



# The Friend



## June

### June 2020

#### In this issue:

June Welcome	1
Pastor Matt's Column	2
Pastor Margie's Column	3
Children, Youth & Family	4
President's Column	5
BOA Highlights	5
Worship and Ministries	5
Update from Tokyo	6
A Plea for Help - LCCN Bille	7
Endowment Committee	8
Financial Giving Options	9
Financials	9
E-News	9
Life Events	9
Thank You	9
Anniversaries	10
Friendly Takeaway	11
Contact Info	11
Mission & Vision	12

All articles submitted were received by Monday, May 18. Present and future events are subject to change based on the recommendations and requirements of government officials.

# PRAYER

## Go Outside

Matt Flom, Pastor

*O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger. When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Psalm 8:1-4*

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. As we move from spring to summer, I encourage you to take some of your prayer time each week and go outside to read scripture and pray. It has been a rough spring for so many, and many people feel that God seems far away. God has never left us, however, even in the most uncertain times. The evidence of this is all around us. Go outside and see. See the green grass, the budding flowers, and the beautiful trees. Go outside and listen. Listen to the birds, listen to the bugs, and listen to the breeze. Go outside and feel. Feel the cool of the morning, feel the warmth of the sun, and feel the wind on your face. God's blessing of creation is all around us. Even in hard times, we have so much to give thanks for and reasons to give God glory. Go outside and glory in God's beautiful creation. Stay safe and stay well in the arms of our loving God.



### Hearing the Good News

Margie Guelker, Visitation Pastor

Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he told the disciples that he would send an Advocate, the Holy Spirit, to be with them. He would not leave them alone.

And so they waited. And then the unimaginable happened. The room where they were waiting was filled with a great wind and tongues of fire appeared over the heads of each person there. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and left the Upper Room and went into the streets of Jerusalem where they began to preach in the languages of the people who were there telling them the good news of Jesus Christ.

Jesus and the Holy Spirit were doing a new thing through the disciples. The church was born and it was not the church they thought it would be.

Church is being reborn for us in this time of the great pandemic as well. We cannot do business as usual, but people are hearing the gospel in new ways. More people are hearing the good news than ever before through innovation and media.

We cannot meet face to face, but we can still reach out to one another. We hear many stories on the news of how people are touching the lives of those who cannot get out of their homes. This is Christ at work in you and through you.

I miss being able to visit people and only about half of the people I visit have access to phones in their facilities. Those I can reach by phone welcome my calls and we visit and pray together. Some of these people have balconies in their apartments and are able to at least get some fresh air. One woman shared that when her family comes they stand under her second floor balcony to visit and that someone comes and plays music for the residents.

One thing is very clear at this time. Church will never be the same again, even when this is all over. The Holy Spirit has been let loose in the world and her wind and fire are blowing into all the corners of the earth. We are being made new.





# JOY & PRAYER

## Strength

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

*Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand. Isaiah 41:10*

Strength. We all have it, even if we don't think we do. Sometimes some of us spend hours praying for it. Maybe you are praying for a little more strength right now as you put one foot in front of the other and take things one day at a time. Maybe you are praying for a little more strength right now as you are forced to keep your distance from a loved one. Maybe you are praying and begging God for just a little more strength to hold back the tears that you want to let fall for the things your child is missing right now; their friends, sports, prom, graduation, and maybe even their wedding.

God hears you. He is with you. He is your strength through all of this.

I have always loved the famous 'Footprints in the Sand' poem. Each time I read it, no matter what I may be going through in that moment; I imagine I am the one walking in the sand. I imagine that even though things right in that moment are tough, God is there to give me strength. "When you saw only one set of footprints in the sand, it was then that I carried you." To imagine that for a moment is amazing.

Even though things right now are tough and uncertain, I pray you know that God is with you. I pray that you feel His arms around you, and I pray that when things are tough, you look at the sand and see only one set of footprints.

Prayers for good health and safety. I miss you all.



### Blessings

LaRae Kazmierkoski, President

Here we are, heading into summer, which is usually a wonderfully busy time of the year. It may be different this year. Many events and gatherings to which we normally look forward will not happen this summer, and while that is somewhat sad, we will get over it! As a congregation, we have done well in continuing our giving, being involved in our livestream services, and enjoying a wonderful drive in service. It would be great to be able to worship in our Sanctuary, and that may come soon, although that, too, will be different. Things change, and we will keep up with the changes, whether they be difficult or easy. We have been blessed by the great leadership of Pastor Matt, and he has led us into the world of technology, which will be attractive to many! The Board continues to work to keep our financial position as favorable as possible. There will be challenges ahead, but together, I believe we will see them through.

