



6180 Highway 65 NE
Fridley, MN 55432-5158

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. Postage PAID
TWIN CITIES, MN
PERMIT # 2705

place label here

February 2014

The Friend

Come as you are to Worship, Wonder, and Work in Jesus' name!

Getting Out of the Boat

by Pastor Joel Wight Hoogheem

Jesus saw another set of brothers, James the son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with Zebedee their father repairing their nets. Jesus called them and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. —Matthew 4:21-22



We don't know what James and John, the sons of Zebedee, thought when Jesus walked up to them, told them to leave their nets, and called them to follow him. What we do know is that they dropped their nets and followed Jesus. They left their nets, their father, their profession, and their very lives behind to follow Jesus.

They had no idea what the future held for them. There was no certainty; they just had to trust in Jesus as they made this huge change in their lives.

There are two kinds of change: technical change and adaptive change. Technical change involves facing questions and challenges by implementing known answers. For James and John, technical change would involve casting their nets in a different place or during a different time of day or using a different sort of net.

Adaptive change, however, involves facing questions and challenges for which the answers are unknown. It's a difficult change because it takes a change of hearts and minds, a change in routines and preferences, and it can result in the transformation of an entire system. That is precisely what James and John did in dropping their nets and following Jesus. By "fishing for people," they would have to learn new ways; their old answers to the challenges of fishing would not work.

It is no secret that we live in a rapidly changing time and place. The world around the Christian Church has changed in incredible and unforeseen ways in the last half-century. And, it could be argued, the Church has not done well in facing many of these changes. It might be that the Church has been assuming technical change (using established answers) instead of seeing this as a time of adaptive change (seeking new and unknown answers).

Board of Administration

BOA@splcmn.org

Matt Johnson, President

wehttamj@gmail.com

Joel Young, Vice President

young.joel.r@gmail.com

Ron Ackerman, Treasurer

ron.ackerman@comcast.net

Miriam Jensen, Secretary

miriamjensen@gmail.com

Deb Carroll

carrollmd2@msn.com

Brad Heitland

heitland@gmail.com

Harold Lundberg

harold.lundberg@usfamily.net

Arlene Retzer

daret@usfamily.net

Norm Schultz

normschultz@comcast.net

Val Sperry

sperryvs@aol.com

Missionaries: Jim & Carol Sack

Companion Congregation: Bille Lutheran in Nigeria

Ministers: All members of the Parish

Friend deadline: 1st Tuesday of Feb. (2/4) for March Friend

E-mail typed copy to: nancyln@splcmn.org (250 word max)

St. Philip's Lutheran Church

A member of the ELCA

www.splcmn.org • info@splcmn.org

Phone: 763.571.1500 • Fax: 763.572.2292

Church Staff

Joel Wight Hoogheem, Senior Pastor

joelwh@splcmn.org

Janice Hartsook, Associate Pastor

janh@splcmn.org

Nancy Lilja-Nerheim, Office Manager,

nancyln@splcmn.org

Carly Tappe, Director of Children & Family Ministries

carlyt@splcmn.org

Wanda Benson, Front Office & Hospitality Specialist

wandab@splcmn.org

Van V. Bredeson, Interserve Interim Youth Minister

vanb@splcmn.org

Jerry Salitros, Bookkeeper

jerry@splcmn.org

David Geslin, Organist

davidg@splcmn.org

Stephanie Phelps, Sanctuary Choir Director

stephaniep@splcmn.org

Brian Schroeder, Worship Band Director

brians@splcmn.org

Kathryn Swenstad, Part-Time Custodian

verilynp@splcmn.org

Verilyn Pelava, Visitation Minister

verilynp@splcmn.org

In this issue

Pastor Joel	1-2
See Through the Scriptures	2
Library DVDs Missing	2
Congregation President	3-4
Life Events	4
Youth Ministry	5
Youth Ministry Survey Update	5
Children & Family Ministry	6
Events & Opportunities	7
St. Philip's Disaster Relief	8
Endowment	8
Budget YTD	8
January Calendar	9
Contact Information	10
February Friend Deadline	10



continued on page 2

Getting Out of the Boat

continued from page 1

Whatever the case may be, the reality is that Jesus continues to call us to get out of the boat and follow him. God has not withdrawn his presence from the world and God has not changed his desire for the Church to be the body of Christ in the world. I strongly believe that Jesus is calling us to trust him, just as James and John did, as we drop our nets of comfort and routine and follow Jesus into unknown adventures down untrodden paths.

