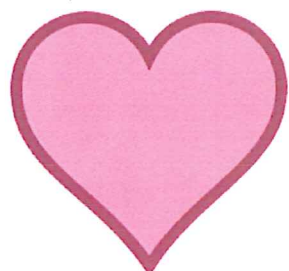


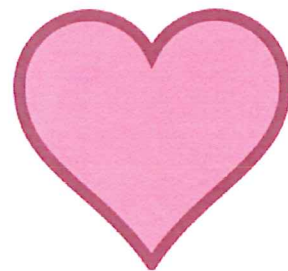


The Friend



*We Love Because
He First Loved Us.*

1 John 4:19



February Worship Schedule:

February 3, 10, 17, and 24

8:30 am (Traditional)

10:30 am (Contemporary)

Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 3

11:30 am Luncheon

12:00 pm Annual Meeting

February 2019

In this issue:

Worship Schedule	1
Pastor Matt's Column	2
Pastor Margie's Column	2
Children & Family Ministry	3
Youth & Young Adult Ministry	3
President's Column	4
Endowment Fund	4
St. Philip's Disaster Relief	5
Service Sunday	5
Preserving History	6
New Books in the Library	6
Life Events	7
Financials	7
Knitters & Crocheters	7
New Years in Japan	8
Greetings from Bille	8
Passion Play Trip Meeting	9
60th Anniversary DVDs	9
Thank You	9
Save the Date	9
Friendly Takeaway	10
Contact Info	10
February Calendar	11
Mission & Vision	12

PRAYER & JOY

The Light of Christ

Matt Flom, Pastor

⁴ Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.

⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

Valentine's Day is coming up and our thoughts turn to cards, flowers, chocolates, and love. Valentine's Day is about romantic love and we remember the words of 1 Cor. 13. It is often read at weddings. I think it is appropriate for weddings, but it is not about romantic love. The chapter is about Agape love. Agape love is other centered, self-giving, sacrificial love. The type of love that a parent has for their child. Romantic love is possessive and often jealous. Agape love is not about fulfilling the self or getting what we want. Agape love seeks to be for the other; to share oneself.

Agape love is Christian love. As a Christian community, we are called to love one another as Christ loved us. A congregational community based on love is a beautiful thing and it helps people to grow spiritually. It is also extremely difficult. At times, we are all hurting, broken, and in need of care. Church is a place for us to go and be cared for. At a certain point, however, we are also called to be the caregivers. Part of our own spiritual growth is to serve God by serving others. How then, do we know when to give and when to receive? There is no chart, graph, or hard answer to that question. All people have so many differences, so our interactions are never quite the same. Our guide then, is Agape love. We ask ourselves what serves the interests of growing in faith and love. We can be open and trusting with our brothers and sisters about our hurts and fears. We can seek to serve God by showing God's love to others.



Let Your Light Shine

Margie Guelker, Visitation Pastor

"You are the light of the world. . . In the same way, let your light so shine before others that they will see your good works and give glory to God." Matthew 5:14 & 16

At this time of year we sense that the light is returning. The days get longer minute by minute and our spirits are buoyed.

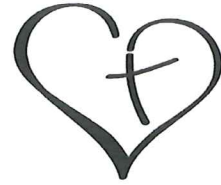
I don't know about you, but I need the light. Too many dark days dampen my spirit. It is also physically difficult for me because I cannot see as well. I have LED lamps and small flashlights all over my house to help me out.

I learned about the benefit of LED lamps from a person I visit. I thought it was a miracle when she flipped on an LED light, a gift from her daughter, so I could read scripture to her! I went home and ordered one from Amazon and it changed my life. I could read easily again.

She not only had the light I needed, but she was the light for me that day.

How can you be light for others? Perhaps a phone call or a bouquet of tulips delivered on a dreary day can lift someone's spirits.

As we give a newly baptized child a lit candle we repeat the verse above. You, also, are called to "let your little light shine!"



