



# The Friend

\*  **HAPPY** \*  
\*  **New** \*  
\*  **Year** \*  
\*  **2020** \*  
\*  \*

## JANUARY WORSHIP

### SCHEDULE:

January 5, 12, 19, and 26

9:00 am (Traditional)

10:30 am (Contemporary)

### January 2020

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# PRAYER & JOY

## Try Something New

Matt Flom, Pastor

*I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:19*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ Jesus,

Grace, love, and peace be to you from God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It's a new year and a time of new beginnings. I would like to invite you to try something new, but first let me give you an example.

This fall we brought back the requirement for our confirmation youth to complete worship notes and service hours. Our youth are so insightful that reading their worship notes is one of the highlights of my week. By seeing what they understand and don't; I can become a better preacher. We asked our students to do their service hours here at church. The reason for this is that confirmation (or affirmation of baptism) is about people claiming their baptismal faith and getting them ready to be disciples of Jesus in the church. We ask them to try several different types of service or volunteering at church so that they can learn what kinds of ministry they want to do as a confirmed member. We have youth who are serving communion, ushering, singing, operating the power point, and much more. If you're a ministry lead please continue to welcome these new members of your team and teach them the ropes. The youth have told me they really enjoy these new opportunities to help.

I think we can all learn a lesson from our youth. Trying something new is good for a person. I invite you to try something new at church. Volunteer to help with an area you have never done or haven't done in a long while. I promise you won't have to do it longer than you want to. See and experience your church from a new perspective, meet some new people, and have the joy of helping others get to know God better.



## Make Things New

Margie Guelker, Visitation Pastor

*"And the one seated on the throne said, 'See, I'm making all things new.'"*

At the beginning of 2020 we will greet one another with "Happy New Year!" And it will be our hope that the New Year will indeed be happy.

Jesus promises us that all things will be made new, but we wake on the first of January with our same old body and our same old ailments and our same old problems. Things pretty much remain the same, don't they?

So, how can things be made new? As you tumble out of bed and start your coffee on New Year's morning, take a little inventory to see how you might live into this New Year differently?

Your list of how to make things new doesn't have to be long or exhaustive, start with one thing. Is there an elderly member who would enjoy a call or visit? Is there a child you could adopt for an hour or two and read to them? Is there someone who could use your prayers, not just once, but every day until it becomes a habit to pray for them?

Or maybe you might take on a challenge to "de-clutter" and give away things you no longer need. And I'm not just talking physical things, but attitudes or prejudices. Open your hearts and let God's light shine in you and through you! Happy New Year!



## THANKS & PRAYER

### New Year, Full of Hope

Connie Yerigan, *Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries*

*May he grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans. Psalm 20:4*

Happy New Year to you! I feel like I just got used to writing 2019 on things and now we are on to 2020. But time sure does fly when you are having fun, and goodness did we have fun last year! I like to take time in the new year to reflect on the past year, and instead of setting strict resolutions, I like to hear the dreams and desires of my heart - my hopes.

2019 brought many changes for the Children, Youth & Family Ministry program. First, we combined our children and youth programs together, creating one strong program and I love this change! It is a true honor to be able to walk with families in their child's faith journey from birth through the completion of high school. We also started using a few new curriculums for our youth which are working out very well.

Along with some changes, we kept a few things the same. Our youth put on another amazing holiday market, creating items to sell as well as collecting donations. They did a great job raising money for their Mission Trip this summer. Our littlest members put on another adorable Christmas Pageant. They filled the Sanctuary with songs, smiles, laughter, and most importantly, they told us the greatest story of all, the birth of sweet baby Jesus.

The desire in my heart for this new year is that each child continues to feel loved, important, special, and that they are truly a part of our big St. Philip's family. I continue to hope that our volunteers know they are the true heart and soul of our church community, and that without them none of these journeys would be possible.

My wish this new year for you is that you take time to reflect on the past year and find time to hear your heart's desire. I wish you many blessings and a New Year filled with Hope!

