

# The Friend



## *Ash Wednesday and Lent Worship Schedule:*

### *Wednesdays*

March 6, 13, 20, and 27

April 3 and 10

**12:00 pm Worship**

followed by a light lunch in the Fellowship Hall

**6:00 pm Community Supper**

**7:00 pm Worship**

## March 2019

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# PRAYER & JOY

## Chesed

Matt Flom, Pastor

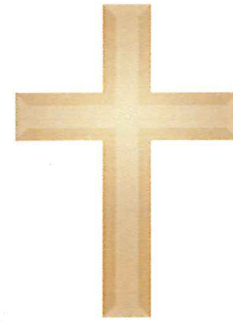


*"Do not press me to leave you  
or to turn back from following you!*

*Where you go, I will go;  
where you lodge, I will lodge;  
your people shall be my people,  
and your God my God.*

*Where you die, I will die—  
there will I be buried.*

*May the LORD do thus and so to me,  
and more as well,  
if even death parts me from you!"*



*Ruth 1:16-17*

Grace, love, and peace be to you from God our Father and our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The season of Lent is upon us. It is a time for reflection, renewal, and return to God. This year, we are going to use the book of Ruth as our guide through the season. One of the great themes of the book is Chesed - it means loving kindness and faithfulness. In the book of Ruth, we find people acting out Chesed in their lives during some very stressful events. We thus learn what it means and what it looks like. We also learn that Chesed is an essential part of the character of God. The book is not considered a great theological work, such as Paul's letter to the Romans, where he painstakingly lays out the means of God's grace and salvation. Ruth takes a different path. Ruth uses a story, a narrative approach, to teach great theological lessons. It uses a story of love between people to teach us about the love of God.

I invite you to come to worship on Wednesdays in Lent, the 12:00 pm or the 7:00 pm service, so we can explore together the theme of Chesed:

Love - Kindness - Faithfulness.

## A Future With Hope

Connie Yerigan, *Director of Children & Family Ministry*

*For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "this is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." 1 Corinthians 11:23-24*

The season of Lent is upon us, and so are our First Communion classes! At St. Philip's, we understand that children vary in their readiness for communion, so we don't have a specific age that we require children to be, but we do encourage they participate in the classes by grade 6.

"How do I know when my child is ready?" Parents are encouraged to consider the following about their child's readiness:

- Is your child asking questions about Holy Communion?
- Is there a verbal desire being expressed to receive communion?
- Does your child participate in the worship service? For example: sings along in worship, says the Lord's Prayer, and Apostles Creed.
- Does your child talk about feeling left out when other family members commune?
- Does your child understand being wrong and being forgiven?

First Communion classes will be held on Wednesday, March 27, April 3, and April 10. Parents/guardians attend the classes with their children. We will gather at 6:00 pm, grab dinner, and head to the Lounge to eat while we learn. Children who participate in the classes will receive their First Communion at our Maundy Thursday Worship on Thursday, April 18 at 7:00 pm. I cannot wait to go on this Faith journey with these kiddos.

### March 2019

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

6 – Ash Wednesday - Lenten Worship at 7:00 pm

***Dinner: Minestrone Soup***

10 – Service Sunday – Experiencing Lent

13 – Lenten Worship at 7:00 pm

***Dinner: Sloppy Joes***

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

20 – Lenten Worship at 7:00 pm

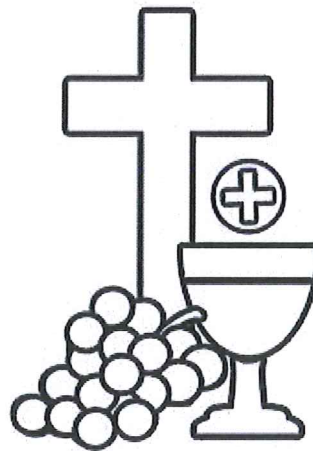
***Dinner: Scalloped Potatoes and Ham***

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

27 – First Communion Class #1 (6:00 pm to 6:55 pm - Lounge) Lenten Worship at 7:00 pm

***Dinner: Meaty Chili***

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



# JOY & THANKS

## Congregation Camp at Wilderness Canoe Base

Tory Pluchek, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry

I remember waking up with excitement and climbing down the bunk bed to find my sister. Then turning to the bed next to us and urging our parents to get up and out of bed! We would venture outside to the tall trees surrounding us and dirt paths leading us onto our next adventure. We would hike and climb, try our hand at archery, and play games. We would sing silly songs and learn how God created this picture-perfect world. Each year at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp's Family Camp, my world was opened.

