

The Friend

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

March 2016

Easter Doesn't Make Sense Without Good Friday

by Pastor Joel Wight Hoogheem

Each year at this time, I like to share the following reflection: Imagine getting all dressed up and prepared to go to what promises to be a fantastic party. You've carefully chosen your clothes, perhaps even buying something new for the occasion. You know that there will be a lot of people there, all looking to have a good time, too. You've been looking forward to this day!

When you arrive at the party and see the festivities, however, you realize that you don't know why there's a party in the first place. Is this a birthday party for someone you don't know? Is this a retirement celebration? For the life of you, you just can't figure out what the big deal is. Sure, you can join in and have a good time, but it's clear that you just don't know why there's a party going on.

It's much the same way when we make a big deal about celebrating Easter without going through Holy Week, particularly Good Friday. Easter Sunday is a time for a great celebration. Easter is a superb reason to party! But if you haven't traveled through Holy Week and the cross, the celebration of the resurrection rings pretty hollow.

Now, I've heard the reasons why people avoid Holy Week, why people don't worship on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday: "It's too depressing." "It makes me sad." "It's too hard to hear that." "It's too somber."

To those excuses I say, You're absolutely right! Yet those may be the best reasons to worship during Holy Week. Yes, it's difficult to hear about Judas' betrayal of Jesus. Yes, it can be excruciating to consider the cross of Christ. Yes, it can be depressing to hear how Jesus was condemned to die.

Yet without hearing and knowing and experiencing those stories, Easter and the celebration of Jesus' resurrection just don't make sense. Without Good Friday, what sense does it make to celebrate Jesus being raised to life? I mean, last you heard, Jesus was alive, so what's the big deal?

(Continued on page 2)



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*Everyone
is welcome to
worship at
St. Philip's*

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Well, the big deal is Good Friday: that Jesus did, in fact, die. That the world condemned God Incarnate to such an ignominious death. That the stone was rolled into place and it seemed to seal Jesus' fate as a failed messiah. When we know this part of the story - and it's why we're journeying through *The Story* - then we have really good reasons to celebrate on Easter Sunday! It turns out that not even death could hold Jesus captive. Through his resurrection, Jesus promises that not even death can hold us captive.

Easter only makes sense with Good Friday. You are most definitely invited to the party of Easter. I hope to see you on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, too, so you know precisely why we're having an Easter party in the first place!

In Christ,

Pastor Joel



Happy Almost Spring!

Sara Quarberg, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries

This is always an exciting time of the ministry year. We are gearing up for all of our summer ministry opportunities, winding down our Confirmation and Peer Ministry time, and continually remaining in awe of what God is doing in and among us.

In February, we spent a couple of days together at Gustavus for our Confirmation retreat. We had 19 youth and 5 adult leaders together learning about spiritual gifts, personality types, and reminding each other how we fit into the body of Christ, perfectly the way that each of us has been made. This was such a moving experience for all of us but especially for the adult leaders that got to witness how well each youth participated in the activities together while playing in the gym, in devotion, in conversation, and in fellowship together. We had 3 of our High School Peer Ministers along with us as leaders. These 3 girls did an INCREDIBLE job leading their peers in devotion, ice breakers, and in discovering gifts through creativity. I am beyond proud of the work they did and their level of engagement with the younger youth! I know how much they are looked up to and they did an amazing job at being solid role models. Thank you!

Also, I'd like to express my deepest gratitude to the members of the St. Philip's community for your support in our 'Buy a Mile' fundraising! Your prayerful and monetary support is incredible. Thank you for carrying these young people in their faith! They feel grateful to be a part of a church community that supports them, loves them, and nurtures them in their lives of faith. I feel honored to be able to witness this love, support and encouragement on a daily basis. So, thank you!!

We've also been in the midst of trying something new in our confirmation ministry this year during Lent. Instead of having an entire 9th grade year of mentoring, we've implemented Lenten Mentors for all confirmation grades. During the season of Lent, our youth and their chosen mentor journey together through worship, wrestling with questions regarding their faith, and through prayer. It's been great to witness the conversations and to read their responses in the Faith Story Booklets.

