 5th Graders

For description of theme visit:

<http://www.group.com/vbs/everest>



Snowflake/Icicle Decorations Wanted:

If you have any wintry decorations, i.e. icicle lights, snowflakes, etc. that we could borrow, please leave them in the basket in the foyer with your name on them.

Volunteers Wanted:

We need Volunteers to chaperone, bake, pre-registration help, decorating, banner designing, greeters, there is a need you can fulfill. If interested, please contact Lisa Merrill, momm6434@hotmail.com or 856.414.0273. Sign-up sheet is on bulletin board.

Mark your calendars for our next VBS Meetings:

May 3, following 11am worship ~ **June 28**, following 9:30am worship service.

To Register Children:

Please complete form on last page of newsletter or go to St. Matthew's website www.stmatthew-lutheran.org.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

CROP Walk ~ May 3

1pm Registration/ 1:30 Stepping-off at SMLC

A ministry to help end hunger. Twenty-five percent of money raised is returned to Moorestown to support its 3 food pantries.

To sign up, please see Mae Trebing on Sundays in the foyer.

For more info, see Mae Trebing or email her
ironhorse2102@gmail.com.

Lunch Bunch ~ May 14, 7pm in Teen Den

A ministry that provides a full lunch, once a month, to the homeless patrons of the New Visions Center in Camden, NJ

Drop-off your cookies, cakes, or brownies; place them on a disposable plate and mark it for "Lunch Bunch."

Interfaith Hospitality Network

A Community Response for Homeless Families

SMLC to host May 17-24

If you are able to help with driving, staying overnight, or cooking meals, please sign up on the bulletin board in the foyer. For more info, contact Barry Grahn, bgrahn1@comcast.net or 856.303.1389.

Spring Fling ~ May 16, 10am-3pm

Think Spring with Lutheran Crossings Auxiliary

Thanks to your contributions of jewelry, wallets, purses, decorative and kitchen items the Lutheran Crossings Auxiliary is able to continue its mission of providing enjoyable activities for Crossings residents. St. Matthew contributions are very important to the continuation of this fundraiser, providing most of what we offer. Dave and I set up sales tables on the second Thursday of each month the auxiliary meets at the Crossings.

Residents will often ask us if I we mind that they linger at the tables to investigate items we have for sale. Dave and I assure them that they can stay as long as the want. This is their opportunity to shop. All proceeds derived from the sales benefit the residents, helping to provide birthday and holiday parties. The Auxiliary recently contributed \$10,000 towards a new van for the Crossings.

"Spring Fling" will replace June Day, traditionally held on the grounds of the Crossings, as our annual fundraiser. The date for that event will be this month—**Saturday, May 16th**. Dave and I, along with other volunteers will sell donated items on a much larger scale. If you have larger items for the Spring Fling you may contact Dave.

*Dave Frech 609-320-5244
Lorraine Horton 856-780-5202*



Hand-Up Sunday May 10

The Live Civilly/Moorestown Ministerium Food Pantry is in need of:

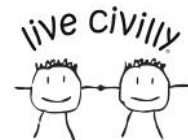
- ♦ Canned pasta
- ♦ Canned fruit
- ♦ Canned chicken, ham
- ♦ Rice
- ♦ Complete Pancake Mix
- ♦ Syrup
- ♦ Pasta sauce (*canned*)
- ♦ Peanut Butter (*small*)
- ♦ Jelly (*small*)
- ♦ Snacks

For Monetary Donations:

Make check payable to
St. Matthew Church
with "Food Pantry"
in the memo

For youth volunteers

contact:
Kahra Buss



856.313.9853

For adult volunteers

contact:
Brian & Cara Lowy
flyerzfan@aol.com



Food Pantry at Bridge of Peace

Please place donations under mailboxes in our foyer. The Peace Center Food Pantry at BOP helps to feed their neighborhood and beyond. This month the food pantry needs the following items:

- ♦ Cereal
- ♦ Peanut Butter & Jelly
- ♦ Dry Milk
- ♦ Parmalat
- ♦ Evaporated Milk
- ♦ Soups & Stews (w/meat)
- ♦ Spam
- ♦ Tuna
- ♦ Ham
- ♦ Chicken (canned)

NOTE: *Please check expiration dates.*

For Monetary Donations:

Make check payable to
St. Matthew Church
with
"Camden Food Pantry"
in the memo

Thanks to all the volunteers who have signed up to deliver food. Drivers are now assigned on a rotation schedule and we welcome adding people to the rotation; see Lisa Merrill, if interested.