A Future With Hope

Connie Yerigan, *Director of Children & Family Ministry*

For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Jeremiah 29:11

Hope. A small word, but it can bring so much comfort to those in need. Our St. Philip's Disaster Relief team brings hope to many lives impacted by natural disasters. Helping families rebuild their homes that were destroyed can bring so much hope for a bright future after the darkness of the storm. During our Service Sunday this month, we will have a chance to decorate lunch bags with encouraging words, prayers, or colorful pictures to brighten the team's day. We can offer support and hope to them as they spend time helping others. Join us on Sunday, February 10 at 9:35 am in Fellowship Hall.

Hope is also a word used to describe possibility, promise, and faith. I can't wait to see what this year brings. There are many fun things planned for the children and families. It is my hope that you all enjoy what's ahead!

February 2019

3 – S.P.A.R.K. of Faith (Ages 3 years – grade 5)

6 – Children's Ministry Night – Family Yoga Night

Dinner: Chicken ala King (with biscuits or potatoes)

10 – Service Sunday – SPDR Support Sunday!

13 – **No Children's Ministry Night**

Dinner: Taco Bar

17 – **No S.P.A.R.K. of Faith (Ages 3 years – grade 5)**

20 – Children's Ministry Night - Love in Action activities

Dinner: Mostaccioli

24 – S.P.A.R.K. of Faith (Ages 3 years – grade 5)

27 – **No Children's Ministry Night**

Dinner: Sloppy Joes



Lenten Mentoring

Tory Pluckeck, *Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry*

March will lead us into a time of reflection as we enter the Lenten season. As we study the book of Ruth, we will learn about our call to trust so fully in God that we step outside of our comfort zones and join in community and relationship with those who are not like us. Ruth, an "outsider" Moabite, enters into an Israelite family, building a powerful relationship with her mother-in-law, Naomi.

As we learn more about Ruth and her story of radical and inclusive love, I urge you to enter into these new relationships. Our middle school youth will participate in mentoring during the Lenten season and are asked to find mentors to engage in conversation. This is a low-key time during dinner to check in with a community member and explore the text for the evening.

Will you enter into this season as a Ruth or Naomi? Would you consider mentoring with one of our young ones? We are looking for individuals or pairs to partner with our middle school youth, sitting together during community supper, checking in about your weeks, and answering some faith and thought-provoking questions about the book of Ruth.

There is no special skills or talents required - just an open heart and willingness to welcome and share God's inclusive love.

Connect with Tory [toryp@splcmn.org] for more information or to sign up!

JOY & PRAYER

Shining Light

Valerie Sperry, President

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:14-16

We are urged to let our light shine, not to hide it away, in this well-known verse from Matthew. I've always interpreted this to mean we are to share our faith with others; share the Good News with the world. But how? How do we go about sharing our faith with the world? Many of us struggle with boldly sharing our faith with others. We find it hard to talk about our personal faith with those outside our church walls. We don't want to seem to brag or be pushy about our faith. We don't want to offend. We quietly show our faith through the things we do and the actions we take. We let our light shine more like a flashlight on a path, less like a spotlight in the sky. Our sharing, our shining, is more subtle.

And while at times actions can speak louder than words, not always. Sometimes we need to hear and say the words. We need to hear how God loves us, how we are made new in Him each day, how we are saved by His Grace. Action can do a lot, but words have power too. So we need to reach deep down inside ourselves and find the strength God has given us and use our words. That may take a different form for each of us. For some it may mean sharing with a friend or neighbor how God has moved in their life. Other might find their voice by speaking out on social justice issues in our world. For many of us it might mean sharing words of welcome and love with a visitor. We each have to find our own way. But God is urging us all to speak and share. Not just with actions, but with the Word.

Endowment Fund



Faith-based living includes Faith-based giving!

Support the St. Philip's Endowment Fund

Contributions were received in memory of:

Rolf Dahle

Karen Keggstad

Gift acknowledgement cards are available in the church office for you when informing families/friends that you have made gifts to the Endowment Fund in their honor or in memory.

