



St. Philip's
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Friend deadline:
1st Tuesday of December (12/4) for December *Friend*
E-mail typed copy to: meganb@splcmn.org (250 word max)



The Friend

November 2014

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

Is God Optional?
by Pastor Joel Wight Hoogheem

For us as a faith community, is God optional?

On the surface, that seems like a magnificently preposterous question. How could God be optional for a church? Isn't God why we are the church, why we go to church, why we do this thing we call church?

Well, of course. Yet what story do all the things we do as "St. Philip's Lutheran Church" tell? If someone was dropped into the middle of any given event, meeting, or gathering, would God be seen as central? Would God's presence even be acknowledged?

One of my greatest fears is that the church has become so much about the so-called "business of the church" that it has elbowed out the presence of God. Sure, we may toss off a prayer at the outset of a meeting, but it's often a perfunctory act before we can do the "real work." Yet if God is not at the heart of what we are doing as a church, why are we bothering to do it?

So the question needs to be constantly asked in every situation that arises under the banner of the church: where is God in this? That is, does this event/meeting/gathering glorify God and move us to love and serve our neighbors?

If so, how? If not, why are we doing it? Will God's world be a better place because of what we're doing? If so, how? If not, why are we doing it?



One of our Passionate Spirituality goals is to become a church where people openly and comfortably talk about their faith with one another.

One step to become a church where we talk about our faith with one another is incredibly simple, but will take incredible courage and fortitude: for every meeting to conclude with time to reflect on the question, "How did you experience God in this meeting?" It will be incumbent upon the leaders of meetings both to create an agenda that allows ample space for this conversation and to be brave enough to pose the question. I pray God will give the needed strength to our meeting leaders!

There are some groups and committees that have been taking the risk of actually reflecting on this question at the end of their meetings. Many insightful comments have been made and much faithful discussion

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Is God Optional? *Continued from page 1*

“The world needs St. Philip’s to be the body of Christ, to witness to the saving grace of Jesus, and to be clearly and explicitly God’s hands and feet out in the world.”

~ Pastor Joel Wight Hoogheem

has occurred as a result. The whole shape of the work of any group or committee is completely reshaped when the Holy Spirit is invited in. It seems that this is, indeed, the “real work” of any committee, group, or team of St. Philip’s: to pay attention to what God is up to and to follow where God is leading.

So, to answer that magnificently preposterous question, “Is God optional?” No, God is not optional. God simply has to be central to absolutely everything we as a church do. And if God is not involved in or if God is not central to something we’re doing as a church, we should stop doing it immediately. And then we should pray

God’s Work, Our Hands

Sunday, September 7th was “God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday —the day of service for the 10,000 congregations of the ELCA. Thank you to the 75 people who took part in eight activities planned for St. Philip’s that day.

Their hands fed our community by making sandwiches for the hungry and homeless in the Twin Cities, making and serving dinner for those in temporary housing in Anoka County, and serving ice cream to seniors in Fridley.

Their hands made life easier for a widowed Fridley woman battling cancer by performing much needed yardwork.

Their hands kept our community members safe by installing smoke

and listen for God’s voice.

Because the world doesn’t need St. Philip’s to be a social club or a service organization. The world needs St. Philip’s to be the body of Christ, to witness to the saving grace of Jesus, and to be clearly and explicitly God’s hands and feet out in the world.

May God grant us the courage to stop doing things that have nothing to do with living in Jesus’ name and may God give us the faith to let it be known that God is at the very heart of absolutely everything we do! ♦



detector batteries for low income families and seniors in Fridley.

Their hands made life more comfortable for those in temporary housing in Anoka County by painting a meeting room and installing ceiling tiles in the workout room.

Their hands made our community cleaner by picking up trash along twelve blocks of University Avenue and at a park near the high school.