### Board of Administration Highlights



- Mother's Day Drive-in service was well received; thank you to the many people involved in its success
- Attendance at livestream services is high with over 450 views at the 9:00 am service and 320 at the 10:30 am service, including persons from other parts of the world
- April finances were good; St. Philip's has received a Payroll Protection Program loan (through Small Business Administration) that will cover payroll, benefits, and facility expenses; at the end of 80 days and with documentation of how the monies were used, this loan will turn into a grant requiring no repayment
- Community Supper and Food & Clothing Shelf have reopened with multiple safety measures in place and are experiencing increased participation

### Worship and Ministries

#### Livestream on Facebook Live

*Sunday Worship*: 9:00 am (Traditional) and 10:30 am (Contemporary)

*Tuesdays*: Tuesdays Together at 1:00 pm and Prayer Group at 6:30 pm

*Wednesdays*: Adult Catechism at 4:00 pm

#### Ministries Reopened

*Wednesdays*: Community Supper (Curbside Pickup from Door 11) from 5:30 - 6:30 pm and Food & Clothing Shelf (Curbside Pickup from Door 2) 5:00 - 7:00 pm

*Fridays*: Food & Clothing Shelf (Curbside Pickup from Door 2) 10:00 am - 12:00 pm



# PRAYER & THANKS

## Update from Tokyo

Jim and Carol Sack

*'May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:7*

Dear Partners in Christ:

We are currently in situation that none of us has ever experienced – the Coronavirus. This has of course affected every single one of us, no matter where we live. After one month of “lockdown” in Japan, there seems to be a slowing down of the virus here. The Japanese have mostly been very cooperative with this request. Of course, the number of victims in Japan is nothing like it is in the US. We have had just over 15,000 people diagnosed with the virus and a death toll of a little over 500. The government has just now decided we should continue the plan to “stay home” through the month of May. The streets of Tokyo are definitely less used. In many places of Japan up to 80 – 90% of the normal traffic has been reduced.

The ELCA, Global Missions asked all missionaries worldwide to return to the States in mid-March. In our case we asked for and received permission to stay in place here in Tokyo. Jim had just received double knee replacements on March 4 and was hospitalized when the request came. Since that time, he has been doing rehabilitation, medicine management, and visits with the doctor. Thankfully his recovery is proceeding nicely and he is well on his way back to normal walking.

Global Missions has also cancelled the Summer Missionary Retreat for missionaries and all home leave visitations of churches for 2020. We were scheduled to be in the States this summer and we always look forward to visiting with a number of our sponsoring congregations through the summer. These visits have been such a wonderful encouragement to us and an opportunity to meet our sponsoring church members face to face. Therefore, we are saddened not to be able to do that this year, but can fully understand the reasoning for these cancellations.

In place of being with many of you this year, we offer up prayers on your behalf. We pray that you will have protection from Covid -19. If anyone has been infected with the virus we ask for quick healing, and if there have been any deaths of people you know, we ask for God's mercy and consolation over their loved ones. We have found that through this difficult experience, God has given us the chance to reconsider what things are most important in our lives. We have also gained a new appreciation for others who continue to work on our behalf, even during this pandemic. We are thankful for all those who are medical workers, cashiers, cleaning people, those who dispose of our garbage, postal workers, delivery people, etc.

Most of the Lutheran churches in Japan are not meeting for Sunday services and are either having live broadcasts of the service via the internet or the pastor is sending out the sermon ahead of time by mail/email and the members are reading them and having their own personal worship at home. After having participated in a number of weeks of live online worship services, we are appreciating the importance and joy that comes by weekly gathering as a community. At the same time, with this situation of having online services a number of member who cannot come to church because of age or disability have been able to participate via the broadcasts, and for that we give thanks.

The academic year started on April 1, but the college and seminary have cancelled all classes for over a month and next week we will begin having online classes via Zoom until we are able to gather together again. This way of doing education will be challenging and no doubt will present us with some obstacles to overcome.

At this time, we ask God to watch over us all, to keep us healthy and protected during these trying days. Even as we face major issues, we look to the Lord to supply us with the courage, hope, and joy to continue living in faith.