Gifts in memory, in honor, a special occasion, or just because, should specify, "Endowment Fund" on checks or envelopes.

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



Hurricane Michael Trip and Dinner & Auction

St. Philip's Disaster Relief Team



Hurricane Michael Trip

Hurricane Michael registered as a Category 4 hurricane, with 155 mph sustained winds, when it made landfall in October 2018, causing billions of dollars of damage to the Florida Panhandle and impacting the lives of thousands of people in the area.

A SPDR team spent the first week in January repairing Hurricane Michael damaged homes in Lynn Haven, FL. Team members spent almost 300 total hours working in five homes – cleaning or removing debris in all five homes, installing insulation in four of the homes, hanging drywall in two of the homes, repairing termite damaged areas in two of the homes, and painting in one of the homes. And none of these homes are yet inhabitable. The recovery process is expected to take years. Please keep those impacted by Hurricane Michael in your prayers.

Fundraiser Dinner & Auction

The annual SPDR lasagna dinner and auction will be held Sunday, February 10. The lasagna dinner includes salad, lasagna, breadsticks, beverages, and dessert. The dinner is prepared and served by the SPDR team members. Tickets must be purchased in advance and are being sold through Sunday, January 27. The auction is a sealed bid auction and includes many items - gift cards to local establishments, gift certificates for area theaters and attractions, tools, toys, gift baskets, housewares, hand-crafted items, and much more. Included this year, with a minimum bid of \$500, is a 95"x 90" quilt made by St. Philip's Member, Becky Becker.

Special guest at the dinner will be Pastor Deb Grant of Dickinson, TX. Pastor Grant recently retired after serving Faith Lutheran Church in Dickinson for over 11 years. Faith Lutheran was heavily damaged by Hurricane Harvey and members were unable to worship in their sanctuary for over 15 months. Along with speaking at the lasagna dinner, Pastor Grant will preach on Sunday and present at the Adult Forum. You won't want to miss hearing her story.

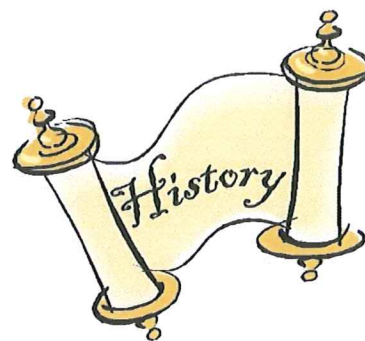
The dinner and auction fundraiser is the major source of funding for St. Philip's Disaster Relief and your continued support of this event allows the SPDR team members to rebuild homes and lives of those impacted by disasters. Be sure to purchase your dinner tickets and to bid high on the auction items. We look forward to seeing you there!

Service Sunday - SPDR Support Sunday!

Lunch Bags and Thank You Notes

This is going to be a busy and fun day! Join us February 10, in the Lounge during Education Hour as we decorate lunch bags and crosses for our disaster relief team to use on their next trip. We will also be writing special notes of thanks and coloring pictures to remind them that we support and are thinking of them. And we will be decorating bookmarks for our guest, Pastor Deb Grant, from Faith Lutheran in Dickinson, TX. All are welcome!





Working Hard to Preserve History Heritage Group

The Heritage Group of St. Philip's Lutheran Church began its work in 2015. Members of this group were recruited by Pastor Joel Hoogheem. They are Arlene Hamernik, Grace Kurtz, Dick Lekang, Thelma Nash, Ron Seekamp, and Marlin Sorum. The establishment of this group was in response to a request by the ELCA for the preservation of records and history of the congregation. The ELCA provided leadership and guidance for this endeavor.

Under the chair of Dick Lekang, the Heritage Group has been collecting records and materials, established a room to keep records, completed the interviews and recordings of charter members, and has made decisions regarding the organization of records, based on the best possible future use.

The work is not finished, however. The congregation is asked for input and suggestions on how to proceed further. Members who may have an interest in the project are encouraged to join the group. Do you like history? Are you working on your own genealogy? Have you heard stories about the early days of St. Philip's and wish to know more? The Fridley Tornado was an important factor in the life of this congregation. Do you want to know more? Do you want to see pictures?

