



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.

April 2016

Vol. 5 Issue 4

A publication for your information.

SUNDAYS IN APRIL



Second Sunday of Easter

8:30 & 11am Communion
9:45am Sunday School; 1st Comm. Class
Adult Forum "SMLC History—Part 1"
5:30pm Communion with Taizé Music



Third Sunday of Easter

8:30am Communion
9:45am Sunday School; 1st Comm. Class
Adult Forum "SMLC History—Part 2"
11am Communion with 1st Communion



Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:30 & 11am Communion
9:45am Sunday School
Adult Forum "Same-gender Weddings"



Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:30 & 11am Communion
9:45am Sunday School
Adult Forum "Same-gender Weddings Overview"



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 This Month



- April 10** First Communion (Pg. 5)
- April 17** Internship Appeal Commitment Due (Pg. 3)
- April 28** 10th Anniversary of Celebrating the Ascension of our Lord (Pg. 2)
- April 30** New Member Class (Pg. 2)

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Articles for next newsletter
Due April 15, 2016

Ten Years of Celebrating the Ascension of Our Lord

**Thursday, April 28
6:30pm**

Open House at
The Wengerts for
wine and cheese.
(204 Linden Ave., Riverton)
All are welcomed!

New Member Class at SMLC

Sat., April 30, 9am

Joining Saint Matthew involves attending a 4-hr. Saturday class for adults, and being present on Pentecost Sunday, **May 15** 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, April 30 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.

So, if you are thinking about joining, please contact Pastor Wengert.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Why doesn't St. Matthew capitalize pronouns referring to God?

We follow the practice of the wider church, religious publishers, and general publishers who began to adopt the lowercase or "down style" mid-century (i.e. "his" instead of "His").

In 1978 the Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW) continued the down style of the 1958 Service Book and Hymnal (SBH) in reversing the 19th century convention of capitalizing pronouns. *"In line with modern practice, capitalization has been reduced in the LBW. The SBH like the Book of Common Prayer, no longer capitalized pronouns which referred to God – a nineteenth century innovation. The practice was not entirely consistent in any case; 'he,' 'his,' and 'who' were regularly capitalized but 'own' (grammatically an adjective) was not."* (1978 LBW Note on Orthography)

"Many religious publishers and most general publishers have adopted the lowercase style, in large part to conform to the styles of the commonly used versions of the Bible. It is the style recognized as contemporary by the greatest number of readers and writers both inside and outside the church. Because capitalizing the deity pronoun, as well as a vast number of other religious terms, was the predominate style in late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century publishing, it gives a book, at best, a dated, Victorian feel, and at worst, an aura of complete irrelevance to modern readers."

Contrary to popular opinion, capitalization is not used in English as a way to confer respect (we capitalize both God and Satan, Churchill and Hitler). . . . Capitalization is largely used in English to distinguish specific things from general." (Zondervan Style Manual)

In 2011, even the press association of the Christian movement, Evangelicalism, that continues to follow the 19th century convention, the Evangelical Press Association, noted, *"...the lack of capitalized pronouns doesn't necessarily need to be seen as a sign of disrespect. The King James Version, which celebrates its 400th anniversary this year, does not capitalize pronouns that refer to God. Neither do several other historic English Bible translations, including those by Wycliff (1380) and Tyndale (1534). And, of course, the Greek and Hebrew manuscripts on which our translations are based do not capitalize pronouns that refer to God."*

The gospel (good news) of Jesus Christ remains the same; that is, almighty God passionately loves and unconditionally forgives us. However, the way in which people communicate the gospel has changed through generations, eras and cultures, and will continue to change, so that the message can be heard as *really being* "for you" and me.

—Pastor Ingrid Wengert



INTERNSHIP APPEAL

Monday, March 24, 2016

Dear Members and Friends of Saint Matthew Lutheran Church,
We're eager to let you know that we have an opportunity to host a seminary intern, John Nelson, beginning in August, 2016.

