



**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 2017**

**Vol. 6 Issue 5**

A publication for your information.

## SUNDAYS IN MAY



**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

8:30am Communion  
9:45am Sunday School & Adult Forum  
11am Communion  
*Baptism: Isla Reagan Bowers*  
12:30pm CROP Walk Registration at SMLC



**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Mother's Day Flower Sale  
*(Vicar John Nelson's last "official" Sunday)*  
8:30 & 11am Communion  
9:45am Sunday School & Adult Forum



**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

8:30 & 11am Communion  
9:45am Sunday School & Adult Forum  
6pm Sr. High Youth Group



**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

*Summer Worship Begins*  
9:30am Communion  
*Baptism: Alessandra Lestini*



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.

## Highlights in May



**Monday, May 1, 7pm**

Green Team Meeting

**Thursday, May 4, Noon**

OWLS & Bees

**Friday, May 5, 2-7pm**

Blood Drive @ SMLC

**Sunday, May 14**

Mother's Day Flower Sale  
SMLC Hosts Interfaith Hospitality Network

**Sunday, May 28, 9:30am**

Summer Worship Begins

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Info due 5/15 for *summer Messenger*

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

### New Members Class

For those who wish to join St. Matthew, please go online (homepage & click on the right, "Interested in Joining" button) to complete a form if you are interested in joining the congregation OR even if you simply want to attend a class on because you're interested in learning more about the Lutheran tradition and this congregation.

**New Member Class:**  
Sat., June 3, 9am-Noon



### Attention: Council Members, Ministry Chairs, and Staff

Please send your annual reports by 5/5/17 to Kim Bohley (stmatthew@verizon.net)

Have you noticed an addition to Deacon Bill's welcome announcement in recent months? After a staff conversation about hospitality, he added something like "...feel free to dress casually. Come as you are. We hope you feel welcome and we are glad you're here.

I began reflecting on dressing for worship at St. Matthew after I realized that newer male ushers – who were never instructed to wear a suit coat – seemed to assume it was the norm. After doing a little research on current dressing norms, I discovered a Dec. 2000 article (Chicago Tribune) "Not Even the Suits Are Wearing Suits Anymore" noting that neither the president of General Electric nor his successor wore coats or ties. In more recent years, some companies are rumored to have *banned* ties at the office (e.g., Apple, Google, Amazon, Ikea). On the other hand, many of SMLC's retired folks worked in an era where men and women were expected to dress up every day. In short, our faith community is made up of people who have different ideas on dressing norms, including for worship.

Have you considered that what one wears to church can bear witness to one's faith? I often hear people who dress up for church say that for them it is a sign of honor – especially towards God. Just as we use our best music, polished Communion ware and fresh flowers, people select their best clothes as a way to honor God. This is good and right. On the other hand, I've read that some dress for church as they normally would, intentionally trying *not* to put on a show nor pretend to be other than who they are. Just as we begin worship with confession & forgiveness, encouraged to be honest about who we are, assured that God loves & forgives the real "us," some people select clothing that is authentic to them. This is also good and right.

Upon reflection, I realized that there may also be negative implications in the way one chooses to dress. For example, dressing up for church can make you feel as though you cannot truly be yourself – before God or community – that you have to "put on" something other than Christ. On the other hand, dressing "as you are" can make you anticipate Sunday as just another mundane experience, instead of a divine one.

Because humans are sinful, we tend to judge one another – "they're not dressing up enough, which is disrespectful" and "they're old-fashioned and feel like they *have* to dress up." My recommendation for Christian communities comprised of people with different dressing norms is to use the Small Catechism's meaning of the 8<sup>th</sup> commandment as our guide "...*Instead we are to come to [our neighbor's] defense, speak well of them, and interpret everything they do in the best possible light.*" Doing so, we might even find the witness of our neighbor's clothing to be an aide to our own faith; that is, when others dress up, we can see God being honored, and when others dress casually, we can see that God loves the "real" us.

In any case, I think we can all agree that Deacon Bill is right—all are welcome in worship.

—Pastor Ingrid Wengert

## STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

### ***Are You Putting Your Tax Refund to Good Use?***

It is tax filing season again but all is not bad! In fact you may be surprised to learn that nearly eight out of 10 U.S. tax filers receive a federal tax refund each year. Even more surprising, the average refund received is roughly \$2,800 according to the most recent IRS data. Also interesting to note is most tax filers are pleasantly surprised by the amount of refund received. This is because it's usually higher than what was anticipated prior to having their tax returns completed.

So, what do taxpayers do with their refund? According to a 2015 survey by [National Retail Federation](#), one out of 4 taxpayers planned to use their tax refund to go on a mini splurge with 13% making a major purchase such as a car or television while 12% were using their tax refund to go on a nice vacation.

That trend has changed somewhat over the past 2 years though. For 2017 just 7% plan to splurge on a vacation or go on a shopping spree. In fact, according to [Bankrate.com](#) most of those receiving a tax refund are using their refund to pay down debt (30%), save/invest (28%), or buy necessities (26%). 7% still plan to splurge while 9% don't know yet.



