

Appalachia Servant Trip

Sixteen members and friends of Saint Matthew Church will travel to Jonesville, VA July 31 - August 7 to help build and repair homes of people in the Appalachian region who do not have the means or the ability to do this kind of work. Please keep these people and the ASP mission in your prayers: **Emma Armstrong, Jill Armstrong, Joel Boehmler, Jacob Brodie, Ron Brodie, Danny Dadino, Madison Galvin, Bill Lawrence, Matt Lewis, Tim Moulton, Kristin Rasinya, Brian & Gloria Sena, Nick Sena, Joe Villani, and Justin Villani.**

Andrew Steele Going to Africa with the ELCA

Andrew Steele will serve one year in Bloemfontein, South Africa as a service volunteer through the ELCA in their Young Adult in Global Mission program. He will work in The Lebone House (meaning "Light House" in Sesotho) which aims to provide at-risk children with a loving environment where their needs can be cared for through love, acceptance, a safe environment, clothing, food, education and medical care.

Bloemfontein (meaning "spring of bloom," "flower spring" or "fountain of flowers") is the capital city of the Free State Province of South Africa as well as one of the nation's three capitals, the judicial capital. It is popularly and poetically known as "the city of roses", owing to the abundance of these flowers and the annual rose festival held there. The city is situated on dry grassland at an altitude of 1,395 meters above sea level and is home to 369,568 residents. The greater municipality as about 645,450.

Andrew will be in the Bloemfontein South Parish which is located in the Free State Circuit of the ELCA in Southern Africa's Cape Orange Diocese. It incorporates numerous congregations under the supervision of The Rev. N. Brandt. Through the assistance of congregation members, Andrew will be provided with opportunities to be involved on a wide-scale program basis within the parish as well as in service to the greater community.

Andrew graduated from the ELCA affiliated Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio in May, with a degree in Sociology and minors in Business, Urban Studies and Africana Studies. He will leave August 18 for a week of orientation before he departs for South Africa on August 25. The congregation of Saint Matthew Church will support Andrew financially through the Sunday school offerings. **Others wishing to help may contribute through the church (make check payable to Saint Matthew with notation for Andrew Steele).**

There will be a commissioning prayer for Andrew in the worship service on August 14. We wish him well in this challenging journey and we will keep him in our prayers.

**Camden Kids Picnic
in the grove behind Saint
Matthew Church**

Friday, August 13, 2010

9:00 ~ Set up

10:00 ~ Kids arrive

12:00 ~ Lunch

**Your help is needed for:
grilling, baking, serving,
doing crafts, supervising games,
and reading/telling stories
(It s a good confirmation service
project.)**

**Sign up on the church bulletin
board or
Contact Mae Trebing**

Lunch Bunch

*(a ministry providing a monthly lunch to the
homeless patrons of New Visions Center in Camden)*

**July 8 & August 12
7:00 pm in the Teen Den**

**Bring baked goods,
fold-over sandwich
baggies,
peanut butter and jam
any time and leave on desk
outside the office**

Thanks a bunch!

Attention Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors!
Save this date: Wednesday, September 8

Anyone who is 50+ is invited to the OWLS "Welcome Back Indoor Picnic" in the church library at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, September 8 (note date change because of Labor Day holiday).

Bring a salad, side dish or dessert. Burgers, hot dogs and beverages will be provided. A sign up list will be posted on the church bulletin board by.

Enjoy your summer!

Thank You

Many thank you's to the congregation for your support of June Day at Lutheran Care on June 16. It was wonderful to see so many of you. Special thanks to the entire crew who worked Saint Matthew tables. The plants were big and full and sold out! (Plan ahead for next spring and your gardens.) Also thanks to the entire group of funnel cake makers. It was nice to see the seasoned vets and the rookies working like a prepared team! The vigor of "one tough cookie" infused us all. The social gathering was most enjoyable as we all welcomed back the Gilmours.

Once again many thanks to each and every one of you.

Elise Korman

I am very grateful for all the encouraging cards, phone calls, hospital and home visits, gifts of food and pastoral visits that I received after my recent hip surgery.

Thank you, Saint Matthew family.

Anne Otto

My heartfelt thanks to every one at Saint Matthew for the outpouring of prayers, cards, calls and support during my recent heart surgery.

My recovery efforts have been blessed with the love shown me by all at Saint Matthew who have been a source of hope and encouragement.

A "special thanks" to Pastor Ingrid for her personal ministry to me.

Lydia Winzler

News from former members in Florida

Congratulations to Ellie Springer (youngest daughter of Sally Kohl) and her husband who welcomed their first grandchild on June 15. Adriana Sophia Campos is the daughter of Rebecca (Springer) and Gustavo Campos. All are doing well.

In the Community . . .