If any of this piques your interest, please join us. Call Dick Lekang [763-453-9992 or email richardlekang@comcast.net].

There's More to Discover in St. Philip's Library



New books have been added recently to the Library.

An appealing devotional book by Marianne Williamson is, *A Year of Miracles*. If you are doing the devotions for your committee, try using this collection of 365 reflections.

St. Philip's library users really like biographies. Here are two new ones: *In Pieces: A Memoir* by Academy Award Winner, Sally Field. A victim of child abuse, Sally, shares her story. We like her, we really like her!

Who doesn't remember Fred Rogers? *The Good Neighbor*, his biography by Maxwell King is now available.

Several books for children include: *Over the River and Through the Wood*, illustrated by Emma Randall; *Cancer Hates Kisses* by Jessica Sliverski; *Winter Is Here* by Kevin Henkes; *Silly Wonderful You*, a rhyming story by Sherri Rinker; and *The Nutcracker*, a New York City Ballet board book.

Books for middle and older readers have been added. Check out, *The One and Only Ivan*, a Newbery Award winner by Katharine Applegate. The theme is animal rights.

The Wednesday Wars by Gary Schmidt is a compelling story of 7th grader Holling's mishaps and adventures.

The coolest library in the world is the setting for *Escape from Mrs. Lemoncelli's Library* by Chris Grabenstein.

Finally, *Tuesdays at the Castle* by Jessica George is the book that started it all. This is the best-selling series about a castle that can rebuild itself and the lives of the children in its reach.

Remember, books are for all ages!



Walter & Dorothy Hansen on 2/2/1957 for 62 years

Donald & Susan Davis on 2/23/1957 for 62 years

Richard & Dawn Young on 2/14/1965 for 54 years

Mike Youngberg & Renee Falkum-Youngberg on 2/20/1986 for 33 years

Aaron & Staci Gondorchin on 2/2/2002 for 17 years

The friends and family of:

Alice Benson

Financials

St. Philip's 2018	Actual December	Actual YTD
Income	\$92,038.61	\$768,129.84
Expense	(\$61,793.15)	(\$764,196.39)
TOTALS	\$30,245.46	\$3,933.45



K2P2/SCh = Code for Comfort

Knit 2, purl 2/Single Chain

St. Philip's Knitters/Crocheters created over 600 items which were delivered to local organizations.

- ~ 260 hats and 67 mittens to schools in Fridley, Spring Lake Park, Mounds View, and St. Paul.
- ~ 10 teddy bears to Anoka County Human Services.
- ~ One baby sweater and 19 baby blankets to Bundles of Love.
- ~ 315 dish cloths and four scarves to St. Philip's Food Shelf.
- ~ Five prayer shawls, one pair of slippers, and 26 afghans to nursing homes.
- ~ Five cowls and four ear warmers were also created.

Most of these projects were completed using donated yarn, so thank you for the generous donations. If you are looking for a home for any unused yarn, this group will be able to creatively put it to good use.

The Knitters/Crocheters group meets the fourth Monday of each month from 1:30 to 3:30 pm in Room 3. If you want to learn either the craft or you would enjoy knitting or crocheting in the company of others, please come. Any questions, contact Betty Pray [651-633-9047] or Dorothy Kuluvar [dkuluvar@comcast.net].

JOY & THANKS

New Years in Japan Jim and Carol Sack



The way Japanese and Americans spend their time in the New Year season is quite different. We thought it might be nice to share a little about a Japanese New Year with you. Typically, December 31 - January 3 is the time given to the New Year season. Sometimes it will even stretch out until January 6, like this year.

In Japan, the new year must have a good beginning. As a result, Japanese usually partake in something called the, "big cleaning." Often, every inch of the house is cleaned, including places that haven't been touched during the year.