So, what do you plan to do with your refund? The Stewardship Committee has a fantastic idea! Why not earmark a small portion of your refund for Saint Matthew? Giving is not only necessary for our congregation to continue its current mission and ministry but is an investment in our future as well. And, gifts to Saint Matthew are tax deductible. Thus, a portion of your refund that's given to Saint Matthew this year could conceivably be returned to you again next year as part of your tax refund. In other words it's a refund that keeps refunding! Please consider giving a small portion of your refund to Saint Matthew. Turn the pleasant surprise of receiving a higher than expected refund into something far reaching and certainly spiritually satisfying.

—Dave Lukridge

## 6/5/16-6/5/17 Council Officers

### **President:**

Jack Horton

### **VP & Mutual Ministry:**

**Chair:** Mike Kruse

### **Secretary:**

Lorraine Horton

### **Treasurer:**

Tom Cassel



## Council Members

### **Evangelism:**

Pam Bowen

### **Facilities Planning:**

Brian Sena

### **Fellowship & Parish Life:**

OPEN

### **Property:**

OPEN

### **Social Concerns:**

Barry Grahn

### **Spiritual Life:**

OPEN

### **Stewardship:**

Dave Lukridge

### **Worship & Music:**

Peter Jensen

### **Youth & Family:**

Dennis Lawrence

### **Youth Rep.:**

Victoria Thomas

### **Youth Rep. (Alternate)**

Jeffery Blanford



## Chairpersons

### **Accessibility Steering:**

Rene Cherson

### **Constitution:** Pete Boal

### **Facilities Planning:**

Dave Barger

### **Memorial:** Bill Acheson

### **Nominating:** Pastor Wengert

### **Property:** Brian Schultz

## HELP WANTED!

We need your gifts for the common good. Here are a few of the critical ministries with which we need help right now. Please contact the folks listed, or Pastor Ingrid, Bill or the Office.

### **Green Team Members:** *(Read more on Pg. 7)*

The mission of the Green Team will be to reveal the connection our congregation and community has with God's presence in the natural world, by fostering a culture of environmental reflection, engagement and stewardship.

Initially the Green Team will focus in three areas:

- ◆ Team organization
- ◆ Planning events for environmental engagement, education and volunteerism, within our congregation and community
- ◆ Outlining a church "Sustainability Plan"

For more info, contact Brian Lestini at [brianlestini@yahoo.com](mailto:brianlestini@yahoo.com).

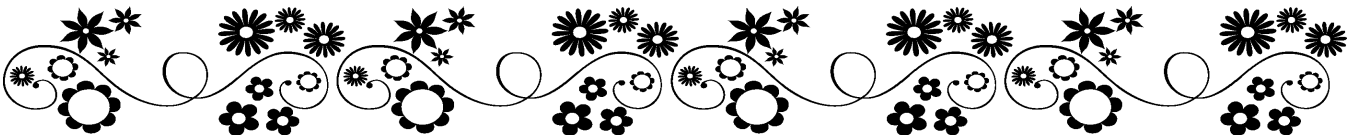


### **St. Matthew snack coordinator for ExCELS:**

During the school year (Sept – June), Live Civilly coordinates a program at the Moorestown Rec Center named ExCELS (Extra Curricular, Education and Life Skills) which includes assistance with education, nutrition, and life skills. Many churches in Moorestown participate by collecting healthy snacks to donate

every 4 – 6 weeks. We need a coordinator to plan St. Matthew's collection.

Currently, we do not participate, but have parishioners interested in donating.



## ADULT FORUMS

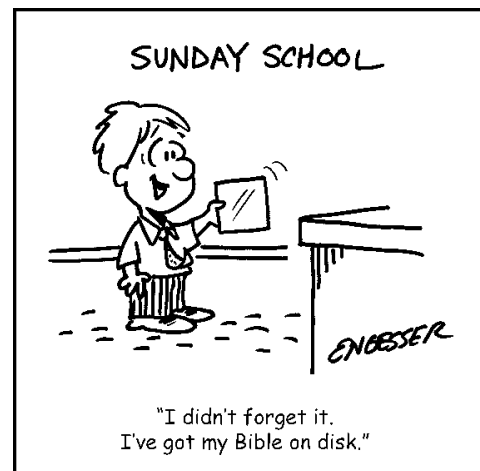
### **Sundays, 9:45am in the Library**

5/7 "Summary of April ELCA Church Council Conversation"  
led by Emma Wagner

5/14 "Autism Awareness" led by Michele McVay-Arnold and  
Kimmie Smith

5/21 "Faith, Hope, Love: Building Safe & Welcoming  
Congregations for LGBTQ Youth"  
A summary of the NJ Synod workshop, led by  
Victoria Thomas, planner & presenter at the workshop

**NOTE:** Summer Adult Forum, Sunday, June 11, 10:45am  
"St. Matthew Forming a Green Team,"  
led by Brian Lestini



## THE VICAR'S VOICE

As this is my last Messenger article, I wanted to say thank you for an incredible year! Saint Matthew has welcomed Emma and I in ways that we couldn't imagine. I couldn't have asked for a better place to begin my ministry career and Saint Matthew has set the bar high for whatever congregation I am called to next. Most interns don't get the opportunity to serve at their dream church, and I get to be one of the lucky ones that can say that they did. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank Pastor Ingrid for being a wonderful supervisor. She has encouraged me in my exploration of my gifts and talents, shared with me her vision of ministry, and has modeled for me true pastoral leadership. Thank you to Bill, Kim, Dave R, and Dave H for welcoming me into the staff family, for their friendship, for offering me help and guidance in immeasurable ways, and for keeping me in line. Thank you to the congregation, for allowing me to be your vicar. Your encouragement and feedback has allowed me to grow in all facets of my ministry. Thank you for showing up to my bible studies, my adult forums, and for all of the little things you have done to make us feel at home. Your engagement and encouragement is something that I will take with me the rest of my journey of faith. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

*Blessings to you,  
Vicar John*



## MEMORIAL 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 28.**

*—Bill Acheson, chair*



## Calling All Percussionists! Wed., May 3, 6:30pm

Our very own Vicar John will lead a training session on techniques for playing percussion instruments in worship.