BRIDGE OF PEACE

Youth Group Supper Salads, Beverages & Dessert (NOTE: No casseroles needed)

- 30 – 40 youth & adults meet at Bridge of Peace every Tuesday, beginning with supper.
- SMLC provides a full course supper the 3rd Tuesday of each month
- Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board
- Leave donations in Teen Den refrigerator (or nearby) **by Sun., May 17, 11am.**

Other items to donate anytime:

Sturdy paper plates, plastic utensils, cups, napkins, apple juice, lemonade, water and condiments i.e. salad dressing, ketchup, mustard etc. These items can be placed in the teen den or in the foyer near the mailboxes clearly marked **"BOP Youth Supper."**

—Lisa Merrill, BOP Communicator
momm6434@hotmail.com



WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Morning Circle Friday, May 8, 10am in Shockey Lounge

Our speaker is Penny Miller, a member of Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Tabernacle and a registered nurse, who went with a 25 person medical team to Haiti to provide medical support. The need was enormous both for medical supplies and for basic personal and household items. But Penny noticed that the women were reluctant to pick up pants and she subsequently learned that Christian women there wear skirts! Penny shared this information with her church home and a group began to make 185 skirts for Penny to take to Haiti on her next trip which was after the devastating earthquake in 2010.

Come and hear the rest of her story and learn of her unique mission effort. Look on the bulletin board for more information. Lunch will follow at The Corner Bakery, Rte. 38, (near Boscov's) **NOTE:** Please bring a bag or a bag of beans.

—Virginia Sheppard



Mark Your Calendar!
WELCA Salad & Dessert Night
Wed., June 10, 6:30pm

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Bible Studies

All are Welcome!

- ♦ **Monday, 10:30am** in Lounge
with Wayne Becker



- ♦ **1st John: Book of Light and Love**
5/7, 5/14, 5/21, 5/28

NOTE: Moved to Thursday evenings, 7:30pm
Led by Pastor Ingrid Wengert

Adult Forum

5/3 Trends in the Delaware Mission District

(ELCA congregations in Burlington, Camden, Gloucester Cumberland and Salem counties) led by Pastor Wengert who is the District Dean.

5/10 Trends in U.S. Christianity led by Pastor Wengert.

5/17 Memorial Fund Update led by Bill Acheson.

The Trustees of the Memorial Fund will provide an update on the status of the fund, including it's financial performance and the donations it has made over the past few years. Looking forward, we would appreciate the congregation's input for the future growth of the fund, as well as ways to use its income in a manner consistent with our mission here at SMLC.

Memorial Day is 5/24 - so 5/17 is the last day of SS and Adult Forum

Stephen Ministry

Congregation is invited to attend lecture on dementia
Wed., May 12, 7:30pm in the Library



Continuing Education Coordinator, Rev. Peggy Marks, and Training Coordinator, Joy Wadleigh, have invited Meredith Baker, Director of Brightview in Mt. Laurel to educate their combined classes about living with diseases characterized by nerve cell deterioration.

Meredith Baker oversees a senior living residential home which includes Wellspring Village for Alzheimer's care.

The presentation will be held in the church library on Wed., May 12, 7:30pm. The Stephen Leader Team is welcoming interested members of the congregation, as well, to learn more about living with progressive decline in thinking and memory.