I can't tell you how many times I have had a crying kid sitting in my car as we drive up the mountain, mourning the idea of leaving their family and friends for a week to be "in nature". They were nervous to not know anyone and couldn't bear the thought of being outside so much and talking about Jesus All. The. Time. I can tell you that driving down the mountain, every single one of those kids was sad for a new reason - to leave Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp. They spent a week exploring God's creation, making friends from all over the country, and yes - talking a lot about Jesus and how we are called to be His disciples, sharing His love and grace with others. Camp changed them.

There's nothing quite like camp. I believe it to be one of the best ministries we offer - empowering individuals to step outside of their comfort zone and deepen their relationship and understanding of God. I also know that outdoor ministry isn't reserved just for our youth and children. Outdoor ministry has the power to change your life and your faith at any age. It has the power to continually change you each time you experience it.

This summer we are excited to offer a camp opportunity for all ages. Yes, I really do mean all ages! Join us Thursday, August 1 - Sunday, August 4, at Wilderness Canoe Base. All are encouraged to join us for a weekend of retreat, renewal, adventure, and exploration. Singles, couples, families, and groups. Our time at camp will be what we make of it. Each night we will gather together and create our schedule for the next day. From canoeing to hiking, crafting to creating, and relaxing to learning.

"Come to Wilderness Canoe Base and let the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness rejuvenate your soul. Our goal is for every person who visits Wilderness Canoe Base to realize that they are strong, loved, and welcome. We know that a retreat to wild places can help open our hearts to this reality. From the lakes to the trees, streams, and community, your time at Wilderness Canoe Base will leave you amazed at God's marvelous creation and inspired after a Christ-centered wilderness experience." - WCB

Cost for camp is as follows:

Children (ages 3 - 11): \$137

Youth (ages 12 - 17): \$197

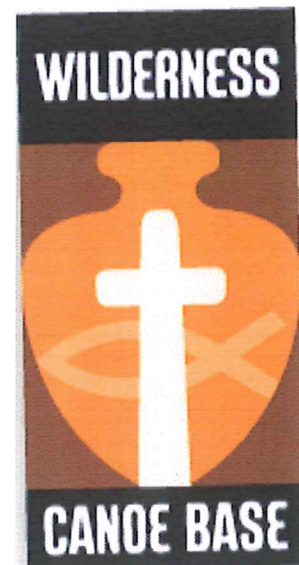
Adult (ages 18+): \$227

Household Maximum: \$750

\*\*\$50 deposit required per person

\*\*\*Scholarships are available!

Connect with Tory to find out how to make this experience affordable for all.



## Isolations and Connections

Val Sperry, President



The snow totals started slowly in 2019, but we sure made up for it starting in February. For the first part of the month we couldn't seem to go more than a day or two without a good size snowfall. It's lovely to watch if you're gazing through a big picture window. It doesn't look as picturesque from inside a car during rush hour traffic though.

Our recent back to back storms and deeply cold weather have been challenging. Repeated school and business closings and too many instances of scary road and driving conditions. Not enough resources to help those in need as they struggle to stay warm, safe, and properly nourished. The weather and conditions have caused even more isolation than a typical winter. We hunkered down and weathered the storms, only popping out during the good patches and then heading back into hibernation. Our cozy blankets and options to binge watch drew us inside, making it so easy to become isolated from each other and the world outside our doors.

*In Hebrews 10:24 - 25, it says, "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching."*

Snow and cold can cause isolation, but there are many other things that keep people isolated. Economics, fear, anger, age, depression, health issues, and lack of connections. God wants us to find ways to connect with each other and the world beyond the mountains of snow. No matter the time of year, we are challenged to find ways to lend a helping hand to those in need. Find ways to spur each other on, move each other toward love and good deeds. What can we do from inside our cozy, warm homes, now and when the weather warms? Call a neighbor you haven't seen recently and check in. Sew some warm hats, blankets, or mittens and donate them to local charities or schools. Check your closets for clothing and equipment that could benefit the visitors to the St. Philip's Food & Clothing Shelf. When you buy gas, purchase a gas gift card and leave it in the church office. Write an email or letter to support a cause you believe in. Pray for each other. Then when the storms inevitably pass, we can gather together and connect again, face to face.