Their hands helped comfort kids across the nation, who have been through disasters, by assembling craft kits to be used at Camp Noah. ♦



NOVEMBER 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 10:00 am Betty Sonnenberg Visitation 11:00 am Betty Sonnenberg Memorial Service 5:00 pm Worship
2 Daylight Savings Ends 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Forum Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Congregational Meeting 6:00 pm SDA Celebration	3 9:30 am Joy Circle 1:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm Chair Yoga 1:30 pm Genealogy 5:50 pm Yoga 6:00 pm Girl Scouts 6:00 pm Worship Band 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	4 Friend Deadline 11:00 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together	5 8:30 am Work Crew, WOW 9:00 am Quilters 6:30 pm Gr. 6-8 Confirmation 6:30 pm High School Youth Grp. 7:00 pm Choir	6 6:30 pm Bells of Praise	7 8:00 am Holiday Market Set-up 6:30 pm Small Grp. Book Club	8 9:00 am Holiday Market 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 pm Saturday Supper 6:00 pm Middle School Lock-in
9 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Forum Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 7:00 pm Gr. 9 Confirmation Meeting	10 9:00 am Glory Circle 1:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm Chair Yoga 5:50 pm Yoga 6:00 pm Worship Band 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 6:30 pm Benevolence 7:00 pm So Write! 7:00 pm All Committees Mtg.	11 11:00 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 4:30 pm Worship Planning 6:30 pm Property & Grounds 6:30 pm Parish Fellowship	12 8:30 am Work Crew, WOW 10:00 am Women's Book Club 6:30 pm Garden Committee 6:30 pm Gr. 6-8 Confirmation 6:30 pm High School Youth Grp. 7:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Evangelism	13 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 6:30 pm Bells of Praise	14 6:00 pm High School Youth Movie Night 7:00 pm Service of Light	15 9:00 am Comfort & Joy Quilting 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship
16 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Forum Sunday School Prayer Stations Equal Exchange Coffee 10:30 am Worship	17 1:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm Genealogy 6:00 pm Worship Band 6:00 pm Boy Scouts 6:00 pm Girl Scouts	18 11:00 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together	19 8:30 am Work Crew WOW 9:00 am Quilters 6:30 pm Gr. 6-8 Confirmation 6:30 pm High School Youth Grp. 7:00 pm Choir	20 1:00 pm Library Committee 1:30 pm Game Time 5:30 pm 55+ Fridley HS Play 6:30 pm North Metro Photo 6:30 pm Bells of Praise	21 6:30 pm Small Grp. Book Club	22 4:00 pm Holiday Book Fair 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship
23 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Forum Sunday School Holiday Book Fair 10:30 am Worship 30 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Forum Family Advent Festival 10:30 am Worship	24 1:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm Knitters & Crocheters 6:00 pm Worship Band 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm So Write!	25 9:00 am Assemble Friend 11:00 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:45 pm Board Meeting	26 8:30 am Work Crew; WOW 9:00 am Parish Fellowship 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Service followed by Pie	27 Church Office Closed Happy Thanksgiving!	28 Church Office Closed 6:30 pm Small Grp. Book Club	29 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship

“To become a church that embraces and engages the changing neighborhood and community.”

~ Passionate Spirituality Goal for St. Philip's

Annual Holiday Book Fair

The annual Holiday Book Fair will be held Saturday, November 22nd and Sunday, November 23rd. Books may be purchased before and after the Saturday service and after both services on Sunday.

This is an excellent opportunity to shop for gifts for family and friends. Books make wonderful gifts for any occasion. We will offer books for all ages including books for the holidays, classics, award-winners, local authors and illustrators, and best sellers. The selections will come from the Red Balloon Bookshop (891 Grand Ave, St. Paul). As an added incentive, the sale will be tax exempt with a portion of the proceeds going to benefit St. Philip's Church Library.

Are you unsure of what someone on your gift list may like? Let the members of the Library Committee help you! This is a chance to remember a child, grandchild, friend, teacher, or grandparent with the gift of reading.

The congregation is also urged to remember St. Philip's Library to choose a book in honor or memory of a special person to be added to the church's library collection.

The printed book is alive and well! Many readers prefer holding an actual book and curling up with a new book, turning the pages, and enjoying beautiful illustrations. Get ready at the St. Philip's Book Fair. ♦

Civil War Christmas *St. Philip's 55+ Retirees*

As we travel back in time; our journey begins at church on Thursday, Dec. 11th at 9:30 a.m. We will travel by school bus to the Anoka County History Center. Upon arrival, we will have a one hour "living history" presentation titled "A Civil War Christmas".

