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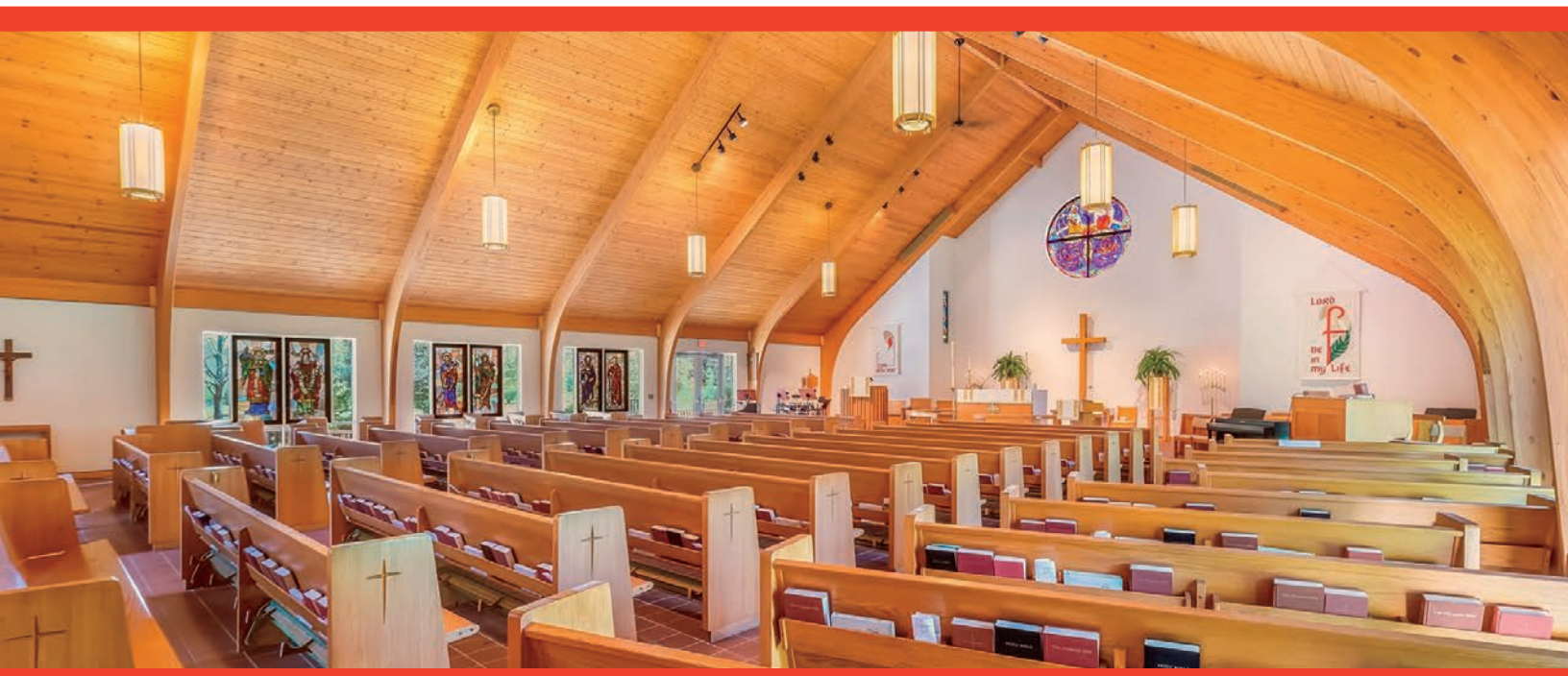
SAINT MATTHEW'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
MAPLE GLEN, PENNSYLVANIA





# the RACLE at Pentecost

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# A LETTER FROM OUR RECTOR

REV. RODNEY ROEHNER

St. Matthew's Family,

As with the conclusion of the calendar year, the end of May and beginning of June offer us an opportunity in the Church to look at what has taken place in the previous months, while also preparing for the coming ones.

We are drawing close to the end of the 'program' year, which begins in September and carries us through Trinity Sunday (June 12th this year). Then we enter summer in earnest, to rest and to renew.