If you've ever wanted to try playing the drums, now is your chance. Join us in the sanctuary.

*—Dave Harp*



**Veronica Barger**  
*American University*

**Alyssa Lukridge**  
*Catholic University, DC*

**Marvin McKinney**  
*McDaniel College*

**Will Van Fossen IV**  
*Yale University*



## May Birthdays

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

## YOUTH & FAMILY

**Mentor Dinner** *(For 8th Grade Confirmation Students)*  
**Wed., May 24, 6:30pm**

### Thank You!

*From Em Steiner re: Donation to Patrick Henry Village Refugee Camp, Germany...*

We all are incredibly grateful and appreciative of St. Matthew's donation. It means so much! Please let the congregation know how thankful I and the rest of my peers are!

P.S. The St. Matthew High School Sunday School Class spoke with Em on April 9 about her experience in Germany working with refugees.

### Youth & Family Committee

1. A \$250 donation was sent in response to Em Steiner's request to aid children at the Patrick Henry Village Refugee Camp, Germany.

2. The Youth and Family Committee approved renaming the committee "Christian Formation and Learning." In January 2018, the new name will be incorporated into the Church Constitution with the approval of the congregation. This name is more in line with the Synod's view on forming the Christian through life.

3. Frolic Bibles will be presented May 21.

—Dennis Lawrence, chair

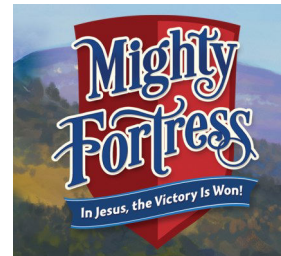
### Vacation Bible School

**Sun., July 9-Thurs., July 13, 6-8pm**

Sign up to register online for ages 3 years—5th grade (see pg. 9)

We are in need of decorators, leaders, aides and chaperones for music, games, story telling, openings and crafts.

We need youth and adults to donate only two hours for one night or many. —Lisa Merrill



## SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP

### Mother's Day Flower Sale ~ May 14

Please buy your spring bedding plants and hanging baskets at St. Matthew and support youth group activities.

—Rene Cherson

**Next Meeting ~ Sun., May 21, 6pm**



## GO GREEN!

### St. Matthew is forming a Green Team!

Do you have an affection for nature? Would you like to learn more about the environment from a spiritual perspective? Are you interested to engage with your fellow parishioners in fun and refreshing ways, while making an impact in the care of God's creation?

As we honor Earth Day, St. Matthew is forming a Green Team. The mission of the Green Team will be to reveal the connection our congregation and community has with God's presence in the natural world, by fostering a culture of environmental reflection, engagement and stewardship. Initially the Green Team will focus in three areas:

- ◆ Team organization
- ◆ Planning events for environmental engagement, education and volunteerism, within our congregation and community
- ◆ Outlining a church "Sustainability Plan"

To join the team or obtain additional information, please contact Brian Lestini at [brianlestini@yahoo.com](mailto:brianlestini@yahoo.com). You can also plan to attend an informational session at the Social Concerns Ministry meeting on **Monday, May 1, 7pm**. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board or online.

*"Human beings are called to care for the creation because we are full participants in the creation itself."*

*—Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, Justice  
The ELCA Statement on environment, 1993*

*"When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground."*

*—Psalm 104:30*

#### NOTE:

Summer Adult Forum, **Sunday, June 11, 10:45am**

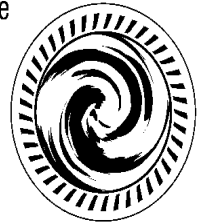
*"St. Matthew Forming a Green Team,"*

led by Brian Lestini



# SHAVING CREAM EARTH

God created this wonderful world and told us to care for it. Remember that by making a unique painting.



#### What you need:

- A cookie sheet
- White shaving cream
- A wooden craft stick
- Paint (blue and green)
- A straw
- A paper plate

#### What you do:

1. On the cookie sheet, spray shaving cream in a circle (the same size as the bottom of the paper plate). Smooth it out with the craft stick.
2. Squirt the blue and green paint on top of the shaving cream in loopy, squiggly patterns. Swirl the paint around with the straw.
3. Place the bottom of the paper plate on top of the paint. Press it down gently so the whole plate bottom is covered in paint.
4. Lift up the plate and gently remove excess shaving cream with the stick.
5. After the painting dries, hang it on your wall.

## ELCA Trips Around the World

I will be leading a couple trips later this year for ELCA members who wish to see their gifts in action. We will be visiting ELCA World Hunger sites as well as with ELCA missionaries and Young Adults in Global Mission. Each trip has a max of 10 individuals who attend, so space is limited.

