

# The GOOD NEWSLETTER

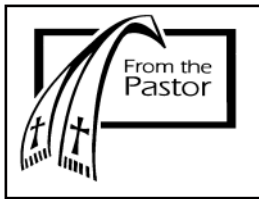
of  
Saint Matthew Lutheran Church  
Springfield, Pennsylvania

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

## From Our Pastor



Connect  
Care  
Equip  
Cultivate

*O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
(Psalm 8:1)*

I love the beauty of the seasons, and that each has its own character. Yes, I love snow! Of course, I did grow up in upstate New York. But I also love the crispness of Autumn, the new blooms of the Spring, and the sun and warmth of the Summer. As we move through the four seasons, particularly in this part of the country, we see the variety and magnificence of God's creation. I, for one, am both awed by the immensity of God, and humbled by God's care and concern for the likes of us, as mere human beings. Verses 3 and 4 of Psalm 8 express this well:

<sup>3</sup>When I consider your heavens,  
the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars,  
which you have set in place,

<sup>4</sup>what is mankind that you are mindful of them,  
human beings that you care for them?

One of the ways in which we take advantage of the season, and enjoy the beauty of creation, is in our worship life. Not only do we worship God "who made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them" (Psalm 146:6), starting this month we also do so for the summer season out of doors, in the courtyard, surrounded by the lawn and roses and geraniums, under the sun and the sky which the Son has provided for our pleasure. Of course, we also worship this God inside the building as well; when the weather is bad, or if being outside is more difficult than affirming, we have service inside with the air conditioning.

We are so blessed. We have been given all we need, and even more of what we want, by the hand of the Creator, and we have been made partners with God in both the care of the earth, and the proclamation of the greatness of God to all around us.

Let us lift up our eyes to the hills (Psalm 121:1), and see the beauty of God's creation. Let us be sure to gather, on Sundays for worship to praise the God who made us and fashioned us from the earth. And as "The heavens declare the glory of God and the skies proclaim the work of his hands" Psalm 19:1, let us

add our voices to the chorus, in praise to God, and in witness and proclamation to the world, so that those who do not recognize God might see him through the greatness of Creation, and come to know Jesus, who came to redeem all of creation, especially we mere mortals.

Come, let us sing to the Lord! Let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation! (Psalm 95:1).

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 9<sup>th</sup>! We will be having a carnival of fun! All are welcome to join us at 9:00!

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 610-608-3603 or [manoalstgrade@hotmail.com](mailto:manoalstgrade@hotmail.com). It is going to be SCUBA!!! 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 past month we replaced four lights in the nursery room. These lights were the old fluorescent with their ballasts going bad. Now all the lights in the nursery are new, highly efficient LED lights. Early in the past month we had our video system go down, the screen went blank. We are now trying another band-aid and replacing the old Cat5 wiring with new fiber-optic cable. We will be running the wires and adding new switching boxes, and hopefully this will give us a couple more years with these old projectors.

Upcoming events this early June: Our tent will be going up, so we can have Summer outdoor worship services. On June 1<sup>st</sup>, we will have our first work detail. All help will be appreciated.

Joe Regan

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## Fellowship Committee

The Fellowship Committee will be honoring Dads with a Donuts for Dads coffee hour after each service on Father's Day, June 16. We will be going to the Faith and

Family Day Blue Rocks game on July 14th. The game starts at 1:05. Tickets are \$16 if we have 20 people attending. Money is due to Barb McClintock by June 2nd. Hope to see everyone at both of these events.

Barb McClintock

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## Newsletter Deadline

Articles for the summer (July and August combined) newsletter are due in the church office by **noon** on **Monday, June 17.**

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## Social Ministry

Social Ministry will again be accepting school supplies donations from the congregation beginning in early July for the children of Faith Immanuel Lutheran Church. Any and all school supplies are needed. Our members have been generous in the past and we are hoping your continued generosity will make this project a success. There will be a bin in the hallway for your gifts. Thank you!