—Sue Kuhn



IN OUR
Prayers

Convalescing:

- ♦ Mary Cross
- ♦ Marian Duda
- ♦ Douglas Gee
- ♦ Barry Grahn
- ♦ Joyce Hagen
- ♦ Helen Hopkins
- ♦ Herb Hopkins
- ♦ Karen Terpak

Homebound/Other:

- ♦ Nancy Beth Abele
- ♦ Grace Barone
- ♦ Nancé Carlson
- ♦ Evelyn Frintner
- ♦ Phil Hall
- ♦ Doris Holmes
- ♦ Dot Jensen
- ♦ Betty Kelley
- ♦ Lynn Krudewig
- ♦ Shane Gibson
- ♦ Neil Gilmour
- ♦ Mike Hoffman
- ♦ Lois Lukasik
- ♦ John Parkin
- ♦ Bud Radey
- ♦ Alexis Schoenhofer
- ♦ Walter Trebing

Serving in Military:

- ♦ David Boehmler
- ♦ Beth Eilers
- ♦ Carson Griffis
- ♦ Danny Merrill
- ♦ Janal Thomas

Partners in Ministry:

- ♦ **Bridge of Peace**
www.bridgeofpeace.com
- ♦ **Christus Academy**
www.christusacademy.org
- ♦ **Lutheran Disaster Response** www.elca.org
- ♦ **Stephen Deal**
ELCA Missionary-Costa Rica

Happy Birthday May

1 Max Frable
1 Ryan Kastner
3 Debbie Brown-Zellner
3 Matthew Waxman
3 Gianna Vaiarelli
4 Victoria Steck
4 Scott Cornish
5 Grace Barone
7 Betty Kelley
9 Wendy Pizzi
12 Lois Lukasik
13 Bruce Arruda
13 Ed Dager
13 Veronica Barger
14 Cameron Nikoo
14 Sam Borris
15 Kimmie Smith
16 Caroline Milstead
16 Alexander Gilson
17 Lindsey Every-Clayton
17 Aurelia Harp
17 Avery Douglas
17 Brandon Uhlig
18 Hunter Gibson
18 Tay Peters
19 Pia Ems
19 Karen Terpak
19 Matthew Niedzwiecki
21 Joshua Becker
22 Barbara M. Mallory
22 Karen Widin
22 Daniel Burns
22 Bonnie Criscione
23 Maureen Schoenberger
23 Anthony Mazzola
23 Emily Terpak
23 Gary Duda
24 Annalise Schultz
24 Stephen Cathcart
24 Ethan Schwarz
25 John O'Meara
25 Maxwell Castner
26 Kathleen Grahm
26 Ray Fausak
26 Samantha Brodie
28 Joyce Schultz
28 Kate Flothmeier
29 Mary Tyler
30 Brien Campbell
30 Gwendolyn Gibson
30 Rev. Dallas Dorward
30 David Barger
31 Tasha Buran



PROPERTY



**TUESDAY
MORNING
MAINTENANCE**

Spring Clean-Up: We give thanks to God for the members of the congregation, confirmands and Boy Scout Troop 42 that helped in the Spring Clean-Up on March 28, 2015. Congregation members included: Paul and Ann Otto, Lynne & Bob Ganskopp, Bill Lawrence, Joy Wadleigh, Bernie Gustad, Alice & Dick Graybill, Mary Hilal, Dave Frech, Carol & Steve Cathcart, Michael & Laura Kruse, Judy Jochumsen, Charlie Lange, Shirley Schmidt and Eric Peper; along with confirmands Vincent Cariello and Matthew Peper. Boy Scout Troop members included: Pete, Vincent, Christina & Rosie Mirabella, Thomas Nardello, Sarah & Rob Gale, Ronny Hicks, Pat, Andrew & Shane McDonald, Noah & Nicole Giandinetti, Ryan Vesneski, Bill Anthony and Marc, Regina & Ryan Demaio. Troop 42 spread mulch around the church property among other clean-up activities.

Other: The window air conditioners were serviced and checked for operation. Asphalt repairs were made to the driveway. Light timers were changed to daylight saving time. All lawn maintenance equipment (tractor, mower, weed wacker and blower) was serviced and checked for operation. —*Brian Schultz*

TROOP 42



Troop 42 ventured to Wharton State forest to do a 7 mile backpacking hike to Apple Pie Hill. Unfortunately Mother Nature had other plans for the troop... dumping 6 inches of snow the night before the hike. The scouts had to use all of their cold weather knowledge to handle the weekend. Waterproof boots, warm socks, and extra clothing were a necessity for this trip. The scouts also had to figure out how to start a fire with wet wood. The scouts came through with flying colors. A nice roaring fire served 3 purposes... to cook, to dry off and to stay warm. Good job scouts!!!!