Might you or anyone you know be interested in joining? If so, please feel free to pass this along and put them in touch with me for any questions.

—Andrew Steele

⇒ **Costa Rica**  
**August 18-26**

*Strengthening the Church for  
Mission & Ministry*

Cost: \$4000pp

Contact: Dan Beirne

⇒ **Jerusalem & The  
West Bank**  
**Nov. 10-20**

*Strengthening Arab Christian  
Evangelical Witness*

Cost: \$4500pp

Contact: Andrew Steele

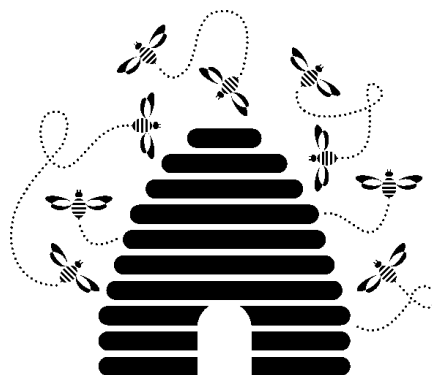
### Andrew G. Steele

*Director, Global Church Sponsorship*  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
8765 W Higgins Rd., Chicago, IL  
60631-4101  
Phone: 773-380-2758  
[andrew.steele@elca.org](mailto:andrew.steele@elca.org)  
[@ELCAGCS](http://www.elca.org/globalchurch)

## PARISH LIFE & FELLOWSHIP

### Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors Thurs., May 4, Noon OWLS & Bees

Bring your sandwich/salad and dessert will be provided. Lou Naylor will be our guest speaker teaching us OWLS about bees. There will also be honey tasting. For more info, see Paul Otto.



### Quilters Tues., May 9, 9:30am

in Fellowship Hall; For more info, contact Virginia Sheppard.

### Care One at Evesham

870 East Rt. 70, Marlton, NJ

**Mon., May 22, 2:30-3pm**

We lead a worship service at Care One on the 4th Monday of each month.

## PROPERTY

### Spring Clean-up

We give thanks to God for the members of the congregation and Boy Scout Troop 42 that helped in the Spring Clean-up on April 8, 2017.

Congregation members included: Ray & Sue Kuhn, Dave & Hollis Rulon; Steve Cathcart;

Shirley Schmidt; Paul Otto; Judy Jochumsen; Bill & Doreen Lawrence; Mary Hilal; Pam Bowen; John Terpak; Barry Grahn; Dick Graybill; Joseph, Isabella and Carol Feliciano; Jana Frable; Dave Lukridge; and Ron, Pat and Jacob Brodie. The Brodie family and Vicar John cleaned the kitchen in the Parish Hall.

Boy Scout Troop members included: Gary Custis; Pete Mirabella; Rob Gale; Andrew & Shane MacDonald; Dillon, Adrian, Mark & Jason Hampton; George & Hunter Vanderbush; Tommy VanOuten; Matthew & Michelle Krier; Tom, Derek & Ryan Coccano; Tom Vesneski; Trevor Ipi; and Ryan & Paul Devery.



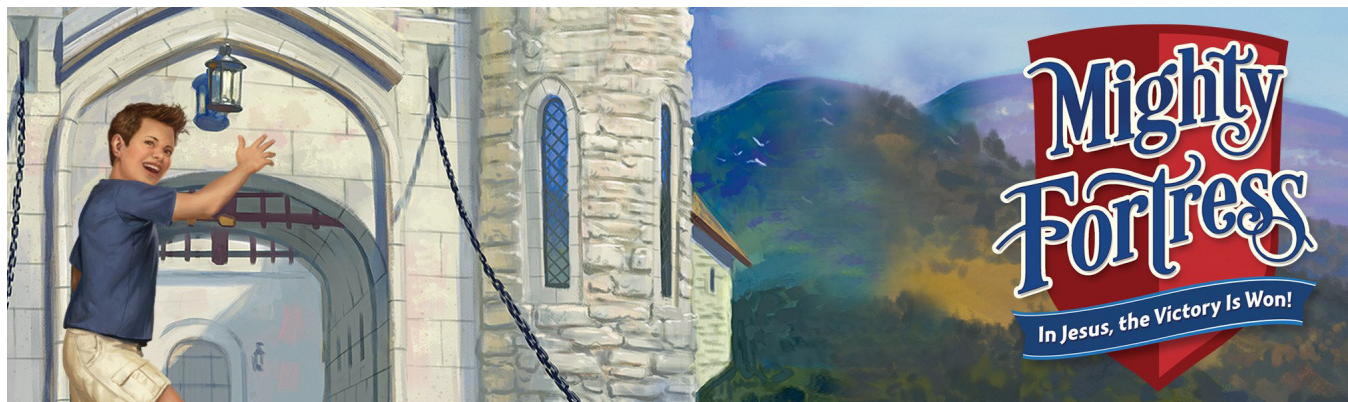
### New Roof

Work has started on removing and replacing the flat roof over the narthex, office and library as part of the ongoing Capital Campaign. The cost of this work is \$55,000 plus the cost of the permit.