Cheryl Morrell

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## Children's Corner

*"God created everything through Him, and nothing was created except through Him." John 1:3*

**Dear Children,**

Well, it is June—school is closing, pools are open, tennis courts are busy, birds are singing, and plants are sprouting. As the warm summer breezes flow, I am thinking that it is a great time to celebrate God's creativity. Because I do a lot of walking in our halls that are climate controlled, I notice an abundance of things inside as well as outside (through large glass windows). Lately I have been enchanted with two large pictures of bird nests. The picture looks down upon the nests so that one can take in these beautifully crafted nests. I was so interested in this aspect of Nature that I attended a lecture on birds and how they build their nests—these little guys continually carry twigs and leaves in their tiny beaks and eventually construct their homes. Truly a work of art!!

Don and I received a Christmas present that would be on display near Valentine's Day—an amaryllis. We planted the bulb in late December and patiently watched it grow inch by inch until it reached a certain height and lo and behold on February 12th, four beautiful blooms appeared—big white petals with a touch of pink—lovely. Watching Mother Nature bring these twigs and bulbs into something useful and gorgeous reminded me to observe what is going on in our parks, gardens, trees, etc. This would be a great time to start some sort of diary and note the growth of plants and animals as God reveals Himself through Nature and wants you to enjoy His gift to you. Look at the shapes of different plants, quiet yourself and listen to the birdsong and rustle of the wind, see the beauty of the night sky, and look at the shapes of clouds. I found these inspiring quotes about Nature—"I firmly believe that nature brings solace in all troubles"—Anne Frank; and "There is no Wi-Fi in the forest, but I promise you will not find a better connection."—Author unknown.

**Dear Parents,**

It is always inspiring to do a family project, thus, I remember a special one we did with my father. In early March, Dad would announce "the sap is running" and John and I would put on our

winter wear and trudge up the hill with Dad. He had buckets, spouts, and all the equipment necessary to "tap" the maple trees. While showing us the process, he would explain the weather, the trees, and bits of scientific knowledge. After waiting several days for full buckets of sap, we would take the loaded buckets of sap down to the house where Mom boiled the contents down to luscious golden maple syrup. Of course we had the best French toast, pancakes, etc. YUM!!

Sylvia Yost

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## Beds for Kids

Our Beds For Kids program will be receiving several donated books from the book sale that was held at the Nursery School. We have items that have been donated, and thank you to all who have helped us provide items to reduce child bedlessness. We collect new or gently used single bed sheets, blankets, quilts or bedspreads, new pillows, books, and gently used stuffed animals. The box is under the table in the hallway. Thank you to all who support the program.

Nancy Regan

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## Welcome Church

Please continue to remember the homeless. They continue to need toiletries, coffee and socks.

Joan Krauter

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## Gemma Services

Sixty treat bags filled with candy were delivered to the children in the residential treatment program. These bags contain different kinds of chocolate bars, lollipops, and other candies. We are told the children look forward to these bags that the ladies carefully fill at each meeting.

Nancy Regan

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## Food Collections

Our monthly food collection continues to allow us to deliver a shopping cart full of items to the Media Food Bank. With summer coming the children who benefit from the school breakfast and lunch programs will no longer have those meals provided and the food bank will need lunch items for those families. Our next collection will be Sunday, June 2.

Nancy Regan

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## Nursery School

Our Spring Art Show was a tremendous success!!! Our theme "Around the World" showcased 11 countries and nearly 1,000 art pieces displayed, thanks to the amazing creativity and hard work of our students and staff. 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 2024 - 2025 School Year and continue to offer programs for 2-, 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds. Classes are filling up fast! Please fill out a Pre-Registration Form at <https://www.stmattscns.org/pre-registrationform> or contact the office at 610-543-5589 if you are interested in registering your child for the fall. Also, please remember to "like" us on Facebook

and see the hard work of the staff and students! 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!

Warmly,  
Ana Fischer,  
Executive Director  
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### Women of the ELCA

**O**ur last meeting of the year ended with an ice cream social and assembling candy favors for the children at Gemma. So delightful to hear all the chatter and laughter going on at these meetings.

Joanne Castagna has resigned as our treasurer. I personally want to thank her for her many years of service. She provided excellent records and ideas for our group. Barb McClintock will be our new treasurer. We welcome her in her new role.

Carol Penjuko has resigned as president. So far we have no replacement.

LWR quilting will continue to meet on Tuesdays through June. The quilters will not meet in July and August.