I would like to congratulate the latest Eagle Scout in Troop 42— Vincent Mirabella has earned Eagle Scout which is the highest award a Boy Scout can obtain. Only 4% of all boys that start scouting obtain the rank of Eagle. One of the many requirements to obtain the rank of Eagle is to lead a service project. Vincent's service project was to rehab the Community Room at the Bridge of Peace in Camden. The walls, trim and windows were painted. New hand rail and linoleum flooring was installed at one of the entrances and the floor was stripped and waxed. Congratulations Vincent!

If one of your life's dream is to hike and camp in the snow or to enjoy the many other activities we do, please come check us out. We meet in the Teen Den every Tuesday night 7 to 8:30pm. Any questions, you can email the troop at bsatrop42mtlaurel@gmail.com.

—*Pete Mirabella*

ELCA NEWS

Lutheran Disaster Response receives \$300,000 grant for New Jersey hurricane relief

CHICAGO (ELCA) – Lutheran Disaster Response has been awarded a \$300,000 grant from the American Red Cross to assist people impacted by Hurricane Sandy in New Jersey. Lutheran Disaster Response is the disaster response ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

The grant is an addition to a previous Red Cross grant of approximately \$1.9 million to assist in Hurricane Sandy recovery efforts in New Jersey, New York and Maryland. This supplemental grant will be sent by Lutheran Disaster Response to its affiliate in New Jersey, Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey.

"Lutheran Disaster Response is pleased to continue the partnership with the American Red Cross as we assist the people of New Jersey who are recovering from Hurricane Sandy," said the Rev. Michael Stadie, program director of Lutheran Disaster Response. "Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey has done an excellent job of serving the people of their state, and this grant will allow them to serve even more people."

The funds will be used in Monmouth, Ocean and Essex counties to help 116 families that have been identified by the unmet needs committees of local long-term recovery groups. Providing for unmet needs is a part of Lutheran Disaster Response's long-term recovery core component. Following disasters, people who have been affected often have needs that are not able to be

met for a variety of reasons. Grants like these allow Lutheran Disaster Response affiliates to provide these people financial assistance and in-kind donations, such as furniture or appliances.

Hurricane Sandy caused some \$36.8 billion in damage in New Jersey, and Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey has been responding since the storm hit the East Coast in 2012. The supplemental grant will last through 2015 and will further recovery efforts and increase the number of families that Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey is able to serve.

"Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey is so grateful to have partners like Lutheran Disaster Response and the American Red Cross," said Beth Gebhart, executive director of fund development and the Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey Foundation. "If not for the strength they bring, we would not be able to help so many New Jersey residents. While we have had success in getting people back in their homes, so many more people from New Jersey are in need of a helping hand. The impact from this recent grant will be felt across counties in New Jersey."

Lutheran Disaster Response has a long history of responding to disasters, both domestically and internationally. With a focus on long-term recovery, it is committed to working with the local communities impacted by disasters, accompanying them and providing assistance as they navigate their way through recovery.

PEOPLE NEWS

Brendan Kuehl, former youth advisor at SMLC, will marry Brenda Barnhart at Eglin Air Force Base on May 16, 2015. We wish them the best and will send a congregational prayer letter to them in May. Brenda is a nurse in the Air Force. They met while she was in Nursing School in Arizona. To read more, check out their page on www.weddingwire.com/brendanandbrenda.



