



# The GOOD NEWSLETTER

of  
Saint Matthew Lutheran Church  
Springfield, Pennsylvania

Volume 75, Number 6

June 2023

Internet Web Site: [www.stmattspringfield.org](http://www.stmattspringfield.org)

## From Our Pastor



Connect  
Care  
eQuip  
Cultivate

### The Tent of Meeting Returns!

The Tent of Meeting is described across several chapters of the Book of Exodus. To pare it down, the Tent of Meeting was a traveling sanctuary for the people of Israel as they journeyed across the wilderness on their way to the promised land. It was ornate and elaborate, made from the best materials the people could gather. It was made to be the home of the Ark of the Covenant, and, by extension, the mercy seat of God. It was a tent, not a building, so that wherever the people went, there God went, too. When there were concerns to be addressed, when there were offerings to be made, and when the people would gather for worship, it was in the Tent of Meeting that such events would take place.

We have reset our Tent of Meeting in the courtyard for the summer. While we are not traveling from place to place, we still recognize the presence of God in the midst of the people, and this tent can be such a visible reminder. As we use it for worship, for Vacation Bible School, and for other gatherings, we enjoy the beauty of God's creation, and witness to the community that people of faith are active in this place. As neighbors see our faith in action, we welcome them to come and participate in a relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

We will worship in the Tent, weather permitting, for the 8:00 service from June through Labor Day. The 10:15 service will continue inside, as we cannot offer "Zurch" (Zoom church) from the tent.

During the summer our monthly coffee hours will also be held between the services in the tent, weather permitting. I am grateful to Barb McClintock and our revived Fellowship Team for bringing such opportunities back for us, and I am grateful to the various people and committees that are taking turns sponsoring a monthly coffee hour. In June, we will have "Donuts for Dads" on June 18th.

As we move into the summer months, which cause us to be more on the move than other times of the year, let us not move away from God. Even though God moves with us wherever we go, it is important for us to seek out time to spend with Jesus,

too. The Tent of Meeting can be a reminder that, as we go on our various journeys this summer, worshipping Jesus is still a priority for people of faith.

Pastor Karl M. Richard

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## Christian Education Updates

A very special thank you to all our wonderful Sunday School Teachers. You are all amazing and we couldn't do it without you!! Please join us in celebrating the end of the year for Sunday School on June 4! We will be tie-dyeing; please bring something to dye! Thank you for all your support this school year! We can't wait to see you on Rally Day!!

We are getting ready for Vacation Bible School! We are looking for many volunteers to have the best week of the summer. We could use help in all areas. Please reach out to Julie at [manoalstgrade@hotmail.com](mailto:manoalstgrade@hotmail.com). It is going to be STELLAR!!!! There is a registration form in this newsletter to sign up your children.

Julie Cirillo

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## News from your Property Committee

This month we had issues with the locks in the Education Wing. The locksmith repaired locks in the Education Wing and in the new Youth Room. Also, our new door between the Church and the Education Wing should be in soon.

A phone line has been added for the Nursery School. This will be for the intruder alert button which will be located in the Nursery School Office. The alert device will be installed by Delco Alert in the next few weeks to come. This will be installed at no cost to us.

While Verizon was here, we had the elevator technicians on site too. We found out why the phone in the elevator was not working. They found a problem with the relay box. A new relay box has been ordered and will be installed by the elevator company. The work will hopefully be finished by the end of May.

On May 16th Direct Electric will be here to repair the 3-way switch in the Education Wing in the first bay and will replace four lights in the education room and one in the hallway.

Painting has begun in the Youth Room. The tent is up and ready for use. Looking forward to some outdoor services.

Joe Regan

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## Newsletter Deadline

Articles for the summer (July and August combined) newsletter are due in the church office by **noon** on **Thursday, June 15.**

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## Financial Update

The Finance Committee met on Wednesday, May 10th. Gary Gordon reported that revenues were lower, but we are maintaining our budget levels. As the weather gets nicer and summer arrives, please remember, if it is possible, to be generous with your giving to the Church.

*"Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart." (Psalm 37.4)*

Love one another,  
Kevin Cunningham

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## Social Ministry

Social Ministry continues to accept donations from the Comfort Kits for the children of Lutheran Settlement House. There is a board in the hallway for the needed items. Please contact Dawn Liscom or Marge Kobasa if you have questions.