I'd like to end with a big shout-out to Jennie Ollila for sharing her faith story in worship, among the other speakers, during the season of Lent. I know that public speaking can oftentimes be nerve-racking but Jennie stood up and shared about her faith so passionately and eloquently. Thank you, Jennie, for sharing your wisdom, knowledge and faith with us! I know you inspired many through your words!

Blessings as you continue in your Lenten journey,
~Sara

2016 - More Fun To Come!

Amy Morphew, Director of Children & Family Ministries

Reflections . . . What does that word mean to you? Looking back, looking forward, or maybe remembering a simpler (or more difficult) time. During the season of Lent, I often find myself reflecting on the past year. Where I have been and perhaps where I hope (or think) I am going. I know this year I am reflecting on my new position here at St. Philip's. I am giving thanks for all the families and children whom I am so blessed to work with. I am also so grateful to God for all I have in my life. I am so excited to see what God has planned for us all. I challenge you and your family to take time to reflect and appreciate this season and those around you.



May God Bless you today and always! – *Amy*
[AmyM@splcmn.org]



Palm Sunday on March 20 our Sunday School classes will be gathering together to experience the "Stations of the Cross". Parents are welcome to join us. Our Sunday School children will be singing at the 10:30 am worship service.

2016 First Communion Registration

We will be offering First Communion classes for those who are ready to take this Faith Step. This is a series of three classes. Children and youth attending need to have an adult attend with them. A light lunch will be served each week.

Class # 1 Sunday, March 6 at 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Class # 2 Sunday, March 13 at 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Class # 3 Sunday, March 20 or April 3 at 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

We encourage participants to take their First Communion on either
Maundy Thursday, March 24 at 7:00 pm worship or
Sunday, April 10 at 10:30 am worship

*Contact Amy to arrange child-care for younger children and/or if you have questions about our Children & Family Ministries.

We are excited to walk with you as you take this important step in your faith walk.

Coming Soon Our 2016 Summer Brochure!

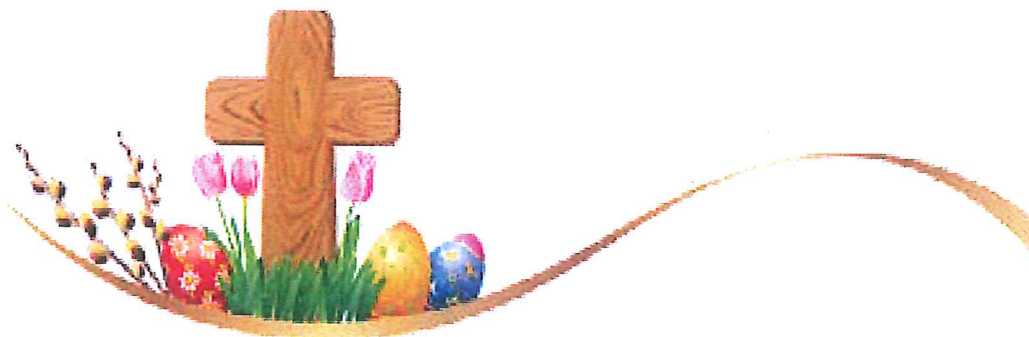
Includes information about the following:

Pray and Play at the St. Philip's playground

Play at the Park at various parks in our community

Creation Art Camp at St. Philip's for kindergarten through fifth graders

Vacation Bible School in August this summer, here at St. Philip's





Newborn Kits

The Benevolence/Social Committee along with the Global Missions Team and Global Health Ministries has again been alerted to a need for "Newborn Kits", which will help mothers in developing countries more easily celebrate the birth of their child. These kits will be sent to several countries in Africa. Please prayerfully consider donating some of the following items we will use to make the kits; regular size light weight new or gently used

bath towels, wash clothes, 36" square muslin or sheeting, bath size Ivory soap (in original packaging), new born cotton t-shirts (size 0-3 or newborn, not onesies), newborn stocking cap (14" circumference), receiving blankets (30 x30 cotton, acrylic or light flannel – not wool), cloth diapers, diaper pins, 2-gallon or larger ziploc bags and cash. Place items in the adorable collection area outside of the church office by the assembly date of Sunday, March 13.