What is Internship?

Internship is the main way that the Evangelical Lutheran Church in American (ELCA), partners with congregations to develop people for the ordained ministry. Field education, internship, Clinical Pastoral Education, and seminary graduation are all part of the comprehensive candidacy process that helps individuals and the ELCA discern and eventually approve candidates for ordained ministry.

Why now?

The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia approached Saint Matthew and requested that we consider hosting another intern. The last intern we hosted was 2013-2014, the now Rev. Ryan Paetzold.

The Congregation Council knows the timing isn't ideal given the current capital appeal phase I (maintenance projects), and the pending capital appeal phase II (accessibility projects). However, we thought the opportunity was such a critical one for the wider church and also a profound opportunity for our congregation, that we decided to hold a special appeal to determine whether the congregation can fund this internship.

Saint Matthew has a reputation as a good teaching congregation in terms of gifted people, passion for teaching and knowledge. Internship is a mutual blessing as the congregation itself seemed to be enlivened and energized by hosting "Vicar Ryan." John Nelson has many gifts, including teaching, and would be thrilled to complete his internship at Saint Matthew.

Internship Financial Appeal

Contributors in the congregation have already committed \$7,200 to support an intern. The Memorial Fund may contribute \$5,000, and there is \$4,043 of designated memorials and gifts available. Thus, we have a probable **total of \$16,243** of financial support for this internship.

The **estimated costs** of hosting an intern are **\$22,500**, which includes a stipend, fees, and costs associated with housing. The intern would live in the church apartment located in the Hassinger building behind the 7-11, which was originally built to house pastors or interns, and was vacated in September by a long-term tenant.

In order to support an intern, we would need an **additional \$6,257**.

Would you consider making a commitment?

If so, we're looking to receive email or written commitments **by April 17**. At this point, we are requesting that you fill out a green commitment card (in foyer) or send an email to the church office (stmatthew@verizon.net). Given enough support from the congregation by April 17, we would then communicate again, inviting you to make the actual contribution, beginning September 2016.

Thanking God for you,
The Rev. Ingrid Wengert, Pastor
Dick Graybill, President
Tom Cassel, Treasurer

2015-16 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:

Brian Sena

Social Concerns:

Barry Grahm

Spiritual Life:

Pete Boal

Stewardship:

Jack Horton

Worship & Music:

Peter Jensen

Youth & Family:

Dennis Lawrence

Youth Rep.:

Kylee Miller

Evangelism: Pam Bowen

Facilities Planning

Task Force: Rene Cherson

Memorial: Bill Acheson

Property: Brian Schultz

Constitution: Max Frable

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Sunday, July 10th - Thursday, July 14th 6 - 8pm

- Ages:** 3 years old thru 5th graders
- Curriculum:** Barnyard Roundup by Concordia
- Theme:** "The Lord Is My Shepherd..." Psalm 23
- Missions:** Crossroads Camp & Retreat Center
Bridge of Peace Food Pantry
- Register online:** stmatthew-lutheran.org
- Volunteers:** Sign up on the bulletin board. Team Meeting on May 1 following the 11am worship service.
- Contact:** Lisa Merrill, VBS Coordinator, lisa.merrill316@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 in any manner or form for any lawful purpose associated with this VBS program. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Parent's signature			

YOUTH & FAMILY

The year is moving along quickly and the end of the Sunday School year will be upon us. The Easter Breakfast generated \$74 profit for youth activities and the Youth Group is planning a lock-in at the end of the month.

The Youth & Family Ministry Committee is urging parents to take advantage of St. Matthew's Vacation Bible School this year. You can register online at our website. Pass along the word to friends and neighbors.

Parents may also want to take advantage this summer of the church camp called "Crossroads." You can contact the camp at 908-832-7264 or see their website crossroadsretreat.com.

The committee is always looking for fresh ideas. You can contact us through Dennis Lawrence at lawrencedj@verizon.net with your comments. Give us your thoughts about our Sunday School and programs.

