

The Friend

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

May 2017

A Message from Pastor Christine

I love Psalm 19. In it we hear God's creation speak – The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork. Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard, their sound has gone out to all the lands, and their message to the ends of the world. This Psalm reminds us of how we can learn a lot from creation, including from animals. The following facts about geese are helpful for our own learnings when it comes to being a community of faith together.



FACT ONE: As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the birds following it. By flying in a V-formation, the whole flock adds 71 percent greater flying range than if the bird flew alone.

There's a lot I can do by myself; there's a lot I can do with a partner, but the power of what I can get done with a collective is quantum. People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they're going quicker and easier because they're traveling on the thrust of one another.

FACT TWO: Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front.

If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed where we want to go and be willing to accept their help, as well as give ours to others.

FACT THREE: When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies at the point position.

With people as with geese, we are interdependent on each other's skills and capabilities and unique arrangement of gifts, talents, and resources. Indigenous societies call this interdependency the "good, true and beautiful."

FACT FOUR: The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those in front to keep up their speed.

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

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We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging – and not something else. In groups where there is greater encouragement against great odds, the production is much greater. Encourage someone else's core, encourage someone else's heart.

FACT FIVE: When a goose gets sick, or wounded, or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help and protect it. They stay with it until it is able to fly again or dies. Then they launch out on their own with another formation to catch up with the flock.

If we have as much sense as geese, we too will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.

*Taken from: Insight and Action: How to Discover and Support a Life of Integrity and Commitment to Change.
Green, Tova and Woodrow, Peter.*

May the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, our strength, and our redeemer. Psalm 19:14.

You are in my prayers. Thank you for yours.

~Pastor Christine

Love

Sara Quarberg, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries

What a great year it has been. Overall, this program year has been filled with many faith-filled conversations, worship, service projects, fellowship nights, meals, games, laughs, and more. It's amazing how we encounter God in so many profound ways by being together here at St. Philip's and in God's world. Thank you for being a part of God's ministry with the young people of this community! We are looking forward to a great summer together and whatever it is that God has in store for us in the coming program year. Stay tuned!

I want to extend a huge word of thanks for all of the support for both of our summer youth ministry opportunities. We have a great group of High School youth who will be journeying to Chicago for our week-long mission trip from July 9 - 14 this summer. This year, we will be engaging in ministry opportunities surrounding hunger in the Chicago area. We are slowly getting the plans shared with us from Serve Boldly and we are excited for all of the ways in which we will encounter God together while on this trip. Thank you for your support through all of the various fundraisers throughout the past few months. Your monetary support allows young people to grow in their faith and to serve others in Christ's love.

The other ministry opportunity is for our Middle School youth. We have a great group headed to Lake Wapogasset Lutheran Bible Camp this summer. They will be at camp from June 25 - 30. At camp, our young people will have the opportunity to experience God in many different ways like campfires, music, crafts, sports, worship, Bible studies, meals, and more! Your support through fundraising helps provide these opportunities for our young people. Please keep them in your prayers as this week gets closer.

~Sara

Office Space

Connie Yerigan, Director of Children & Family Ministries

The definition of an office is a room, set of rooms, or building used for work. I suppose that is true in a sense, but for me, my office is so much more.

Before working here, my office was my home, or more so, my craft room in my home. A place to work on various projects, edit photos for clients, read, and even a space to sit and quietly reflect. My husband calls it a "Mini-Michaels Craft store". Our daughters enjoy going in there and finding everything they may need for their latest craft or invention...they have inherited my creative bug it seems. Having this space in our home is so much more than just another room that holds stuff. This room holds joy, possibility, and love.

When I first started at St. Philip's, my office was all set up for me. There are beautiful, bright colored baskets that sit on the shelves. Some hold lesson books while others hold DVD's. All have been labeled, and placed there with care, just waiting to support me in my work here. I have added photos of my family, that sit on the ledge by the window. Smiling faces of my daughters, wonderful memories from family vacations captured and framed. Paintings that I have done and framed photos of nature that I have taken now all hang on my wall. Candy sits on my desk, in a bowl that my daughter Allie made for me, and my water bottle sits on a coaster that my other daughter Maddie made for me. I often find myself sitting here, reflecting on how much this office means to me. It's so much more than just a space used for work, it's a space where I feel God is so present. This year, I was asked to be a Lenten Mentor for two of our youth here. I accepted without hesitation. We would go back to my office after Wednesday worship, sit on the floor, talk, laugh, get to know each other . . . and share candy.