## Service Sunday!

Experiencing Lent

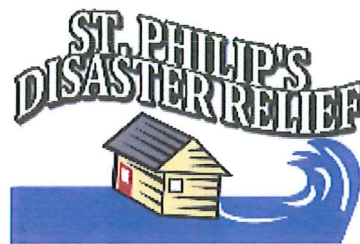
As we enter the season of Lent, we look for ways to prepare our hearts, our actions, and our minds. This service project is designed to do just that. Join us on Sunday, March 10 at 9:35 am in the Fellowship Hall, as we gather to assemble bags with various Lenten - themed elements and a reflection guide. The bags will be given to members of our Food & Clothing Shelf, as well as members and visitors of our congregation and church. We will say a prayer over the completed bags. All are welcome to join us for this meaningful event.



## SERVE & THANKS

### Dinner & Auction and Spring Trip

St. Philip's Disaster Relief Team



### Fundraiser Dinner & Auction

The SPDR annual lasagna dinner and silent auction fundraiser was held on Sunday, February 10 and was very successful. We are so grateful to all those that contributed to the success of this event. A huge thank you to:

- Pastor Deb Grant, of Dickinson, TX, who preached at worship, presented at the Adult Forum, and spoke at both dinner settings;
- the 50 SPDR team members that helped with the preparations for the auction and dinner in the weeks prior to the fundraiser, setup for the event on Saturday, served the meal on Sunday, and helped with all of the post-activities;
- the 200+ dinner guests who braved the snow to attend the dinner and then tipped generously;
- an anonymous St. Philip's couple that, once again, underwrote the cost of the dinner and,
- those who donated or bid on an auction item. Almost 500 bids were made on the 200+ auction items that were donated by SPDR team members, friends, family, and St. Philip's members. Note: Auction items donated or won will not show up on St. Philip's members' giving statements. Winners have all been notified.

### Spring Trip

The spring trip is scheduled for Saturday, April 27 – Sunday, May 5 to Galveston, TX to do rebuilding work from Hurricane Harvey in Galveston County. The team will once again be staying at the Zion Retreat Center and will be assigned jobs by the Galveston County Long Term Recovery Group.

Registration will begin Saturday, March 23 and end Sunday, March 31. There will be a \$75 lodging fee for this trip. Individuals are also responsible for the cost of meals and hotels while traveling to and from Galveston.

Watch for registration information in St. Philip's publications or contact Mike Anderson at [spdr@splcmn.org or 612-209-8529]. If you don't regularly receive the SPDR emails and would like to receive information about this trip and other activities, please send an email to [spdr@splcmn.org] to be added to the SPDR mailing list.

# The Journey Continues

## Meals on Wheels - Thank you!

"What is beautiful is a joy for all seasons and a possession for all eternity."  
- Oscar Wilde.

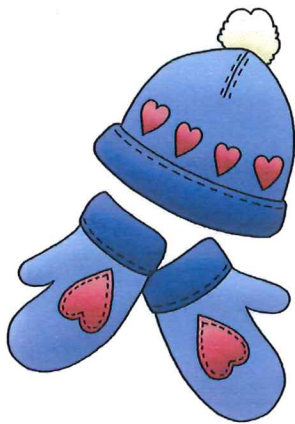
Thanks to those who added beauty to people's lives through delivering Meals on Wheels, January 21 - 25. They included Steve Ess, Ellen Raeker, Roger Musolf, Ann Westby, Bobbi and Roger Tuey, Monica Anderson, Lynette Thompson, and Thelma and Myron Nash. We will deliver meals again on March 25 - 29 at 11:30 am.



## Meals on Wheels in Need of New Drivers

Meals on Wheels needs new drivers to replace those who have "retired." We deliver meals at 11:00 or 11:30 am every 8 - 9 weeks. Meals are picked up at Unity Hospital in Fridley and delivered in the surrounding area. You are given detailed maps for delivery. Please call Beth at [763-537-9746] for more information. Thanks for being willing to be God's hands and feet!