We will enjoy a spirited talk from a woman, dressed in 1860s fashion; shares stories of how a tree might have been decorated, what Christmas treats could have been prepared, types of gifts exchanged and more! We will also hear the music of the season and learn how Christmas was celebrated, in Anoka County, during the hard years of the American Civil War.

After the presentation, a self-tour of this small museum (minimal walking). The museum exhibits have been national recognized and tell the

story of Anoka County and its people with objects, clothing, photographs and documents. A special Civil War exhibit will also be available. Following the tour, a very short bus ride to Billy's Grill for lunch. Choice of one of the following entrées: French Dip, Grilled Chicken, Cod sandwich; all with fries or Chef Salad. During lunch, learn about the unique history of Billy's Grill.

The cost \$18.00/per person includes transportation, all events, lunch, beverage, tax & tip. Sign up by Sunday, Dec. 7th. Please make (non-refundable) check payment to St. Philip's Church.

Any questions, contact Arlene or Duane Retzer (763)574-9559 ♦

Our Voices

Jerry Jensen, Congregation President

Have you ever thought about your voice? I hadn't thought about my voice for many years until I was trying to think of an article for this issue of *The Friend*.

When I was in elementary school I thought I had a nice voice. I sang in the children's choir at church and occasionally my mother volunteered my brother and me to sing at ladies aid meetings— if you remember those.

When I was a freshman in high school I began thinking it wasn't cool to sing in church choir. About that time I had a bad sore throat, laryngitis and yelled too much at a football game. As a result and because of my age my voice changed and I thought that was a good reason not to continue singing so that was the end of my singing in choir.

I could still use my voice like everyone else for many other things. I could communicate, give encouragement, instruction or praise. I could use my voice to ask questions and to give thanks. Unfortunately my voice also worked for unthoughtful, awkward, inappropriate and occasionally colorful utterance. Your voice probably works similarly.

Our voices define who we are. We can use our voices to support our Natural Church Development, Stewardship and Building For The Future programs as well as to support our pastors and staff. We can give thanks for all of God's blessings such as the spiritual gifts of the sacraments, prayer, forgiveness, service to others, fellowship, love, mercy and many

other gifts. We can give thanks for the material gifts we enjoy such as the Bible, our church home, our jobs, families and yes— our voices.

When I retired 6 years ago I no longer had an excuse not to sing in the choir. I no longer had to be on call, take care of patients admitted to the hospital or run off to deliver babies. I decided to join the choir where I found my voice had not improved and possibly had gotten a little worse. I couldn't hit the right notes or follow the music. I kept trying and over the years I think I have gradually improved.

I think we can all keep trying to get better in using our voices to define who God wants us to be—his thankful children.

You too are welcome to join the choir. Give it a try!

Happy Thanksgiving! ♦

“I think we can all keep trying to get better in using our voices to define who God wants us to be — his thankful children.”

~ Jerry Jensen

September 2014

	Budget YTD	Actual YTD
Income	\$560,239	\$567,715
Expense	(\$594,730)	(\$606,563)
TOTALS	(\$ 34,491)	(\$ 38,848)

Events & Opportunities @ St. Philip's

Worship DVDs Available

A DVD of the 8:30 and 10:30 Sunday worship is available through the church office. All sermons are available on the church website. The DVDs are free. ♦

Fall Yoga classes

Sue Montague, CYT, RYT, will teach Late Summer Christian Yoga classes at St. Philip's in the Lounge (or Room 1 due to conflicts). Monday @ 5:50 pm, 9/15 – 11/10—One-hour class is appropriate for all levels. Cost is \$50 for 8 of 9 classes. Monday @1:30 Chair Yoga, 9/15 – 11/10—Cost is \$40 for 8 of 9 classes. Drop-ins always welcome! ♦

Old Cell Phones & Glasses Help Others

We now have a home for those old cell phones. After you delete your personal information, deposit them in the St. Philips office. They will be donated to a women's shelter and used for 911 calls or recycled for parts. We are also collecting eye glasses that will be used by those who would otherwise go without corrective lenses. Questions: contact Carol Baumgartner, 651.464.6049. ♦

Hotel Items Put to a Good Use

You know those small bottles of shampoo, conditioner, and lotion that you get when you stay at a hotel? We have an opportunity to put them to good use serving those who don't readily have access to these items. Please bring them to the church office and we'll be sure they get to those who need them! Questions: contact Carol Baumgartner, 651.464.6049. ♦

