



St. Philip's
LUTHERAN CHURCH
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St. Philip's Lutheran Church

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- Missionaries: Jim & Carol Sack**
- Companion Congregation: Bille Lutheran in Nigeria**
- Ministers: All members of the Parish**

Friend deadline:
1st Tuesday of April (4/7) for May Friend
E-mail typed copy to: JeannineA@splcmn.org (250 word max)



The Friend

April 2015

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

Why I Do What I Do

by Pastor Joel Wight Hoogheem

I have several friends who – in their own very polite way – wonder why I'm a pastor. These friends are only tangentially connected with the church, if at all. Their life in a congregation hasn't really extended beyond confirmation-age, so often their questions about my job sound like anthropologists digging into some foreign culture in hope of understanding the unknown. To them, the culture of a church is as strange and different as Egyptian hieroglyphics.

The calling as a pastor is not the same today as it was a generation or more ago. The culture in which we live has changed. Whereas church membership used to be a given and it was a place to "see and be seen," that is no longer the case, for better or worse. On top of this shift, there have been a multitude of scandals surrounding "the church": televangelists, child abuse, and so on. Many people see church as something their grandparents do or as a relic from the past that has no connection with their day-to-day lives.

Yet while I understand – and even agree with – some of the criticism of the church, I am a pastor. That is, I do what I do because I believe in Jesus Christ and his saving death and

resurrection. I believe that God forgives and frees us and that the Holy Spirit is leading us each and every day. I believe that God is active and present every time his Word is proclaimed and the sacraments are celebrated. And I believe that the Church (with a capital "C") is God's most important creation for communicating the message of God's love and peace with the world.



The dynamics I experience with my friends and the world-at-large are not too unlike what I imagine Paul experienced in front of the Areopagus in Acts 17. As he observed all the imagery and symbolism of the Greek culture, Paul noted the yearning for divine presence and the discernment of something beyond people's daily existence. I think that we live in a time that is very similar to when the early church was formed. People are desperate for meaning and purpose in their lives. Everywhere we turn we see books on spirituality and talk about "God." Yet while the world often deals in vague terms of "spirituality," we do not have an unknown God. We – as the Church

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Why I Do What I Do *Continued from page 1*

“I believe that the Church (with a capital ‘C’) is God’s most important creation for communicating the message of God’s love and peace with the world.”

~ Pastor Joel Wight Hoogheem

– have the very message of hope and healing for which this hurting world clamors.

Yes, we all know that, as the Church, we do things imperfectly and things can get really messy and frustrating. Yet when we keep in mind the grace and mercy of Jesus Christ, we see that we accomplish so much more together – as a community known as a congregation – and we see that God is active in what we do.

That’s why it is a real privilege to do what I do as a pastor. I am passionate and committed to our shared faith in Christ and the mission and ministry of St. Philip’s, the ELCA, and the Church worldwide. We are a part of a rich and long tradition that has transformed

countless lives and, dare I say, transformed the world. So we continue to find depth of meaning in the ways God promises to come to us in Word and sacrament. We gather to worship to give thanks to God for healing our brokenness, defeating death, and freeing us from everything that holds us captive. Honestly, we have a better story to tell than the culture around us. So why shouldn’t we keep sharing that story and inviting others into this incredible new life in Christ expressed through his Church? ♦

In Christ,




55 + Retirees April Event~ Hot Rods, Horses & Lunch

Meet at St. Philip’s on Thursday, May 14th by 8:30 a.m. We will travel by school bus, to the countryside near Buffalo, and tour the Veit Automotive Foundation Museums. Veit Foundation was started in the 90’s to preserve Automobiles and Auto Memorabilia for future generations, and educating about this hobby.

Our tour starts with a unique collection of restored cars, gas pumps, signs, and automotive items in pristine condition, along with some Johnny Cash collectables, and much more! You’ll find yourself looking at the collections and wondering the stories behind each item.