## Mitten and Hat Makers



In 2018, we were able to help children and families keep warm by sewing and donating 475 items. Besides fleece hats and mittens, we have also filled requests for headbands and scarves.

A most sincere thank you to members involved in sewing these items. 2019 will be our 11th year.

Recipients this year were St. Philip's Benevolence Committee, (who delivered to Stevenson, North Park, Hayes, and Fridley Jr. High) St. Philip's Food & Clothing Shelf, Anoka County Foster Care, Bel Air Elementary, Fridley Alternative School, Fridley Early Childhood, Fridley Terrace, Park Terrace School, Valley View Elementary, and Stepping Stone.

Due to weather conditions, we have already delivered 161 items since January 1. We are in need of more people to sew. If interested, please call Arlene Hamernik, [763-571-6091] for material and patterns.

## Financials

St. Philip's 2018	Actual January	Actual YTD
Income	\$57,708.77	\$57,708.77
Expense	(\$68,948.21)	(\$68,948.21)
TOTALS	(\$11,239.44)	(\$11,239.44)

# JOY & THANKS



## Festival of Tables is Approaching!

The Festival of Tables is coming! The Parish Fellowship Committee is hosting the 11th Annual Festival of Tables on Saturday, April 6, from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm, in the Fellowship Hall. This beautiful event is a fundraiser for area food shelves. Lunch will be served, there will be door prizes, and the entertainment is a motivational speaker. Tickets are \$15 and will be sold on Sunday March 24 and March 31, in between services only in the Narthex. Tickets are transferrable but not refundable.

There is still some room left for you to decorate your own table. Table decorators have first choice of tickets before they go on sale. Guests are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item, which will go to St Philip's Food & Clothing Shelf. Additional funding provided by Thrivent. For more information or to sign up to decorate a table, please contact Julie Small [kjsmall74@msn.com or 763-767-2392]. Make plans now to attend. See you there!

## New Books Added to the Library in February!

St. Philip's Library has added some new books recently. Two of these are by a well-known and acclaimed fiction writer, one is a thrilling WWII memoir, and another - ripped from yesterday's headlines.

Barbara Kingsolver has written an unusual tale of two families who lived in the same house in Vineland, NJ, in two different centuries. *Unsheltered* follows the families who each live in their own precarious times. This is a story of courage and inspiration during a time of social change.

*Clock Dance* by Anne Tyler tells the story of Willa Drake, who can count on the fingers of one hand the defining moments of her life: There's her mother's disappearance, her unexpected marriage proposal, her young widowhood, and the phone call telling her that her son's ex-girlfriend has been shot.

The WWII memoir, *Out of the Depths*, is a thrilling true-life story of survival after a shipwreck, told by Edgar Harrell, USMC.

Pediatrician and author Mona Hanna-Attisha tells the story of being poisoned by lead water in Flint, MI. *What the Eyes Don't See* is a story of crisis, resistance, and hope in an American city.

Stop in at the library soon to pick up some exciting reading!

## Endowment Fund

Faith - based living includes Faith - based giving! Support the St. Philip's Endowment Fund!

\*\*\*\*\*

The Endowment Committee has \$11,118 of grant money available for 2019. Grant request forms are available in the church office, and should be returned to the office by Monday, April 15 for consideration by

The Endowment Committee.

\*\*\*\*\*

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



Clem & Eve Coverston on 3/23/1952 for 67 years  
Howard & Shirley Mosman on 3/26/1955 for 64 years  
Ralph & Kathryn Petersen on 3/11/1966 for 53 years  
Wes & Jeanine Grandstrand on 3/31/1973 for 46 years  
Dick & Joan Kruse on 3/22/1975 for 44 years



*The friends and family of:*

*David Richter*

*Lenna Johnson*

*Dick Lombard*

*Joyce Dahle*

## Lent

From *Bread For The Day*

Lent is a forty-day journey to Easter. Christians keep company with Noah and his family, who were in the ark for forty days; with the Hebrews, who journeyed through the desert for forty years; and with Moses, Elijah, and Jesus, who fasted for forty days before they embarked on the tasks God had prepared for them.

