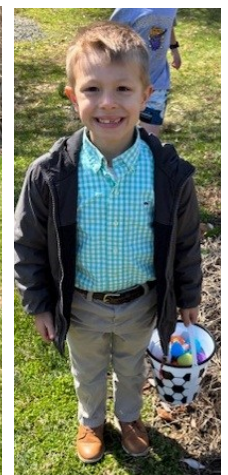


HAPPY EASTER



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FROM BISHOP GOHL'S DESK (FROM BISHOP'S BLOTTER APRIL 8, 2026)

In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith — being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire— may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

~ 1 Peter 1:6-7

In his book, *Night*, Nobel Laureate and Holocaust survivor, Elie Wiesel, describes the execution of a young boy in a Nazi concentration camp. While daily thousands were killed in the gas chambers and incinerated in the ovens, and others shot or hanged, the unspeakable public execution of a child crossed a new line.

Three gallows were set up. Finally, at the signal, the three chairs were tipped over. Then came the march past the victims. The two men were no longer alive. The child, too light, lingered between life and death for over a half-hour. Wiesel writes that a fellow prisoner asked: “For God’s sake, where is God?” After a moment of silence, a voice from within answered; ‘Where is He? He is hanging here from this gallows.’”

The cruel juxtaposition of Good Friday and Easter, layered by the President’s threat that in Iran “a whole civilization will die tonight, never to be brought back again,” reminds me of those who, in the face of human suffering, would ask you and me, “Where is your God?”

Like so many, we want to skip past Good Friday and escalating threats to our modern world, looking for Easter and a “happily ever after moment.” But the cross of Jesus Christ, the gallows on which our God was hanged, presses us to raise our voices and to bear witness to those places where our despair intersects with hope, to stand in solidarity with those who know something of what it means to be crucified in this day and age, to stand firm in our faith which knows in its heart of hearts that in Christ we do not suffer alone and must not be afraid to sacrifice something of our own privilege and safety to speak out, stand-up, and amplify the cries of the suffering.

Human life is inextricably bound up in paradox: ugly and beautiful; marked by hatred at times and marked by love at others; a strange and mysterious combination of birth, life and death; hopes and fears; joys and sorrows.

With the “Alleluias” of Easter morning still sweet on our lips, it’s easy to gloss over and put the Good Friday moments behind us; but while we are an Easter people we still live in a Good Friday world.

(continued on next page)

FROM BISHOP GOHL'S DESK (continued)

And while that might feel a bit defeatist in these first days after Easter, perhaps God is working another turn of the tables. The cross stands as witness: hate is overcome with love, evil is overcome by good, war is overcome by peace – apparent defeats are swallowed up in great victory. The cross is where all human suffering converged and culminated, and God was there – and God is here – with us and in us, that none would be abandoned, and none would suffer alone.

Where is our God? God is here – in you and us together: working out peace in partnership, inspiring real hope in solidarity, and giving renewed strength for the living of these days.

CRAFT NIGHT

We've started something new! A night for Crafters to come together to enjoy the company of others while working on whatever your current project is. All are welcome. We plan to continue to meet weekly. We'll start at 6:30 pm. in the Gathering Room. Questions? Contact Rosie for more information.

DELMARVA BLOOD BANK

The next blood drive here is scheduled for Friday, May 22nd.

Our representative has said that our commitment to their mission is greatly appreciated.



DONATION DAY

The next date for Donation Day will be on Wednesday, May 20th, from 10 am to 1 pm. This month St. Stephen's Pantry is in need of Peanut Butter, Cereal, Oat or Cereal Bars and Sanitary Pads. Donations can be brought to church on Sundays, or during office hours on weekdays before the 20th. If you are able to help out at the cart for an hour on the 18th, please contact Martha at (302) 274-9289. Thank you!

**Men's Fellowship will be meeting again on Friday, May 1 at 6:30 pm at the Oslin's home.
Come enjoy some pool, refreshments, and conversation. No RSVP needed!**

SPRING IN THE SHEPHERD'S GARDEN

On April 8 we had our kick off meeting for the community garden. All beds are spoken for and we are looking forward to our **10th** year in the garden! It is hard to believe that this idea to help LCS with fresh vegetables has evolved into this Garden concept. We have provided over 24,000 lbs of vegetables to the St. Stephens Food Pantry and look forward to delivering for many years to come.

On April 18, Sharon and Dave Oslin, and John Schneeweis helped prep our new sunflower beds. Rototilling through the grass is tough but they were tougher!