*Thanks and Happy Easter!
Dennis Lawrence, chair*

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 29, 2016.**

EVANGELISM

New Members Brunch Reception Pentecost Sunday, May 15th

We are happy to have sizeable group in our new members class. They will be welcomed at the 11am service on Pentecost Sunday, May 15th, with the reception brunch being held during the Adult Forum time that day. A sign-up sheet for brunch donations will be posted on the bulletin board.

—Pam Bowen



Sunday, April 10 11am

Children will receive Communion for the first time during the 11am service on the third Sunday of Easter, 4/10. A cake reception will follow.

Vacation Bible School

WANTED: Volunteers

Chaperones, bakers, decorators, banner designers, greeters, or pre-registration helpers. Volunteers are urged to attend a Team Meeting **Sunday, May 1,** following the 11am worship service.

Mentor Dinner Wed., May 25 6:30pm

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



Media Movie Munchies

April 1, 7PM

WHERE DO WE GO NOW?

Produced in Lebanon in 2011, this is another God and global cinema. Come and see how two good friends, a Christian priest and a Shiite Iman, rely on cunning to face warfare and death.

May 6, 7PM

WHILE WE'RE YOUNG,

Featuring Ben Stiller, Naomi Watts, Adam Driver and Amanda Seyfried will be our Easter film. Regardless of your age Millennials (20's), Generation X (30-49), Boomer (50-60), Silent generation (60-75), or The Great War generation (80+), we live in a time of many conflicts — kids vs. parents, parents vs. their parents, grandparents — us, all of them!

June 3, 6PM — TBA

We start MMM at 6 PM with our annual dinner party. The film, which is not determined, will follow the party.

—Nance Carlson

St. Matt Readers

Mon. April 25

7:30pm

"Being Mortal"

By Atul Gawande

FELLOWSHIP & PARISH LIFE

Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors

Wednesday, April 6th



The OWLS will travel to the Bristol Riverside Theater to see "Rumors" by Neil Simon. We will have lunch in the King George Inn prior to the show. Be at church by 10:30am so we can depart at 10:45am.

Thursday, May 5th, Noon in the Library

Mary Danielsen will present an hour workshop on recording life memories for future generations. Handouts for her "Top Life Story Questions" will be shared. Please bring your favorite sandwich or salad, and three talented OWLS will provide delicious desserts, hot tea and coffee, and iced tea and water.

—Sue Kuhn

Night Outers



Tuesday, May 17, 5:15pm

A serious group of any age, who seriously want to go out to supper one a month and seriously enjoying themselves

Dinner at the Red Lion Inn; sign up on bulletin board.

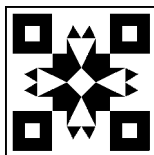
For more info, contact Hollis Rulon.

Women of the ELCA



Friday, April 8, 10am ~ Morning Circle

We will meet in the Shockey Lounge; lunch will be at the Blue Fig, Young Ave., Moorestown. For more info, contact Virginia Sheppard.



Quilters

Tues., April 5, 9:30am in Fellowship Hall

For more info contact Virginia Sheppard.



NEW! Crochet/Knit Group

Saturday, April 9 & 23, 9:30am

For all those who love to crochet or knit we our new group will meet twice a month (2nd & 4th Saturdays) **April 9 & 23, 9:30am** in the Library. Light refreshments will be provided.

WANTED: Donations of yarn. Please ask relatives, neighbors, friends to give any yarn they may no longer need. Drop off your donation in the box at the far end of the foyer. Also we need a few people who do not knit or crochet, to sew "granny squares" together periodically as we finish them. For more info, contact Liz Miller 856.217.1984 lizzy29@comcast.net.