—Brian Schultz, chair



# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2017



Sunday, July 9 - Thursday, July 13 6-8pm

- Ages:** 3 years old thru 5<sup>th</sup> graders  
**Curriculum:** Mighty Fortress  
**Missions:** Crossroads Camp & Retreat Center  
Live Civilly Moorestown Food Pantry  
**Register online:** [stmatthew-lutheran.org](http://stmatthew-lutheran.org)  
**Volunteers:** Sign up on the bulletin board  
**Contact:** Lisa Merrill, VBS Coordinator,  
[momm6434@hotmail.com](mailto:momm6434@hotmail.com)

## Vacation Bible School Registration

*One form per child, please*

Child's name	Grade completed	Birthday	Age
Parents' names	Best phone		
Home address	Email		
Emergency contact person	Best phone		
Food allergies (List:)			
Special Needs (Explain:)			
People who may pick up child		Name of Church	
People who may NOT pick up child		VBS leaders have permission to photograph/film the minor designated above with this VBS program.	
Parent's signature		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

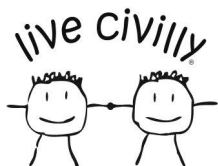
## Moorestown Food Pantry

(Live Civilly/Moorestown Ministerium)

**Next time you are food shopping, remember to pick up an item to donate!**

- ◆ Jelly
- ◆ Canned tuna
- ◆ Canned fruit

Please place items in the shopping cart in the foyer. Food can be delivered Mon.– Thurs. 9-2pm; Sun. 8:30-Noon.



### **For Monetary Donations:**

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

### **For Youth Volunteers**

Contact:  
Kahra Buss  
(Cell) 856.313.9853

### **For Adult Volunteers**

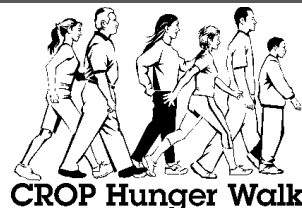
Contact:  
Brian & Cara Lowy  
flyerzfan@aol.com



## SOCIAL CONCERNS

### **CROP Walk ~ Sun. May 7**

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



**CROP Hunger Walk**

On May 7th the participating churches will gather at SMLC at 12:30pm for registration. Directions for the walk will be available. Representing SMLC are: Andrew Delany, Gary Duda and Rebecca Schaeffer. Please give them your support with a check/cash. The walkers will step off at 1pm. For info, ask Mae Trebing.

### **Live Civilly Moorestown Food Pantry**

The beauty of spring! Trees blooming, flowers growing. A wonderful time to get out and enjoy the good weather. Run, skip, walk. And remember the pantry!! The bags we give have certain contents and some things we often buy. Canned fruit, jelly and canned tuna are always welcome!! The food nourishes the body, the pantry nourishes the soul. We serve all who come to our door. Thank you for your continued support.

—Connie O'Brien

### **Lunch Bunch ~ Thurs., May 11, 7pm**

*A ministry that provides a full lunch, once a month, to the New Visions Homeless Day Shelter, Camden, NJ*

Please drop off your baked goods, using a paper plate and marked "Lunch Bunch." For more info, contact Bill Lawrence.

### **SMLC to Host Interfaith Hospitality Network May 14-21**

*A community response to the Homeless*

Please sign up on the bulletin board or online to volunteer to be a dinner host or an overnight host. For more info, contact Barry Grahn.

### **Lutheran Crossings Auxiliary**

It's time to think about spring cleaning, and Dave and I want to encourage you to start as soon as possible. Why? We would like you to think of us as you sort through your small household items, decorative objects and costume jewelry. On the second Thursday of each month Dave and I sell the items you have donated. All the proceeds are given to our treasurer; she then disburses the funds as needed.

We just provided for a fun Easter party and monthly birthday parties and lunch out continue for the residents—all possible due to your generous donations.

Our collection box is located under the table where the ushers stand before service. If you have questions, please call me at 856-780-5202.

—Lorraine Horton

## BRIDGE OF PEACE

### Youth Group Supper ~ Hot Dogs & Beans Due Sunday, May 14th



This semester's final casserole supper is upon us! Sunday, May 14th is Mother's Day so we have planned a very easy, simple supper. Please donate casseroles of prepared hot dogs and beans OR simply cans of beans or package of hot dogs. A sign up is located on the bulletin board and online.

Paper plates, bowls, plastic utensils, napkins, cups, etc. are always needed. Place all donated items in or near refrigerator/freezer in Teen Den no later than Sunday, May 14th before 11 am service. Please mark "BOP YOUTH SUPPER" on all items.

We would love to have our youth and your family join us on Tuesday, May 16, 6pm, lessons from 6:30-7:30pm. It is a fun family night out! Contact Lisa Merrill with any questions, 856-414-0273; [momm6434@hotmail.com](mailto:momm6434@hotmail.com).

Our April Pizza Supper was postponed until June 20th, as the youth group was cancelled for Spring Break. Thank you for all your generous donations! This is a self-funding ministry; donations are always welcome. Please make checks payable to St. Matthew with "BOP Youth Supper" in the memo or donate on our church website.