### January 2020

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 – No Middle School, High School or Children's Ministry<br>Dinner: Sloppy Joes                  | 19 – Youth Time (9:35 am – 10:20 am)<br>S.P.A.R.K. of Faith (3 years - Grade 5)     |
| 5 – Youth Time (9:35 am – 10:20 am)<br>S.P.A.R.K. of Faith (3 years - Grade 5)                   | 22 – Children's, Middle, and High School Ministry Night<br>Dinner: Baked Potato Bar |
| 8 – Children's, Middle, and High School Ministry Night<br>Dinner: Pork Chop Dinner               | 26 – Youth Time (9:35 – 10:20 am)<br>S.P.A.R.K. of Faith (3 years - Grade 5)        |
| 12 – Youth Time (9:35 – 10:20 am)<br>S.P.A.R.K. of Faith (3 years - Grade 5)                     | 29 – Middle School & High School Ministry<br>No Children's Ministry Night           |
| 15 – Middle School & High School Ministry<br>No Children's Ministry Night<br>Dinner: Meaty Chili | Dinner: Grilled Cheese & Tomato Soup  |

# Welcome to a New Year!

# PRAYER & JOY

## A Star in the Sky

Val Sperry, President

*"When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route." Matthew 2:10-12*

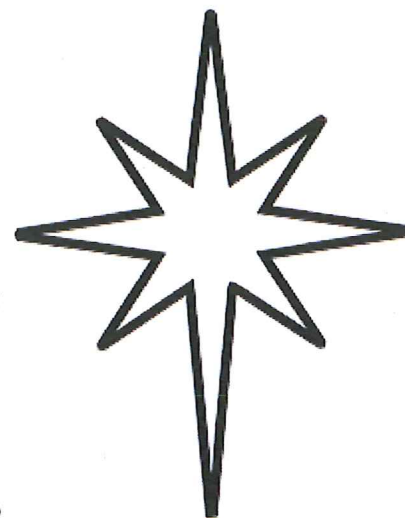
Living in the suburbs, illuminated with an abundance of bright lights, we don't often witness an inky black night. The kind lit only by a bright star-filled sky, not high-powered LED street lights and streams of headlights. But most of us have ventured outstate at some point, to where the lights are few and far between. We've witnessed nights lit only by the twinkling stars in the sky.

There is something so peaceful and awe inspiring about that solid darkness, lit only from the sky above. I imagine that is the kind of sky the Magi experienced. Nightly darkness lit only by the distant stars and moon. Until one wonderful night when they witnessed the rise of a new, bright star in the sky. A new star leading them to the newborn king. I imagine that star shone for them like a spotlight in the sky, leading them to Bethlehem. What great faith it was that led them to follow that star. To follow it cross-country to Jesus. For them to then bow down and worship him, and give him gifts worthy of a king. We all need that star to shine in our lives, to lead us again and again to Jesus and a life-giving relationship with Him.

As we enter the season of Epiphany, we celebrate the revelation of Christ to all nations, represented by the Magi, who came to worship Jesus so long ago.

So next time you check out a nativity set, look at those three kings in a new way. Remember the great faith they had that led them to follow that bright new star to Jesus. And that we too can follow the light that leads us to Him.

Joy and peace to you as we celebrate the news of the newborn king being shared with all the world. Amen



## Board of Administration Highlights



- Preparations for the February Annual Meeting are moving forward
  - Budget for 2020 is being developed
  - Nominating Committee is making contacts for open positions
- Hopeful for strong giving thru the end of December to meet our budgeted income for 2019
- Push Pay – Customized Mobile App for giving and communication and will be available early in 2020
- A policy clarifying terms including Restricted, Budgeted and Designated Funds is being drafted



## THANKS & SERVICE

### Trips, Updates, and Fundraiser

St. Philip's Disaster Relief Team



#### Morton, MN Rebuild Trip

A late November request from Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota resulted in a two-day rebuilding trip to Morton, MN in early December. We were asked to help a young family recover from flooding after heavy rains and a blocked culvert in July resulted in over two feet of water in the home they had purchased only 60 hours prior. The family of five could no longer afford rent for an apartment and the home mortgage, so they had moved back into their unfinished home six days before the SPDR team arrived.

Nine team members worked on Friday installing drywall; taping, mudding, and sanding; and installing doors and jambs. On Saturday, seven team members completed the drywall installation and the door and jambs installation. They also started the laminate flooring installation and working until 6:00 pm, were able to complete the dining room, kitchen, bathroom, and two entryways. Thank you to Mike Carroll, Matt Johnson, Renee Johnson, Dave Landrus, Dick Lekang, Spence Minear, Greg Rosholt, Tim Solberg, Mark Swenson, Jordan Young, and Richard Young for sharing your time and skills to help this family. There is still much work to be done. A trip next month for another SPDR team is a possibility.