Looking back at our first full program year since 2019, may we give thanks for the many blessings that have marked our common life together, far too many to list within this brief article. Quite simply, with all that has happened around us and even in our own lives, it has been a very good year for St. Matthew's. Thanks be to God. To mark the end of this program year, **we will celebrate a 'Spring Fest' on June 12th** from Noon to 2 PM. Please come and join your parish and preschool family for good fellowship, food, and rejoicing.

During this time, we also begin to plan for the upcoming program year.

Among several items we are already preparing is a more robust newcomer procedure that will not only welcome those who come to St. Matthew's, but also offer pathways to become further involved in the life of our parish. We will resume a confirmation program that once again integrates mentors, and the churches in our deanery are currently working together to bring aboard a shared youth director. A fuller slate of fellowship activities will be presented, and our outreach ministry will offer continued opportunities to serve others locally, further afield, and, of course, through in-reach among our own church and preschool family.

On a final note, we also look forward to the return of a full **Vacation Bible School program that will be held from July 11-15**. May our Loving Lord Jesus Christ shine his grace upon you throughout these summer months.

In Christ,



# FROM OUR PEOPLE'S WARDEN

M S . M A R Y A N N E N O O N

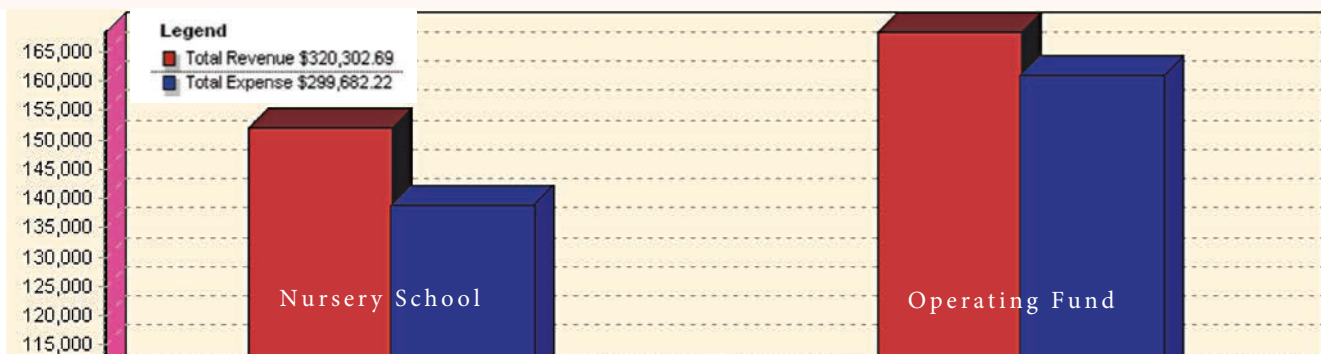
I am Mary Anne Noon, your Peoples Warden. Now, you might ask, what is a warden? Wardens are Vestry members who serve as liaisons between parishioners and the church's leadership. As warden, I am available to all parishioners to facilitate dialogue, provide critical information, and pass along suggestions. I truly enjoy engaging with this loving congregation of St. Matthew's. The next time you see me at church, please say hello!

# FROM OUR TREASURER

M R . J I M G A R R I S O N

Months into the year, and we remain on target! Collections are higher than spending by more than \$20K, with a corresponding increase in our cash balance vs. last December. The Nursery School is almost exactly even with their plan. Church Operations are \$17K ahead of plan, which is largely due to timing differences between plan and actual revenue/expense. Therefore, it is likely that we will gradually move closer to the plan as the year unfolds.

Investment markets continue to be under pressure and ended April at about 11% below last year, but our total Cash and Reserves are still nearly \$1.1 million. I should also note that vestry has approved \$42K of capital spending for 2022 to be funded from investments, not operations, of which \$2K has been spent to-date.



