

The Friend

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

February 2016

New Year' by Pastor Mollie Dvorak

Welcome to February. Many could say they see this as the month of LOVE... so in honor of that, I thought I would share with you a few things I LOVE about what is coming up for us at St. Philips.

1. The season of Lent... a time in which we are called into deep relationship with God. No, it is not just a time to give something up to prove ourselves, but a time to really slow down and truly reflect, as Jesus did these 40 days. I LOVE focusing not only on my relationship with God, but also relationships I have with others. The season of Lent is a time to be transformed as we prepare for Holy week.

2. This season of Lent we will continue to focus on the concept of STORY. As we have been studying The Story, we have been learning how our story fits into God's story. One way we will do this is by having some of our St. Philips members share pieces of their faith stories during our Wednesday worship services. One of the reasons I became a pastor was because I LOVE listening to the faith stories of others. Hearing about the different ways in which God has been present in our lives in so many ways, reminds me that no faith story is same.

3. Holden Evening Prayer. I LOVE Holden Evening Prayer, a beautiful setting by Marty Haugen. This is the setting we will use for our Wednesday worship services. I don't know if I can fully articulate exactly why I LOVE this setting, but I will try. Maybe it's because I LOVE all the singing. Maybe it's because I LOVE how it brings a feeling of peace and calm as I hear the words of the magnificat. Maybe it's the way it brings a sense of community and unifies all who are present in worship. Maybe it's hearing how others fall in LOVE with it the more they experience it. Regardless, I am really looking forward to experiencing Holden Evening Prayer with you... and yes, even though it is Holden EVENING Prayer, we will still do it for our noon service as well.

I encourage you to reflect on what the season of Lent means for you. Look for ways to explore how God is calling you into relationship with him through YOUR faith story.

All in all, renewed by God's Spirit, this new year will be a time for us to come as we are to worship, wonder, and work in Jesus' name!

~Mollie



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Greetings!

Sara Quarberg, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries



Here we are in the middle of winter and I can't help but find myself dreaming of warmer and longer days. I miss having sunshine until eight at night! I miss wearing flip flops, the green grass and going for long walks outside. But, what's different this winter is that I'm finding myself having more hope for what is to come. Or, at the very least, I'm finding that I'm making a stronger, more intentional effort in having hope. This summer holds a lot of exciting things for the youth of St. Philip's! Here's a glimpse of the summer ministry opportunities for all ages!

Youth Bonfires

Join us for 3 summer bonfires. We roast marshmallows, play frisbee, football, catch up with friends, and simply enjoy God's beautiful creation together. All incoming 6th grade students are welcome to attend any and all bonfires! These nights are for both middle and high school youth. Mark your calendar for June 15, July 20, and August 17 from 6-7:00 pm!

Summer Bible Camp

Join us for a GREAT week at Camp WAPO in Amery, Wisconsin from June 26-July 1, 2016. You WON'T want to miss camp! The week is packed full of great opportunities to explore how God listens through adventures in prayer. Get outdoors, play games, make crafts, sing songs, swim in the lake, study scripture, make many new friends, and grow in your faith at camp! Camp is for all ages, grades 6-12!

High School Mission Trip – NASHVILLE

This week is going to be like NO other! We will travel to Nashville together to engage in a week of service with the people of Nashville. We will be partnered for the week with Faith Lutheran Church of Coon Rapids. We will not only grow in relationship with each other but those people of Nashville who God leads us to. The trip is open to all incoming 9th – 12th graders.

This summer is going to be EPIC because God is SO good! I know I can't wait for all of the adventures that this summer has in store for us. I hope you are excited, too!

In the meantime, stay warm, enjoy the beauty of the winter and look forward with hope and anticipation for all that God is and continues to do in your life and in the life of this community. God is doing some pretty awesome things.

Blessings to you!

~Sara

"The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:31



2016 - More Fun To Come!

Amy Morphey, Director of Children & Family Ministries



Sunday School –

Our Sunday School Students have been busy exploring *The Story*. In January we made cards to send out to our Mission congregations. We also have taken time to learn some new songs.

Family Movie Night – February 12 – beginning at 5:30 pm Come in your PJ's and ready to watch the feature, "Inside Out". We will also be participating in a service project. Popcorn and juice will be served.