### A Plea for Help

LCCN Bille

By Friday, April 24, the government is most likely to announce a national lockdown. Note: It did. This is extremely difficult because an estimated 60% or more struggle daily for their livelihoods and they cannot afford a 14-day lockdown. Hunger and COVID-19 lockdown cannot go together. We can see already that crime will increase and people have to eat to stay indoors. Already the Bishop of Abuja, where the lockdown has been more intense tells us that people are now caught between COVID-19 and hunger. Many have no choice but to go out against the restrictions for their survival.

While this is a clear Macedonian call for help (Acts 16:4-10), it should also be noted that the LCCN is far from helpless in the fight against the coronavirus. Archbishop Filibus and the bishops of the nine dioceses in the LCCN are seen as credible leaders in their communities. Filibus has posted public service announcements to explain and demystify how coronavirus works, and government officials have asked to broadcast his videos on television. LCCN will also launch an appeal to receive donations in anticipation of worsening hunger conditions in the coming weeks and months.

But our siblings in Christ have asked for help. The Minneapolis Area Synod Council is responding to Archbishop Filibus' request by sending \$35,000 from the synod's Resurrection Fund to provide financial support for food assistance. This amount comes out of the "tithe" portion of the Resurrection Fund that is designated to support ministries outside of the boundaries of our synod. This is a tangible and timely action to live out the mantra we've been hearing about the coronavirus battle - that "we are all in this together."

Anyone interested in contributing additional funds to this LCCN hunger relief effort may send a check to the Minneapolis Area Synod and designate it to "LCCN COVID - 19 Relief."

Meanwhile, we continue to reach out to the churches of our synod to listen, encourage, and respond to ministry needs and opportunities as we are able. We are in this together, in the unity of the Resurrected Christ who brings light and new life in dark and difficult places.

## Endowment Committee

### The St. Philip's Endowment Fund

*"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above." James 1:17*

#### 2020 Endowment Grants

This year we had \$11,419 to disperse.

**St. Philip's Food & Clothing Shelf: \$1,500**

(Sustain increasing monthly distributions)

**Property & Grounds: \$3,000**

(Replace 15 year old boiler motor)

**Board of Administration: \$6,859**

(One month of facility's expenses)

**St Philip's Library: \$60**

(Standing grant)



#### *Legacy Circle Gift:*

*Margaret "Mickey" Severson*

#### *Memorials and Gifts:*

*Clem Coverston*

*Vern Johnson*

*Roxanne Kavalosky*

Thank you to all who support the Endowment Fund!

Ron Ackerman, Judith Bergeland, Edd Brooks, Josh Glood, Jeanine Grandstrand,  
Jim Kugler, Dick Lekang, and Dawn Young



## THANKS & PRAYER

### Financial Giving Options

St. Philip's now offers three ways to electronically give! The first option can be accessed through our new church App. At the bottom of the screen is a heart that says 'Give' If you click on that, you will be taken directly to our giving site. The second option is to text SPLCMNGIVE to 77977 from your smartphone and click on the link it sends back to you. The third option can be accessed on our website [[www.splcmn.org](http://www.splcmn.org)] Click on the blue 'Here' in the Online Giving paragraph. Note: If you do not have a mobile phone for code verification, you can click 'how does mobile sign in work' on the second screen and then continue as a guest.

All of these methods through PushPay are designed to be quick, secure, and easy to use. You are given the opportunity to make a one-time or recurring gift with a credit card or through your bank account. If you need help, please call Jeannine or Connie in the office to walk you through the steps. You can also continue to send your offering by mail if you prefer. Thank you for your support!

### Financials

St. Philip's 2020	Actual April	Actual YTD
Income	\$70,404.50	\$259,568.25
Expense	(\$51,848.67)	(\$223,498.57)
TOTALS	\$18,555.83	\$36,069.68

### Coming Soon: A New Look to the E-News

We are excited to announce an enhancement of the E-News to complement our other communication platforms. Instead of the E-News solely displaying the announcements, it will now, similarly to our new app and website, provide a way to stay informed with varying aspects of St. Philip's. With just a click of a mouse, the E-News will allow you to still view the announcements but also include direct links to: Facebook Live events, our new app, ministry news, giving options, prayer requests, our website, The Friend, and so much more! We are hoping to have this ready for you Friday, June 5. Please continue to send your announcement requests to Jenni and if you have any questions, please contact Jenni at [[jennia@splcmn.org](mailto:jennia@splcmn.org)].