My office here at St. Philip's is very similar to my craft room at home. This room holds so much joy, possibility, and love. It is where Sunday School lessons are planned and created, it has welcomed many smiling faces, been a place for some to come and cry, and during Lent, it has been a place for us to gather and talk about Jesus . . . and eat candy!

I am a strong believer that everyone should take a few minutes daily to look for God in their lives. I know that it may seem difficult some days, and sometimes it's not always clear. God, for me, is not just in the "things" or "stuff", but instead, in the experiences. If you have a second while you are at St. Philip's, please stop by my office and say hi . . . and don't forget, I've got candy!

May God bless you always, and may you always take time to look for God in your day.

~Connie

Thank You for the Newborn Kit Supplies!

Thank you for giving so generously to our Newborn Kits. We were able to assemble 106 kits that will help new mothers in Africa prepare for their precious bundle of joy!



President's Column *Mike Youngberg*

Every time I start getting comfortable and think my life has settled into a pattern, something changes, and it's time to start over again. And it's happened again. If I wasn't so busy, I'm sure I'd be going through withdrawal. You see, our grandson James is gone! They've taken him to daycare. On April 1st our 8 months of taking care of our grandson ended. We've known since August that it would happen. It was truly an ending that was horrible and wonderful at the same time. It was a wonder and a joy. But it was work. Our schedules revolved around one of us being home with James just about all the time. But the little bugger is cute, and there are few things as neat as hugs from a child.

We spent months learning a routine, and about the time we finally figured one out, it changes. There are things we haven't done for eight months. Things we need or want to get back to. New things we haven't been able to pursue but can now. It isn't always easy to start up where you left off months before. And the older I get, the more starting new things becomes a challenge. Our patterns got comfortable, and now they have changed.

We at St. Philip's have settled into patterns as well. We have gotten comfortable with things the way they are or have been. In the coming months, there will be changes at St. Philip's. Some have already begun. The Saturday night service has ended. Pastor Christine Wenzel has joined us as we begin the search for a new Senior Pastor. Pastor Margie Guelker is the new Visitation Pastor. Our current 9 Committee model of Governance will be evaluated along with looking at updating our Constitution to stay in line with the ELCA. Some of the changes will be minor, others major. There will be new ministries starting up. Some will be within the congregation, and some will reach out into the community. St. Philip's is moving forward.

A year ago we finished a capital campaign called "Building for the Future." It's a great phrase to describe what is happening at St. Philip's right now. We are building the future of St. Philip's. There will be many opportunities to be involved with the process of change this year. In my experience changes are easier when you are part of them rather than sitting on the sidelines simply waiting to see what's going to happen next. Anticipate new things. Appreciate new things. Help create new things. Be a part of the change.

As always, we worship, wonder, and work in Jesus' name.

~Mike

Annual St. Philip's Garage Sale Preparations



Start cleaning your closets and get ready for our annual St. Philip's garage sale! This year, the sale will be held Wednesday evening, July 26, Thursday, July 27, Friday, July 28 and Saturday morning, July 29. Added to our list of "can't accept" items are large Christmas trees. They don't sell and we have limited resources for donations. Start thinking of ways you can donate, and/or help out. Even a few hours of your time helps immensely! More information coming soon. Thanks in advance for your support!