Dreaming of warmer days? Take a peak at what we will do in Summer 2016!

Pray and Play (for toddlers and Preschoolers with their parents) – beginning in May of 2016, we will gather at St. Philip's to pray and play in the playground together. Watch for more details to come.

Play at the Park – Throughout the summer we will be gathering to play and explore God's world at different parks in our community.

Creation Art Camp for Kindergarten – June 20-23 for First - Fifth grade (Completed) from 9:30 am -12:30 pm more details to come.

Vacation Bible School will be held in August this year. Watch for more details and for volunteer opportunities!

Come camp with us at Wapogasset Bible Camp in Amery Wisconsin. www.campwapo.org/camp/wapo
Second and Third Grade weekend: June 24-26, 2016
Fourth – Fifth graders week: June 26- July, 2016

Any questions? [AmyM@splcmn.org] or 763-571-1500

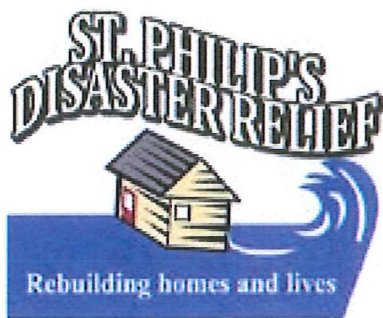
~Amy Morphey

UNICEF'S Change for Good Program

Do you have foreign coins left over from travel abroad? Unless you carry them back to the country of issue to spend them, they just take up space!

UNICEF, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, collects such coins and uses the money to support disaster relief programs worldwide, as well as programs benefiting children in areas that include education, water and sanitation, HIV/AIDS and child protection. The St. Philip's Global Missions Team is collecting foreign coins to be forwarded to UNICEF. If you have any to contribute, please get them to a member of the Global Missions Team, or leave them in the church office by the end of May.

If you prefer, you may send your coins directly to:
U.S. Fund for UNICEF, ATTN: Change for Good Program, 125 Maiden Lane, New York NY 10038



St. Philip's Disaster Relief Dinner & Auction

Time is running out to purchase tickets for the St. Philip's Disaster Relief Lasagna Dinner to be held on Sunday, February 21. The last day for ticket sales is Sunday, February 7. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 5 to 12. Dinner times are at 4:00 and 6:00 pm.

Special guest at the Adult Forum and the dinner on February 21 will be Pastor Ken Nelson from First Lutheran Church in Minot, ND. (First Lutheran housed the Disaster Relief team members on seven of the trips to Minot.)

The Nelson home was severely flooded in 2011 and the basement of First Lutheran was damaged by the flood. Also, Pastor Ken was a member of one of the St. Philip's Disaster Relief teams in 2013 in Minot. Be sure to attend the Forum and the dinner to hear his experiences.

As in the past, there will also be a sealed bid auction that will include many themed baskets, tools, household items, gift certificates, electronics, and much more. Auction items will be available for bidding after worship on February 20 and 21 and also at the dinner. This year, 50% of the auction proceeds (up to \$2,500) will be earmarked to go towards the proposed new storage facility at St. Philip's that would house the Disaster Relief trailers upon its completion.

Your support through the purchase of dinner tickets and bidding high on auction items ensures that the journey continues for SPDR in 2016.

55+ Retirees - February Event *Minnesota Raptor Center & Lunch*

Thursday, March 10 from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm. Birds of a feather flock together! Meet at church by 9:30 am and we will bus to St. Paul to the MN Raptor Center. Upon arrival, we will have a short program and a guided walking tour will follow. After the tour we will bus to Old Country Buffet in Roseville for lunch.

The Raptor Center rehabilitates around 800 sick and injured raptors each year. It was established in 1974 as part of the U of M College of Veterinary Medicine, an internationally renowned education facility. The Raptor Center trains veterinary students and veterinarians from around the world to become future leaders in raptor medicine and conservation. These leaders specializing in the medical care, rehabilitation, and conservation of eagles, hawks, owls, and falcons.

The cost of only \$18 includes, bus transportation, program/tour, and lunch. Sign up in the church office by Sunday, March 6. Please make a (non-refundable) check payment to St. Philip's Church.