Hospice

Hospice volunteers are needed for companionship and respite care at Masonic Hospice Services in Burlington. Contact Pat Concannon at 609-589-4072.

MEND

The Board of Trustees and staff of the Moorestown Ecumenical Neighborhood Development, Inc. thank Saint Matthew Lutheran Church for the generous donation for the roof repair at our Creed I property. Your support of our organization allows us to continue to promote the welfare of low and moderate income individuals and families, including the elderly and the handicapped, who do not possess the financial means to furnish themselves with decent, safe housing. We thank you for recognizing the importance of caring for those who live in affordable housing in the Burlington County region.

Matthew Reilly, President/CEO

Attention Youth!

Summer Events for All Youth
of Saint Matthew Church

July 23: 5:30 ~ 9:00 pm

Dinner & Miniature Golf

\$20 per person

RSVP by July 18 to

Lee Zandstra: ltspgirl@yahoo.com

August 20: **Bowling**

Details later in summer

JULY & AUGUST CALENDARS

Every week

| | | |
|------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Sundays | 9:30 am | Holy Communion |
| Tuesdays | 9:00 am | Maintenance Group |
| Thursdays | 7:00 pm | Summer Midweek Service |

Other activities

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| Thursday, July 8 | 7:00 pm | Lunch Bunch |
| Sunday, July 11 | 10:30 am | Congregation Meeting |
| Friday, July 23 | 5:30 pm | Youth Dinner and Miniature Golf |
| Saturday, July 31 - Saturday, August 7 | | ASP Trip |
| Monday, August 2 | 7:00pm | Ministry Night |
| Friday, August 6 | 7:00 pm | MMM |
| Sunday, August 8 | 9:30 am | College Sunday |
| Monday, August 9 | 7:00 pm | Executive Committee |
| Friday, August 13 | 10:00 am | Camden Kids Picnic |
| Friday, August 20 | | Youth Bowling |
| Sunday, August 29 | | Council Workshop |
| Monday, August 30 | 7:00pm | Council Meeting |

Calendar for 2010 - 2011

The calendar of church activities should be ready the week of July 5 for posting activities for the next program year. If a ministry, committee, or person wishes to schedule an activity, it should be included on the church calendar by August 11, especially for September activities. Always check the office calendar before scheduling and publicizing an event to avoid conflicts.

Rally Day

September 12, 2010

**Holy Communion
8:30 & 11:00 am**

**Sunday Church School
9:45 am**

Youth and Family Ministry

Sunday Church School

- **SCS Teachers still needed.** Several people have volunteered to assist teachers. We could still use two teachers who would be willing to work with another teacher. Thank you to all of those who have committed to teaching, assisting, and story telling.
- **SCS Teacher Orientation** –scheduled for **August 15** following the 9:30 service. Resources will be distributed and important information shared.
- **Rally Day - September 12** - Theme: *God's Promises*. Special activities are being planned. Come, meet the teachers and join in the fun.

Youth Group

- Congratulations to **Veronica Barger** who, after completing an application process, was selected to participate in TEY – Theological Education for Youth. Along with other youth, she will attend a week long program of service and learning.
- A meet and greet at which parents and youth can meet our new Youth Advisor, **Brendan Kuehl**, is planned for the fall.
- **Summer 2012 Youth Gathering in New Orleans** – a meeting for those interested in attending is being planned for the fall. Fundraising will be a two year process.

Welcome to Youth and Family Ministry

- **Lorraine Horton** – Chair of Youth and Family Ministry
- **Cindy Arruda** – Congregation Council Liaison to Youth and Family Ministry

Property Ministry

On Sunday evening, June 13, lightning struck the transformer and pole that provides electricity to Saint Matthew Church. PSE&G installed a new pole and new transformers to provide electricity to the church. At PSE&G's insistence, an electrical contractor had to be hired to ensure there was no damage to the church's electrical systems before they would restore power to our facility. Fortunately, there was no damage to the electrical systems and power was restored about 6 pm on Monday, June 14. However, the telephone system wiring had been cut, and telephone system operation was not made available until late Tuesday, June 15th using a temporary telephone line.

The cross and gold ball atop the sanctuary were refurbished by a contractor on June 15-16. The cost of this work was \$4,000 and was funded by a grant from the Josko family that was received earlier this year. This grant also enabled us to have a new hot water heater installed. We give thanks to God for this generous gift.

Due to continuing power outages with the elevator, quotations have been received to replace all major electrical components as well as to replace the elevator cab. This matter will be discussed at the Congregation Council meeting on Monday, June 21.