Life Events

May Anniversaries

Donald & Carol Blair on 5/28/1955 for 62 years
Clarence & Constance Asche on 5/30/1960 for 57 years
Donald & Ila Stradal on 5/12/1962 for 55 years
Thomas & Marlene Schonebaum on 5/19/1962 for 55 years
Glen & Sandra Byl on 5/22/1965 for 52 years
Kenneth & Doris Moxness on 5/9/1970 for 47 Years
Edward & Sharon Aune on 5/22/1971 for 46 Years
John & Bonnie Shelton on 5/24/1975 for 42 Years
Ronald & Gretchen Nelson on 5/14/1977 for 40 Years
Michael & Deborah Carroll on 5/19/1979 for 38 Years
Becky & Timothy Tracey on 5/16/1980 for 37 Years
Jon & Mary Johnson on 5/9/1981 for 36 Years
Thomas & Kara Ruwart on 5/15/1982 for 35 Years
Daniel & Patricia Porter on 5/19/1984 for 33 years
Jonathan & Neoma Haugan on 5/26/1984 for 33 years
Thomas & Jill Kaufhold on 5/26/1984 for 33 Years
Kamal Tia & Fauzia Shawich on 5/1/1985 for 32 Years
Scott & Sandy Long on 5/18/1985 for 32 Years
Byron & Karen Teska on 5/17/1986 for 31 Years
Tim & Lesli Hanlin on 5/25/1991 for 26 Years
Dan & Lauri Anderson on 5/8/1993 for 24 Years
Dan & Sara Zank on 5/9/1998 for 19 Years
Jeff Thorp & Lesley Prater-Thorp on 5/16/1998 for 19 Years
Mary & Randy Shogren on 5/1/1999 for 18 Years
Sean & Melinda Warner on 5/22/1999 for 18 Years
Dawn & Bradley Wampole on 5/5/2001 for 16 Years
David & Christa Pullen on 5/3/2003 for 14 Years
Adam & Becky Thronson on 5/23/2003 for 14 Years
David & Connie Yerigan on 5/31/2003 for 14 Years
Jake & Cindy Roerig on 5/6/2006 for 11 Years
John & Ann Booker on 5/13/2006 for 11 Years
Shawn & Kari Pederson on 5/28/2006 for 11 Years
Chad & Gina Munsterman on 5/10/2008 for 9 years
Matthew Johnson & Stephanie Phelps on 5/3/2013 for 4 Years
Daniel & Amy Nelson on 5/4/2013 for 4 Years
Bryant & Melissa Holmstrom on 5/22/2015 for 2 years



The St. Philip's Endowment Fund

"Is this the day?
We make a living by what we get-
We make a life by what we give."

(God's Little Instruction Book, p. 144)
March gifts were received
in memory of

Ruth Ollila

&

Hazel Williams

~ ~ ~

**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 (Chair), Ron Ackerman,
Edd Brooks, Jeanine Grandstrand,
Virg Herrick, Joan Kruse,
Dick Lekang,
and Dawn Young.**



We welcome

Ella Loven
Raegan Winter
Scarlet Wishon



To the friends and family of

Edward Mark Boe
Jim Carlson
Betty Larson
Joseph "Jay" Poissant
Bette Wrucke

Symbolism of the Paraments

The primary purpose of the paraments (fabric pieces displayed on the altar, pulpit, and lectern) is to announce the season of the church year by their color. White is the color for Easter and its following Sundays. The basic white fabric has a pattern of shiny white squares across the upper portion to signify the presence of the light of Christ. There is a single large gold fabric with gold metallic overlay for the altar and a smaller piece for the pulpit, to set off the Cross and Crown of the pulpit. Outside in the parking lot, there are white streamers hanging on the banners stands to represent the current season. These streamers change with each season.



(photo by Connie Yerigan)

Letter from LCCN Bille - Third Installment

This is the third installment of the letter to St. Philip's from Mr. Clement B. Dah, St. Philip's companion congregation LCCN Bille.

WATER AND WELLS

Rivers and ponds are the main source of water in Bille. Its first shallow well was dug by the Missionaries 60 years ago. Today, any bore holes are sunk by the government and left to the community to maintain. From time to time, some of the bore holes break and it normally takes a long time before they are repaired.

However with the rapid increase of population, these bore-holes can no longer meet the demands for both drinking and domestic uses. The only shallow well dries up and produces less water during the dry season, forcing women and children to rise early to fetch water from wherever it is available.

Last year in the month of October, the state Government, using Courtesy Millennium Dev. Goal (MDG) funds, sunk a bore hole powered by a solar system between the primary school and LCCN Clinic. This is the source of water most families relied on now.

FARMING SEASON

The Bille people have always been predominately famers. Last year's rainy season brought a predicament to the farmers. The rainfall came earlier and ceased early. This resulted in a poor harvest and a shortage of foodstuff, causing hunger, malnutrition, poverty and hardship to many families.

Most farmers, who do not receive salaries from employment, had to sell the little produce they got from their farms in order to meet up with the family demands such as school fees of their children, medical care etc.

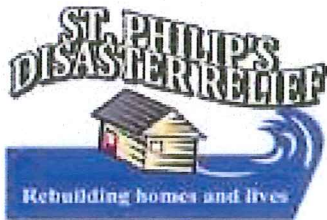
Some families will find it difficult to sustain food livelihood.