#### Hurricane Harvey Update

With over 750 hours of labor by SPDR in October and November and through the continued efforts of volunteers and the staff of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas, the Olvera home was completed, enabling the family to move back in prior to Christmas as planned. A heartfelt thank you to all that made that possible.

#### Annual Fundraiser - 2020

Looking ahead, the annual SPDR Lasagna Dinner and Silent Auction will be held on Sunday, February 16, 2020. Tickets for the dinner will be on sale in the Narthex prior to worship services on January 12, 19, and 26. Please mark your calendars.

# The Journey Continues

# THANKS

## Meals on Wheels - Thank you!

The week of December 2 – 6, a little love through food was shared with some grateful people. Thank you to our St. Philip's Meals on Wheels volunteers – Ann Westby, Roger and Roberta Tuey, Monica Anderson, and Myron and Thelma Nash. We will deliver meals again February 3 – 7, 2020.



## Thank You from the Benevolence Committee!

- \* We were able to provide 74 people and/or families, Thanksgiving baskets requested through the St. Philip's Food & Clothing Shelf and Fridley High School. Many families in our community received help during the holidays with food and a gift card for CUB.
- \* We had a great response to the poinsettia sale. We delivered 48 plants and 19 have been purchased for the Sanctuary for Christmas services. From the proceeds, the Benevolence Committee will serve community dinner to parents and students to promote attendance at the Fridley Middle School conferences.
- \* The Christmas Giving Trees were a resounding success. The Kinshoppe event on Saturday, December 8, had a great attendance of 100 Kinship children who shopped for gifts for siblings, caregivers, mentors, and parents. Our congregation helped at the gift table for adults. Elves from our youth helped the children shop and volunteers helped them wrap their gifts. They also had a craft area, free books, and an area to write thank you notes and treats. We received very grateful thank you notes from the children and adults.
- \* Sheridan Story is an opportunity throughout the entire school year where volunteers from St. Philip's fill backpacks with food for the weekend for students at North Park Elementary. The Benevolence Committee appreciates all who volunteer each Friday. We are always looking for more volunteers.

God has richly blessed St. Philip's and it is a blessing to participate in sharing and helping others through community outreach.

## Financials

St. Philip's 2019	Actual November	Actual YTD
Income	\$49,090.93	\$603,629.27
Expense	(\$50,975.53)	(\$609,578.51)
TOTALS	(\$1,884.60)	(\$5,949.24)



## January

Kermit & Frances Hollen on 1/30/1960 for 60 years

Ronald & Marlene Hirth on 1/28/1961 for 59 years

John & Josephine Riley on 1/5/1961 for 59 years

Richard & Laurel Harris on 1/27/1962 for 58 years

Roger & Sandra Goman on 1/26/1963 for 57 years

Susan & David Nelson on 1/1/1982 for 38 years

Steven & Gail Olson on 1/16/1991 for 29 years

Victoria & Kitah Emmanuel on 1/1/1993 for 27 years

Dennis & DeeAnn Gritti on 1/15/2000 for 20 years

Dane & Dena Froiland on 1/10/2004 for 16 years



## Are You Up to the Challenge?

*Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." Genesis 1:26*

As we make our resolutions for the New Year, please consider the ways in which we treat the earth upon which God has put us.

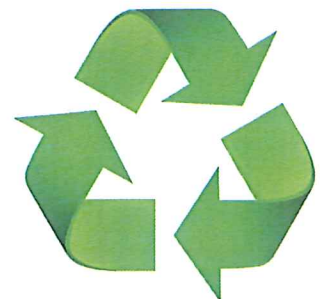
### **Consider:**

- One million plastic beverage bottles are bought every minute around the world. Yet recycling rates remain low. *National Geographic* December, 2019
- One billion toothbrushes will be discarded in the U.S. this year. There are biodegradable alternatives, but plastic toothbrushes prevail. *National Geographic* December, 2019
- More than five trillion pieces of plastic already fill the seas, with some 9 million tons added each year. *National Geographic* September, 2019

These are only a couple of the plastic products we use and throw away every day. Many are not recyclable at all. What are we as a church doing? What are we as individuals doing? How can we influence corporations?

