

The Friend

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

October 2016

Live Simply by Pastor Joel Wight Hoogheem

St. Philip's is at a very exciting time of possibility and opportunity in our history. The reason why is that the church's mortgage will be paid off by the end of this year and we will enter 2017 debt free!

Interestingly, this has caused some folks to worry. The concern, as I have heard it, is that the members of the church will reduce their giving because we do not carry any debt. The assumption seems to be that people won't give as much because there will no longer be that significant bill to pay.

My response when I hear that is to say, "I understand what you're saying, but if the congregation's generosity lags because we aren't writing a check to our mortgage lender every month, we have a serious spiritual problem here!"

I, for one, do not believe that we will face this dilemma because I know that the people of St. Philip's are generous and committed to the life and well-being of this faith community. We are people who take seriously Jesus' words to "strive first for the kingdom of God" (Matthew 6:33). I anticipate that our 2017 congregational budget will include financial commitments that match or exceed the 2016 financial commitments we made.

During the month of October in worship we will focus on growing in our generosity and reframing how we think about our financial lives. Our theme will be "Live Simply." This theme will inform how we live as a congregation and how we live as individuals. Instead of leading lives where we buy things we don't need with money we don't have to impress people who don't care, we'll take God's abundance seriously and we'll consider what a faithful and generous response to God's abundance looks like.

In the upcoming year, we will be able to expand our ministry opportunities and engage the surrounding community in more meaningful ways since we will be free from our debt. During worship throughout October we will focus on how St. Philip's will be able to use this freedom from debt for the glory of God.



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M. Douglas Meeks writes, "In the age of money as credit we don't give our time, attention, devotion, and money because we are in debt. Radical stewardship in this time means being freed from debt." St. Philip's will be freed from debt, so - as a community - we can engage in this radical stewardship. May God expand our vision and enlarge our imagination so we can live in this gift of freedom for the sake of the world!

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Joel



*"How
do you
experience
God's
grace?"*

- Sara Quarberg

Where Have You Seen God at Work in Your Life?

Sara Quarberg, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries

During my studies to earn my MA degree in Children, Youth and Family (CYF) Ministry, I took numerous classes on CYF ministry ranging from children's ministry to young adult ministry. There are a few classes that stick out to me as the content truly resonated with my view of God, God's church, and God's world. One of those classes revolved around the Theology of the Cross. Before my time at Seminary, I don't think I had a lot of exposure to this beautiful and very Lutheran theology. The Theology of the Cross has truly transformed how I view God's world and how I see God in so many ways on a daily basis.

As beautiful as this theology is, it comes with a cost. This cost was Christ's death on the cross for us. However, this cost pushes me into action. This cost doesn't just end at the cross, but it continues to be felt through God's most profound grace that is given to each one of us over and over and over again. Costly grace pushes us to live out our Christian faith in incredibly profound ways. How do you experience God's grace? God's grace is present to me through the gifts of listening, forgiveness, love, peace, relationship, learning, and taking many, many risks with each one of these gifts. I'd love to hear from you, too!

So, this concept of the Theology of the Cross being that through Christ's death on the cross, we are never alone, helps

me see God constantly working and present around and in me. God is never distant from us. God is present in those who respond to tragedy, crisis, pain, sorrow, death. Look around you. Watch the news. Watch your neighbors and your friends. How is God present in your life? The Theology of the Cross brings God to life and helps us truly experience our living faith. I truly believe this is such a beautiful way of seeing God for all of us, but especially for our young people. Our youth experience a lot of pain, struggle, frustration, discouragement, and disappointment in their lives and in the lives of those around them. How can you show them who God is? How can each one of us live a life experiencing God's true and costly grace? Where have you seen God at work in your life? I would truly love to know!

We spent a lot of time watching God work in our lives during our time on the High School mission trip this summer. As we are engaging in what it means to live as a Lutheran this year, we will be continuing this conversation and we will continue to share with one another the ways in which we experience God's grace, love and true presence. Join the conversation with us during our Sunday Morning Wonder or on Wednesday nights!