God's blessings

Clement B. Dah For LCCN Bille

Global Mission Team: *Global Missions*

Thank You St. Philip's! Your generosity of spirit and resources provided significant funds to support the projects we share with Bille Lutheran Church in Nigeria; i.e., the Evangelist Pius Kasuwa and the primary and middle schools. During the Global Missions Festival weekend, \$3,214 was received towards our commitment of \$3,800 for 2018. This includes a special gift of \$270 from the wonderful people who put on the Nigerian dinner that Saturday. Contributions continue to come in. Again, thank you for what you do in the name of Christ for our brothers and sisters in Nigeria.



SPDR Spring Trip

Follow the SPDR team at [www.splcmn.org/spdr] or on Facebook (search for St. Philip's Disaster Relief). From May 7 - 13, team members will be helping rebuild homes and lives of flood victims in the Eureka, MO area.

Congregational Brunch

Hosted by the Endowment Committee

You are cordially invited to the Annual Endowment Fund Brunch!

When: Sunday, May 21 at 10:30 am
(following the 9:30 am "Music Sunday" service)

Where: Fellowship Hall

Why: To support the St. Philip's Endowment Fund AND enjoy Fellowship

What: Pancakes, sausages, fruit, cereal and beverages
(cash donations accepted to cover the cost of the meal)

Who: YOU!

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

St. Philip's March 2017	Budget YTD	Actual YTD
Income	\$202,111	\$185,822
Expense	(\$206,876)	(\$196,792)
TOTALS	(\$4,765)	(\$10,971)



Season Six In The Garden

'tis the Season!

Thoughts of spring garden prep and planting have surfaced with the St. Philip's Garden Group. If you are interested in vegetable gardening or delivering fresh produce to two local food shelves, this is the group for you.

Over the past five growing seasons, the gardeners have nurtured, harvested and delivered over 2,500 pounds of fresh produce to SACA and CEAP. Successful crops (grown on site) have included: tomatoes, potatoes, peas, beans, squash, eggplant, cucumbers, broccoli, carrots, beets, cantaloupe, basil, parsley, garlic, kale, spinach, lettuce, rhubarb, and raspberries.

The regular meeting for the gardeners is scheduled for the third Thursday each month from February to October. We meet in room 11 starting at 6:30 pm.

Any questions? Dorothy Kuluvar [Dkuluvar@comcast.net or 763-786-8003] or Lynette Thompson [Lynette at gardener772@comcast.net].

Greetings From Our New Visitation Pastor

Margie Guelker, Visitation Pastor

Hello, my name is Pastor Margie Guelker and I am the new Visitation Pastor at St. Philip's. I am very glad to be working with all of you and I appreciate the warm welcome that has been extended to me.

I am a retired ELCA Pastor. I have most recently served Christ Lutheran in Blaine as Senior Pastor. I live in Andover and have three grown children and four grandchildren.

I am a traveler. I am preparing to lead my seventh trip to the Holy Land in October. I have also led trips to Ireland, Italy, Germany, and other European destinations. I also love to travel in the states, especially to New Mexico and New York City.

Other interests are photography, writing, gardening, reading, theater, opera, and music. I write an email devotional called "Songs for the Soul" which I publish 3 - 4 times monthly. If you would like to be added to the devotional list, please email me [MargieG@splcmn.org].

In my time at St. Philip's, I hope to reenergize the visitation ministry by visiting our shut-ins and also working with those who are currently visiting members. I will be meeting with all who feel called to visitation ministry on Sunday, May 21 after worship.