PROPERTY



**TUESDAY
MORNING
MAINTENANCE**

This past month Property completed the following: changed the lights in the gym; installed a ceiling fan in the Library; repaired the Sacristy water heater with a new thermostat; reset all timers and thermostats for daylight saving time; reset the toilet in Room 107 (leaking around base); installed the rack (pole) for Christmas decorations in the choir robe room loft; installed a railing around the pull down stairs for the choir robe room loft; removed old TV from teen den and installed another one given by Dick Graybill; installed plugs in pews that were missing; changed smoke detector batteries; tested emergency lights; and engaged a contractor to check the apartment heater and air conditioner.



—Steve Cathcart
Brian Schultz

ADULT FORUM

4/3 St. Matthew History:
Video conversation with
Dorothy Shockey led by Wayne
Becker

4/10 St. Matthew History:
Video conversation with the
Rev. Herluf Jensen led by
Wayne Becker

**4/17 "Same-gender
Weddings: Weddings,
Government and Church"**
What is the church's role in
weddings? It is more complex
in the U.S., as we give clergy
civil authority that most
countries do not. We'll also
discuss the Lutheran
perspective of marriage as
belonging to the civil rather
than religious realm. Led by
Pastor Wengert.

**4/24 "Same-gender
Wedding Overview"**
Overview of what's happening
in the ELCA, NJ Synod, and the

Burlington-Camden Mission
Cluster. Led by Pastor
Wengert.

**5/1 "Beliefs and
Practices of Islam"** led by
Dr. David Grafton, The
Lutheran Theological Seminary
at Philadelphia

**5/8 "Muslim responses to
ISIS"** led by Dr. David Grafton,
The Lutheran Theological
Seminary at Philadelphia

**5/15 New members
Brunch Reception:** "Meet the
new members" Please make an
effort to attend and make our
new members feel welcome.

**5/22 "Global Mission
Partners"** led by Andrew
Steele, who grew up at St.
Matthew and is now the
Director for ELCA Global Church
Sponsorship

In the Community

♦ **Fri., April 8, 7:30pm**

The Moorestown Community
Band will present a
special 25th Anniversary
Concert at The William Allen
Middle School. FREE

♦ **Thurs., April 14, 7pm**

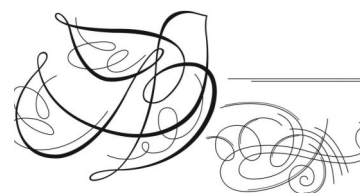
A benefit concert for the
Moorestown Community
House Restoration Fund
featuring Jeff Barnhart, world
famous stride pianist at the
Moorestown Community
House.

RSVP by 4/12
dpeterson53@comcast.net
Donation at door:
Minimum \$10

♦ **Mon., April 18, 6:30pm**

Camden County College
Blackwood Campus,
Connector Building,
Civic Hall

Join us in a dialogue on
religious and cultural bias and
possible solutions. For info
contact Professor Sytnik at
ssytnik@faculty.camdencc.edu.
For registration contact Valerie
Concordia at
vconcordia@camdencc.edu.



Moorestown Food Pantry

(Live Civilly/Moorestown Ministerium)

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

In January the Food Pantry needs:

- ♦ Canned Tuna
- ♦ Jelly

NOTE: *Regular sizes preferred

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

For Monetary Donations:

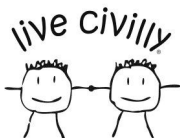
Make check payable to
St. Matthew Church
with "Moorestown Food Pantry"
in the memo

For Youth Volunteers

contact:
Kahra Buss
856.313.9853

For Adult Volunteers

contact:
Brian & Cara Lowy
flyerzfan@aol.com



SOCIAL CONCERNS

Attention: All who are interested in the Town Wide CROP Walk

There will be a table in the foyer where you can register to participate in the walk on May 1st. The walk starts and ends at St. Matthew. You can contact donors to the cause. This is the important part: get the check first so you can put it in the collection at St. Matthew. This helps our banker, Judy Jochumsen. Any questions call or email Mae Trebing 609-239-4942 ironhorse2102@gmail.com.