Another tradition in Japan is eating certain foods during the first few days of the new year. This food is called, "osechi" and many of these dishes are sweet, sour, or dried so that they can keep without refrigeration during the season. Another custom is to eat rice cakes (mochi) which is sticky rice put into a wooden container and pounded with a large wooden mallet.

At midnight on December 31, Buddhist temples all over Japan ring their bells a total of 108 times to symbolize the 108 human sins in Buddhist belief. Also, Shinto shrines are visited. In Tokyo, Meiji Shrine attracts several million people during the first few days.

Similar to Christmas cards, Japanese will send out New Year's postcards (nengajo) to friends and relatives. Often they will have the animal of the 12-year zodiac cycle on the cards. 2019 is the year of the wild boar (inoshishi).

One aspect we notice about Japanese New Year is the emphasis on family. Families tend to gather and spend this new year time together. Over the years the Japanese family has changed from the extended (3 generation) families to more of a nuclear family. Even though we live in Japan we are happy to be part of the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church family, as well as part of the ELCA family in the States. We have been supported and prayed for by you good folks. We thank you for taking the time and energy to remember us. The ministry we are able to do here in Japan is because of your generous giving and prayerful remembering of your missionaries in Tokyo. God continues to bless us through these relationships and therefore we give thanks to God for that.

We ask that God would give much grace, peace, and joy to all of you in this 2019 year. Once again thank you for your presence in our lives!

Blessings,

Jim and Carol Sack

Greetings from LCCN Bille Clement Dah



Dear Members of St. Philip's Lutheran Church,

Greetings in Christ's name.

As we have few days ahead to commemorate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, the entire congregation of LCCN Bille wish to send Christmas greetings to St. Philip's Lutheran Church members. We wish you all a Happy Christmas and Joyous New Year to come. May the Lord's peace and blessings remain with us during these periods.

Yours in Christ.

Clement Dah
For LCCN Bille



Passion Play Travel Meeting Oberammergau, Germany, 2020

You are invited on Sunday, February 24 at 4:00 pm in the Lounge to join Pastor Matt and a representative from Trans World Travel to discuss details of traveling to Germany for the Passion Play in 2020.

The Passion Play has been performed every ten years in the village of Oberammergau. To fulfill a solemn vow that if the village was spared from the Black Plague ravaging Europe at that time, they would perform a play in thanksgiving. The village was spared, and with rare gaps the play has been performed every ten years since 1634.

Our trip will begin in Vienna and we will visit treasures of the Adriatic Sea, Venice, and the French Alps before going to Oberammergau. This is a journey of a lifetime and one you will never forget.

Brochures can be found in the office. Space is limited and the trip is filling up. If you plan to go, you may fill out the form in the brochure and make a deposit to secure your place before the travel meeting. You don't have to be a member of St. Philip's to join us; Friends and family are welcome.

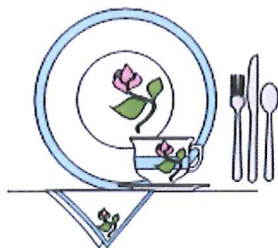
If you have questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Matt or Pastor Margie.

60 YEARS

If you enjoyed the DVD that was made specially for the 60th anniversary celebration service and reception, you can now have one of your own. Thanks to the special funding for the anniversary celebration we can make a limited number of copies of the DVD. There is a sign-up sheet in the office with more details.

Thank You

The Angerhofer family would like to thank our St. Philip's family for all of your help and support this holiday season!
Love, Jack, Michelle, Izack, and Nathan



Save the Date

The Parish Fellowship Committee presents the 2019 Festival of Tables. The festival will be on Saturday, April 6. Festival of Tables is a lovely fundraiser for area food shelves. Fellowship Hall will be filled with beautifully decorated themed tables. We will have lunch, door prizes and our entertainment will be a motivational speaker. Tickets will be sold March 24 and March 31. We are looking for volunteers to decorate a table. You pick a theme and let your imagination go! If you are able to decorate a table this year, or would like more information about the event, contact Julie Small at [763-767-2392 or kjsmall74@msn.com] Watch for more details in the next few weeks.