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS - MAY 2015

DATE	TIME & CHOIR	ACOLYTE	CRUCIFER	PRESENTATION OF GIFTS	*ASST. MIN. COMM ASSIST	GREETER	HEALING PRAYERS	READER	USHER	ALTAR GUILD
May. 03	8:30 AM	Steven Maryanski	Matthew Miller	Cooper/Masserini	*Brian Slaugh George Boehmler Joel Boehmler	Taylor Buran	Dave Frech	Brian Slaugh	Duda Team	Sandy Meany Bernie Williams Jana Frable Lisa Merrill Joyce Buss
	11:00AM CHOIR	Julia Niedzwiecki	Alyssa Cherubino	Castner	*Sue Kuhn Rene Cherson Kylee Miller	Ed Hammond	Bobbie Purzycki	Duane Gustad	Schultz Team	
May. 10	8:30AM Mother's Day	Olivia Schwarz	Matthew Peper	Feliciano	*Karen Widin Sandy Meany Lou Naylor	Donna Clark	Sue Kuhn	Kahra Buss	Duda Team	Jackie Diepold JoAnn Lawrence Maureen Lange Willie Thomas Linda Kastner
	11:00AM CHOIR	Sydney Randolph	Brendan McDevitt	Cornish	*Paul Otto Cookie Davis Walt Davis	Jean Schoenberger	Marilyn Dager	Kimberly Morris-Flores	Schultz Team	
May. 17	8:30AM CHOIR	Anna Buss	Matthew Grahm	Douglas	*Wayne Becker Marilyn Dager Anne Otto	Brian Sena	Rozella Bower	Bernie Gustad	Duda Team	Joyce Valore Joyce Schultz Chris Cassel Carol Cathcart
	11:00AM	Lindsey Every-Clayton	Annie Buyser	Cherubino	*Bobbie Purzycki Alyssa Cherubino Lori Cornish	Jackie Diepold	Sue Kuhn	Joan Schultz	Schultz Team	
May. 24	9:30AM Pentecost CHOIR	Audrey Reppert	Jeffery Blanford	Esmond	*Bob Ganskopp Mike Barbaccio Anna Buss	Dom Durinzi Pat Durinzi	Joy Wadleigh	Florence Fogel	Otto Team	Sue Kuhn Lorraine Horton Sue Acheson Barbara Duffy
May. 31	9:30AM	Molly Baker	none	Every-Clayton	*Mae Trebing Pat Brodie Carol Cathcart	Lisa Merrill	Karen Widin Sue Kuhn	Brian Schultz	Duda Team	Cathy Roberts Lynne Ganskopp Toni Hopkins Joy Wadleigh

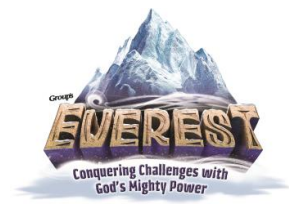
SMLC, Contacts, Community Groups, Holidays in United States