Live Civilly/Moorestown Ministerium

Food Pantry...Spring is here. For me, after winter, spring always brings the promise of longer days, beautiful colors of trees and flowers and hope. I watch folks come to the pantry and wonder what it must be like to worry if you have enough food and money to reach the end of the month. I wonder....what is your story? What brings you here today? I won't know all their stories, it is their story to tell. I just know that in some small way, our pantry gives people just a bit of hope. A little less worry about having something to eat at the end of the day. Some days that's all I know. So, thank you again, for your help in providing that bit of hope.....and food. —*With gratitude, Connie O'Brien*
Pantry Coordinator

Lunch Bunch ~ Thurs. Apr. 14, 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 disposable paper plate.

Lutheran Crossings

You may have already heard the news. There will be no June Day this year at Lutheran Crossings. The long-standing tradition had to be curtailed for several reasons. First, the volunteer pool for the auxiliary is greatly reduced in numbers. In addition those who are still volunteering are feeling the impact of age themselves. The second change forcing the decision not to hold June Day is the new mandate that no "outside" food be served on the grounds of Lutheran Crossings. The only food that may be served is that which is prepared in the Lutheran Crossings kitchen by their staff. That puts an end to volunteers making strawberry shortcake, brownies, or funnel cakes. Those donated foods by volunteers helped make June Day a financial success. The final reason June Day has ended is that Moorestown itself holds town-wide activities on or near the same weekend, reducing our turnout. Many of us have fond June Day memories and will miss the tradition, however the Auxiliary is still at work enhancing the lives of residents. Dave and I will continue to hold our monthly sales, which are thriving thanks to your donations.

—*Lorraine Horton*

Lorraine Horton 856-780-5202

Dave Frech 609-320-5244

BRIDGE OF PEACE

Casseroles for Camden Salads-Dessert-Beverages Too! Drop off items: Sunday, April 17

Please sign up to bring dinner items for our next Youth Meeting in Camden at Bridge of Peace. We need:



- 1) Casseroles to feed 40 people.

If you do not wish to cook, please drop off a Stouffers Lasagne.

- 2) Salads, with all the trimmings and dressings
- 3) Beverages: Gallon of chocolate, milk, water, apple juice
- 4) Cookies or cupcakes
- 5) Paper Products: plates, napkins, cups, plasticware

Please drop off food in the teen den refrigerator; other items can be placed on a card table in foyer.

—Lisa Merrill
Bridge of Peace Communicator

THE LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY AT PHILADELPHIA

♦ Women's Day of Rest, Refreshment and Renewal ~ The Power of Ten

Celebrating Ten Years of Rest, Refreshment and Renewal

Saturday, April 2, 2016 8:45-3pm

The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia Campus
7301 Germantown Ave., Phila., PA 19119

Register online: www.ltsp.edu

Come and be a part of celebrating 10 years through worship, the Eucharist, Bible Study and workshops. As we celebrate our 10 years of Rest, Refreshment, and Renewal, we will be looking back over the previous 9 events, have a time of reflection and present an intergenerational panel looking at women who have been a positive influence on our lives at different stages of our lives.

♦ Christian Education Seminars—Spring 2016

One-day seminars/workshops on selected Saturdays continuing through April exploring various facets of educational ministries in congregations.

For more info, go to: ltsp.edu/lifelong learning.

Camden Food Pantry (Bridge of Peace)

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

The food pantry needs:

- ♦ Cereal
- ♦ Mac N Cheese
- ♦ Crackers

NOTE: *Please check expiration dates*

Please place items under mailboxes in foyer.

Food can be delivered
Mon.-Fri. 9-2pm;
Sundays, 8:30-Noon.

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.