In July, we will again be accepting donations of school supplies for the children in Faith Immanuel Lutheran Church. Thank you all for your continued support!

Cheryl Morrell

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## Children's Corner

Dear Children,

By the time you receive this, school will be drawing to a close and I thought you might like a bit of a mental challenge. I can't remember where I found this exercise, but I thought you would like it. So grab your Bible, a pencil, and a glass of iced tea and head for a comfy chair on the porch.

The well-known expressions in the left column will match the Bible verses in the right column. Unfortunately a little elf has mixed up the Bible verses and wants you to straighten them out. Hint—first read the Bible verse and see if you can match it with the well-known expression—then draw a line to connect the two.

apple of my eye	Matt hew 7:15
leopard changes its spots	Psalm 17:8
a man after my own heart	Matthew 5: 38
a two-edge sword	Job 19:20
an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth	Daniel 5. Read it all
skin of my teeth	Ecclesiastes 8:15
eat drink and be merry	Jeremiah 13:23
a wolf in sheep's clothing	Samuel 13:14
the writing is on the wall	Proverbs 5:4

I felt that this type of challenge would get both of us connected with the Old and New Testament and show that God's word is relevant to today's world. Have fun.

Dear Parents,

I had no idea that these popular expressions were such an important part of Biblical history. It is helpful to not only read the verse that is involved, but the "back story" as well—especially the one in Daniel chapter 5.

Sylvia Yost

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## Welcome Church

Delivered small toiletries, coffee, socks and yarn to the "Welcome Church" that serves the homeless.

Pastor Schaunel said they would be thrilled to have new yarn with which to work.

Please continue to remember the homeless.

Joan Krauter

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## Food Collections

As our program, God's Work Our Hands, has been so successful, we will continue to collect food. We remember that summer presents a new problem for families who are in need of food support with children no longer getting meals at school. We will continue to collect food for the Media Food Bank on the first Sunday of every month. The next collection will be Sunday, June 4th. Food can be placed in the soup can in the hallway or dropped off Sunday from 11:30-12:30 (please note time change.) We now have an updated suggestion list from the food bank:

Oatmeal Canister	Peanut Butter	Dried Beans
Oatmeal Instant Pkg.	Hot Chocolate Pkg.	Ketchup
Cream of Wheat	Canola Oil	Mayo
Juice Bottles	White Sugar	Pickles
Regular Coffee	Barbecue Sauce	Honey
Flour	Olive Oil	Jasmine Rice
Goldfishes	Kids' Juice Boxes	

Nancy Regan

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## Nursery School

Our Spring Art Show was a tremendous success!!! Our theme this year was "Welcome to Our Zoo!" We had 11 exhibits, 54 animals, at least one animal for each letter of the alphabet, and a total of 939 art pieces thanks to the amazing creativity and hard work of our students and staff. It took 4 months to complete the artwork and 12 hours to set it up. If you were unable to attend, pictures are posted on our Facebook page. As we wrap up another school year, I would like to thank our families and community for their commitment and unwavering support.

We continue to accept registrations for the Fall. We have added another Terrific Twos class on Mondays and Wednesdays for 2-year-olds and continue to offer Half Day and Full Day Programs for our 3 to 5-year olds. We have limited spaces available. To begin the registration process, please visit our website <https://www.stmattscns.org/pre-registrationform> and/ or contact the office at 610-543-5589 or [stmattscns@gmail.com](mailto:stmattscns@gmail.com). Cheers to another great year here at Saint Matthew Christian Nursery School! We'll be back in the Fall for more friendship and learning! Enjoy your Summer!

Ana Fischer, Executive Director

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## Women of the ELCA

Our meeting in May was a potluck dinner. We enjoyed each other's company while we assembled treat bags for the children who reside at Gemma's Martin Luther-Silver Springs School. We also put together 16 health kits for Chester County Migrant Ministry. In addition to the health kits, we purchased blankets.

There will be no more circle meetings until September. The Board will meet on June 14 at 10:00 a.m. in the parlor.

I would like to thank all the women who attended our circle meetings this year. Your enthusiasm for our projects and dedication to our ministries is greatly appreciated.

I am also thankful for the support of the Board members who have worked so hard to make our events and meetings happen. The members of the Board are Joan Krauter, Vice-President; Joanne Castagna, Treasurer; Nancy Regan, Gemma Liaison; Marie Miller, Circle Leader and Jennifer Conrad, our new Recording Secretary.