In God's grace,
~ Sara

Meals on Wheels

"To live is a gift, to feel is a blessing and to take part in her beauty is a miracle renewed each day."



Thanks to all those who spread some beauty in the world by delivering Meals on Wheels August 22 - 26. These people include Monica Anderson, Ann Westby, Bobbi and Roger Tuey, Earl Hatten, Wally Helmbrecht, Delores Masuda, Harlan Howenstein, Meredith and Larry Hille, and Thelma and Myron Nash. We deliver meals again at 11:30 am on October 24 - 28.

Global Mission Team Wants Your Input



Interested in missions? Guatemala? Costa Rica? China? Chile? Nicaragua? Nepal? Laos? We are looking for people who are interested in missions and learning about and working with people around the world.

What would you personally like the mission team to accomplish? Do you see new opportunities for mission? What's next for Global Missions at St. Philip's? Would you like to be part of the team? Do you have ideas for us to consider? How can we partner with another part of the world and work side by side, build relationships, and accompany others on their journey of faith?

In addition to the current global mission involvement (in Nigeria and Japan) one consideration is Costa Rica, where we have had an initial contact. Amada Marquez represented St. Philip's in a multi-congregation fact finding visit with the Lutheran Church of Costa Rica last October. Should we continue to develop that relationship?

Several times and dates have been scheduled for meetings for anyone with an interest in mission and the Global Mission Team. They are Saturday, October 8 at 4:30 pm and Sunday, October 9 at 9:30 am and on Wednesday, October 12 at 6:30 pm. Please join us for discussion about the above topics.

Trunk-or-Treat

Halloween is upon us! St. Philip's will again offer the opportunity for our members and neighbors to enjoy a safe and convenient trick-or-treat experience right here at Church. Monday, October 31, from 5:30 - 7:30 pm, St. Philip's members and friends will decorate the trunks of their cars and tailgates of their trucks in Halloween fashion. Vehicles will park in the church lot, where kids will be able to trick-or-treat from car to car.

If you'd like to get involved displaying a "trunk" or donating single wrapped candy for the event please contact Sue Davis for information at [763-7840-9318] or you may drop candy off at the church office.



Please share news of this event with others. All children and families are welcome. We hope to see you there!

The St. Philip's Endowment Fund

*Where there's a Will
there's a way,
literally and figuratively!*

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Including a bequest to the Endowment Fund in your Last Will and Testament is an easy way to share your faith long after you are gone by giving money after you no longer need it!

Bequests may be in any amount. If your gift is \$1,000 or more, notify the Office, and your name will be added to the Legacy plaque.

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July and August gifts were made in memory of

~ Royce Ellestad ~

~ Janet Sandiem ~

~ Beth Young ~

~ Maren Zabel ~



Thank you for supporting the work of the church through the St. Philip's Endowment Fund!

For more information on St. Philip's Endowment Fund, 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.

Or visit [splcmn.org],
select the Ministries tab
and click Endowment.

Property & Grounds Update

The Property & Grounds Committee has a variety of projects underway, or recently completed, to improve our church and grounds.

1. The smoke/fire detectors in both the sanctuary and the fellowship hall are being replaced. The new units will work with our recently installed fire alarm panel to provide enhanced capabilities for the protection of these key areas of the church.
2. The access control system for the weekday entrance (Door #2) is being replaced and the Sunday School entrance (Door #3) is being added to the system. This system automatically locks and unlocks these entrances on a pre-defined schedule and will provide off-hours access to authorized personnel through the use of key fobs.
3. We continue to enhance the lighting inside and outside of the church. New LED lights have been purchased and will soon be installed to replace the flood lights that illuminate the altar area of the sanctuary. Also, a parking lot light that had been previously removed because of its proximity to the new electronic sign is being re-installed in a new location to provide improved lighting on the north end of the east parking lot.
4. Unknown to most of us, the water that gathers on the church roof flows through a single pipe which drains into the ditch along Highway 65. Unfortunately, the ditch-end of this pipe has broken in several places. A group of volunteers will be replacing the end of this pipe to ensure that it functions properly and to prevent erosion in the ditch.
5. The wallpaper on the back wall of the chapel is coming loose and will be removed. The wall will then be painted to match the other walls in the chapel.
6. The beautiful banners previously hanging from the lights in the east parking lot caused damage to the lights and have been removed. New poles are being constructed and the banners will be re-hung along the north (office) parking lot.