No, we don't know the answers and that can be a scary or intimidating reality. But we do know Jesus



and we know that we can trust him to lead us. That's why I have such confidence in our Natural Church Development process with its strong biblical basis.

We will engage the realm of "Passionate Spirituality" over the next year or so as a congregation. We will generate ideas and set goals in our lives of Bible study, prayer, finances, faith sharing, and living out our commitment to Christ in our daily lives.

Yes, the challenge may be as big as the one that faced James and John when they left their nets and followed Jesus. But it might just be that the Holy Spirit will work through us during this time of adaptive change to bring about amazing and gracious transformation to our communities and even to the world!

For more information, visit healthychurchteam.wordpress.com ♦

"The world around the Christian Church has changed in incredible and unforeseen ways in the last half-century."

See Through the Scriptures

One-day Bible Workshop

Saturday, February 22
9:00 am – 4:00 pm
St. Philip's Lutheran Church

If you are looking for a good way to get introduced (or re-introduced) to the Bible, this is just the opportunity for you! *See Through the Scriptures* is a lively, fast-paced, and comprehensive look through the big story of the Bible. In the course of a single day you will hear the expanse of the biblical narrative and God's commitment to us.

Previous participants have said:

- *Excellent course. Pace is fast, but I liked that. I also like that the entire course was offered in a one-day format.*
- *Provided a very useful context for further Bible study. Day well spent!*
- *This really helped to pull many parts of the Bible together and make sense of the confusing parts.*
- *This is different than any other study I have done. I enjoyed it!*

This workshop provides the basic framework needed to understand the sweep of the Bible's narrative and thus see how all the "jigsaw pieces" of Scripture fit together. Gain deeper insights into the profound, radical nature of Jesus' life and ministry with *See Through the Scriptures!*

Sign up at the church, by calling the office (763.571.1500), or emailing Pastor Joel (JoelIWH@splcmn.org).

The cost is \$20 and includes course materials and lunch. (Please indicate any food sensitivities when you sign up.) ♦

Library Missing DVDs

The Library Committee is pleased that most of our recently purchased family friendly DVDs have found a temporary home for the past few months. However, we would like to share them with others. The missing new DVDs are *The Sound of Music*, *Mary Poppins*, *Benji*, and *Last Call at the Oasis*. If you have any of these DVDs (or any other Library materials), please drop them off in the Library. Thank you very much. ♦