May 2015 (Eastern Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
8:30am - Worship 9:30am - Adult Forum 9:45am - Sunday School 11am - Worship 12pm - VBS Mtg. (LB) 1pm - CROP Walk 5pm - Girl Scouts (LB) 5pm - Recital	4 10am - Recovery Inc. 10:30am - Bible Study 12pm - Food Pantry 5pm - Food Pantry 6pm - O/A 2 (203) 7pm - Ministry Night 7:30pm - O/A (L)	5 9am - Property Com. 1pm - Alanon 7pm - Boy Scouts (TD) 7pm - SM Training (LB)	6 10am - O/A (LB) 10am - Staff Mtg. (C) 6pm - Private Mtg. (FH) 7:30pm - Adult Choir	7 12pm - OWLS (LB) 7:30pm - Bible Study (L) 7:30pm - HOPE (LB, L)	8 10am - WELCA	9 10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (LB, 10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (LB,
10 HAND-UP SUNDAY Mothers' Day 8:30am - Worship 9:30am - Adult Forum 9:45am - Sunday School 11am - Worship 5pm - Girl Scouts (LB)	11 10am - Recovery Inc. 10:30am - Bible Study 6pm - O/A 2 (203) 7pm - Exec. Comm. 7:30pm - O/A (L)	12 12pm - Property Com. 1pm - Alanon 7pm - Boy Scouts (TD) 7pm - Facilities Planning 7pm - SM Training (CR) 7:30pm - Stephen Ministry	13 10am - O/A (LB) 11:30am - Ministerium Mtg. 7pm - Youth Group 7:30pm - Adult Choir 7:30pm - FCP Bd (113)	14 7pm - Lunch Bunch 7:30pm - Bible Study (L) 7:30pm - HOPE (LB, L)	15 Newsletter Info Due	16 9am - New Members Class 10am - Spring Fling @ 10:30am - 11th Step 11am - FCP 12pm - New Life AA (LB,
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
SMLC Hosts IHN 8:30am - Worship 9:30am - Adult Forum 9:45am - Sunday School 11am - Worship 5pm - Girl Scouts (LB)	25 10am - Recovery Inc. 10:30am - Bible Study 12pm - Food Pantry 5pm - Food Pantry 6pm - O/A 2 (203) 6:30pm - Council Fel. 7pm - Cong. Council 7:30pm - O/A (L)	26 9am - Property Com. 9:30am - Quilters (FH) 1pm - Alanon 7pm - Boy Scouts (TD) 7pm - SM Training (LB)	27 10am - O/A (LB) 7pm - Pentecost Vigil- 7:30pm - Adult Choir	28 7:30pm - Bible Study (L) 7:30pm - HOPE (LB, L)	29 10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (LB,	30 10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (LB,
24 SMLC Hosts IHN DAY OF PENTECOST 9:30am - Worship 5pm - Girl Scouts (LB)	25 Church Office Closed Memorial Day School Closed 6pm - O/A 2 (203)	26 9am - Property Com. 1pm - Alanon 7pm - Boy Scouts (TD) 7pm - SM Training (LB) 7pm - Stephen Ministry	27 10am - O/A (LB) 6:30pm - Mentor's Dinner 7pm - Youth Group 7:30pm - Adult Choir	28 7:30pm - Bible Study (L) 7:30pm - HOPE (LB, L)	29 10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (LB,	30 10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (LB,
31 THE HOLY TRINITY 9:30am - Worship 5pm - Girl Scouts (LB) 5:30pm - Evening Service	1 Church Office Closed Memorial Day School Closed 6pm - O/A 2 (203)	2 9am - Property Com. 1pm - Alanon 7pm - Boy Scouts (TD) 7pm - SM Training (LB) 7pm - Stephen Ministry	3 10am - O/A (LB) 6:30pm - Mentor's Dinner 7pm - Youth Group 7:30pm - Adult Choir	4 7:30pm - Bible Study (L) 7:30pm - HOPE (LB, L)	5 10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (LB,	6 10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (LB,

Vacation Bible School Registration

One form per child, please



Child's name	Grade completed	Birthday	Age
Parents' names		Home phone	
Home address		Alternate phone	
Emergency contact person & Relationship to student	Home phone	Alternate phone	
Food allergies (List:)			
Medical concerns (Explain:)			
Family doctor		Doctor's phone	
Siblings attending VBS (names and ages)	Church affiliation	Church membership at	
People who may pick up the child	<i>VBS leaders have permission to photograph/film the minor designated above in any manner or form for any lawful purpose associated with this VBS program.</i>		
Parent's signature			

CONGREGATION CORNER

Phone Changes:

Joan Schultz 856.499.2738
Chris Williams 856.812.1351

Happy 65th Birthday SMLC!

Celebrating you and all the lives you've touched,
all the memories you've made, and the love and
laughter you've shared!

—*The pastor formerly known as
"Vicar Ryan" & Katie Paetzold*

In Memoriam

We extend our sympathy to Carmen von
Wrangell, at the loss of her husband, Charles,
who died March 26. The memorial service will be
held Wednesday evening, April 29, 6pm at SMLC.



CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Ingrid Wengert
wengert2@verizon.net; 856.235.2055 Ext. 2

Parish Coordinator: William Lawrence, AiM
wal.stmatt@verizon.net; 856.235.2055 Ext. 4

Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper: Kim Bohley
stmattthew@verizon.net; 856.235.2055 Ext. 1

Cantor: David D. Harp
daveharp@comcast.net

Leader of Music with Children & Youth:
Heather Caporaso; rosebud2585@comcast.net

Sexton: Dave Rulon; 856.235.2055 Ext. 1

Nursery Attendant: Shirley Schmidt



About the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

The ELCA is one of the largest Christian denominations in the United States, with 4.2 million members in 10,000 congregations across the 50 states and in the Caribbean region. Known as the church of "God's work. Our Hands," the ELCA emphasizes the saving grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ, unity among Christians and service in the world. The ELCA's roots are in the writings of the German church reformer, Martin Luther.