SERVE

Friendly Takeaway

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
Somebody loves you,
Here's a clue.

Read John 3:16

St. Philip's Lutheran Church

A member of the ELCA

www.splcmn.org ~ info@splcmn.org

Phone: 763-571-1500 Fax: 763-572-2292

Pastoral Emergency Phone: 612-930-1588

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DavidG@splcmn.org

Dawn Hansen, Bells of Praise Volunteer Handbell Director

Chris Porter, Utility Musician

Katie Swenstad, Full-Time Custodian

KatieS@splcmn.org, ext. 109

Michelle Hill, Part-Time Custodian

Worship Schedule

8:30 am Traditional

10:30 am Contemporary

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BOA@splcmn.org

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sperryvs@aol.com

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rjprasek@mac.com

Carol Anderson, Secretary

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Andy Tjader

andrewtjader77@hotmail.com

Missionaries: Jim & Carol Sack

Companion Congregation:

Bille Lutheran in Nigeria

Ministers: All members of the Parish



February 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Middle School Ultimate Lock-in	2 Middle School Ultimate Lock-in
3 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Education Hour 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Annual Meeting Luncheon 12:00 pm Annual Meeting	4 12:30 pm Joy Circle 5:15 pm Chair Yoga 6:00 pm Stewardship Mtg. 6:15 pm Mat Yoga 7:00 pm Gam-anon; GA Mtg.	5 10:30 am Staff Mtg. 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:00 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	6 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 9:00 am Quilters 10:00 am EA Group 6:00 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal; Community Supper 6:30 pm Family Yoga Night 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal; AA	7 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm Alanon; AA Mtg.	8	9
10 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Education Hour - Service Sunday 10:30 am Worship 4:00 pm SPDR Fundraiser Dinner 6:00 pm SPDR Fundraiser Dinner	11 Friend Articles Due 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries 2:00 pm Lynwood Bingo 5:15 pm Chair Yoga 6:15 pm Mat Yoga 6:30 pm ALL Meeting; Benevolence Committee Mtg. 7:00 pm Gam-anon; GA Mtg. 7:30 pm Parish Fellowship Mtg.	12 10:30 am Staff Mtg. 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 2:30 pm Heritage Group Mtg. 6:00 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	13 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 10:00 am Women's Book Club; EA Group 6:00 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal; Community Supper 6:30 pm Youth Ministry Small Groups 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal; AA Mtg.	14 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm Alanon; AA Mtg.	15	16
17 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Equal Exchange Coffee Sale 9:35 am Education Hour 10:30 am Worship	18 9:30 am Glory Circle 7:00 pm Gam-anon; GA Mtg.	19 9:00 am Assemble The Friend; Library Group Mtg. 10:30 am Staff Mtg. 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:00 pm Worship Band Rehearsal 6:30 pm Property & Grounds Mtg.; Young Adult Ministry	20 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 9:00 am Quilters 10:00 am EA Group 6:00 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal; Community Supper 6:30 pm Children's Ministry Night; Youth Ministry Small Groups 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal; AA Mtg.	21 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm Alanon; AA Mtg.	22	23
24 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Education Hour 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Youth Denver Mission Trip Mtg. 4:00 pm Passion Play Tour Mtg.	25 1:30 pm Knitters & Crocheters 7:00 pm Board of Administration Mtg.; Gam-anon; GA Mtg.	26 10:30 am Staff Mtg. 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:00 pm Worship Band Rehearsal; Global Health Ministries	27 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 10:00 am EA Group 6:00 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal; Community Supper 6:30 pm Youth Ministry Small Groups 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal; AA Mtg.	28 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm Alanon; AA Mtg.		



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Mission:

God calls us to receive and share God's
love and grace with all people.

Vision:

With God's help, we will be joyful,
compassionate and generous as we worship,
grow and serve in community.

We invite and welcome those of every spiritual background, ethnicity,
gender orientation, or economic situation. We are committed to our place
within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).