FEBRUARY 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Budget Forum 11:30 am Sunday School Worship 11:30 am Chili Bowl & Annual Meeting	3 9:30 am VBS Support 9:30 am Joy Circle 1:00 pm Prayer Group 1:20 pm Chair Yoga 5:45 pm Girl Scouts 5:50 pm Yoga 6:00 pm Worship Band 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm Befrienders 7:30 pm WMA Comm.	4 Friend Deadline 11:00 am Staff Meeting 2:00 pm Tuesdays Together 2:00 pm Sharing/Caring Cooks 6:30 pm FIE 4th Grade 6:30 pm Confirmation, gr. 6-8 7:00 pm Evangelism Committee	5 8:30 am Work Crew, WOW 9:00 am Quilters 11:00 am Sharing/Caring leaves 6:30 pm FIE 4th Grade 6:30 pm Confirmation, gr. 6-8 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	6 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 6:30 pm Bells of Praise	7	8 11:30 am SPDR Dinner Prep 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship
9 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Sunday School Worship 11:30 am Ed. Committee Mtg. 4:00 & 6:00 pm SPDR Lasagna Dinner and Auction	10 9:00 am Glory Circle 1:00 pm Prayer Group 1:20 pm Chair Yoga 5:50 pm Yoga 6:00 pm Worship Band 6:00 pm Cub Scouts	11 11:00 am Staff Meeting 2:00 pm Tuesdays Together 4:30 pm Worship Planning 6:30 pm Parish Fellowship 7:00 pm All Committee Mtg.	12 8:30 am Work Crew, WOW 10:00 am Women's Book Club 6:30 pm Confirmation, gr. 6-8 6:30 pm Garden Committee 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	13 1:30 pm 55+ Event 6:30 pm Showtime Gals & Pie Bells of Praise	14	15 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship
16 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Sunday School Worship 11:30 am Blood Pressure Checks 10:30 am Worship	17 1:00 pm Prayer Group 1:20 pm Chair Yoga 5:50 pm Yoga 6:00 pm Worship Band 6:00 pm Cub Scouts 6:30 pm Movie Night	18 9:00 am Library Committee 11:00 am Staff Meeting 2:00 pm Tuesdays Together 3:30 pm Homework Buddies	19 8:30 am Work Crew, WOW 9:00 am Quilters 6:30 pm Confirmation, gr. 6-8 6:30 pm FIE Grade 1 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	20 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 6:30 pm Bells of Praise 6:30 pm North Metro Photo Club	21	22 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship
23 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Sunday School Worship 12:00 Noon Family Bowling @ Brunswick Blaine	24 9:00 am LEAFs 1:00 pm Prayer Group 1:20 pm Chair Yoga 1:30 pm Knitters & Crocheters 5:45 pm Girl Scouts 5:50 pm Yoga 6:00 pm Worship Band 6:00 pm Cub Scouts	25 9:30 am Assemble Friend 11:00 am Staff Meeting 2:00 pm Tuesdays Together 3:00 pm Lynwood Service 3:30 pm Homework Buddies 6:45 pm Board Meeting	26 8:30 am Work Crew, WOW 6:30 pm Confirmation, gr. 6-8 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	27 6:30 pm Bells of Praise	28	

Endowment Fund

Your legacy – St. Philip's future

*"I thank my God every time
I remember you."*

Philippians 1:3

Gifts were received in memory of:

*Don Falkum, Donn Feigal,
Linda Granrose, Doris Harju,
Jonathan Hogan, Mike Hollen,
Karla Holmstrom, Quinton Larson,
Gene Lindstrom, Jerry Seeman &
Edna Zeller*

**Legacy gifts of \$1,000 or more
were received from:**
Mike and Deb Carroll

Testametary gift received:
*Quinton Larson included a gift
to the Endowment Fund in his
Last Will and Testament.*

**Thank you for investing in the
future of St. Philip's ministry.**
*Remember a loved one,
honor a friend,
celebrate a special event*

December 2013

	Budget YTD	Actual YTD
Income	\$812,457	\$782,285
Expense	(\$810,140)	(\$798,426)
TOTALS	\$ 2,317	(\$ 16,141)



St. Philip's Disaster Relief

It's soon time for the Disaster Relief annual fundraiser. Once again this will be a lasagna dinner along with a silent auction and will be held on Sunday, February 9.

The dinner will be prepared and served by the Disaster Relief team members and will include salad, lasagna, breadsticks, dessert, and beverages. Dinner seatings will be at 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. (Gluten free lasagna will be available at the 4 p.m. seating.) Tickets for the dinner are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 5-12 years old, and free for under 5. Tickets must be purchased in advance and will be available after worship services on February 2.

The auction will be sealed bid and will include a variety of items and services – all donated by team members, family, and friends. Items will be available for bidding after worship services February 8 or 9 and during the dinner. Bids will be reviewed in the week after the dinner and the high bidder will be notified and arrangements will be made to pick up items.

Pastor Michael Stadie, Program Director, of Lutheran Disaster Response will be a special guest at St. Philip's on February 8 - 9. Pastor Stadie will preach at all three worship services and will present at the Adult Forum on Sunday where he will tell of the positive impact Lutheran Disaster Response and St. Philip's Disaster Relief have had on people's lives.