If you have any feedback or questions concerning these projects or other needs relating to the church property and grounds, please email Dick Kruse [dick.kruse@gmail.com] or talk to any member of the committee. Thank you!

Holiday Market

Calling all shoppers and crafters. The 7th annual Holiday Market will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, November 5 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. We are now taking registrations for vendors and crafters as well as donated crafts for the St. Philip's table. Check our Facebook event page for updated information. Vendor forms at [splcmn.org]. Questions contact Kathy Swenson [KSwenso@comcast.net]



Thank You

The family of Maren (Aune) Zabel would like to thank the St. Philip's family for surrounding us with love, prayers, and words of comfort. This outpouring of caring support is greatly appreciated; you are truly God's blessings at work.

St. Philip's 55+ Retirees Dinner & High School Play

Join us for an entertaining evening at the Fridley High School. Meet in the High School cafeteria, on Thursday, November 17 by 5:30 pm. We'll have dinner; then walk down the hall to the Auditorium to view a musical version of the play Cinderella. It's always a joy to watch the performance of students. This is also a great time to invite/treat a friend to a pre-Thanksgiving gift. The cost of \$15 per person, includes dinner and the play. Sign-up in the church office Sunday, October 16 through Sunday, November 6. Please make a (non-refundable) check payable to St. Philip's. If you have any questions, please contact Tom or Marlene Schonebaum [763-786-2483].



Life Events

October Anniversaries:

John & Marlys Hinsverk on 10/26/1957 for 59 years
Richard & Betty Nordling on 10/11/1958 for 58 years
Arthur & Bonita DeMeyere on 10/8/1960 for 56 years
David & Marilyn Wahlgren on 10/22/1960 for 56 years
Richard & Bette Blair on 10/20/1962 for 54 years
Larry & Phyllis Ehlers on 10/28/1962 for 54 years
Gary & Linda Morris on 10/21/1967 for 49 years
Duane & Arlene Retzer on 10/23/1971 for 45 years
James & Terry Vaughan on 10/20/1973 for 43 years
Don & Val Habig on 10/4/1975 for 41 years
Lonnie & Marsha LeClair on 10/9/1976 for 40 years
George & Cheryl Mills on 10/8/1977 for 39 years
Mark & Tamara Zroka on 10/21/1978 for 38 years
Chris & Janice Miller on 10/19/1984 for 32 years
Tom & Daryl Monjeau on 10/5/1985 for 31 years
James & Lori Manecke on 10/4/1986 for 30 years
Michael & Kristy Dettle on 10/25/1986 for 30 years
Jack & Michelle Angerhofer on 10/7/1989 for 27 years

Don & Jan Nelson on 10/14/1989 for 27 years
Mark & Deb Williamson on 10/15/1989 for 27 years
Greg & Debbie Leibfried on 10/26/1991 for 25 years
Michael & Lori Larson on 10/2/1993 for 23 years
Michael & Alyce Lentz on 10/8/1994 for 22 years
Christopher & Laurie Nelson on 10/8/1994 for 22 years
Gregory & Wendy Hundt on 10/7/1995 for 21 years
John & Jennifer Gerdes on 10/17/1998 for 18 years
Nathan & Julie Jeppson on 10/17/1998 for 18 years
Eric & Angela Jensen on 10/2/1999 for 17 years
David & Nelly Haugen on 10/12/2002 for 14 years
Kenneth & Pamela Yell on 10/15/2005 for 11 years
Michelle & Daniel Gladhill on 10/22/2005 for 11 years
Jeffrey & Melissa Loven on 10/29/2005 for 11 years
Dustin & Elizabeth Lauby on 10/30/2005 for 11 years
Todd & LeeAnn Schellenberg on 10/20/2012 for 4 years
Anne & Adam Schweizer on 10/5/2013 for 3 years

Sympathy:

To the friends and family of Ken Mueller



President's Column *Mike Youngberg*

So here we are with the State Fair marking the end of summer. It's the beginning of a new school year. Only in Minnesota could these two things, school and the Fair, be legally connected.