Convalescing/Other:

- ♦ Tyler Carlson
- ♦ Mary Cross
- ♦ Mike Hoffman
- ♦ Helen Hopkins
- ♦ Annie Nanko
- ♦ Gerry Nice
- ♦ Dave Stewart
- ♦ Tom Tanger
- ♦ Nina Thomas
- ♦ Olivia Thomas
- ♦ The Rev. Carl Uehling

Homebound:

- ♦ Nancy Beth Abele
- ♦ Grace Barone
- ♦ Nancé Carlson
- ♦ Evelyn Frintner
- ♦ Doris Holmes
- ♦ Dot Jensen
- ♦ Betty Kelley
- ♦ Dot Koch
- ♦ Karen Koch
- ♦ Lynn Krudewig
- ♦ Lois Lukasik
- ♦ John Parkin
- ♦ Janet Paul
- ♦ Bud Radey
- ♦ Alexis Schoenhofer
- ♦ Walter Trebing
- ♦ Goldie Wadleigh

Serving in Military:

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

Partners in Ministry:

- ♦ Bridge of Peace
www.bridgeofpeace.com
- ♦ Hopeworks 'N Camden
www.hopeworks.org
- ♦ Lutheran Disaster Response
www.elca.org
- ♦ Stephen Deal
ELCA Missionary-Costa Rica

SPIRITUAL LIFE

All Are Welcome!

- ♦ **Monday Morning Bible Study, 10:30am**
Open Bible Study in the Shockey Lounge
- ♦ **Thursday Evening Bible Study, 7:30pm**
May 5, 12, 19, 26 with Pastor Wengert
Ascension & Pentecost: Meaning for Christians
May 5 (Ascension) Luke 24:44-53
May 12 (Pentecost) Acts 2:1-12
May 19 (Pentecost) John 16:12-24, 20:19-23
May 26 (Ascension) Luke 24 compared with Acts 1

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry's Other Ministry



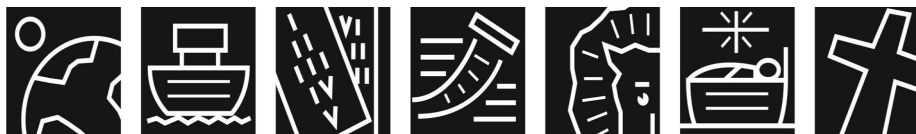
We all know about the one-on-one approach Stephen Ministers use when supporting people who are hurting, but there is another ministry many St. Matt's members may not know about—that other ministry is sending "Journeying through Grief" booklets; a set of four, easy-to-read booklets

offering words of comfort and hope to those grieving the loss of a loved one.

St. Matthew sends "Journeying through Grief" booklets to grieving members at crucial times during that first year after a loved one dies. Each booklet focuses on what the person is likely to be experiencing at that time and provides care, encouragement, assurance and hope. Although the booklets are designed to help those during the first year of grief, people whose loss happened more than a year ago have also found them helpful and supportive.

So, even though most of us have not completed the extensive training it takes to be a Stephen Minister, individuals can extend Stephen Ministry support by sending the "Journeying through Grief" booklets to those we know and care about outside the congregation who are grieving. The booklets, with envelopes and suggested words of support, may be purchased from StephenMinistry.org.

—Joy Wadleigh



ELCA NEWS

Easter is early this year, and in many places across this church trees will still be bare and fields barren. It might even snow. But on Easter morning we will gather to greet the risen Son and give thanks to God for the new life we have in Jesus Christ.

Two things come to mind this Easter when there is still only the hint of spring: Jesus' words to his disciples just before his crucifixion and a hymn.

Jesus said, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." Jesus was talking about his death, but he was also assuring his disciples and us that death is not the end, that, though it might seem impossible and even terrifying to step into the void, God brings life out of death.

The hymn is ELW 379.

*Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat arising green.*

The tune is actually a French Christmas carol. How perfect that, in the bleak midwinter, the promise of spring was planted.

St. Paul wrote, "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?" We have already fallen into the earth and died. "For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his." We will not remain alone. We will bear fruit.