We encourage everyone to support the Disaster Relief ministry by attending the dinner, bidding high on an auction item, and attending worship and the Adult Forum to hear Pastor Stadie. Consider joining the team that will most likely head to New Jersey to help Hurricane Sandy victims. Dates for that trip are May 3-11. Contact Mike Anderson at flooddog97@gmail.com with any questions about the trip. The journey continues because of the support of so many of you. ♦

Congregation President

Matt Johnson

My mom told me that now is the time for transplanting houseplants. The days are slowly but progressively getting longer, and nature knows it. Plants are shaking off their dormancy and are starting to stir and, if at all rootbound, newfound space in fresh soil means they are ready to grow.

In a sense it's true for each of us too and it's true for the church.

No, I'm not recommending moving down the street or out of town, but there is a transplanting that's happening. A move to the new pot and soil of a growing, changing church.

Yet, even as we look forward to what is to come we are peering back whence we've come. It's inevitable of course, and this isn't a bad thing. We needn't look back with longing or regret, but rather with a sense of appreciation for what came before, lessons learned, and the treasure of experience laid up in the storehouse of our history. It can be a beautifully renewing time knowing that we are a new shoot off of a still healthy and vibrant root.

And now, even while we hunker down and wait out a few weeks of freezing and perhaps subzero temperatures, short days, and long nights, we dream about the fruit tree blossoms, smell of newly mown lawn, and a warm sandy beach. And even now, we know that God is up to something here.

As we look forward to 2014 as a community of faith, how do you picture the future of St. Philip's?

What do you dream about for your church?

We hope that some of pieces have been put into place that will allow the future to which we hope to arrive will happen by design rather than by accident. I firmly believe that if we commit to the Natural Church Development process we will see a steady increase in the growth of our church.



*“And now, even while
we hunker down
and wait out a few
weeks of freezing
and perhaps subzero
temperatures, short
days, and long nights,
we dream about the
fruit tree blossoms,
smell of newly mown
lawn, and a warm
sandy beach. And
even now, we know
that God is up to
something here.”*

I feel strongly that revising our church governance is an important part of the process of enabling us to be responsible and responsive to a changing church in our time and the evolving community in which we live and serve.

Yes, these are a couple of big changes, heaped on top of a church that has already seen some big changes, but wouldn't it be energizing to be the example that others might look to rather than just another ordinary statistic symptomatic of a struggling church and synod?

The precious name of Jesus is good news to a community that has heard too many crummy new feeds. We have an amazing story to share. What is your dream?

In the back of my mind I can almost hear someone saying, "I'm dreaming of no more change!"

Well, I'll admit that over the past few years, we've undergone more change than many of you would have cared to endure. Thank you for being patient, tolerant, accepting, and allowing a group of volunteers on the board and committees to try to do the very best we could to guide the changes that have occurred. Did we always do it perfectly? Ok, you can stop laughing now. No, we didn't do it perfectly, but we tried to do our best.

I'm reminded of a college religion professor I had that gave his students one main assignment - memorize 1 Corinthians 13. I was three years removed from high school when I started my college life, so upon hearing this I thought, really Prof Madson? The tuition we're paying and you want us to do memory work? huh.

Does memorizing this chapter allow you to make brilliant decisions about the future? *for we know only in part, we prophesy in part.*

continued on page 4

*“You have not lived
today until you have
done something for
someone who can
never repay you.”*

~ John Bunyan

Congregation President

continued from page 3

Prevent you from being too pushy? *It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;*

Lay aside any doubt about your trustworthiness? *it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.*

Keep you from saying dumb things? *a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal; boastful or arrogant or rude.*

No, unfortunately, memorizing this chapter hasn't prevented any of this, but ... it has allowed me into a community of faith that holds tightly to the one that does. The one that lifts the word off the page and into the heart. Jesus. Love. The love of a savior, a messiah.

If the soil of this church is love, we will grow.

If the water of this church is forgiveness, our roots will deepen and spread

If the light of this church is faith, we will reach out and give.

If the gardener of this church is truth, we will protect and train and teach and thrive.