Mitten & Hat Makers

"I didn't think my little girl would be able to have mittens and a hat this year" - a mother said with a tear of happiness in her eye. "The quality of these mittens are great". "These are so warm and beautiful - can you bring some more to our school?" Time and time again, we hear the above words. Sewers, your work and time into this special project is greatly appreciated. January through March 2014, 25 headbands, 53 hats and 80 pairs of mittens were delivered. Please call Arlene Hamernik, 763.571.6091, eahamernik@gmail.com or Jan Spitzer, 763.786.2016, janspitzer1@yahoo.com for fleece fabric, patterns or questions. ♦

Medical Equipment Loan

Goodwill/Easter Seals Minnesota offers the use of medical equipment to anyone with a temporary need at no cost to the customer. Customers typically borrow equipment for approximately two months. To check the availability of equipment or to donate equipment contact the St. Paul location at 651-379-5922. ♦

Christmas Choir

Come and join the Christmas Choir! We meet one hour each Wednesday for 6 weeks before the St. Philip's annual Christmas concert. This is a great time to sing some beautiful Christmas music, meet new people and join in a great effort to bring Christ's Christmas message to a hurting world. Join us for rehearsals starting on October 29th. Please contact Stephanie Phelps Johnson at Stephanie6504@yahoo.com or by cell phone at 612-281-7169 if you have any questions. ♦

Life Events

November Anniversaries:

John & Juanita Vaala on 11/2
Bob & Joyce Johnson on 11/3
Karie & Lynn Bergeron on 11/4
David & Dawn Fennig on 11/4
Jon & Jantima Retzer on 11/10
Mark & Jennifer Steffen on 11/11
Ernest & Lorraine Harry on 11/12
Loren & Jackie Erickson on 11/14
Gilbert & Mary Haugan on 11/15
Chuck & Sue Kempf on 11/15
Joe & Paula Gonsior on 11/17
Charles & Carolyn Kennedy on 11/17
Brian & Misty Gilbertson on 11/20
John & Sandra Hahn on 11/22
Vincent & Janet Lanners on 11/22
Merle & Kathy Fischer on 11/25
Vern & Charlotte Johnson on 11/25
Ronald & Karla Ackerman on 11/26
Robert & Sheryl Froiland on 11/27
Samuel & Ann Garbow on 11/28
William & Michelle Hatten on 11/28
Paul & Grace Wilson on 11/28
Charles & Janet Scovill on 11/29
Kenneth & Camilla Mueller on 11/30
Gerald & Virginia Olson on 11/30

Wedding:

Dara Andrada & RJ Andrada III on 10/25

Sympathy:

Betty Pray and family upon the death of her husband, Larry Pray
Harris Sonnenberg upon the death of his sister, Betty Sonnenberg

Baptism:

Maurice William Elftmann on 10/26

Endowment Fund

Be a Blessing
To
Future Generations!

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If St. Philip's has played a vital role in your life –

In times of joy and difficulty –  
You can help continue its vital ministry and mission.

Your gifts to the Endowment Fund, both now and after your lifetime, can make our church stronger and more responsive to the needs of generations to come.

And,  
Endowment is a wonderful way for our church to remember you or someone you love.

### Memorials & Gifts

Contributions were received in memory of  
Richard Zegland and Don Bratt,  
and  
To celebrate the ministry of Pastor Jan Hartsook at St. Philip's

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For more information on St. Philip's Endowment Fund, visit our website at www.splcmn.org.
Select the "Ministries" tab and click "Endowment."

Gifts in memory of someone, in honor of a person or special occasion, or just because you care should specify "endowment fund." ♦

"To become a church where people openly and comfortably talk about their faith with one another."

~ Passionate Spirituality Goal for St. Philip's

Greetings from Sara

Sara Quarberg

Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Fall has always been one of my favorite times of year. There's something about the crispness in the air, the cool wind and the brilliance of the colors that fall brings about that reminds me of the beauty of God's creation. There's a part of this beauty that I can see, yet a part of it that I cannot comprehend. A theme of conversations with some of the youth in recent days has surrounded God's creation and the fact that what we read in the Bible and experience firsthand, leaves us in a place where we must have faith. We must have faith in that we will never quite understand how God created this world but that God did it and God did it well.