On June 1 five members of our group attended the Southeast Pennsylvania Women of the ELCA convention. It was held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lansdale. Marjorie Aronson was our voting member and Joan Krauter, Nancy Regan, Maureen McCleary and Carol Penjuko also attended for the day. Please ask them about their experience. I am sure they will be willing to share.

Our Board will meet on June 18 at 6:00 p.m. to wrap up the year and set the budget and calendar for the upcoming year.

As our season comes to an end, I am reflecting on my term as president. This is such a great group of ladies to work with. Their enthusiasm for projects and supporting various organizations is quite remarkable. Their caring for others and love of the Lord are also so visible in all that they do. I have been blessed to work with them.

Have a safe and happy summer.

Blessings,  
Carol Penjuko  
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### Vital Statistics

**Deaths:**  
**Kim McCaffery**  
Died April 25, 2024  
Funeral Private  
**Portia Bahl**  
Died May 1, 2024  
Funeral May 20, 2024

**60th Wedding Anniversary:**  
**Kerry and Dorothy Hoffert**  
June 20, 2024

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### Monthly Mailbag



Dear Patti and Members of Saint Matthew Lutheran Church,

Thank you for providing the 6 blankets for our immigrant families here in Chester County! They will be greatly appreciated. It is a tangible way of letting them know that they are not alone—that there is someone who cares about their needs as they begin to settle in. Thank you for your dedicated time and effort in supporting us.

May the Presence, Protection and Power of our Lord and Savior continue to be with you all as your testimony of love for God reaches those in need.

It was wonderful being able to worship with you on Sunday, April 7th! Thank you for inviting me and giving me the opportunity to give an update on the Migrant Ministry.

Respectfully,  
Lorraine E. Armstrong Martinez  
Chester County Migrant Ministry  
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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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**Saint Matthew Lutheran Church  
Vacation Bible School Registration Form  
July 8 - July 12, 2024  
9:00-11:30 AM**

Classes available for students age 4 through Grade 6

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Last school grade completed as of June, 2024 \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Person during week of VBS (name, phone number and relationship to child) \_\_\_\_\_

Known allergies or medical concerns \_\_\_\_\_

If student attends a church school, where \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Church \_\_\_\_\_

Names and ages of brothers and sisters \_\_\_\_\_

Does your child have a friend coming to VBS? If yes please list first and last names \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*Please note all requests must be made by June 1, 2024**

We like to photograph the children of VBS to use for bulletin boards and a craft, if you would like your child to **NOT** be photographed please check here \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_ I am available to help with VBS everyday

\_\_\_ I am available to help with VBS \_\_\_ Monday \_\_\_ Tuesday \_\_\_ Wednesday \_\_\_ Thursday \_\_\_ Friday

\_\_\_ I am able to donate a snack. (We will let you know what to donate)

Payment in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ made by \_\_\_\_\_ check (payable to St. Matthew Lutheran Church)  
\_\_\_\_\_ cash

\$20.00 for one child; \$30.00 for two children; family of 3 or more - \$35.00

\*\*There will be CDs for an additional \$5.00, please include the \$5.00 in your registration.

Return to: St. Matthew Lutheran Church - VBS

400 Lynbrooke Road

Springfield, PA 19064

For more information, contact Julie Cirillo at [manoalstgrade@hotmail.com](mailto:manoalstgrade@hotmail.com) or the Church Office (610-543-8700).



Dear Families,

This summer, at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, we're planning an exciting Vacation Bible School adventure called Scuba. Every day there is a new bible story and a verse to go along with the lesson.

This fun-filled VBS week is for everyone between preschool to sixth grade. The fun begins July 8 and continues through July 12. The sessions run from 9:00-11:30 am. Please come Monday, July 8, at 8:45 am. Closing activities will be on Friday, July 12 at 11:15 am in the church with a snack on the lawn. Registration is going on now! For more information, contact Julie Cirillo at [manoa1stgrade@hotmail.com](mailto:manoa1stgrade@hotmail.com) or the church office at 610-543-8700. In order to register for VBS, please return the VBS registration to the church office or mail it to St. Matthew. Sign up today! We will have an iron-on decal for your child.

We can't wait to see you at VBS!