“If the water of this church is forgiveness, our roots will deepen and spread”

I've got a feeling that there are a lot of dreamers out there that are dreaming of ways to see that the light of our Lord is reflected far and wide. We've prayed together, we've sung together, we've worshiped together, we've laughed, and cried together. Let's dream together. Let's bring that dream to life. *for now we see in a mirror dimly, but then we will see face to face*

I am so grateful for the support of the congregation and the opportunity to work side by side with the members of the Board, the pastors and staff. *Love is patient; love is kind*

A big thank you to all of the committee chairs and those of you serving or about to serve on a committee. Even though you are each special, you've not been chosen to do the work of the church because of special skills, but because of a special desire and commitment to serve people through the work of the church. *It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.*

People that stand up and say ... here am I, send me.

This is how the dream is realized.

So, what is your dream for St. Philip's? ♦

MJ

Life Events

Anniversaries:

Dan & Jackie Campeau, 13 years, February 1
Aaron & Staci Gondorchin, 12 years, Feb. 2
Walter & Dorothy Hansen, 57 years, Feb. 2
Cindy & Don Tollefson, 27 years, February 13
Richard & Dawn Young, 49 years, Feb. 14
David & Yvette Christensen, 23 years, Feb. 16
Harold & Barbara Lundberg, 35 years, Feb. 16
Shirley & Phillip Eddy, 59 years, February 19
Mike Youngberg & Renee Falkum-Youngberg, 28 years, February 20
Ronald & June Anderson, 57 years, Feb. 23
Don & Sue Davis, 57 years, February 23
Christine & Ronald Boettcher, 19 years, Feb. 25
John & Carol Crowley, 48 years, February 26
Roger & Marlene Sonstegard, 54 years, Feb. 27
William & Shirley Backstrom, 58 years, Feb. 28

Baptisms:

Elijah White-McKiernan
Jase Johnson

Sympathy:

Fausia Shawich, Subah, Dola, Mohamed, Lena, Markli, Munsir, and Mudesir upon the death of their mother and grandmother

Recuperating at Home or Hospitalized:

Alice Benson
Diane England

Events & Opportunities @ St. Philip's

St. Philip's 55+ Retirees

Old Log Theater & Lunch

Meet at church before 10:45 am, Thursday, March 13. We will bus to the Old Log Theater for a pre-noon lunch and to see the play "Almost, Maine" and return by 4:30. The Old Log Theater has new owners, new menus, new types of plays and other updates. Come and see!

Lunch will include spinach salad, dinner rolls, vegetable, beverage, dessert and choice of one of the following entrees:

Braised Short Rib, Chicken Breast, Smoked Pork Chop, or Pappardelle Pasta.

"Almost, Maine" summary: On a cold, clear, moonless night in the middle of winter, all is not quite what it seems in the remote, mythical town of Almost, Maine. As the northern lights hover in the star-filled sky above, Almost's residents find themselves falling in and out of love in unexpected and often hilarious ways. Knees are bruised. Hearts are broken. But the bruises heal, and the hearts mend—almost—in this delightful midwinter night's love story.

The cost is \$42.00 which includes school bus transportation, lunch, and "Almost, Maine". Due to the limited number of tickets St. Philip's members sign up prior to non-members. Sign up, pay, and select your choice of entrée by Sunday, March 2. Please make a (non-refundable) check payable to St. Philip's. Questions: Contact Retzers at 763.574.9559 or Kruses at 612.251.3908. ♦

Thank You

Thank you to everyone for your kindness during this most difficult time in the loss of our son, Michael.

Your thoughts, prayers, sympathy cards, and condolences will always be remembered with kindness.

~ Kermit & Fran Hollen

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.”

~ Colossians 3:16



Greetings from Van Van V. Bredeson, Interim Youth Minister

Youth Happenings:

30 Hour Famine—February 19-20

The 30 Hour Famine raises money for World Vision who in turn provides food and medical supplies for people in third world countries and areas in crisis. Sign-up to be part of the solution to hunger by experiencing hunger yourself. Here is how it works: You go without food for thirty hours. You get pledges from people to sponsor you during those thirty hours. So, while you go hungry, others are fed. An orientation for the famine will take place during the hang out time Wednesday, January 29.