So, that leads me to this place. It's beautiful to witness how God continues to create. St. Philip's has experienced a deep amount of transition in the past months and as much as sometimes it's not good to dwell on the past, we must recognize that moments have happened and they've been beautiful. Moments have also happened that have been frustrating. And moments have happened that we still may not understand. But, through it all, God has remained constant. And, looking towards the future, God still remains constant. We may not know what lies ahead, and that uncertainty isn't fun sometimes, but God is already there. There is no place that God is afraid to go. So, with the changing of the seasons, God remains with us and we will be ok. Actually, we will be more than ok. Youth Ministry will see some small changes in the coming months that I hope will be exciting for the entire community of St. Philip's! Just as we feel the crisp, cool wind of the fall, I also feel the Holy Spirit is leading this place in an exciting direction.

While this vision continues to evolve and becomes a shared vision among the youth,



those involved directly with the youth and the community as a whole, we will continue to move forward, yet still live in the present. Uncertainty in the future is very uncomfortable and we must remain focused on the here and now. Keep your eyes on the lookout for small changes and large ways in which they youth of this community are making an impact on their own lives and the lives of others.

Our Young Adults in college and the military have received their first care package from St. Philip's! From the response I heard, they were VERY well received with excitement and gratitude that you, their St. Philip's family, remembers who they are and care deeply for each one of them. So, thank you, for your kind and generous donations.

For an update on what's happening in youth and young adult ministry at St. Philip's, check-out our Facebook page and surrounding bulletin boards for more information! ♦

Children & Family Ministry

Carly Tappe, Director

Psalm 107:1

"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever."

Sunday School

Sunday mornings are filled with faith and FUN!

2yo-PreK Students

Students hear a Bible story out of the SPARK Storybook Bible each week. If your child does not have a Bible, please let their Sunday School teacher know, we want to make sure ALL students have a Bible. You can continue reading this story at home all week. The story is included in the weekly Children and Family Ministry Update emails. If you do not receive these emails, please contact Carly to be added to the list. Sunday School students also celebrate birthdays each week during our large group time. Children can bring pennies on their birthday to put in the special birthday bank during our birthday celebration.

Grades 1-5

Students are encouraged to bring their Bibles to Sunday School each weekend. Our students in grades 1 & 2 use the SPARK Storybook Bible, and our 3-5 grade students use the SPARK NRSV Bible. If your child does not have a Bible, please let their Sunday School teacher know, we want to make sure ALL students have a Bible. Students also have a weekly Bible Memory Verse they learn that relates to the story they hear in Sunday School. The Bible Memory verse is included in the weekly Children and Family Ministry Update emails. If you do not receive these emails, please contact Carly to be added to the list.

Students in grades 1-5 are also starting to participate and plan elements of our 10:30am worship service. During our large group time we have been talking about worship and it's different parts. In October, our 4 and 5 graders gave the sending.

Nursery Ministry

Our Nursery is open Sunday mornings from 8:15 am – 11:45 am for both worship service and the education hour. Our nursery worker and volunteers help provide a safe loving environment for our youngest members and guest.

Invitation to serve

We are still looking for a few more volunteers to help in the nursery during the 10:30 am service on a rotating schedule. If you are interested please contact our Director of Children and Family Ministry Carly Tappe. Please note in accordance with our child, youth, and safety guidelines volunteers must be age 18 or older.

Christmas Pageant

In November, our Sunday School students will also start to practice for this year's Christmas Pageant "Bethlehem Bound." Preschool students will be singing 3 songs before the pageant and all our 1-5 Graders will be a part of the pageant. If you have any questions about this year's pageant please feel free to contact Carly

Family Advent Festival

Join us in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, November 30 from 9:30-10:30am for a morning of family FUN! November 30 is the first Sunday in Advent and our annual Advent Festival. There will be crafts for children, games, and of course...cookie decorating! Families of all shapes and sizes are welcome to join in the fun.

New for the Advent Festival

This year a Nativity show and tell. This year we invite you to bring your family nativity to display at our advent festival. This is one way we care share our family traditions with others. To assure a table please sign-up with Carly via email at carlyt@splcmn.org. ♦



Thank You!