—Lisa Merrill

Bridge of Peace Communicator  
[momm6434@hotmail.com](mailto:momm6434@hotmail.com)

## TROOP 42



Troop 42 ventured to Roosevelt Scout Reservation to do a little camping. And for once the weather cooperated—sunny and warm. Since the weather was nice, the scouts finally were able to do a Wilderness Survival Weekend. The first thing scouts want to do is build a fire. But there was one rule...no matches allowed! They had to figure another way to light one. First the mirrors and magnifying glasses came out. The scouts gave it their best shot, but all we got was smoke. The old adage... where there is smoke, there is fire. I'll tell you, NOT TRUE...HA HA. The scouts moved onto the Flint and Steel and after a few strikes, the scouts got the hang of it and VIOLA...fire. Next they build their own shelters using sticks, leaves, branches, pine needles—anything they could find they used. There were some very inventive shelters. Even a brave couple of scouts slept in their make shift shelters. If you would like to build you own shelter or start a fire without a match, come check us out. We meet in the Teen Den every Tuesday night, 7 - 8:30 PM. Any questions? Please e-mail [Pete05@verizon.net](mailto:Pete05@verizon.net). —Pete Mirabella

## Camden Food Pantry

(Bridge of Peace)

***Next time you are food shopping, remember to pick up a food item to donate!***

- ◆ Cereal
- ◆ Mac N Cheese
- ◆ Canned Pasta with Meat

**NOTE:** *Please check expiration dates*

Please place items under mailboxes in foyer. Food can be delivered Mon.-Thurs. 9-2pm; Sun., 8:30-Noon

### Clip Coupons:

- Diapers (adults & baby)
- Feminine Products

### For Monetary Donations:

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





### Convalescing/Other:

- ◆ Rozella Bower
- ◆ Duane Gustad
- ◆ Rachel Feeney
- ◆ Gerry Nice

### Homebound:

- ◆ Nancy Beth Abele
- ◆ Grace Barone
- ◆ Mary Cross
- ◆ Florence Fogel
- ◆ Evelyn Frintner
- ◆ Betty Kelley
- ◆ Maria Kitashima
- ◆ Karen Koch
- ◆ Lynn Krudewig
- ◆ Paul Loftness
- ◆ Lois Lukasik
- ◆ John Parkin
- ◆ Janet Paul
- ◆ Alexis Schoenhofer
- ◆ Walter Trebing
- ◆ Goldie Wadleigh

### Serving in Military:

- ◆ Angelo Bledsoe
- ◆ Rosemarie Bledsoe
- ◆ Beth Eilers
- ◆ Alexander Flores
- ◆ Carson Griffis
- ◆ Janal Thomas

### Partners in Ministry:

- ◆ Bridge of Peace  
[www.bridgeofpeace.com](http://www.bridgeofpeace.com)
- ◆ Stephen Deal  
ELCA Missionary-Costa Rica
- ◆ Young Adults in Global Mission  
ELCA.org
- ◆ Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service  
[LIRS.org](http://LIRS.org)

## SPIRITUAL LIFE

### Bible Studies (in Shockey Lounge)

⇒ Mondays, 10:30am

⇒ Evening Bible Study  
Thursdays, 7:30pm

(5/4, 5/11, 5/18, 5/25)



*1 Peter: Living as Christians in a Foreign Land*

Come listen & discuss the instruction Peter gives to brothers & sisters living in foreign (Roman) provinces who are experiencing persecution for identifying as Christian.

### Stephen Ministry



On Easter Sunday we heard from the Gospel of Matthew that Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. They had lived through the pain of Friday and the emptiness of Saturday and were expecting death when they arrived at the tomb but instead were greeted with life!

Much of our lives are spent in Holy Saturdays—in other words, most of our days are not filled with the unbearable pain of a Good Friday. Nor are they filled with the unbelievable joy of an Easter Sunday. Some days are indeed times of great pain and some of great joy—but most are in between.

Most of our days are, in fact times of waiting, as the disciples *waited* during Holy Saturday. We are...

- ◆ waiting to get into a good school
- ◆ waiting to meet the right person
- ◆ waiting to get pregnant
- ◆ waiting to get a job
- ◆ waiting for a diagnosis from the doctor
- ◆ waiting for things at work to improve
- ◆ waiting for the results of our physical therapy to help us feel better
- ◆ waiting for a relationship to improve
- ◆ waiting for life just to get better

And this is just where the gift of a Stephen Minister can be just what you need. He/she will sit with you and listen and pray and help you to wait.

Please contact Pastor Wengert and she will help set you up with a loving and caring Stephen Minister today.

*In Christ,  
The Rev. Peggy Marks  
Stephen Leader for Continuing Education*

## IN MEMORIAM

Recently I learned of the deaths of former members of the congregation who were very important to me and to the worship and social life of the congregation for their participation in plays which I directed for Saint Matthew Players in the 1980's.  
—Rozella Bower

### Lyle W. Clark

When The Rev. Carl T. Uehling was pastor of Saint Matthew Church, he often wrote short plays to illustrate Old Testament lessons during Lent and Christmas. Lyle was always willing to participate when he was asked and always did an excellent job of portraying the characters written with a humorous twist, but nevertheless appropriately helping to better understand the lessons. He also participated in theater groups in the area which many of us enjoyed seeing. When The Rev. Gordon Huff was our pastor, Lyle was often the Assisting Minister in our worship services. Those of us who knew him greatly missed him when he moved to Tupper Lake, NY to take a new job in 2004. While there he was active in a local theater group; was active in an Episcopal Church in Saranac Lake; was a board member of the Ecumenical Council of Saranac Lake and was active in that groups Samaritan House shelter. We kept in touch through the years and sometimes saw each other when he was in this area. Lyle died on November 22, 2016 from complications following surgery. He was 69. I was told that a group of friends kept vigil with him during his final hours. A memorial service was held on Sunday, December 16 at the church.