Graph: Courtesy of J. Garrison, May 2022



# FROM OUR LIFELONG LEARNING

MINISTRY TEAMS

It has been an exciting year in the **CGS Atria!** In the few weeks that remain, Level 1 children will be introduced to the gesture of *epiclesis* so that they may more fully understand and appreciate the Eucharist. Level 2 children will gather at the font to deepen their understanding of baptism. Level 3 students will learn about the origins of the *liturgy of the word* while also contemplating the cardinal virtues.

All CGS children will conclude the Easter season on Pentecost Sunday with a special celebration of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Prayer tables will be decorated in red (the liturgical color used to represent the Holy Spirit). Additionally, a red candle will be lighted for each of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. After reflecting on these gifts, we will each choose the one we would most like to receive.

The CGS program year will end on June 12th. Please join us for the Spring Fest Picnic on that day! We pray that, through God's grace, the seeds that were planted this year in our atriums will continue to grow over the summer.

With blessings of the Holy Spirit, **Ms. Linda Baier**

*'Learning more about who we are and what we mean to others through our faith is what we do!'*, says Erin Whalen, leader of **Weaving God's Promises** for Middle School. During WGP sessions, Pam, Heather, Michell, and Erin lead students in conversation that explores the intersections of family, friends, and faith. Despite best efforts to keep to the lessons planned, conversations typically veer comically off track! Lots of laughs, good storytelling, fun gameplay, and copious doughnut-eating is to be expected each week. We've had a great program year, and look forward to inviting all youth to rejoin us at 9:00 AM in the conference room starting in September— see you there!

Yours in faith, **Ms. Erin Whalen**



# SUMMER HAPPENINGS

Image courtesy of The Roehner Family, 2021



JOIN US AT  
**SPRING FEST 2022**

SUNDAY, JUNE 12TH AT NOON

Come, celebrate the abundant blessings of the past program year at this year's Spring Fest! On Sunday, June 12th at 12:00 PM, Spring Fest will feature activities for people of all ages – pony rides, crafts, and live music from Barry's Basement await. Hamburgers, veggie burgers, and hot dogs will be prepared by St. Matthew's very own resident *grillmasters*. Don't miss the ever-popular Kona Water Ice truck, on-site until 1:30 PM. Consider supporting Spring Fest with a suggested donation of \$5 per person (\$20 maximum, family). Donate via Venmo by searching **@SMEC-MapleGlen** in the (mobile-only) Venmo app.