St. Philip's Congregation,

We want to thank you for your generous gift of kids' kits and birthday cards to Camp Noah. Our work helping communities and children who have been impacted by a natural disaster is possible because of help from groups like you! You will help build resiliency, restore hope and change lives through Camp Noah! We hope to continue to be in partnership with you.

Thank you,
The Camp Noah Staff

Mark Your Calendar

November 2

Sunday School Students sing at 10:30 am Worship

November 30

Family Advent Festival

December 21

Christmas Pageant

ENOUGH

Discovering Joy Through
Simplicity and Generosity

Stress. Anxiety. Fear. These words capture well the state of mind of many of us in America today. We have witnessed dramatic market losses, job losses, downsizing, bankruptcies and mergers. Every day seems to bring another piece of economic uncertainty.

A recent survey found that over three in four Americans are stressed about the economy and their personal finances. Half are worried about providing for their family's basic needs. Over half of respondents reported feeling angry and irritable, and reported lying awake at night worried about this. The report concludes that, "The declining state of the nation's economy is taking a physical and emotional toll on people nationwide."

Our nation is experiencing what many have described as the "American Nightmare." Increasing debt, declines in savings, lower income growth, and a volatile stock market are all a part of our economic insecurity. We live in a society that tells us "WE NEED STUFF" whether or not we can afford it or really even need it. We all have struggled with these issues at one time or another. They are important issues that we cannot ignore.

That is why, over the course of six weeks, we will be having a worship emphasis called *Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity*. During this time we will explore what the Bible teaches us about financial management through weekly worship and study (visit St Philip's website: splcmn.org for details about information and study information for the Stewardship Campaign). We'll hear expert advice and stories about what others have learned by working through financial challenges. Each week we will provide you with some practical tools you can use to assess your financial situation and develop a financial plan with a biblical foundation.

At the conclusion of the campaign, the congregation will have the opportunity to make personal commitments of our offerings to God through our church in the coming year. We will consecrate these commitments in the worship service on two consecutive Sundays. ("Consecrate" is a great word that means "to give ourselves to the Lord in a new way.")

We hope you will join us in the coming weeks as we look at how we can manage our financial resources and truly experience simplicity, generosity, and joy.

Series of Events:

Nov 1/2 Defined by Generosity
Nov 8/9 Consecration Sunday 1
Nov 15/16 Consecration Sunday 2
Dec 6/7 Celebration Sunday – Results Celebration and Consecration of Next Year's Ministry Commitments

Thank you and we look forward to the coming weeks!

St Philip's Stewardship Committee:
Jim Felton, Mike Carroll, Scott Bjerketvedt, and Pastor Joel Wight Hoogheem ♦



St. Philip's Disaster Relief

The SPDR team that traveled to Colorado in October included 31 team members - from six different states. They spent the week at First United Methodist Church in Greeley, CO and worked at seven different sites in Boulder, Larimer, and Weld counties.

The work was as varied as the locations. Sheetrock, insulation, wiring, debris, and flooring were removed. Sheetrock, insulation, wiring, floor joists, windows, a door, and siding were installed. The exterior of one home was completed painted. Several rooms and equipment in a bed and breakfast were cleaned in preparation of its reopening. And even a few trees were planted which brings to mind the Greek proverb "A civilization flourishes when people plant trees under which they will never sit."

This SPDR team, along with all the previous teams and supporters, have helped so many civilizations (neighborhoods) flourish after a flood, tornado, or hurricane. Thank you to all for making this happen. The journey continues ... Please keep the team in your prayers and follow their activities on the Disaster Relief page on St. Philip's website at www.splcmn.org/spdr. ♦

Meals on Wheels

*"Acts of tenderness soothe
the hurting world one soul
at a time."*

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Thanks to all the people who touched another soul through delivering Meals on Wheels September 29 - October 3. They included Bob Johnson, Judy Beine, Dawn and Richard Young, Bev and Wally Helmbrecht, Jan Dean, Camilla and Ken Mueller, Ann Westby, Bobbi Tuey, Delores and Bob Masuda, Ron Cadwell.

We deliver meals next the week of December 1-5 at 11 am.

*"A civilization  
flourishes when  
people plant trees  
under which they will  
never sit."*

~Greek proverb