On Wed, April 22, an amazing group of Tatnall students celebrated Earth Day with us in the Shepherd's Garden. They were here to volunteer and did a great job. They prepped the garden beds, laid wood chips in the pathways, planted native plants around the building and planted two new sunflower beds. Finally, they planted the vegetables in the garden. We love the relationship with Tatnall. We are teaching a new generation about the joy of serving. They love learning about gardening, native plants and the whys of what we do. We also had adult volunteers leading the kids in their tasks. What a blessing to have so many people invested in the success of the garden. Thank you to all involved.

We will be celebrating this milestone year with a Harvest Party later in the season. All are welcome. Come visit us in the garden!

Food is Love,

Becca and Linda



SHEPHERD'S GARDEN (continued)



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Wednesdays in July
July 8, 15, 22, 29
6:00—7:30 pm

To register, contact
officehelpplcgs@gmail.com



OUTDOOR WORSHIP

We are pleased to announce that we will be having outdoor worship again this summer on the first Sundays of the month. The first outdoor worship will be on June 7, at 9:30 am., in person and on Zoom. Bring a chair to the space between the garden and the meadow. Let us know if you need a chair.

HANDBELLS TOO



HANDBELLS TOO!

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
1530 Foulk Rd, Wilmington, DE 19803

SPRING - 2026

Ed Brugel - Handbell Soloist
Margret Love - Piano



- 5/6 @2:30 shipleY Living (HC)
- 5/11 @2:00 Foulk Living
- 5/15 @11:00AM Crosslands @ Kendall
- 5/20 @2:00 Sunrise (Wilmington-AL)
- 5/25 @3:00 Maris Grove (Rose Court)

(302) 333-1956 <http://www.handbellstoo.com>
All Performances Are FREE of Charge
Donations Accepted for Lutheran Community Services Food Bank

MINISTRY OF CARING

Interfaith Prayer Service

We Are One

Thursday, May 7, 2026, 6 – 7 p.m.



Please join us for this inspiring evening of prayer, music & fellowship

Keynote speaker

Dr. Rev. Terrence S. Keeling

Pastor, Central Baptist Church

President/CEO, Central Baptist Community Development

Sacred Heart Oratory

917 North Madison Street, Wilmington, DE 19801

Accessible entrance available

With participation and support from local faith communities

Light refreshments to follow

Free parking available at

600 West Tenth Street, Wilmington, DE 19801

For further information contact Lauren Romeo (302) 652-5523



Donations to the Ministry of Caring gratefully accepted.

MAR LU RIDGE CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER - DIRECTOR'S CORNER



It's the first day of spring! Even though winter seems to be lingering a bit longer this year, we know spring and summer are on their way on the Ridge. Daffodils and forsythia have bloomed, staff training and summer preparation are in full swing, and there is a spring event almost every weekend!

As our staff work to plan the action-packed summer to come, it is easy to get wrapped up in the day-to-day tasks that need to be completed. But our *why, the reason we do what we do, the reason camp is so important, comes into sharp focus when contrasted with ongoing news of war, concerning new technologies, and environmental degradation. Our ministry is about connection-finding ways to deepen relationships, providing all people with a place to unplug and connect with God, immersing in Creation. When we are connected, we see the face of Christ in all our neighbors. We create spaces of peace on the mountain so we can be the hands of Christ in our trouble world. The why of Mar-Lu-Ridge is more important than ever.*

We pray you are finding peace this spring. We continue to welcome increasing numbers of retreat guests to the Ridge, and hope you will be among them soon. There are numerous ways to be involved this spring: **Work Day, Easter Sunrise, Rest & Recharge...**and of course, summer is right around the corner, and we truly cannot wait.

In peace,
Diana Edelblute (she/her); Executive Director

MAR-LU-RIDGE: SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN AND FILLING!

Register for the best week of your summer TODAY!

Mar-Lu-Ridge summer camp, located near Frederick, MD, serves campers ages 6-17 and Family Camp for ages 0-150! A variety of programs offer something for everyone: They have American Camp Association accreditation, which means the camp offers the highest safety standards, background checks for staff, and quality programming for campers. Be sure to check online...programs are filling quickly! Visit the website to learn about programs, schedules, financial assistance and more! mar-lu-ridge.org



Mar-Lu-Ridge is committed to inclusion and welcomes ALL people into community at camp.

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE



Joyous Spring Blessings to All

We're celebrating an amazing year of ministry, fellowship, abundant new students, faith, growth, and laughter-filled community at Lutheran Campus Ministry at UD!