Questions? Retzers at [763-574-9559] or Schonebaums at [763-786-2483]



Property & Grounds Update

In addition to the never-ending, day-to-day needs of our church, the Property & Grounds Committee will focus on three significant initiatives during 2016:

Building for the Future: The program to restore our building and grounds by addressing long-ignored needs will continue in 2016. Hopefully you have noticed the many improvements that have been made during the first year of this program! There are many additional projects on the drawing board, such as maintaining the stained glass windows in the sanctuary, replacing the antiquated fire alarm system throughout the building, beautifying the church grounds with new landscaping, etc.

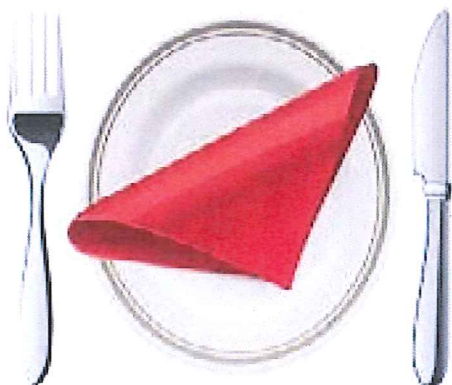
Storage Facility: On the south side of the church, near the community garden and the entrance to the boiler room, there currently stands a garage, shed and an enclosed area for one garbage dumpster. The garage and shed are used to store both tools and equipment to maintain the church property, as well as items that are used infrequently in the church. This entire area is very unattractive when you look at it from the site of the new columbarium or from Highway 65. In addition, there are several needs that are not being addressed by these structures: (1) The storage capacity of these buildings is inadequate for the growing needs of the church, and (2) space is not available to house the St. Philip's Disaster Relief (SPDR) trailers and tools. Currently the SPDR trailers are stored at a private residence and one received considerable damage during the June hailstorm.

The solution that is being considered is to replace the current garage and shed with one, significantly larger, building. This new building would have three stalls, one of which would be used by the SPDR ministry. The exterior of the building will be designed to match the appearance of the Fellowship Hall, giving it a look of belonging with the main church building.

In addition, an enclosed area would be constructed of sufficient size to hold both a garbage and a recycling dumpster.

Fellowship Hall: When the Great Hall was added to the church it was designed to be both a gym and a fellowship hall. As our congregation has aged and other facilities have become available in the community, the space is no longer used as a gym. Therefore it has been suggested that we look at ways to make it more useful for large gatherings, such as dinners, presentations, worship services, etc. To develop ideas and to prioritize needs, a task force has been organized and has begun meeting.

As these projects progress, we will provide updates in *The Friend* and through other communications. If you have any questions or concerns relating to the Property & Grounds Committee, please email them to Dick Kruse [dick.kruse@gmail.com] or talk to any member of the committee. Thank you!



Save-The-Date!

The Annual Festival of Tables will be held April 16, 2016. Please consider decorating a table for this popular food shelf fundraiser. More information coming soon.

President's Column *Ron Ackerman*

As I sit down and write my final article as president of the congregation, I reflect on the past three years. Two years as treasurer and one as president. I want to thank the pastors, staff, board members and congregation members for all their support and dedication to St. Philip's.

A lot of members don't realize the infrastructure and all the various committees and groups that make St. Philip's roll along. Many have been in place for several years and keep a low profile and just do their job. Others are new and more visible, but strive for the same excellence for the betterment of St. Philip's.

The Endowment Fund has grown about three fold over the past few years. The Columbarium is in place and will be unbelievable once the patio and landscaping are complete this spring. A couple of committees that don't get much recognition are Parish Fellowship and the Funeral Committee. The amount of work and good things these groups do is incredible. They perform many very necessary tasks that everyone takes for granted. Everyone is very aware of our "World Class" Disaster Relief Ministry and all the good work they do.

This past year has been very exciting with all the major changes in the church. The Building for the Future campaign, along with help from the hail storm, have allowed for major significant improvements, internally and externally. A friend of mine from the Fridley Lions is a long time Fridley resident. He commented on how nice St. Philip's looks now when he drives past. He said it looks like a very active and thriving church, he is right. And

he is not a member. Our location is an opportunity for prospective members to come and visit. The number of new members over the past few years has increased significantly. Check out the pictures of new members when you enter the church and make them welcome.