Brian Schultz, Chair

**Special Congregation
Meeting
Sunday, July 11 at 10:30 am**

**Agenda: Elevator
Repair**

Thanks from Bosnia

As I write this "thank you", it is mid-June and I am two days away from leaving for Bosnia. My initial anxiety has turned into calm and joyful anticipation. Recently I have realized that this servant trip is a gift to me, as well as a gift to the children I will be serving. I thank all of you who have helped to prepare the way for me. I know it will be an experience of hard work and great rewards. I will be traveling 9,000 miles round trip, carrying the 240 tote bags and 68 hug pillows handcrafted by my Saint Matthew family as gifts to the children of Bosnia and Herzegovina. I thank each of you for your hugs, your excitement for me and your encouragement of my faith journey.

Rene Cherson

Social Concerns Ministry

S.N.A.K.

The S.N.A.K program will take a break this summer. It starts up again in late August. We are thankful to be a part of this ministry to youth in Moorestown.

LSMNJ

Lutheran Care

June Day at Lutheran Care was a great success! The weather was beautiful and lots of people showed up. Many thanks to all the women who helped sell plants, make funnel cakes and pour (lots!) of lemonade!

Camden Lutheran Parish

We look forward to the Camden Lutheran Parish Annual Picnic on Friday, August 13, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. If you want to see (and help out) a lot of kids having the time of their lives and a great barbeque, join us! The croquet game is always popular and can use an extra set of “eyes” or two. Who knows? You might even get a free hot dog or hamburger! See **Mae Trebing**, if you’re interested.

Bridge of Peace

As always we need to remember their need for food during the summer months. And, of course, remember to pray for the ongoing ministry there.

IHN

IHN was hosted by Saint Matthew the week of June 20-27. It is always a blessing to see how many people from our congregation participate in helping that week.

Summer Break

Our team will not be meeting in July, but God continues His work through all of us to minister to those in need. Don’t forget to keep praying for them as well!

Nancy Nugent, Chair

**MMM & More
(Media, Movies, Munchies)**

Friday, July 2: *(no movie)*

Friday, August 6: *Wall-E*
Family Movie Nite, featuring fun! Food! And prizes!
Come one and all, for our Summer Movie Event!
And as always – M&M's will be there!

Friday, September 3: *(no movie)*

Movies shown in Shockey Lounge at 7:00 pm

***Not able to attend MMM theater productions this year? Not to worry! All movies are available in the church library with discussion questions!

**FINANCIAL UPDATE
Watch for Your Mid-Year Member Giving Statement**

As of May 31, income from C&B envelope offerings in 2010 was \$151,319. This represents a record amount for the end of May and a significant increase from the \$143,551 realized by this time last year. This is good news!

However, envelope income is about 5% less than our 2010 budget requirement. Analysis of the current deficit indicates that a number of pledge commitments are not up to date. To remedy this situation, and to avoid a cash shortfall such as we encountered last summer, Member Giving Statements will be mailed in July – several months earlier than in previous years. These Statements will show your 2010 offerings as of June 30th and, if you gave a pledge commitment this year, the Statement will show the status of your offerings relative to your pledge.

The Member Giving Statements will also show your gifts to the ongoing 3-Year Capital Appeal, which enters its third year on July 1st. As of May 31, giving to the Capital Appeal amounted to \$103,000 which is about 9% below the amount pledged by this point in the Appeal. If you gave a pledge commitment to the Capital Appeal, your Statement will also show the status of your giving relative to your pledge.

During these months of summer travel, please remember to keep your financial support of Saint Matthew up to date. Our expense bills don't take a vacation! Last summer we wrestled with a substantial cash shortage – an experience we want to avoid with everyone's help this year. Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Tom Cassel, Treasurer

Parson to Person

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.*

This is one of the most well-known and well-loved hymns in the English language. As a matter of fact, my colleague in music at a former pastorate joked that we should have an “Amazing Grace Sunday” where that would be all we’d sing!

The hymn holds in its first stanza words whose popular interpretation can fly in the face of the Lutheran Confessions. John Newton’s hymn was somewhat auto-biographical and was used extensively in the revivalist period of the Second Great Awakening in America. Revivals were traveling, week-long tent meetings held to “save” people, to encourage them to “come to Christ”.

Many people understand that one must experience a full conversion to be Christian - that is, you’re lost before you decide for Christ, e.g., profess Jesus as your Savior, but afterwards, you’re found. Condemned by God and then saved. Ironically, this harkens back to a medieval Roman Catholic understanding of the Christian existing in either a state of sin or a state of grace.

Conversely, Lutherans understand that we’re both saint and sinner from the moment we’re baptized until the moment we die. We’re lost and found, saved and condemned, believer and unbeliever. We trust ourselves to a gracious God who embraces us while we are yet sinners. We can sing this beloved hymn, but with a slightly different understanding. To us, “I was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see” is more a daily and not a once-per-lifetime experience. As we claim our baptism, as we hear God’s Word, as we receive Communion, we are found and we see - not by our decision, but by God’s grace alone.

Pastor Wengert