April included a wonderful day at Longwood Gardens for our spring retreat; a fun and meaningful Tuesday visit from our bishop, the Rev. Bill Gohl; a beautiful Saturday morning hike; and joyous Easter celebrations, including worship conversations, an Easter egg hunt, and egg dyeing and painting. (Please see the photo below.) We're excited for May's events, including celebrating our graduating senior, Meghan, and finishing out this academic year well and faithfully together.

We continue to seek new members for our Directing Committee (governing board.) If you have a heart for young adults and campus ministry, and you'd like to connect with LCM in a new way, please contact me. We'd also like to welcome you to two upcoming events at the LCM chapel:

Senior Honor Night on Tuesday evening, May 12: Group photos at 6:30 PM, with worship beginning at 6:45 PM, with a light reception to follow.

LCM's Thank You Party on Saturday afternoon, June 13: An open house at the chapel from 1 to 4 PM.

All students, alumni, and friends of the ministry are welcome, as we kick off the summer before our 75th year by giving thanks for all who help this ministry to grow and thrive. We're grateful for you!

Thank you for your ongoing prayers for the students and volunteers of LCM. We especially welcome prayers for confidence, grace, and courage for **Meghan**, our graduating senior, as well as prayers for God's continued blessings, guidance, and protection for **Rachel** and **Vanessa**, who were both baptized this academic year. Please also pray for doors to open wide before our students to summer employment and internships as this school year draws to a close. Thank you! We wish you all God's blessings and peace!

In Christ,

Mindy Holland,

Minister of Word and Service †
Chaplain, Lutheran Campus Ministry at UD



The students had a great time dyeing Easter eggs in early April!

WILMINGTON HANDBELL ENSEMBLE



**WILMINGTON HANDBELL
ENSEMBLE PRESENTS**

AN AMERICAN TAPESTRY



**CELEBRATING OUR DIVERSE ORIGINS,
CULTURES AND TRADITIONS**

PUBLIC CONCERTS

 **JONATHAN BEECH MEMORIAL CONCERT**
KENNETT PENNSYLVANIA HIGH SCHOOL
SATURDAY, MARCH 14/2PM

 **SHELEMIAH CHURCH**
NORTH EAST, MD
SATURDAY, APRIL 25/7:30 PM

 **EBENEZER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
NEWARK, DE
SATURDAY, MAY 2/4 PM

 **ST PAUL'S UMC**
FOULK RD WILMINGTON, DE
SUNDAY, MAY 10/4PM

PRIVATE CONCERTS UPON REQUEST

www.wilmingtonhandbellensemble.org
Kerry Dietz, Artistic Director

HILLTOP LUTHERAN NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

So Much Fun and So Little Time!

Of all the articles I've had the honor to write detailing activities at the Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center, this one is the most action packed!!

Last month, the Center's youngest scholars were on the move! Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator, Dashaba Fielder, says they went everywhere. "On the floor, in the crib, climbing on the table, walking, eating, singing and dancing!!!! They love to clap, clap, clap! Object permanence was very prevalent in the infant room this month. Playing "Turtle hide and seek" was so much fun!! Seeing the delight on their faces when the object was revealed reminded us of why we do what we do each day."

The toddlers were active too. Dashaba says they enjoyed what's called "Life in the Pond." "(It's) a unit all about pond friends. Fish, turtles and ducks. They loved singing, "The Five Little Ducks." During sensory play, the (toddler) twos practiced pouring water into different size containers."

Meanwhile, Dashaba reports the preschoolers were looking at objects and creatures in their backyard. "The children made their own binoculars using empty paper towel and toilet paper rolls to help them find bugs in the yard. Creating a "nature" face using leaves, pinecones, pine needles, and flowers was a great experience. Our science area was filled with living objects such as sea-shells, plants, soil, and even bugs!"

After all of that work, the kids needed a fiesta, which Dashaba says was turned into a learning experience. "We read; *Let's Have a Party* and *The Sombrero*. The children enjoyed taking turns wearing the big 'ol sombrero. The fiesta was a hit. The children enjoyed chicken empanadas, rice and beans, chips and salsa, music and of course; a pinata! What a way to bring in Spring Break!



Hilltop's kindergarten and 1st grade scholars got in on the act by celebrating Dr. Suess' birthday in March. Center Youth Services Coordinator, Teresa Allen, reports that her team used the Dr. Suess Reading is FUNdamental curriculum. We decided to celebrate him by doing activities that highlight his work." "The first activity was (using) Sight Words to color the sheet. Each color had a sight word attached to it and the children colored the sheet by identifying the sight word and the color. They also... (used) numbers and a Dr. Suess word find sheet to help increase their vocabulary. In honor of Dr. Suess," Teresa says "we made large paper Birthday cakes which the children colored and hung on the wall by their hooks."