The seed has been planted in all the barren places in the world and in our lives. That gives us the power and the hope – especially in the face of our brokenness – to see life where the world only sees death ... in refugee camps and hospice units, in parched earth and in floods, in oppression and denied justice we are bold to confess. Now the green blade rises. Now love lives again. Now love comes again like wheat arising green.

Christ is risen.

Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



April

1 Joe Buss, Jr.
1 Dorothy Koch
3 Laura Kruse
5 Florence Fogel
6 Bob Gibson
7 Billy Killion
7 Katy Giberson
8 Dawn Scheipe
8 Alexandria Faino
8 Stefanie Schwarz
10 Michael Trimble
10 Susan Jackson
12 Anne MacFarland
12 Giovanni Saura
12 Jason Johnson
13 Cara Lowy
13 Matthew McKinney
13 Eric Jackson
13 Susan Hawbecker
15 Taylor Buran
15 Mike Trabold
17 Marilyn Dager
18 Kyle Schoenberger
19 Johanna Flothmeier
20 Brian Widin
20 Lilianna Saura
20 Mary Keifer
22 Alison Annese
24 Noah Breitenfeld
25 Erica Nikoo
27 Rose Ann Civitella
28 Shannon Lange
28 Marie Vogel
28 Caroline Scheipe
29 Pat Davis
30 Tyler Lukridge
30 Maureen Lange

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS - APRIL 2016

DATE	TIME & CHOIR	ACOLYTE	CRUCIFER	PRESENTATION OF GIFTS	*ASST. MIN. COMM ASSIST	GREETER	HEALING PRAYERS	READER	USHER	ALTAR GUILD
Apr. 03	8:30 AM No Choir	Jillian Schwarz	Olivia Schwarz	Schwarz	*Wayne Becker Lou Naylor John O'Meara	Jaclyn Diepold	Dave Frech	Marsha Magauran	Duda	Meany
	11:00 AM No Choir	Kyle McDevitt	Emily Cornish	Cornish	*Max Frable Alice Graybill Dick Graybill	Pam Bowen	Sue Kuhn	Bobbie Purzycki	Schultz	
	5:30 PM									
Apr. 10	8:30 AM	Brenton Steiner	Matthew Peper	Peper	*Mike Rieker Mike Barbaccio Anna Buss	Kathy Grahm	Joy Wadleigh	Barry Grahm	Duda	Lawrence
	11:00 AM CHOIR	Sydney Buyser	Lindsey Every-Clayton	Every-Clayton	*Jack Horton Cookie Davis Walt Davis	Marge Doward	Bobbie Purzycki	Kylee Miller	Schultz	
	1st Communion									
Apr. 17	8:30 AM CHOIR	Will Reppert	Matthew Grahm	Grahm	*Brian Slaugh Faith Steinfort Mike Williams	Mary Hilal	Rozella Bower	Max Frable	Duda	Valore
	11:00 AM	Kevin Niedzwiecki	Julia Niedzwiecki	Niedzwiecki	*Bobbie Purzycki Alyssa Cherubino Lori Cornish	Ursula Evans	Sue Kuhn	Ray Fausak	Schultz	
Apr. 24	8:30 AM	Jayden Randolph	Sydney Randolph	Randolph	*Mae Trebing Pat Brodie Carol Cathcart	Linda Kastner	Karen Widin	Brian Slaugh	Duda	Kuhn
	11:00 AM CHOIR	Juliet Milstead	Caroline Milstead	Milstead	*Peter Jensen Greta Hall Ed Hammond	Jean Schoenberger	Rozella Bower	Paul Otto	Schulz	