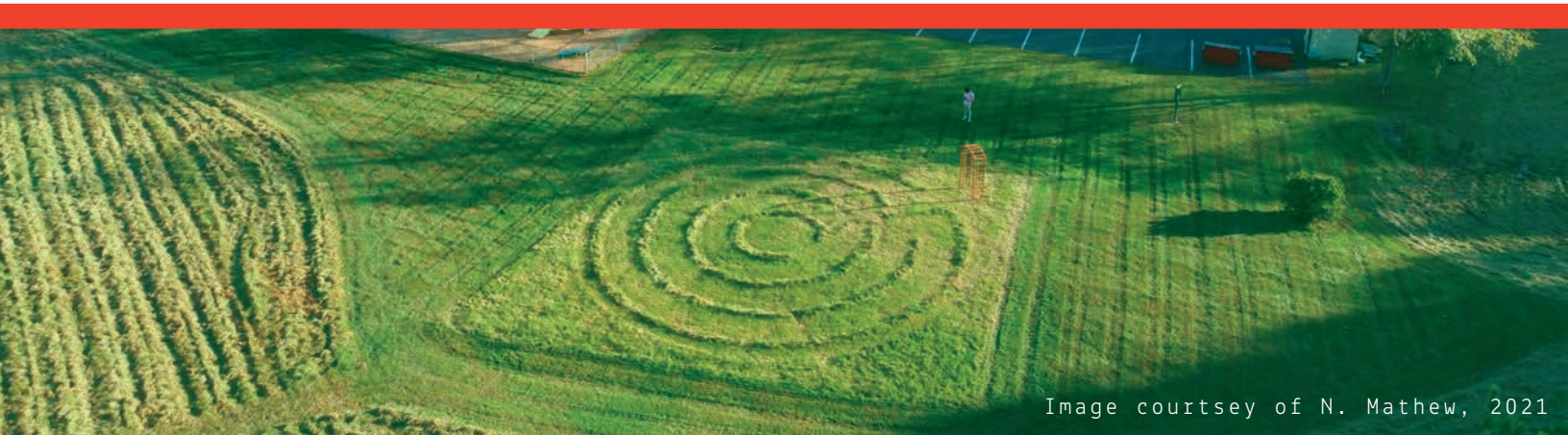


Image courtesy of N. Mathew, 2021

REGISTER FOR  
**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AND  
MIDDLE SCHOOL SERVICE CAMP**

WEEK OF JULY 11 - 15

Calling all families! St. Matthew's Summer Camps are now open for registration. Led by parishioners Laura Zakrzewski and Karin Davis, the camps will occur from July 11th and 15th. Offerings include:

- **Monumental VBS** | Free, morning program for children.
- **Middle School Service Camp** | Donation-based, full-day program for Middle School students grades 6,7, and 8th.

Learn more and register for both opportunities by heading to [tinyurl.com/SMEC-Camp-Registration](https://tinyurl.com/SMEC-Camp-Registration) .

ROCK OUT TO

# MARTHA'S PENTECOST JAMS

AVAILABLE FOR FREE ON  Spotify

[TINYURL.COM/MARTHAS-PENTECOST-JAMS](https://tinyurl.com/marthas-pentecost-jams)

**Spirit Fall** – *by Passion – featuring Chris Tomlin*

Spirit Fall compels us to ask the Holy Spirit to continually fill us over and over again, keeping the fire burning inside of us and worship Jesus as our Lord and Savior, bringing Him glory.

**Sing His Love** – *by Caedmon's Call*

Sing His Love shows how God created us, loves us and cares for us, and the chorus ends with such a sense of gratitude.

**Holy Spirit** – *by Bryan and Katie Torwalt*

Holy Spirit shows an effort to open our hearts and eyes to the Spirit's continual, powerful presence in our lives. It's an invitation, a courtesy, a continual knocking for God to come inside of us.

**The Sky Spills Over** – *by Michael W. Smith*

The Sky Spills Over focuses on dealing with the troubles of life and knowing that God will be there and that His love spills over on us as well.

Playlist and Descriptions courtesy of M. Reynolds.

## MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT AT ST. MATTHEW'S OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

**Aid For Ukraine** | The Episcopal Relief and Development network has partnered with the ACT Alliance to provide humanitarian relief to refugees fleeing from violence in Ukraine. Donate to the fund by going to [tinyurl.com/ERD-Ukraine](https://tinyurl.com/ERD-Ukraine)

**Support Mwamba** | St. Matthew's has long partnered with Mwamba in their aim of funding quality education for students living throughout Kenya, especially young women. You may support Mwamba scholarships by going to [tinyurl.com/Mwamba-SMEC-22](https://tinyurl.com/Mwamba-SMEC-22) or by check sent to St. Matthew's with *Mwamba* written on the memo line.

**Little Pantry** | Check the current donation list for the Little Pantry, and all our active food ministries by going to our website, [www.saintmattsec.org](https://www.saintmattsec.org)



# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Contact [parishmanager@saintmattsec.org](mailto:parishmanager@saintmattsec.org) to get involved!

**Counters** | Serve alongside a partner under the direction of the Parish Manager, counting the parish's weekly monetary contributions.

**Live Stream** | Learn how to operate the parish's livestreaming equipment at your own pace. Weekly and periodic volunteer opportunities for youth and adult assistants are available.

**Worship** | Acolytes and ushers are urgently needed.

# CREATIVE CONTRIBUTIONS

The Communications Committee is accepting original **Photos, Visual Art, Music, Writings, and More!** Share your talents to represent the St. Matthew's community in its print and digital publications.

Entries for the next edition of the *Oracle* are requested by August 12th. The focus theme is "Welcome." Questions? Submissions? Please reach out to [anthony@saintmattsec.org](mailto:anthony@saintmattsec.org)

**Gardening** | Advisory & maintenance assistance is requested for the Parish's Memorial Garden and Labyrinth. Contact [parishmanager@saintmattsec.org](mailto:parishmanager@saintmattsec.org) for more information.