(continued on next page)

HILLTOP (continued)

Teresa reports our 2nd and 3rd graders worked on Dr. Suess' book *Oh the Things You can Think* to work on parts of speech. "(They played) a game entitled Can Do Reading Games Prefixes & Suffixes. The parts of speech the game specifically concentrated on were Prefixes, Suffixes and Root words.

But wait, there's more fun! Not wanting to be left out, Center Deputy Director, Brandon Furrowh says young evening scholars who met after Easter took part in numerous activities. "The week kicked off with a cooking class, where the students learned how to make their own barbecue sauce. The students shredded rotisserie chicken, toasted slider rolls, and slathered a sweet and tangy handmade barbecue sauce on each sandwich. The room was filled with messy and smiley faces." Brandon says the fun didn't end there. "Tuesday and Thursday consisted of Springtime Bible Study. There, the students learned the meaning of the Great Commission, the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and key components when reading the Bible. Last but not least, the students spun tunes and their bodies during the DJ workshop led by DJ Mega Skills."

Our thanks to the students and staff of Hilltop for sharing all their fun activities with us.

Eric F. Mease
Member, Board of Directors
Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center

+ Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life." +

With both sadness and hope for resurrection life, we share news of the death of Robert Waslick on Monday, March 30th.

A memorial service for Bob was held at Good Shepherd on Saturday, April 4th. An obituary and condolences may be found at: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/robert-waslick-obituary?id=61139802>

We hold in prayer Carole Lee and the entire Waslick family as together we find comfort in Jesus' promise to make all things new.

We know that even as we mourn, God's love is present with us. May the hope of the resurrection bring comfort and peace to all.

+ Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. +

PRAYER LINE

PRAY FOR:	CONCERN:	REQUESTED BY:
ERIN ANDERSON	Eye Surgery	Diane Soring
JOAN BERRY	Leukemia	Carole Lee Waslick
CARA BLUME	Confusion	Martha Wondoloski
DAVID BONIVITIA	Biopsy results	Diane Soring
NANCY GRIFFITH	Ongoing health concerns	Tammy
KATHY HOWARD	Osteoporosis & Pagets Disease	Diane Soring
PR. BRUCE MCLAUGHLIN	Esophageal Cancer	Petra and Scott McLaughlin
NICK MELLO	Mild Stroke	Diane Soring
ROBIN MELLO	Heart Attack	Diane Soring
CHERYL MONGILLO	Ongoing Health issues	Donna Hiddemen
MONROE	Cancer treatment	Fran Dixon
MARY ELLEN MOSER	Alzheimer's	Sally Ernsberger
KATHY PATANE	Breast Cancer	Kathy Patane
THOMAS PATANE	Pending Surgery	Kathy Patane
JEN QUILLEN-STRAUSS	Broken Ankle	John Schneeweis
ROBIN SCHNEEWEIS	Multiple Health Concerns	John Schneeweis
JIM SIMPSON	Fracture of Clavicle	Carole Lee Waslick
DIANE SORING	Recovery from surgery	Kerry Kirkham
LOIS STASULIS	Kidney Decline	Kerry Kirkham
TINA	Recovering from surgery	Martha Wondoloski
LINDA ULMANIS	ongoing recovery & Treatment	Karen Bitner
BOB WEBB	Ongoing recovery	Sue Beachboard
DONNA WILLIAMSON	Beginning Chemo	Joan DeMuth
JADA YAKICH	Auto Immune Disease	Diane Soring



Friends and families of those persons removed from the prayer line thank everyone for their prayers and concerns. Prayer requests may be made by calling the church office or by contacting Karen Bitner.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,

On this blessed Easter, may you find renewed faith and inspiration in the love of Christ.

Blessings to each of you during this season of new life and redemption. Thank you for your partnership.

Lisa Harmon,

Ogletown Baptist Church

(This is the church that we take our pies to at Thanksgiving.)

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

1530 Foulk Road

Wilmington, DE 19803

(302) 478-3030

E-mail: lcsde@gmail.com

On the web:

www.goodshepherd-wilmington.org

Sunday Worship:

9:30 AM

Church Staff:

Pastor: Kibreab Gudeta, Interim Pastor

Office Administrator/*Voice* Editor: Lynn Ziemer

Minister of Music: Christian Lyons

Handbell Director: Margaret Love

Sexton: Bob Bateman

Office Assistant: Rosie DeFrank

Church Council President: Susan Moon

Note to Contributors:

For the first summer issue, please submit your articles by May 22, 2025. If you would like to send a contribution by e-mail, please send an attachment in Word to lcsde@gmail.com.