Thank you for your generous support!

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.

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

Birds of a feather flock together! On Thursday, March 10 gather at church by 9:30 am. We will depart to the MN Raptor Center. Upon arrival, we will view a short informational program and then a guided walking tour will follow. After the tour, we'll enjoy a buffet lunch at Panda Garden in Roseville (Old Country Buffet is closed).

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 is only \$18 which 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. Any questions, contact Retzers at [763-574-9559].



55+ will NOT meet in April but we suggest you check out the Annual Festival of Tables on Saturday, April 16, 2016 in Fellowship Hall. We look forward to seeing you at the next 55+ event in May!

Library Additions *Come check out these books!*

Thanks to a very successful Holiday Book Fair, the Library Committee was able to add many new books. The Committee worked very hard to catalog these titles and prepare the books for circulation. Look for the New Books display in the church library.

Here are some of the tantalizing titles. Look for more in future issues of *The Friend*.

FICTION

Come Rain or Come Shine. Karon, Jan. (FIC/KAR) G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2015.

Dooley Kavanagh has graduated from vet school, opened his own clinic, and is planning to marry Lace Harper. They want to keep their wedding simple. Easy, right? This is the latest Mitford book.

The Truth According to Us. Barrows, Annie. (FIC/BAR) Dial, 2015.

This novel illuminates the power of loyalty and forgiveness, memory and truth, and the courage it takes to do what's right. Barrows co-authored *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*. (See Shaffer, Mary Ann.)

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society. Shaffer, Mary Ann and Annie Barrows. (FIC/SHA) Dial, 2009.

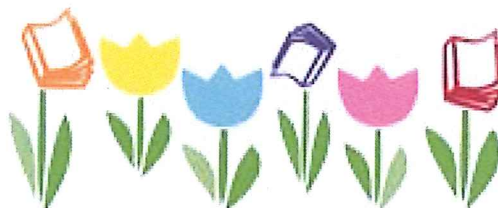
As London is emerging from the shadow of WWII, writer Juliet Ashton discovers her next subject in a book club on Guernsey—a club born as a spur-of-the-moment alibi as its members are found breaking curfew by the Germans occupying their island.

NONFICTION

Mark. Black, C. Clifton. (226.3/BLA) Fortress, 1994.

The author has produced a thorough study of the evangelist John Mark.

Christ, Actually. Carroll, James. (232/CAR) Viking, 2014. The son of God for the secular age.



Lent, Holy Week and Easter Worship Schedule

Wednesdays in Lent – *The Story of Our Faith*

Worship at Noon & 7:00 pm

Maundy Thursday

March 24 Worship with Holy Communion at Noon & 7:00 pm

Good Friday

March 25 Sanctuary Choir Cantata "*Mercy*" at 7:00 pm

Easter Vigil (Saturday)

March 26 Worship with Holy Communion at 5:00 pm

Easter Sunday

March 27 Worship with Holy Communion at 7:30, 9:00, and 10:30 am

President's Column *Mike Youngberg*

*"And then
there's
Grace which
allows
everyone to
begin again."*

– Mike Youngberg

February is a great month of beginnings. I know. You're thinking, "Youngberg's not quite in the ballgame - again." January would be the month of beginnings. But here we are in February. A new church year is beginning with new Board members, a new budget, and a renewed commitment by the congregation. Lent is beginning, leading us inexorably to Easter which is a new beginning of its own. In the Story, it's the beginning of the New Testament. We are at the beginning of a campaign to eliminate the mortgage by the end of the year. It's the beginning of the end of winter. I know, it might be cold and snowy, but we all know that winter is on a short leash and soon to be locked up in the kennel. To be honest, February is full of beginnings.

For me, this February is the beginning of my time as President of the congregation. Like all of you, I am excited to have the front office filled with talented, vibrant staff members. The rest of the building is filled with volunteers and servants of the Lord doing great things. There are no major problems to address. That makes it a wonderful time to do new things and improve everything else.

This February is a beginning. Make it a time for your own beginnings. Start something new. Get involved in something new. But it's also a continuation of all the great things that have been begun and are ongoing. Stay involved where you already are. Get a friend involved.