# MEADOW MAGIC

Trail cameras capture it all!

Take a look at what you *don't* usually see at church on a Sunday! If you enjoy the natural beauty of our campus, consider inviting your friends, neighbors, and families to take a stroll here this summer.





# A LETTER FROM THE NURSERY SCHOOL

Jackie Anderson, Director

Now that the warmer weather is upon us it has been lovely to hear children playing outside on the playground, black top, and grassy areas of the campus! We even have gym class outside and the children just love it.

May and June are busy months for the nursery school children. Fun and exciting activities have been planned throughout the month. This year, more than ever, we wanted to honor our moms in-person and inside. We held special Mother's Day Concerts in the church, and afterwards, moms were invited into our classrooms where they received a special gift from their children. These were special celebrations with many memories made! Towards the end of May, the school will have a visit from What Knott Farm. The farm brings a variety of baby animals for the children to interact with. The children will also have visits from Gold Fish Swim School and Bubbles the goldfish. Bubbles will help the children learn about pool safety. We end the school year on June 9th & 10th with picnics at Everybody's Playground in Horsham. From June 13-17 we offer an optional week of camp for the children. Each day of camp includes music, science, art, gym, snacks, and playground time!

The staff of the Nursery School are truly remarkable for all they have done this year. Each day, our staff come to school excited to provide in-person learning and much needed socialization for our children. I am extremely grateful for the overwhelming support of the Vestry, Carolyn Bedics, and Father Rodney. They have made operating a school during a pandemic very smooth.

Most sincerely,

*Jackie*

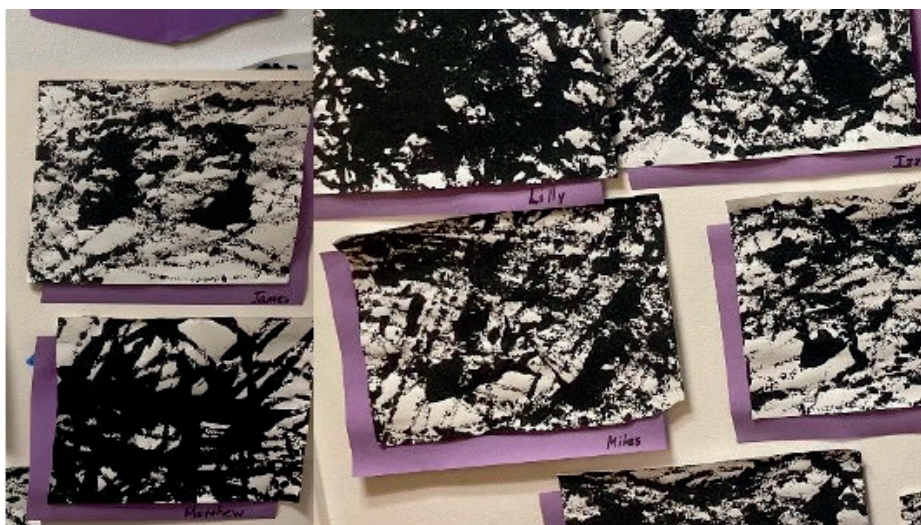


# SHINING A LIGHT ON MRS. LYNNE KLUNK



This month highlights Mrs. Lynne Klunk! Lynne has been with us at St. Matthew's for four years. She came to us from Pleasantville Pre-School in Chalfont. Lynne and her husband Donald have three daughters. Her middle daughter, Sarah, actually came to St. Matthew's back in 2008! Lynne tailors her classroom to meet the needs of all of her students. It is rare to see her without a smile on her face in the classroom. I enjoy seeing the wide variety of activities and the many ways that she engages her students. During her lessons on the colors black and white, she had the children paint with golf balls to create abstract works of art. While learning about the Easter Bunny's favorite food the children measured carrots and even planted carrot seeds.

Mrs. Klunk is a wonderful part of the nursery school staff and we are so glad she calls St. Matthew's home!







## ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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