An unbelievable collection that will leave you in awe! As our tour continues, we travel a short distance, to visit the old Macalester Fieldhouse; reconstructed as a horse barn. We’ll view the horses and watch a short performance. After the tours, our bus will take us to Monticello, where we will have a late (12:45) lunch buffet at the Pizza Ranch. Dress casual, wear comfortable walking shoes; moderate walking. The cost of \$20.00/per person, includes, transportation, all museums, horse show, lunch, beverage, tax and tip. Sign up in the church office by Sunday, May 10th. Please make (non-refundable) check payment to St. Philip’s Church. Any questions, contact Schonebaums 763-786-2483 or Retzers 763-574-9559 or Kruses 612-251-3908 ♦

|  April 2015 | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|---|
| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
| | | | 1 8:30 am Work Crew, WOW 9:00 am Quilters 6:30 pm Gr. 6-8 Confirmation Family Lenten Service Projects 7:00 pm Choir | 2 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 12:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship 6:30 pm Bells of Praise 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship | 3 1:00 pm EA Group 6:00 pm Women's GA 7:00 pm Good Friday Worship/Choir Cantata | 4 5:00 pm Easter Vigil Worship |
| 5 Easter Sunday 7:30 am Worship 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Worship | 6 9:00 am Joy Circle 1:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm Genealogy Chair Yoga 6:00 pm Worship Band Boy Scouts Girl Scouts Yoga 6:30 pm Benevolence 7:00 pm Befrienders | 7 Friend Deadline 10:00 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 3:00 pm Endowment Fund Comm. Meeting | 8 8:30 am Work Crew, WOW 10:00 am Women's Book Club EA Group 6:30 pm Gr. 6-8 Confirmation 7:00 pm Evangelism Comm. Meeting Choir | 9 9:15 am 55+ "Church Tours" 6:30 pm Bells of Praise | 10 1:00 pm EA Group 6:00 pm Women's GA | 11 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 pm Saturday Supper |
| 12 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Adult Forum Sunday School New Member Class 10:30 am Worship 7:00 pm 9th Grade Confirmation Meeting | 13 9:00 am Glory Circle 10:00 am Columbarium Committee Meeting 1:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm Chair Yoga 6:00 pm Boy Scouts Worship Band Yoga 6:30 pm Benevolence HR Comm. 7:30 pm Worship/Arts Comm. | 14 10:00 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm P & G Meeting Garden Comm. Parish Fellowship Meeting | 15 8:30 am Work Crew, WOW 9:00 am Quilters 10:00 am EA Group 6:30 pm Gr. 6-8 Confirmation 7:30 pm Choir | 16 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 12:00 pm Cook for Festival of Tables 6:30 pm Bells of Praise North Metro Photo 7:00 pm Winter Warm-Up Readers SPDR Meeting | 17 9:00 am Festival of Tables Prep 1:00 pm EA Group 6:00 pm Women's GA | 18 9:00 am Feed My Starving Children Service Event 11:00 am Festival of Tables 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship |
| 19 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Forum Sunday School Equal Exchange Coffee New Member Class 10:30 am Worship | 20 1:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm Genealogy Chair Yoga 6:00 pm Worship Band Boy Scouts Girl Scouts Yoga | 21 9:00 am Library Comm. Meeting 10:00 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm Apple iOs Group Youth Comm. Meeting | 22 8:30 am Work Crew, WOW 10:00 am EA Group 6:30 pm Gr. 6-8 Confirmation 7:00 pm Choir | 23 6:30 pm Bells of Praise | 24 1:00 pm EA Group 6:00 pm Women's GA | 25 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 pm Via De Cristo: Ultreya |
| 26 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Forum Sunday School New Member Class 10:30 am Worship | 27 1:00 pm Prayer Group 1:30 pm Knitters & Crocheters Chair Yoga 6:00 pm Worship Band Boy Scouts Yoga 6:30 pm Boy Scouts Pack 20 | 28 9:00 am Assemble Friend 10:00 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 3:00 pm Global Missions 6:45 pm Board Meeting | 29 8:30 am Work Crew, WOW 10:00 am EA Group 6:30 pm Gr. 6-8 Confirmation 7:00 pm Choir | 30 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 6:30 pm Bells of Praise North Metro Photo | | |

Attention Planters!

Mark your calendars for the annual youth plant sale at St. Philip's for the weekend of May 16th! Whether you have a green thumb or not, we're sure you will find some beautiful plants to add to your garden, planters or even a hanging basket! Tell your fellow gardeners, friends and neighbors to come check it out, too! Our plants are again provided by Waldoch Farm Garden Center and we are grateful for their support! Proceeds will benefit our youth attending Green Lake Bible Camp this summer! Thank you in advance for supporting our youth! ♦

LEAFs

Life Enriching Adult Forums



Another exciting series has been planned for the spring 2015 sessions of LEAFs on March 30, April 3 & 27 and May 11. The first two sessions will be at Christ the King Lutheran. The team has prepared several intriguing presenters who will peak our interest on topics that involve traveling with the apostle Paul, grand-parenting, depression, eagles, good music and much more. Come and spend the morning with delightful people and don't forget to bring a friend!