We will be having a Budget Forum on Sunday January 24, between the services. Come and see what happened in 2015 and what the plans are for 2016 and beyond. Financially speaking, St. Philip's is in the best position it has been in many years. We are at full staff, the boiler loan is paid off, we are operating in the black and we are working on the mortgage. The annual stewardship campaign has shown the strong support from our members.

As far as the future goes, it looks bright. Mike Youngberg will be the congregation president for 2016. Mike has served as vice president and chair of the Human Resources Committee. Mike has a career background as an educator and strong religious beliefs. He will do a great job! There will be some new members to the board, replacing those that have served the past two years. Change is vital, bringing new ideas and enthusiasm. At the Annual Meeting on February 7, the new slate of officers and board members will be presented. I encourage your attendance.

Karla and I have been members for almost 40 years, so you won't see us leaving soon. We have been blessed by all the good friends we have made at St. Philip's. We will continue to work for the betterment of St. Philip's!

~Ron

The Friend Email signup

Please consider joining the members who are generating a savings for the church and at the same time experiencing the advantages of electronic delivery listed below:

- A full color newsletter
- Save a tree with less paper to handle and store.
- "Delivered" to your email inbox on the 1st of the month
- Links to printable forms, websites, videos, and more!

When you sign up for electronic delivery each month you will receive an email announcing the newsletter has been posted with a link to the PDF version on our website. From there you can read, download, or print it, if you'd like. If at anytime you'd like to sign back up to receive a paper copy just let us know. To sign up now, email your request to [\[info@splcmn.org\]](mailto:info@splcmn.org) or call the office with your email address.



Life Events

February Anniversaries:



Daniel & Jacqueline Campeau on 2/1/2001 for 15 years

Aaron & Staci Gondorchin on 2/2/2002 for 14 years

Walter & Dorothy Hansen on 2/2/1957 for 59 years

Cindy & Don Tollefson on 2/13/1987 for 29 years

Lee & Deb Lind on 2/14/1984 for 32 years

Richard & Dawn Young on 2/14/1965 for 51 years

David & Yvette Christensen on 2/16/1991 for 25 years

Harold & Barbara Lundberg on 2/16/1979 for 37 years

Shirley & Phillip Eddy on 2/19/1955 for 61 years

William & Diane Schreier on 2/20/1965 for 51 years

Mike & Renee Youngberg on 2/20/1986 for 30 years

Donald & Susan Davis on 2/23/1957 for 59 years

Christine & Ronald Boettcher on 2/25/1995 for 21 years

John & Carol Crowley on 2/26/1966 for 50 years

Roger & Marlene Sonstegard on 2/27/1960 for 56 years

Chad & Tina Huston on 2/28/2004 for 12 years

The St. Philip's Endowment Fund

Just because you care
to remember...
to celebrate...

You can!

No gift is too small

You will!

Support the ministry of St. Philip's
now & into the future
By giving to the Endowment Fund.

*December gifts were received
in memory of Reed Knutsen,
Eugene Swygman,
Verna Arfman,
Margaret Frank,
Diane Gravenish and
Dorien Johnson.
Thank you!*

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

Or contact a member of the
Endowment Fund Committee:
Bob Becker, Dana Rebelein,
Jennifer Prasek, Dick Lekang,
Joan Kruse, Virg Herrick,
Jeanine Grandstrand and
Ron Ackerman.

"Thank you" to all who support the
St. Philip's Endowment Fund.

St. Philip's	December 2015	Budget YTD	Actual YTD
	Income	\$801,983	\$792,012
	Expense	(\$799,155)	(\$788,385)
	TOTALS	\$2,828	\$3,627

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Dear Members of St. Philip's,

We just wanted to send you a very special THANK YOU for all of the beautiful and thoughtful gifts you provided for the Teen Moms and babies at Longfellow Teen Parent Services, from our "giving table" at Christmas time!

We are so grateful for your generosity and are always so surprised at the wonderful toys, gift cards, baby necessities, clothing etc. etc. that we receive each year! (All items are appreciated and very needed!)

Again, thank you so much- God bless you all!

*From,
All of the Staff, Teen Parents and children in Room 115 at
Longfellow Teen Parent Services*



Thank you to all who participated in the annual Holiday Market that was held at St Philip's on November 7, 2015.