People in other parts of the country don't really get it. 200,000 people walking around in a half-mile square at the same time. Not like an Exodus or pilgrimage where people are all moving in the same direction with a purpose. More like an ant colony. No one walks a straight line for very long. Even when I've tried to plan a route, it winds up looking like a butterfly's flight. Serendipity is part of the fun.

We all have our reasons for going to the Fair. Some for the rides. Some for the food. For some the exhibits, animals, or performances. Maybe even just to say that we've been there - like it's a badge of honor to have survived it one more time. Our reasons change from year to year. As teen-agers we went straight to the Midway and never left. I haven't even entered the gates of the Midway for 20 years. By the time you're old enough to remember the "good ole days," you've probably used every one of those reasons at least once.

Then of course there are those who go more than once a year. Perhaps like me you know people who go five or six times. I went twice for the first time in many years this year. It took the worry out of making sure we got to everything in one trip.

St. Philip's is a lot like the Fair. Something is always going on. If there are people involved, there's usually food (though rarely on a stick). Lots of performances. You don't have to go to anything you don't want to. I will admit there's not a lot of livestock (except at the Blessing of the Animals). Your reasons for coming may be different from week to week, month to month, or year to year. You can come as many days as you like, and you don't even have to buy a ticket to get in. And parking, no matter how you get here, is easier.

So find a reason to join the great "St. Philip's Get Together" to Worship, Wonder, and Work in Jesus' name. There's something for everyone. And our "get together" lasts all year, so fitting it into your schedule shouldn't be too much of a problem. Make a plan if you choose, but don't be afraid to wander off your planned path once in a while. The previously undiscovered opportunity may be the best part.

Covenant of Conduct



In the life of any congregation, things will happen which cause concern for members. There are good ways and ways that are not so good for addressing such concerns. Often, the first question is "Who do I contact?" The Board of Administration of St. Philip's would like you to know that we are happy to hear your concerns and help how we can. Printed below is a document which lays out the process and procedures for bringing an issue to a BOA member. These are the things you can expect from any BOA member should you choose to speak to us.

BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION COVENANT OF CONDUCT

In order for the congregation and the Board of Administration (BOA) to communicate effectively, the following guidelines are recommended.

1. All members of the congregation affirm their right to express their opinions about the life and ministry of the congregation.
2. The congregation operates with a direct democracy form of governance that allows all congregation members to share their opinions directly with the Pastors and BOA, and in committees and meetings.
3. When a member of the congregation shares an opinion with a member of the BOA, the BOA member shall ask, "What would you like me to do with this information?"
4. If the congregation member wishes the information to be transmitted to the BOA, the member shall be invited to bring the information/opinion in person to the next BOA meeting. Time and date of this meeting shall be provided.
5. If the congregation member does not wish to present to the BOA in person, the BOA member shall ask the congregation member for permission to use her/his name in reporting. If permission is given, the BOA member shall report the information/opinion at the next BOA meeting, using the member's name. If permission is not given, the BOA member shall say, "I'm sorry, but I will not be able to report this to the BOA since we do not deal with anonymous letters or comments." (Anonymous complaints in particular create undercurrents that can divide the congregation and disturb its health. They become breeding grounds for gossip and speculation. Information brought forward in a spirit of openness builds trust and creates an atmosphere of accountability and faithfulness.)
6. A BOA member may ask the member of the congregation to refer an issue to another BOA member if the BOA member feels it is inappropriate to handle it him/herself.
7. When an issue is raised at a BOA meeting, it will be reflected in the minutes along with any action taken by the BOA (e.g. Received as information, Pastor will visit member, Letter will be sent).

St. Philip's	August 2016	Budget YTD	Actual YTD
	Income	\$537,315	\$517,678
	Expense	(\$551,308)	(\$545,212)
	TOTALS	(\$13,993)	(\$27,533)

Mortgage Update

The mortgage elimination effort received a very generous response. Between gifts already received and gifts promised throughout the year, St. Philip's will be debt free before the end of 2016. A monthly snapshot of the progress will be printed each month in *The Friend* until it's down to zero! Thanks again to all who responded with such generosity!