Summer Trips:

Middle School Students:

Summer Festival—July 21-25

Come to this wonderful Bible camp at college experience.

High School Students:

Mission Trip to Kentucky July 26-August 2

Black lung disease and mining automation and layoffs have made Harlan County a place of hardship. Come join COAP (Christian Outreach with Appalachian People) in restoring hope to those in need. New home construction or restoration are a big part of how you can help.

Summer Trip Information Meetings will be Wednesday, February 5 at 8:00 p.m. bring your parents. ♦

Youth Ministry Survey Update

As your Interserve Ministries, Interim Youth Director, I would like to share the progress we have made toward understanding the need and desire for staffing St. Philip's youth ministry. Thank you for completing the youth ministry surveys. They gave us data from which to proceed toward a hiring goal for St. Philip's. We've also gained an understanding of the future mission of the youth ministry.

Here are some discoveries from the surveys:

1. Youth ministry is very important to this congregation.
2. There is a call for better integration of youth ministry with the whole of the congregation's ministry. This includes better communication of how the youth are living out their faith through mission events and ongoing faith growth.
3. There is a strong desire for knowing God better especially expressed in the youth survey.
4. There is no ministry for young adults.
5. Staffing qualities—the youth desire:
 - a. Someone approachable with whom they can share their life and concerns.

- b. Someone who can bring excitement and inspiration to the ministry.

- c. Someone who builds community and is an advocate for young people.

The adults desire:

- a. Someone who is good at building relationships with children, youth and young adults.

- b. Someone who can equip other adults to be part of ministry with youth and young adults.

- c. Someone who is trained and knowledgeable about the faith and youth and family ministry.

We hope you will pray with us as we seek to create a vision and mission for the whole children, youth, and family ministry of St. Philip's and the staffing that is needed for it's fulfillment.

I want to thank the Transition Taskforce members for their ongoing care of this important ministry. Members: Jack and Michele Angerhofer, Deb Liebfreid, Katie Bergeron, Clint Massey, Lisa Rolfs, Chris Boettcher and Kari Osmeck (Interserve Ministries colleague). ♦

Children & Family Ministry Update Carly Tappe, Director of Children & Family Ministries

Philip's will be collecting cans of soup the weekends of January 26 & February 2. Our goal is to collect 500 cans of soup. All are invited to participate! Please help us in our fight against hunger by donating cans of soup!

It's a Bowling Party! Save the Date

Sunday, February 23! We will be heading to Brunswick Zone in Blaine for an afternoon of Pizza and Bowling. Watch your weekly emails and worship bulletin for more details.



Vacation Bible School 2014

This summer's VBS theme is *Weird Animals: Where Jesus' Love is One-of-a-Kind!* Mark your calendar now for June 23 - 27 for an amazing week of VBS!

A Special Thanks

A special thanks to all the families that helped pack food at Feed My Starving Children on January 11! In two hours of packing 118 boxes of food were packed, a total of 25,488 meals! That's enough to feed 69 children for a whole year! St. Philip's made a monetary donation using money the children put in the "Globe" each week during our offering in worship. This money will be used to pack 1,000 additional meals! Way to go Kids! ♦

Souper Bowl of Caring

The Souper Bowl of caring is children and youth across the nation working to fight hunger and poverty in their own communities around the time of the Super Bowl football game.

This year St. Philip's is joining in that fight against hunger. This year the Super Bowl will be played on Sunday, February 2. To help prepare for the Souper Bowl, St.

"Piglet sidled up to Pooh from behind. "Pooh?" he whispered. "Yes, Piglet?" "Nothing," said Piglet, taking Pooh's hand. "I just wanted to be sure of you."

~ Winnie-the-Pooh
A.A. Milne



*Save the
give away
ve other
nd if we do
nge the kind
we are, and
e the kind
ve live in.”*

Abbi Harold Kushner

*“Faith
under
reason
under*