During Lent Christians journey with those who are making final preparations for baptism at Easter. Together, Christians struggle with the meaning of their baptismal promises: Do you reject evil? Do you believe in God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit? Do you believe in the church, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the dead?

The disciples of the Lord Jesus are called to contend against everything that leads them away from love of God and neighbor. Fasting, prayer, and works of love - the disciplines of Lent - help the household rejoice in the gifts of baptism: God's forgiveness and mercy.

## Table Prayer for the Season of Lent

From *Bread For The Day*

*Blessed are you, O God, giver of all.  
You adorn our tables with food  
and give companionship for our journeys.  
Be present with us as we are fed in body and spirit  
that our sharing this meal is a sign of your life  
broken and shared for the world.  
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

# SERVE

## Friendly Takeaway



Mornings are  
better  
when you talk to  
**God** first.

### 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

### Church Staff

**Pastor Matt Flom, Pastor**  
MattF@splcmn.org, ext. 112  
**Pastor Margie Guelker, Visitation Pastor**  
MargieG@splcmn.org  
**Jeannine Arcand, Office Manager**  
JeannineA@splcmn.org, ext. 104  
**Jenni Anderson, Publications & Membership Coordinator**  
JenniA@splcmn.org, ext. 101  
**Jerry Salitros, Bookkeeper**  
JerryS@splcmn.org, ext. 106  
**Tory Pluchek, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry**  
ToryP@splcmn.org, ext. 110  
**Connie Yerigan, Director of Children & Family Ministry**  
ConnieY@splcmn.org, ext. 107  
**Jeffrey Langevin, Music Coordinator**  
JeffreyL@splcmn.org, ext. 103  
**David Geslin, Organist**  
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

### Board of Administration

BOA@splcmn.org  
**Val Sperry, President**  
sperryvs@aol.com  
**LaRae Kazmierkoski, Vice-President**  
laraekaz@aol.com  
**Diane Campeau, Secretary**  
dccampeau46@gmail.com  
**Bryant Holmstrom, Treasurer**  
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**Karla Ackerman**  
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**Michelle Angerhofer**  
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**Barbara Cooper**  
cooperstory@msn.com  
**Judy Greer**  
jlgreer50@gmail.com  
**Andy Tjader**  
andrewtjader77@hotmail.com

**Missionaries: Jim & Carol Sack**  
**Companion Congregation:**  
Bille Lutheran in Nigeria  
**Ministers: All members of the Parish**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Education Hour 10:30 am Worship	4 12:30 pm Joy Circle 5:15 pm Chair Yoga 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 12:00 pm Ash Wednesday Worship 6:00 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal; Community Supper 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Worship; AA 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	7 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm Alanon; AA Mtg.	8	9
10 Daylight Savings Time Starts 8:00 am Envelope Project 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Education Hour - Service Sunday 10:30 am Worship	11 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries 2:00 pm Lynwood Bingo 5:15 pm Chair Yoga 6:15 pm Mat Yoga 6:30 pm Benevolence Committee Mtg. 7:00 pm Gam-anon; GA Mtg.	12 10:30 am Staff Mtg. 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 2:30 pm Heritage Group Mtg. 6:00 pm Worship Band Rehearsal 6:30 pm Parish Fellowship Mtg.	13 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 10:00 am EA Group; Women's Book Club 12:00 pm Lenten Worship 6:00 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal; Community Supper; Young Adult Lenten Mentoring 7:00 pm Lenten Worship; AA 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	14 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm Alanon; AA Mtg.	15	16
17 Happy St. Patrick's Day! 8:00 am Envelope Project 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Equal Exchange Coffee Sale 9:35 am Education Hour 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Stewardship Meeting	18 Friend Articles Due 9:30 am Glory Circle 5:15 pm Chair Yoga 6:15 pm Mat Yoga 7:00 pm Gam-anon; GA Mtg.	19 9:00 am 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 12:00 pm Lenten Worship 6:00 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal; Community Supper; Young Adult Lenten Mentoring 7:00 pm Lenten Worship; AA 7:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	21 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm Alanon; AA Mtg.	22	23
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31 8:30 am Worship 9:35 am Education Hour 10:30 am Worship						



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Place Label Here

**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).