

Contact: Selma Hainley
LutherCare
717-626-1171 ext. 697
shainley@luthercare.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Paul Baker, Managing Editor, Lebanon Daily News Guest Reader at St. James Child Care & Learning Center for PA's One Book, Every Young Child Early Literacy Program

On April 16, Paul Baker, Managing Editor of the Lebanon Daily News was the guest reader at St. James Child Care and Learning Center, 130 Walton Street, Lebanon as part of the One Book, Every Young Child early literacy program. The book he read to the children was *Up, Down, and Around*, written by Pennsylvania author Katherine Ayres and illustrated by Nadine Bernard Westcott, which was named the 2008 selection for this program. The book is billed as a “rollicking celebration of things that grow,” featuring children learning about a garden teeming with life, producing a variety of edible plants, such as corn that grows up, onions that grow down, and tomato vines that twine all around. The children had a wonderful time as they got up and down and twirled around whenever Mr. Baker said those words out loud. More than a half million Pennsylvania children ages 3-6 are reached annually through the **One Book, Every Young Child** program which stresses the importance of reading early and often to young children and how that impacts their future lives.

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LutherCare – St. James Child Care Center

St. James Child Care and Learning Center, a LutherCare child care program, is a regular participant in the One Book, Every Young Child program. The center also takes part in the PA Keystone Stars program and is the first Star 3 center in Lebanon County. They also take part in the Pre-K Counts initiative that started in Pennsylvania this year. St. James Child Care and Learning Center offers care for infants, toddlers and preschoolers. They also offer a before and after school program. For more information about St. James Child Care and Learning Center, please contact Jennifer Witmer at 717.272.4778.

LutherCare, a social ministry organization affiliated with the Lower Susquehanna Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and Lutheran Services in America is a leading provider of residential, assisted living, and skilled care residences in Lancaster and Lebanon County. LutherCare operates Luther Acres, a Continuing Care Retirement Community in Lititz, PA, Spang Crest Manor, a skilled nursing, rehabilitation center, assisted living community and adult day services in Lebanon, PA and St. John's Herr Estate, a residential and assisted living community in Columbia, PA. In addition, LutherCare also operates five childcare centers in Lebanon, Annville, Reamstown, Lancaster and Columbia.

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