And then there's Grace which allows everyone to begin again. Encourage someone who needs it to begin again. Forgive someone else and help her begin again. Forgive yourself and allow yourself to begin again. Grace is a miraculous thing. Every day we live in the grace of God is a new beginning. I can't wait until March to begin again. Come to think of it, I can do that again tomorrow.

~Mike



Join us in our Work with the Sheridan Story!

The Sheridan Story is an organization providing weekend food for children in poverty. With funds from Building for the Future, we have chosen this project to fund financially and physically. We have partnered with North Park Elementary School in Fridley and the Sheridan Story to help fill backpacks with food every Friday afternoon. With our funding, Sheridan Story provides bags of food, and volunteers from St Philip's fill the backpacks of children registered for this program. Members of the Benevolence Committee have been volunteering since November, and now we are opening this volunteer program to other members of the congregation. Sign up in the office!

Life Events

March Anniversaries



Timothy & Deborah Kidder on 3/2/1985 for 31 Years

Donald & Joyce Olson on 3/11/1967 for 49 Years

Ralph & Kathryn Petersen on 3/11/1966 for 50 Years

Mark & Michelle Nicklow on 3/14/2009 for Years

Dean & Jeanne Enrooth on 3/15/1968 for 48 Years

Jonathan & Heather Rice on 3/17/2001 for 15 Years

Richard & Leora Carlson on 3/18/1950 for 66 Years

Ken & Carol Kidder on 3/20/1971 for 45 Years

Rodney & Prisana Nelson on 3/20/1982 for 34 Years

Richard & Joan Kruse on 3/22/1975 for 41 Years

Joseph & Georgene Capra on 3/23/1990 for 26 Years

Clem & Eva Coverston on 3/23/1952 for 64 Years

Steve & Brenda Malark on 3/25/2006 for 10 Years

Howard & Shirley Mosman on 3/26/1955 for 61 Years

Don & Ruth Ann Allard on 3/30/2004 for 12 Years

Wesley & Jeanine Grandstrand on 3/31/1973 for 43 Years



Sympathy

To the friends and family of Betty Johnson
upon her death on February 13, 2016.

The St. Philip's Endowment Fund

The Story . . .

*ours to tell now
and into the future
through the St. Philip's
Endowment Fund*

January gifts were received in memory
of David Eitrheim

~ ~ ~

Gifts in any amount may be given in memory of someone, to celebrate an occasion or to participate in the present and future ministry of St. Philip's through the Endowment Fund. Gifts may take the form of cash, real estate, personal property, stocks and bonds, life insurance benefits, or bequests from 401k, IRA, and other retirement accounts

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, Virgil Herrick, Jeanine Grandstrand, and Ron Ackerman.

~ ~ ~

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

St. Philip's January 2016	Budget YTD	Actual YTD
Income	\$65,955	\$73,547
Expense	(\$75,969)	(\$63,565)
TOTALS	(\$10,013)	\$9,982

There will be LEAFs in the spring

Life Enrichment Adult Forums



Abiding Savior Lutheran Church on April 4 & 18

Christ the King Lutheran Church on May 2 & 16

Registration forms will be mailed early in March to all who have attended any LEAFs events in the past five years. These forms will also be available in the St. Philip's church office by March 16.



"The Best Gifts Are Tied With Heartstrings."

Thanks to all those who gave from their heart to deliver Meals on Wheels December 14-18. They included Roger Musolf, Ellen Raeker, Barb and Lary Johnson, Ann Westby, Bobbi and Roger Tuey, Dawn and Richard Young, Gidget and Ed Brooks, Monica Anderson, Meredith Hille, and Thelma and Myron Nash.

The St. Philip's team for Meals on Wheels needs more drivers. If you have time to drive meals, just every other month, (April is the next month) to those in need please call Beth Terpstra [763-537-9746].

Spring is coming . . .





and that means summer is right behind, which brings St. Philip's largest fundraiser - the garage sale! It's time to begin our planning for this event, and our first meeting will be Thursday, March 31 at 7:00 pm.

Anyone who is interested in hearing more about this event is invited to attend! We are excited to see you again, and to begin our planning!!