Over 670 customers came through the doors! We had over 40 vendors and crafters selling their wares. Parish Fellowship Committee raised over \$1,800 for in-house projects. The St Philip's Crafters donated their \$1,500 profits to the Building for the Future campaign. Proceeds from the plant sale went to WOW. Thank you to all who helped make this Holiday Market so successful!

Thank you to everyone who picked up their 2016 Offering Envelopes! We still have quite a few left so if you haven't yet, stop by the Office and get your new 2016 Envelopes. Remember you are assigned a new envelope number each year, so please recycle your old envelopes. If you choose to only use automatic payments let the office know.






St. Philip's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

February 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 1:00 pm Joy Circle 1:30 pm Chair Yoga 5:45 pm Boy Scout Mtg 6:00 pm Mat Yoga 6:15 pm Worship Band 7:00 pm - GA; Gamanon	2 10:00 am Staff Mtg 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 5:00 pm Solid Ground AA 6:15 pm HR Mtg	3 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 9:00 am Quilters 10:00 am EA Group 6:00 pm Bells of Praise 6:30 pm Confirmation Sm. Group 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	4 1:00 pm Lunch Bunch 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm AA; Alanon	5 <i>Articles due for The Friend</i> 1:00 pm EA Group 6:00 pm Women's GA	6 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship
7 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Confirmation/HS Hour Adult Forum: <i>The Story</i> Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 12:00 pm Annual Meeting	8 9:00 am Glory Circle 1:30 pm Chair Yoga 2:00 pm Lynwoo Bingo 5:45 pm Boy Scout Mtg 6:00 pm Girl Scout Mtg Mat yoga 6:15 pm Worship Band 7:00 pm GA; Gamanon	9 10:00 am Staff Mtg 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 2:30 pm Heritage Mtg 5:00 pm Solid Ground AA 6:30 pm Garden Group Property & Ground Mtg	10 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 10:00 am EA Group Woman's Book Club 12:00 pm Worship 1:00 pm Soup Lunch 6:00 pm Bells of Praise 6:30 pm Evangelism Mtg 7:00 pm Worship	11 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm AA; Alanon	12 1:00 pm EA Group 6:00 pm Women's GA	13 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 pm Saturday Supper
14 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am - Sunday School Confirmation/HS Hour Adult Forum: <i>The Story</i> 10:30 am Worship 	15 1:30 pm Chair Yoga 5:45 pm Boy Scout Mtg 6:00 pm Mat Yoga 6:15 pm Worship Band 7:00 pm Gamanon; GA	16 9:00 am Library Mtg Assemble <i>The FRIEND</i> 10:00 am Staff Mtg 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 5:00 pm Solid Ground AA	17 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 9:00 am Quilters 10:00 am EA Group 12:00 pm Lent Worship 12:30 pm Soup Lunch 6:00 pm Bells of Praise 7:00 pm Lent Worship AA 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir	18 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm AA Alanon	19 1:00 pm EA Group 6:00 pm Women's GA	20 9:00 am Comfort & Joy of Quilting 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship
21 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Equal Exc. Coffee Sale Confirmation/HS Hour Adult Forum: <i>The Story</i> Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm SPDR Lasagna Dinner and Silent Auction Fundraiser	22 1:30 pm Chair Yoga Knitters & Crocheters 5:45 pm Boy Scout Mtg 6:00 pm Girl Scout Mtg 6:00 pm Mat Yoga 6:15 pm Worship Band 7:00 pm Gamanon; GA	23 9:00 am Library Mtg 10:00 am Staff Mtg 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 5:00 pm Solid Ground AA 6:45 pm Board Mtg	24 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 10:00 am EA Group 12:00 pm Lent Worship 12:30 pm Soup Lunch 2:00 pm GMT Mtg 6:00 pm Bells of Praise 7:00 pm Lent Worship AA 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir	25 12:00 pm Women's Book Club 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm AA Alanon	26 1:00 pm EA Group 6:00 pm Women's GA	27 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship
28 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Sunday School Confirmation/HS Hour Adult Forum: <i>The Story</i> 10:30 am Worship	29 1:30 pm Chair Yoga 5:45 pm Boy Scout Mtg 6:00 pm Mat Yoga 6:15 pm Worship Band 7:00 pm GA; Gamanon					



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Companion Congregation: Bille Lutheran in Nigeria

Ministers: All members of the Parish

The Friend deadline:

5th of the prior month

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