More information is available at the church office. ♦

Lent, Holy Week and Easter Worship

Maundy Thursday: April 2

Worship with Holy Communion at Noon & 7:00 pm

Good Friday: April 3

Sanctuary Choir Cantata *The Seven Last Days* at 7:00 pm

Easter Vigil: April 4

Worship with Holy Communion at 5:00 pm

Easter Sunday: April 5

Worship with Holy Communion at 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 am

Letter from the President

Ron Ackerman, Congregation President

It is March and the time of the annual "March Madness". It actually starts about mid February and runs through the first half of April. All sports fans and even those that are casual fans, enjoy the excitement. As many of you know, I am an avid amateur wrestling fan. I have been involved in Minnesota Wrestling for 55 years. I was a competitor for 8, high school and college, and a wrestling referee for 47 years.

I am a Regional Coordinator for the Minnesota State High School League, serving as a rules interpreter for the metro area. I manage an association of 70 high school and college officials scheduling 1200 matches. I also do clinics to train officials. In my spare time during wrestling season, I follow the Gophers all over. Lucky for me, Karla has allowed me to follow my passion for wrestling. High school and college sports are great opportunities for young people to learn self discipline, work together as a team, and realize that you will not win everything in life. The lessons learned from sports carry on throughout your life. Young athletes participate for love of the sport and the pride of the school they represent.

What many people don't know is that athletes become more spiritual during their sporting season. Much of the self discipline and mental toughness comes from believing in something greater than you. Athletes say prayers, not to win the game or event, but to ask God to allow them to perform to their highest capability and keep from being injured or injuring someone else. If an athlete gives 100% it is okay if you lose, if you know you gave your best. The self confidence gained through a spiritual belief far outweighs the glory of winning. Many of the college and professional teams have a chaplain or a team leader with religious training. For instance

the University of Minnesota Wrestling team has a couple of former collegiate wrestlers that have been involved in Athletes in Action or the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. These are faith based organizations that use athletics to spread the word of the gospel. They include many different sports. These religious leaders meet regularly with the team and help them struggle with the pressure from the high level of competition. The athletes are not required to attend any meetings or to discuss personal problems with the leaders. However, many do and feel a sense of comfort through this relationship.

The former Gopher, professional football player and NFL Coach, Tony Dungy, is a very religious person. He speaks openly about his beliefs, morals and ethics. Tony has written a couple of books. His latest is "Quiet Strength". In that book he states "For your faith to be more important than your job, for your family to be more important than your job... we all know that's the way it should be... I'm not afraid to say it". Whenever he comes to town, he has some group meetings at Bethel and with the Gopher Wrestlers.

I have met Tony in a small group environment. He is a quality person that "Walks the Talk"! It is through listening to people like Tony, that you realize that you and your sport accomplishments are just a small part of the grand scheme. "March Madness" also has a significant meaning in the church calendar. It is the Lenten Season where all Christians rally around the story of Jesus and the suffering he did for everyone. ♦

"The self confidence gained through spiritual belief far outweighs the glory of winning."

~ Ron Ackerman

February 2015

| | Budget YTD | Actual YTD |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Income | \$ 119,007 | \$ 132,546 |
| Expense | (\$ 141,850) | (\$ 131,630) |
| TOTALS | (\$ 22,843) | (\$ 916) |

“Compassion constitutes a radical form of criticism, for it announces that the hurt is to be taken seriously, that the hurt is not to be accepted as normal and natural but is an abnormal and unacceptable condition for humanness.”

~ Walter Brueggemann

Library Committee Spring Reading List

The Library Committee has five more recommendations for your spring reading. Look for the New Books section for these suggestions.

Hennezel, Marie de. *The Art of Growing Old.* (LP 155.67/HEN) Thorndike Press, 2008.
Fresh perspectives on aging gracefully and in LARGE PRINT.

Karon, Jan. *Somewhere Safe with Somebody Good.* (FIC/KAR) G.P.Putnam's Sons, 2014.
Father Tim is back! The beloved Episcopal priest of Lord's Chapel in Mitford has returned after five years of retirement with wife Cynthia to face new challenges in the next phase of their lives.

Kress, Stephen W. *The Bird Garden.* (598/KRE) Dorling Kindersley, 1995.
A comprehensive guide to attracting birds to your backyard throughout the year.