### Charleen Behrschmidt

My first experience working with Charleen was when she played the leading role in the play, "The Curious Savage", which we performed for the "Couples Club " one Saturday night in 1979. She was great fun to direct and everyone loved her portrayal of the quirky Mrs. Savage who was among the residents of a care facility. She took part in several of Pastor Uehling's plays before moving to California with her husband Raymond to be near their daughter Linette. Ray was also an member of Saint Matthew and sang in the Adult Choir. Charleen was active in community theater and in the Lutheran church in Camarillo where they lived. He predeceased her by six months. In a letter I had from Linette, she said she and her sister Lucille "were lucky to have them and to have them so long." Charleen died December 19, 2016 at the age of 88. When she learned she had inoperable metastatic bone cancer, her response was, "Well, you have to die of something and I've had a wonderful life." A memorial service was held at her church on December 27.

## CONGREGATION CORNER

### Happy Belated Birthday Wishes to:

Florence Fogel celebrating 90!

### Address Change:

Bob & Lynne Ganskopp  
23 Woodside Dr., Lumberton, NJ 08048  
856.234.2458

### Birth Announcement:

Brian & Kayleigh Sena are parents to Adelaide Julia,  
born March 13, 2017.



## ELCA NEWS

### In the Community

#### All About Cremation

Mount Laurel Home for Funerals

Wed. 5/3, 7pm

Sun., 5/7, 2pm

RSVP: 856.234.6900

(See flyer posted under Community Bulletin Board)

#### 18th Annual Senior Expo

Wed., May 24

10-2pm

Masonic Village Fellowship Center

11140 Mead Rd.

Burlington Twp., NJ 08016

#### The Islamic Center of South Jersey

Fri., June 2

6:30-8:30pm

612 Garfield Ave.

Palmyra, NJ 08065

For more info, contact Pastor Wengert.

#### Recovery International

*Self-Help Group*

If you or someone you know is struggling with stress, anxiety, depression, anger, or fear, we can help you learn to cope. We meet Mondays,

10AM, at SMLC.

For more info, contact 215.816.2338

*Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,*

Like many of you, I have been deeply troubled by the news this week from Syria. First, there was the horrific chemical weapons attack on civilians. Then the U.S. missiles being used against the Syrian airbase understood to have perpetrated the earlier attack. In both instances, the lives of precious children of God have been lost. Lord, have mercy.

The psalmist reminds us not to put our "trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help," but rather reminds us to place our hope in the Lord our God. He recalls that "the Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin" (Psalm 146).

It is a time for prayer – for peace, and for those seeking refuge during this time when there is no peace in Syria.

Still, acknowledging our brokenness in sin, we recall that God created humans in God's image "made for life in community" and that our social statement, For Peace in God's World, encourages us to "pray for forgiveness, and for the faith that in love acts for earthly peace," and to work for it.

In situations of civil war, the statement notes, questions arise "about what, if anything, the international community can and should do in the face of internal conflicts." In deciding about wars, "we face conflicting moral claims and agonizing dilemmas" about the ways to help and protect the neighbor in the face of injustice and aggression.

While the path to peace remains unclear, our commitment to it should not waiver. We have been and will continue to assist Syrians in need through the Syriac Orthodox Church of Antioch in Syria, through the Lutheran World Federation assisting refugees in Jordan and through our Global Mission partners in Europe.

Let us continue to pray, assist those in need, offer refugee to those fleeing violence, and encourage all efforts toward peace for all of the children of God created in God's image. We continue to place our hope in the Lord our God, the Prince of Peace.

*In Christ*

*The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton*

*Presiding Bishop*



**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS - May 2017**

DATE	TIME & CHOIR	ACOLYTE	CRUCIFER	PRESENTATION OF GIFTS	*ASST. MIN. COMM ASSIST	GREETER	PRAYERS	READER	USHER	ALTAR GUILD
May. 7	8:30 AM	Sophia Meany	Emily Jellison	Megan Meany	*Mike Rieker Anna Buss Sandy Meany	Mae Trebing	Dave Frech	Lou Naylor	Duda Team	Meany Team
	11:00AM CHOIR	Ryan Coceano	Grace Arcaro	Campbell	*Paul Otto Jana Frable Ray Kuhn	Jean Schoenberger	Sue Kuhn	Brian Schultz	Hammond Team	
May. 14	8:30AM CHOIR	Joseph Feliciano	Brenton Steiner	Feliciano	*Max Frable Greta Hall Ethan Geehr	Joyce Valore	Joy Wadleigh	Marsha Magauran	Duda Team	Lawrence Team
	11:00AM	Kyle McDevitt		Esmond	*Bobbie Purzycki Rene Cherson Lori Cornish	Ray & Sue Kuhn	Bobbie Purzycki	Bobbie Purzycki	Hammond Team	
May. 21	8:30AM	Kevin Niedzwiecki	Julia Niedzwiecki	Cooper/Masserini	*Brian Slaugh Pat Brodie Carol Cathcart	Kathy Grahn	Karen Widin	John Terpak	Duda Team	Valore Team
	11:00AM CHOIR	Sydney Buysier	Lindsey Every-Clayton	Flothmeier	*Peter Jensen Alice Graybill Dick Graybill	JoAnn Lawrence	Carmen von Wrangell	Sue Acheson	Hammond Team	
May. 28	9:30AM CHOIR	Max Castner	N/A	N/A	*Ella Peterson Dave Frech Ed Hammond	Susan Hawbecker	Rozella Bower	Caroline Milstead	Otto Team	Kuhn Team