Have a safe and fun summer.

Blessings,  
Carol Penjoke  
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### Vital Statistics

#### Deaths:

**Elisabeth McCain**  
Died April 26, 2023

**Joseph Thorn**  
Died May 12, 2023

**Alene McLoughlin**  
Died May 13, 2023  
Funeral May 19, 2023

#### Marriage:

**Scott McHugh and Rosa Portillo Vargas**  
May 22, 2023

#### New Members:

**Josh and Nicole Bye**  
**Ubaid and Delyla Emanual**  
**Frank Heinze**  
**Don and Carolyn Masey**  
**John R. Powers, Jr.**  
Received May 7, 2023

#### High School Graduates:

**Cole Bennett**  
**TC Cobb**  
**Rebecca Engberg**  
**Jack Johnston**  
**Jessica Petz**  
**Jacob Scott**  
**Stephen Scott**  
**Roman Varacalli**

#### College Graduate:

**Leigh Richard**  
Master's Degree  
West Chester

University

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### Monthly Mailbag

Greetings!

My name is Lisa Plorin, and I serve on the Leadership Team for 2122, the campaign for Katie's Fund. I'm sending my personal thanks for your recent pledge to the campaign.



We appreciate every one of our donors. Women of the ELCA wouldn't be able to support Lutheran women as it does through Katie's Fund without your generous support.

For 25 years Women of the ELCA, through Katie's Fund, has supported Lutheran women in their faith journeys. Your pledge helps us continue that support! Because of you, lives have been transformed and women all over the world are growing in faith and service.

Your pledge helps support leadership development, global connections and living theology.

If you have specific questions about how your pledge will support Katie's Fund, please call our churchwide offices at 800-638-3522, extension 2730 or visit [welca.org/Katiesfund](http://welca.org/Katiesfund).

Thank you and God Bless,  
Lisa Plorin

Dear Saint Matthew Lutheran Church Women of the ELCA,

Thank you for supporting the ministries of Women of the ELCA with your recent gift of \$140.00. Your faithful generosity makes a real difference. Thank you.

Even in unsettling times, Women of the ELCA in all its expressions—congregational and special units, synodical women's organizations, the churchwide women's organization—is still at work with life-changing ministry. We might be engaging in ministry and action in different ways for a while, but that's what we do—because that's who we are: a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit. And we've committed ourselves to promoting healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world. Your giving helps make that happen. Thank you.

Thank you for your generosity. Together, thanks to your support, we'll get through this. Thank you. For regular updates on our ever-growing work together, please see our website, [www.womenoftheelca.org](http://www.womenoftheelca.org). Your giving really does make a difference. Thank you.

With gratitude,  
Linda Post Bushkofsky  
Executive Director  
Women of the ELCA

Dear Saint Matthew Friends,

We are very grateful for your continued friendship and generosity to Gemma Services (formed by the merger of Silver Springs-Martin Luther School and the Village.) Thank you for your donation of bags of sweet treats and a children's quilt for the children in our Residential Program. Your support helps us continue to provide vital behavioral health, prevention, child welfare, and educational services for at-risk youth and families and truly matters!

With the help of friends like you, Gemma is continuing to provide crucial programs for vulnerable youth and families who are struggling. Our dedicated teams are working tirelessly to help youth and families to heal from traumas, manage mental health challenges, and navigate these challenging times. As you may know, when the pandemic began, we shifted to provide many of our services remotely via Telehealth and online platforms. We have now transitioned many programs back to in person with enhanced virus protection and prevention protocols, while we continue to provide services virtually as needed.

We are especially grateful for your ongoing partnership during these continued times of challenge for those we serve and for our communities. On behalf of all at Gemma, thank you!

Thank you for having me join you for Women's Sunday! We are so grateful to have you all as supporters of our mission and the kids and families we serve!

Sincerely,  
Amanda Bryant  
Senior Development Officer  
Gemma Services

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## **Worship Responsibilities**

We will not schedule these responsibilities at this time. We will ask people to serve each week as needed.

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# **End of Sunday School Year Celebration**

Thank you to everyone who helped this year  
with Sunday School!

We would like to celebrate the year!

Please join us on June 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:00  
under the tent.

We will be tie-dying.  
Please bring something to tie-dye.