Lindgren, Astrid. *Pippi Longstocking.* (jFIC/LIN) Viking, 1945.
This is a new edition with new artwork of an old favorite. Books labeled for children are not just for children. Get reacquainted with the irrepressible Pippi. She lives with a horse and a monkey at the edge of a Swedish village and has many hilarious adventures.

Menzies, Gavin and Ian Hudson. *Who discovered America?* (970.01/MEN) William Morrow, 2013.
This book upsets our understanding of ancient America. It is the untold history of the peopling of the Americas. ♦



St. Philip's Disaster Relief

St. Philip's Disaster Relief team will return to Colorado in early May, to assist in the rebuilding process following the heavy rainfall and floods that occurred in Front Range area during the Fall of 2013. The team will leave St. Philip's on Saturday, May 2.

Five days will be spent working in the flooded area. The team will return to St. Philip's late afternoon of Sunday, May 10. While in Colorado, the team will be staying at the Heart of Longmont Methodist. The Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Methodist Church will provide job assignments for the team.

The registration period is open now and closes on Wednesday, April 1.

The trip fee is \$50. Registration forms are available from Mike Anderson at flooddog97@gmail.com. A team meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 16, at 7:00 PM in Room 1 at St. Philip's. Contact Mike if you have any questions. ♦

Life Events

April Anniversaries:

David & Shirely Hogan on 4/3 for 44 years
Michael & Nancy Varichak on 4/3 for 22 years
Cameron & Rhonda Ollila on 4/4 for 23 years
Gwendolen & Patrick Seman on 4/5 for 29 years
Carrol & Mavis Hauge on 4/6 for 58 years
Roger & Linda LaFond on 4/8 48 years
Eris & Suzanne Boyum on 4/10 for 16 years
Erwin & Marcia Dauphin on 4/10 for 25 years
Melvin & Virginia Reichstadt on 4/12 for 12 years
Melissa & Michael Wallraff on 4/13 for 19 years
Harlan & Deloris Swee on 4/14 for 59 years
Joe & Wendy Wegleitner on 4/14 for 31 years
Mark & Darcy Williams on 4/15 for 37 years
Joyce & Richard Peake on 4/21 for 30 years
Richard & LoRaye Hedlund on 4/22 for 43 years
Nancy & Martin Menzia on 4/22 for 37 years
Anthony & Cassandra Nelson on 4/22 for 9 years
Leland & Marilyn Drossel on 4/23 for 50 years
Raymond & Patty Fabian Jr. on 4/23 for 10 years
Steven & Kay Haglund 4/25 for 34 years
Brian & Jacqueline Bangen on 4/27 for 30 years
Jerry & Laura Havon on 4/27 for 19 years
Brandon & Karla Johnson on 4/28 for 3 years
Jonathan & Julie Kosbab on 4/28 for 8 years
Brad & Kandace Heitland on 4/29 for 9 years
Donald & Paula Cable on 4/30 for 49 years
Steve & Lisa Clovning on 4/30 for 38 years
Chris & Andrea Haar on 4/30 for 10 years

Baptisms:

Jessica Josephine Menard on 3/1
Brycen Michael Fairbanks on 3/7
Alexander Richard Stolis on 3/22
Oliver David Oien on 3/29

Sympathy:

To the friends and family of Charlotte Johnson upon her death
To the friends and family of Bill Erickson upon his death
To Mike & Renee Youngberg and family upon the death of Mike's father, John
To the friends and family of Charles Johnson upon his death

Endowment Fund

We Believe

- In the future of our church
- That what we have is a trust from God
- In building a sense of permanence in what we do
- In being good stewards as a church family
- In providing ministries that were once only dreams
- In continuing the heritage we enjoy for future generations
- In providing another opportunity for people to give

Memorials

In February, gifts were received in memory of Anna Mae Feigal and Vera Phillips and to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of Dick and Dawn Young.

Thank you! Gifts in memory of someone, to celebrate a special occasion, or in simple gratitude, should specify "Endowment Fund."

Save the date!

Plan to attend the adult forum April 19 to get answers to all your questions about the Endowment Fund, how it works, how funds are invested & used, and the goals and objectives for the fund. Give your questions to the Endowment Fund Committee or bring them to the forum. John Truckenbrod and the Committee will provide answers and special treats! Members of the Committee are Bob Becker, Duane Retzer, Ray Olson, Howard Thompson, Dana Rebelein, Jennifer Prasek, Joan Kruse & Dick Lekang. (And see www.splcmn.org., "Ministries," "Endowment." ♦

Greetings from Sara

Sara Quarberg

Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries

“Breathing in the fresh spring air reminds me that God is near and I can feel the movement of the Holy Spirit through the warm breeze.”