SMLC, Community Groups, Holidays in United States

Apr 2016 (Eastern Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
SMLC to host Interfaith Hospitality Network						
SMLC to host Interfaith 8:30am - Communion 9:45am - 1st Comm. Class 9:45am - SS & Adult Forum 11am - Communion 5pm - Girl Scouts (LB) 5:30pm - Taize Service	10am - Recovery Inc. 10:30am - Bible Study 12pm - Food Pantry 5pm - Food Pantry 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) 10:30am - OWLS 7:30pm - Adult Choir	7:30pm - HOPE	School Closed 7pm - MMM	10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (FH)
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:30am - Communion 9:45am - 1st Comm. Class 9:45am - SS & Adult Forum 11am - Communion 5pm - Girl Scouts (LB) 5:30pm - Youth Group	10am - Recovery Inc. 10:30am - Bible Study 7pm - Exec. Comm. 7:30pm - FCP Bd (113) 7:30pm - O/A (L)	9am - Property Com. 10am - FCP (FH) 1pm - Alanon 7pm - Boy Scouts (TD) 7pm - Stephen Ministry 7:30pm - Facilities	Thomas Jefferson's 10am - O/A (LB) 11:30am - Ministerium Mtg. 7:30pm - Adult Choir	7pm - Lunch Bunch 7:30pm - HOPE	Newsletter Info Due 6pm - Wedding Rehearsal	10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (FH) 2pm - WEDDING: Sena
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Internship Appeal Due 8:30am - Communion 9:45am - SS & Adult Forum 11am - Communion 5pm - Girl Scouts (LB)	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. 1pm - Alanon 7pm - Boy Scouts (TD)	10am - O/A (LB) 7:30pm - Adult Choir	7:30pm - HOPE	Youth Lock-In	9:30am - Knit Group (LB) 10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (FH)
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8:30am - Communion 9:45am - SS & Adult Forum 11am - Communion 5pm - Girl Scouts (LB)	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. 1pm - Alanon 7pm - Boy Scouts (TD)	10am - O/A (LB) 7:30pm - Adult Choir	6:30pm - Open House @ 7:30pm - HOPE	9am - New Member Class 10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (FH)	9am - New Member Class 10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (FH)
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
8:30am - Communion 9:45am - SS & Adult Forum 11am - Communion 5pm - Girl Scouts (LB)	10am - Recovery Inc. 10:30am - Bible Study 7:30pm - O/A (L) 7:30pm - St. Matt Readers	9am - Property Com. 1pm - Alanon 7pm - Boy Scouts (TD) 7pm - Stephen Ministry	10am - O/A (LB) 7:30pm - Adult Choir	6:30pm - Open House @ 7:30pm - HOPE	9am - New Member Class 10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (FH)	9am - New Member Class 10:30am - 11th Step 12pm - New Life AA (FH)

CONGREGATION CORNER

Dear Church Family,

The last 12 months have been challenging to say the least. Thanks to every member of SMLC who took the time to make a call, send a card, make a visit. Thanks to all of you who did not take NO for an answer and dragged me out to lunch or dinner, brought a gift of food (or kittens!), held my hand and prayed together, donated to the Memorial Fund, sent flowers and plants, hugged me by force when I felt unhuggable and prickly. You are the Balm of Gilead. Thanks to the choir for making Charles' Memorial Service so beautiful that people still talk about it. Thanks to Bill Lawrence and Ed Hammond for steadfast hospital visits and laughter. Thanks to the Stephen Ministers who sent precious and perfectly timed booklets

about loss and faith. Very special thanks to Pastor Ingrid who visited Charles in hospital time after time and was there till the last to ease his way into the arms of the Father. His parting was so very peaceful. Crying may last all night but joy comes in the morning. Thank you all. Bless you all. —*Carmen von Wrangell*

Dear St. Matthew Church Family,

Thank you very much for the Bibles. They are so special to us. We will always treasure them. We really appreciate you thinking of us!

—*Derek & Ryan Coceano*

LOOKING AHEAD

5/1/16	CROP Walk
5/5/16	Thursday Evening Bible Study, 7:30pm <i>Ascension & Pentecost: Meaning for Christians</i>
5/8/16	Mother's Day Flower Sale
5/15/16	Brunch Reception to Welcome New Members
5/29/16	Summer Worship begins 9:30am



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CHURCH STAFF

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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.