Mortgage Balance on January 1, 2016: \$185,840.97


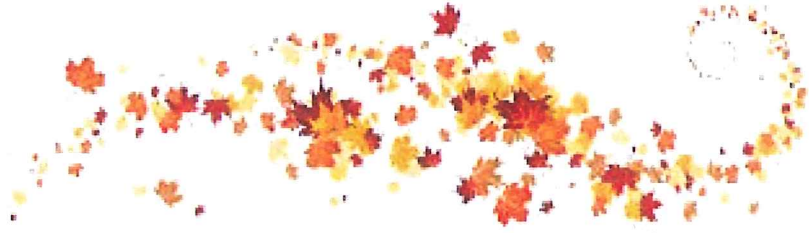
Mortgage Balance on July 31, 2016: \$ 29,466.39



St. Philip's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship
2 <i>SPDR Fall Trip Departs</i> 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Sunday Morning Wonder Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	3 1:00 pm Joy Circle 7:00 pm GA; Gamanon	4 9:00 am Library Mtg 10:00 am Staff Mtg 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 5:00 pm Solid Ground AA 6:00 pm Worship Band	5 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 9:00 am Quilters 10:00 am EA Group 6:00 pm Bells of Praise Middle & High School Ministry 7:00 pm AA Sanctuary Choir	6 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm AA; Alanon	7 1:00 pm EA Group 6:00 pm Women's GA	8 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 pm Saturday Supper
9 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Sunday Morning Wonder Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	10 9:00 am Glory Circle 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries 2:00 pm Lynwood Bingo 6:30 pm Benevolence Mtg 7:00 pm Gamanon; GA	11 10:00 am Staff Mtg 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 2:30 pm Heritage Mtg 5:00 pm Solid Ground AA 6:00 pm Worship Band 6:30 pm Property & Grounds Mtg Parish Fellowship Mtg	12 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 10:00 am EA Group Women's Book Club 6:00 pm Bells of Praise Middle & High School Ministry 7:00 pm AA Sanctuary Choir	13 6:30 pm Garden Group 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm AA Alanon	14 1:00 pm EA Group 6:00 pm Women's GA	15 9:00 am Comfort & Joy of Quilting 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship
16 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Sunday Morning Wonder Sunday School Equal Exc. Coffee Sale 10:30 am Worship	17 7:00 pm Gamanon; GA	18 9:00 am Assemble <i>The Friend</i> 10:00 am Staff Mtg 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 3:00 pm Endowment Mtg 5:00 pm Solid Ground AA 6:00 pm Worship Band	19 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 9:00 am Quilters 10:00 am EA Group 6:00 pm Bells of Praise 7:00 pm AA Sanctuary Choir	20 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm AA Alanon	21 1:00 pm EA Group 6:00 pm Women's GA	22 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship
23 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Sunday Morning Wonder Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	24 1:30 pm Knitters & Crocheters 7:00 pm Gamanon; GA	25 10:00 am Staff Mtg 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 5:00 pm Solid Ground AA 6:00 pm Worship Band Global Health Ministries 6:45 pm Board of Administration Mtg	26 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 10:00 am EA Group 2:00 pm Global Mission Team Mtg 6:00 pm Bells of Praise Middle & High School Ministry 7:00 pm AA Sanctuary Choir	27 6:00 pm Affirmation of Baptism Rehearsal Dinner 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm AA Alanon	28 <i>Articles due for December issue of "The Friend"</i> 1:00 pm EA Group 6:00 pm Women's GA	29 5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship
30 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Sunday Morning Wonder Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	31  HAPPY HALLOWEEN 5:30 pm Trunk-or-Treat 7:00 pm Gamanon; GA					



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A member of the ELCA

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Companion Congregation: Bille Lutheran in Nigeria

Ministers: All members of the Parish

The Friend deadline:

October 28, 2016 for the December Issue

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