~ Sara Quarberg

I love this time of the year because I'm reminded so deeply how God continues to create. My mind clears as the sun shines brighter and warmer. The birds start singing their spring hymn. The grass starts showing and gets greener. Flowers begin to bloom and trees begin to bud. Breathing in the fresh spring air reminds me that God is near and I can feel the movement of the Holy Spirit through the warm spring breeze. There's something beautiful, for me, about spring; something new.

This spring and summer bring something new for the youth program at St. Philip's! We are trying new things, we have new members on our Youth Committee and our summer plans look a little different. I like to see it as God is continuing to create something here in this place and God will journey through all of this newness with us! Open your eyes and hearts to see how God is continuing to create in your life – it may be in profound ways or maybe in the simple ways. I'd love to hear how God is creating in your life, too!

So, as spring and summer come our way here's a glimpse of what's up for the youth ministry of St. Philip's. Our young adults in college and the military received, with great excitement, another care package from you, the community of St. Philip's! Thanks for your donations and please keep them coming. We're running very short on items – and that's a good thing!

Camp is approaching us this summer! On April 12th, Loren Teig will be joining us for



our Education hour to share with us the happenings at Green Lake Bible Camp. We look forward to inviting Loren into our community! Our annual plant sale is coming in May, so mark your calendars for the weekend of May 16th! And, please consider investing in a camper through our stock program! We will be selling stock on Sundays and in the church office to support our young people who are attending camp. We look forward to sharing our camp experience with you in August!

Lastly, I've said this before and I will continue to say it – THANK YOU for supporting our youth ministry. Thank you for your prayers, interest, relationships and your generous donations to the youth and young adult ministries of St. Philip's. Look for more ways to get involved in the coming months! ♦

Children & Family Ministry

Carly Tappe, Director

As the weather gets warmer, I am renewed with the promise of Spring. Spring is always a time of new beginnings. For me personally, this year is special as my husband Eric and I welcome the newest addition to our family, our baby boy. I will be out of the office following the arrival of our little bundle of joy. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to email me at carlyt@splcmn.org and I will get back to you as time allows.

As we move into this part of the year filled with new beginnings, take time with your family to talk about the new beginning we are given thru the death and resurrection of Jesus. Easter can often be a sad, confusing time for children, talking about Jesus dying on the cross. What we need to stress is the surprise that takes place 2 days later. The surprise Mary encounters as she visits the tomb, Jesus is ALIVE! What a wonderful surprise and what a wonderful gift. It is thru that wonderful surprise that we are all given a new beginning and a promise of life everlasting!

Sunday School Happenings

In March we prepared for Easter by talking about Holy Week and preparing to sing on Palm Sunday.

On April 5 we will celebrate by shouting Halleluiah, as we celebrate that Jesus is ALIVE! There will be no Sunday School classes on April 5, and classes will resume on April 12.

In April Sunday School students will learn more about what happened after Easter. We will meet Cleopas and his friend on the Road to Emmaus, read about the Holy Spirit, and learn more about the early believers in Jesus.

Sunday School students in grades 1-5 continue to participate in Discovery Worship the 3rd Sunday of the month. Discovery Worship is a time for children, youth, and families to get involved in the planning and implementation of different parts of the worship service.

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

Please mark your calendar for our week of VBS June 23-27. Registration forms will be mailed out this month. This summer's VBS theme is Everest: Conquering Challenges with God's Mighty Power. VBS is for children age 3 (and potty trained by January 1, 2015) through children just finishing grade 5. Children at VBS have a GREAT week learning about God through Bible stories, crafts, fun science experiments, games, seeing stories about REAL kids, participating a service project, and thought wonderful worship and fun music! Checkout the website for more information or to download a brochure and registration form. And don't forget to BRING A FRIEND!!!

Be a part of VBS

Would you like to help with the planning of this summer's VBS? If so, please join the VBS Task Force! Our VBS would not be possible without the help of over 50 volunteers! Please consider volunteering to be a part of our WONDERFUL week of VBS. Volunteer opportunities can be found on the backside of the student registration form.

If you are interested in being part of the Task Force or volunteering please contact Carly via email at carlyt@splcmn.org. ♦