**SMLC, Community Groups, Holidays in United States**

**May 2017 (Eastern Time)**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
	10am - Recovery Inc. 10:30am - Bible Study 12pm - Food Pantry 5pm - Food Pantry 7pm - Green Team 7pm - Ministry Night 7:30pm - O/A (L)	9am - Property Com. 9:30am - Quilters (FH) 1pm - Alanon 7pm - Boy Scouts (TD)	10am - O/A (LB) 10am - Staff Mtg. (C) 6:30pm - Percussionists 7:30pm - Adult Choir	12pm - OWLS (LB) 7:30pm - Bible Study 7:30pm - HOPE	2pm - Blood Drive	10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (FH)
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<b>CROP Walk</b> 8:30am - Communion 9:45am - Adult Forum 9:45am - Sunday School 11am - Communion 5pm - Girl Scouts (LB)	10am - Recovery Inc. 10:30am - Bible Study 7:30pm - O/A (L)	9am - Property Com. 1pm - Alanon 3pm - Executive Comm 7pm - Boy Scouts (TD) 7pm - Stephen Ministry	10am - O/A (LB) 7:30pm - Adult Choir	7pm - Lunch Bunch 7:30pm - Bible Study 7:30pm - HOPE	<b>NJ Synod Assembly</b>	10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (FH)
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<b>SMLC Hosts IHN</b> <b>Mother's Day</b> 8:30am - Communion 9:45am - Adult Forum 9:45am - Sunday School 11am - Communion 5pm - Girl Scouts (LB)	<b>Newsletter Info Due</b> 10am - Recovery Inc. 10:30am - Bible Study 12pm - Food Pantry 5pm - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Council Fel. 7pm - Cong. Council 7:30pm - O/A (L)	9am - Property Com. 9:30am - Quilters (FH) 1pm - Alanon 7pm - Boy Scouts (TD)	10am - O/A (LB) 10am - Staff Mtg. (C) 7:30pm - Adult Choir	7:30pm - Bible Study 7:30pm - HOPE		10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (FH)
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
<b>SMLC Hosts IHN</b> 8:30am - Communion 9:45am - Adult Forum 9:45am - Sunday School 11am - Communion 5pm - Sr. Youth Group	10am - Recovery Inc. 10:30am - Bible Study 2:30pm - Care One 7:30pm - O/A (L)	9am - Property Com. 1pm - Alanon 7pm - Boy Scouts (TD) 7pm - Stephen Ministry	10am - O/A (LB) 6:30pm - Mentor Dinner 7:30pm - Adult Choir	<b>Ascension of Our Lord</b> 7:30pm - HOPE		10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (FH)
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
9:30am - Communion	<b>Memorial Day</b>	9am - Property Com. 1pm - Alanon 7pm - Boy Scouts (TD)	10am - O/A (LB) 7:30pm - Adult Choir 7:30pm - Memorial			

## SUNDAYS IN JUNE



### Day of Pentecost

9:30am Communion  
 10:45am Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting  
 5:30pm Communion with Taizé Music



### Holy Trinity

9:30am Communion  
 10:45am Adult Forum: Go Green!  
 5:30pm Communion with Taizé Music



### Second Sunday of Pentecost

*Blessing for High School Graduates*  
 9:30am Communion  
 5:30pm Communion with Taizé Music



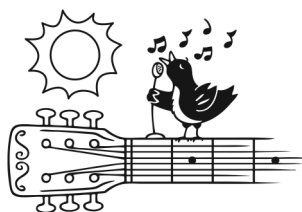
### Third Sunday of Pentecost

9:30am Communion  
 5:30pm Communion with Taizé Music



## Highlights in June

- 6/4 Semi-Annual Meeting
- 6/11 Adult Forum: Go Green!
- 6/18 Blessing for High School Graduates



## QUOTE FROM MARTIN LUTHER

“Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world.”  
 –*Martin Luther*

### CHURCH STAFF

**Pastor:** Rev. Ingrid Wengert  
 ✉ wengert2@verizon.net ☎ 856.235.2055 Ext. 2

**Vicar:** John Nelson  
 ✉ jcnelson@ltsp.edu ☎ 856.235.2055 Ext. 1

**Parish Coordinator:** William Lawrence, Deacon  
 ✉ 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 ☎ 856.397.6680

**Sexton:** Dave Rulon ☎ 856.235.2055 Ext. 1

**Nursery Attendant:** Shirley Schmidt



Scan to Donate

### HOW TO GIVE

Did you know there are a number of ways to give to Saint Matthew Lutheran Church electronically? Donate online now by scanning the barcode to the left using a QR reader app on your phone or tablet. Or visit our website to learn more and explore other options.

🌐 [stmattthew-lutheran.org/donate](http://stmattthew-lutheran.org/donate)



**About the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:**  
 The ELCA is one of the largest Christian denominations in the United States, with 3.9 million members in 9,500 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.