Blessings,

~Pastor Margie



St. Philip's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

May 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Articles due for <i>The Friend</i> 1:00 pm Joy Circle 7:00 pm Gamanon; GA Mtgs	2 10:00 am Staff Mtg 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 5:00 pm Solid Ground AA 6:00 pm Worship Band Practice 6:30 pm Property & Grounds 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; Middle & High School Ministry 6:30 pm Worship Life Task Force Cottage Mtg 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir; AA Mtgs	4 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm Alanon; AA Mtgs	5 1:00 pm EA Group 6:00 pm <55 Painting & Potluck	6
7 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Youth Fundraiser 9:35 am Sunday School; Middle & High School Ministry; Morning Forum 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Sexism & Sandwiches 12:00 pm High School Mtg	8 9:00 am Glory Circle 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries 2:00 pm Lynwood Bingo 6:00 pm Benevolence Mtg 6:30 pm Worship Task Force Cottage Mtg 7:00 pm Gamanon; GA Mtgs; All Committee Mtg 7:30 pm Parish Fellowship Mtg	9 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 Practice 6:30 pm New Member Class	10 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 10:00 am EA Group; Women's Book Club 1:00 pm LifeGroups 6:00 pm Bells of Praise 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir; AA Mtgs	11 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm Alanon; AA Mtg 8:00 pm Worship Task Force Cottage Mtg	12 1:00 pm EA Group	13
14 <i>Happy Mother's Day</i> 7:30 am Youth Fundraiser 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Sunday School Morning Forum 10:30 am Worship	15 7:00 pm Gamanon; GA Mtgs	16 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 Practice	17 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 Sanctuary Choir; AA Mtgs	18 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 6:30 pm Garden Group Mtg 6:45 pm Executive Cmt Mtg 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm Alanon; AA Mtgs	19 1:00 pm EA Group	20 8:00 am Spring Clean-Up 10:00 am Comfort & Joy of Quilting
21 <i>Music Sunday</i> 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Brunch 11:30 am Sexism & Sandwiches	22 1:30 pm Knitters & Crocheters 7:00 pm Gamanon; GA Mtgs	23 9:00 am Assemble <i>The Friend</i> 10:00 am Staff Mtg 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 5:00 pm Solid Ground AA 6:00 pm Worship Band Practice; Global Health Ministries	24 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 10:00 am EA Group 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir; AA Mtgs	25 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm Alanon; AA Mtgs	28 1:00 pm EA Group	27
28 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Sunday School Morning Forum 10:30 am Worship	29 <i>Memorial Day Office Closed</i> 7:00 pm Gamanon; GA Mtgs	30 10:00 am Staff Mtg 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 5:00 pm Solid Ground AA 6:00 pm Worship Band Practice 6:45 pm Board of Administration Mtg	31 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 10:00 am EA Group 3:00 pm Global Mission Team Mtg 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir; AA Mtgs			



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St. Philip's Lutheran Church

A member of the ELCA

www.splcmn.org • info@splcmn.org

Phone: 763.571.1500 • Fax: 763.572.2292

Church Staff

Christine Wenzel, Interim Senior Pastor

ChristineW@splcmn.org, ext. 112

Mollie Dvorak, Associate Pastor

MollieD@splcmn.org, ext. 110

Margie Guelker, Visitation Pastor

MargieG@splcmn.org

Jeannine Arcand, Office Manager

JeannineA@splcmn.org, ext. 104

Amada Simula, Publications and Membership Coordinator

AmadaM@splcmn.org, ext. 101

Jerry Salitros, Bookkeeper

JerryS@splcmn.org, ext. 103

Sara Quarberg, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries

SaraQ@splcmn.org, ext. 108

Connie Yerigan, Director of Children & Family Ministries

ConnieY@splcmn.org, ext. 107

Lori Peterson, Nursery Ministry

Jennifer Thurman, Worship Band Director

JenniferT@splcmn.org, ext. 106

Stephanie Phelps Johnson, Sanctuary Choir Director

StephanieP@splcmn.org, ext. 106

David Geslin, Organist

DavidG@splcmn.org

Katie Swenstad, Full-Time Custodian

KatieS@splcmn.org, ext. 109

Michelle Hill, Part-Time Custodian

Board of Administration

BOA@splcmn.org

Mike Youngberg, President

zubazwizard@gmail.com

Val Sperry, Vice-President

sperryvs@aol.com

Leif Ronken, Treasurer

leifronken@gmail.com

Carol Anderson, Secretary

caa0204@aol.com

Barbara Cooper

cooperstory@msn.com

Dawn Hansen

dawng48@hotmail.com

Bryant Holmstrom

bryantholmstrom@gmail.com

Kathy Pullen

kathyfpullen@gmail.com

Betty Schweppe

bschweppe@hotmail.com

Joel Young

young.joel.r@gmail.com

Missionaries: Jim & Carol Sack

Companion Congregation: Bille Lutheran in Nigeria

Ministers: All members of the Parish

The Friend deadlines:

June 1st for the July issue; July 1st for the August issue.

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