We invite you to read:

- "What the Tide Brings In." *National Geographic* September, 2019
- "Our Addiction to Plastic." *National Geographic* December 2019
- *How to Give up Plastic* by Will McCallum (available in our Library)





# SERVE

## Friendly Takeaway

### May The Road Rise Up To Meet You

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face;

The rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again,

May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

- Traditional Gaelic Blessing

### St. Philip's Lutheran Church

A member of the ELCA

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### Worship Schedule

9:00 am Traditional

10:30 am Contemporary

### Church Staff

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**Adam Miller, Sanctuary Choir Director**

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**Dawn Hansen, Bells of Praise Volunteer Handbell Director**

**Chris Porter, Utility Musician**

**Katie Swenstad, Facility Coordinator**

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**Michelle Hill, Part-Time Custodian**

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**Missionaries: Jim & Carol Sack**

**Companion Congregation:**

**Bille Lutheran in Nigeria**



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 <b>Happy New Year!</b> 10:00 am EA Group 6:00 pm Community Supper 7:00 pm AA Mtg.	2 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm Alanon; AA Mtg.	3	4 4:00 pm Worship Band Rehearsal
5 9:00 am Worship 9:35 am Youth Time 10:30 am Worship; SPARK concurrent w/ worship	6 1:00 pm Joy Circle Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm Gam-anon; GA Mtg.	7 10:00 am Staff Mtg. 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	8 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 10:00 am Women's Book club; EA Group 6:00 pm Community Supper 6:30 pm Children's, High School and Middle School Ministry Night 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal; AA Mtg.	9 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 3:00 pm Endowment Meeting 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm Alanon; AA Mtg.	10	11
12 8:30 am SPDR Dinner Ticket Sales 9:00 am Worship 9:35 am Youth Time 10:00 am SPDR Dinner Ticket Sales 10:30 am Worship; SPARK concurrent w/ worship	13 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries 2:00 pm Lynwood Bingo 6:00 pm Benevolence Committee Mtg. 7:00 pm Gam-anon; GA Mtg.	14 10:00 am Staff Mtg. 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 2:30 pm Heritage Group Meeting 6:30 pm Parish Fellowship Committee Mtg. 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	15 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 9:00 am Quilters 10:00 am EA Group 6:00 pm Community Supper 6:30 pm High School and Middle School Ministry Night 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal; AA Mtg.	16 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm Alanon; AA Mtg.	17	18
19 8:30 am SPDR Dinner Ticket Sales 9:00 am Worship 9:35 am Youth Time 10:00 am SPDR Dinner Ticket Sales 10:30 am Worship; SPARK concurrent w/ worship 11:35 am Mission Trip Meeting	20 <b>Friend Articles Due</b> 9:30 am Glory Circle 6:00 pm Executive Meeting 7:00 pm Gam-anon; GA Mtg.	21 9:00 am Library Group Meeting 10:00 am Staff Mtg. 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm Property & Grounds Mtg.; Stewardship Cohort Meeting 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	22 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 10:00 am EA Group 6:00 pm Community Supper; Bells of Praise Rehearsal 6:30 pm Children's, High School and Middle School Ministry Night 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal; AA Mtg.	23 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm Alanon; AA Mtg.	24	25
26 8:30 am SPDR Dinner Ticket Sales 9:00 am Worship 9:35 am Youth Time 10:00 am SPDR Dinner Ticket Sales; Budget Forum 10:30 am Worship; SPARK concurrent w/ worship 11:30 am Budget Forum	27 1:30 pm Knitters & Crocheters 6:30 pm Board of Administration Mtg. 7:00 pm Gam-anon; GA Mtg.	28 <b>Assemble The Friend</b> 10:00 am Staff Mtg. 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:00 pm Global Health Ministries 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	29 8:30 am WOW & Men's Work Crew 9:00 am Quilters 10:00 am EA Group 6:00 pm Community Supper; Bells of Praise Rehearsal 6:30 pm High School and Middle School Ministry Night 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal; AA Mtg.	30 7:00 pm Recovery International 7:30 pm Alanon; AA Mtg.	31	



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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).