Chairs - *LaRae, Sue, Michelle and Jan*



Mavis Hauge would like to thank her many friends at St. Philip's who visited her, sent her flowers, and prayed for her during her surgery and recovery. Everything was much appreciated and warmed her heart. God bless you all!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 10:00 am Staff Mtg 1:00 pm LEAFs Mtg Tuesdays Together 5:00 pm Solid Ground AA	2 8:30 am Men's Work Crew & WOW 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	3 1:00 pm Lunch Bunch 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm AA; Alanon	4 <i>Articles due for The Friend</i> 1:00 pm EA Group 6:00 pm Women's GA	5 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship
6 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Confirmation/HS Hour Adult Forum: <i>The Story</i> Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	7 1:00 pm Joy Circle 4:30 pm Chair Yoga 5:45 pm Boy Scout Mtg 6:00 pm Girl Scout Mtg Mat yoga 6:15 pm Worship Band 7:00 pm GA; Gamanon	8 10:00 am Staff Mtg 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 2:30 pm Heritage Mtg 5:00 pm Solid Ground AA	9 8:30 am Men's Work Crew & WOW 10:00 am EA Group Woman's Book Club 12:00 pm Lent Worship 12:30 pm Soup Lunch 6:00 pm Bells of Praise 7:00 pm Lent Worship Evangelism Mtg; AA 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Fellowship Hall Task Force	10 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 6:00 pm Young Adult Gathering 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm AA; Alanon	11 1:00 pm EA Group 6:00 pm Women's GA	12 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 pm Saturday Supper
13 8:30 am Worship 9:00 am Newborn Kit Assembly 9:35 am Sunday School Confirmation/HS Hour Adult Forum: <i>The Story</i> 10:30 am Worship	14 9:00 am Glory Circle 2:00 pm Lynwood Bingo 4:30 pm Chair Yoga 5:45 pm Boy Scout Mtg 6:00 pm Mat Yoga 6:15 pm Worship Band 7:00 pm GA; Gamanon All Committee Mtg 7:30 pm Parish Fellowship Mtg	15 9:00 am Library Mtg 10:00 am Staff Mtg 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 5:00 pm Solid Ground AA	16 8:30 am Men's Work Crew & WOW 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	17 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm AA; Alanon	18 1:00 pm EA Group 6:00 pm Women's GA	19 8:30 am Cantata Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Comfort & Joy of Quilting 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship
20 Palm Sunday 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Sunday School Equal Exc. Coffee Sale Confirmation/HS Hour Adult Forum: <i>The Story</i> 10:30 am Worship 	21 4:30 pm Chair Yoga 5:45 pm Boy Scout Mtg 6:00 pm Mat Yoga 6:15 pm Worship Band 7:00 pm GA; Gamanon	22 9:00 am Assemble <i>The Friend</i> 10:00 am Staff Mtg 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 5:00 pm Solid Ground AA 6:45 pm Board of Administration Mtg	23 8:30 am Men's Work Crew & WOW 10:00 am EA Group 6:00 pm Bells of Praise 7:00 pm Worship; AA 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir	24 Maundy Thursday 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 12:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship Women's Book Club 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship Recovery International 7:30 pm AA; Alanon	25 Good Friday 1:00 pm EA Group 6:00 pm Women's GA 7:00 pm Good Friday Worship 	26 5:00 pm Easter Vigil Worship
27 Easter 7:30 am Worship 9:00 am Worship 9:35 am Sunday School Confirmation/HS Hour Adult Forum: <i>The Story</i> 10:30 am Worship 	28 Easter Monday <i>Office Closed</i> 1:30 pm Knitters & Crocheters 4:30 pm Chair Yoga 5:45 pm Boy Scout Mtg 6:00 pm Girl Scouts Mtg Mat Yoga 6:15 pm Worship Band 7:00 pm GA; Gamanon	29 10:00 am Staff Mtg 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 5:00 pm Solid Ground AA	30 8:30 am Men's Work Crew & WOW 10:00 am EA Group 6:00 pm Bells of Praise 6:30 pm HS Peer Ministry 7:00 pm AA 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir	31 7:00 pm Garage Sale Mtg Recovery International 7:30 pm AA; Alanon		



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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**