*The friends and family of:*

*Lillian Meyer*

## Thank You

Thank you to everyone who sent cards and greetings after my recent fall and my birthday! You all helped make every day fun to get the mail and your care and concern are heartwarming! Thank you, Nelda Berry

# JOY & PRAYER



## June

Robert & Marlene Eidem on 6/29/1952 for 68 Years

Don & Anne Gilbertson on 6/10/1955 for 65 Years

Ron & Mary Seekamp on 6/16/1956 for 64 Years

Ed & Arlene Hamernik on 6/20/1959 for 61 Years

Robert & Delores Masuda on 6/5/1959 for 61 Years

Gary & Myrna Erickson on 6/25/1961 for 59 Years

Jerry & Gayle Mattison on 6/9/1961 for 59 Years

Ronald & Mary Mattson on 6/29/1963 for 57 Years

Stanley & Janet Yocum on 6/22/1963 for 57 Years

Harold & Grace Kurtz on 6/16/1963 for 57 Years

Leroy & Kathleen Venne on 6/1/1963 for 57 Years

Bob & Pat Wharton on 6/21/1964 for 56 Years

Neal & Cathy Anderson on 6/12/1965 for 55 Years

Mark & Eva Jeppson on 6/24/1966 for 54 Years

Gary & Deanna Blomster on 6/24/1967 for 53 Years

Arlen & Judy Olson on 6/10/1967 for 53 Years

Marsden & Beverly Sperry on 6/10/1967 for 53 Years

Jim & Jan Kugler on 6/3/1967 for 53 Years

Roger & Jeri Hall on 6/15/1968 for 52 Years

Roger & Roberta Tuey on 6/15/1968 for 52 Years

William & JoAnn McCloskey on 6/20/1969 for 51 Years

Gerald & Carole Jensen on 6/14/1969 for 51 Years

LaRae & Alan Kazmierkoski on 6/24/1973 for 47 Years

David & Patricia Bretheim on 6/29/1974 for 46 Years

Tim & Cindy Solberg on 6/28/1975 for 45 Years

Howard & Kari Helgen on 6/21/1975 for 45 Years

Kathy & Darron Knutson on 6/8/1975 for 45 Years

Marty & Dawn Hansen on 6/9/1979 for 41 Years

Gregory & Susan Rosholt on 6/1/1979 for 41 Years

Gary & Kristin Johnson on 6/6/1981 for 39 Years

Lucinda & Jeffry Marshik on 6/5/1983 for 37 Years

Dan & Connie Bernardy on 6/22/1985 for 35 Years

Duane & Monica Anderson on 6/7/1986 for 34 Years

Jeff & Michelle Ellering on 6/18/1988 for 32 Years

Tony & Jane Kiminski on 6/3/1988 for 32 Years

John & Pam Schwint on 6/23/1990 for 30 Years

Scott & Lisa Rolfs on 6/22/1996 for 24 Years

Tom & Pam Warnke on 6/27/1998 for 22 Years

Denise & Chris Fowler on 6/5/1999 for 21 Years

Phil & Andrea Mitchel Nash on 6/8/2003 for 17 Years

Ken & Barbara Schultz Ohnstad on 6/26/2004 for 16 Years

Doug & Kathy Fransen on 6/30/2007 for 13 Years

Nikolaus & Tasha Browne on 6/13/2009 for 11 Years

Emily & Aaron Saase on 6/30/2012 for 8 Years

Tom & Chelsea Gasser on 6/2/2012 for 8 Years

Pete & Michelle Nash on 6/8/2013 for 7 Years

Bob Jacobson & Diane Haugen on 6/27/2015 for 5 Years

Sherri & Kirk Myhra on 6/19/2016 for 4 Years

# peace.

it does not mean to be in a place  
where there is no noise, trouble  
or hard work. it means to be in  
the midst of those things and still  
be calm in your heart.

### St. Philip's Lutheran Church

A member of the ELCA

[www.splcmn.org](http://www.splcmn.org) ~ [info@splcmn.org](mailto: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](mailto:MattF@splcmn.org), ext. 112

**Pastor Margie Guelker, Visitation Pastor**

[MargieG@splcmn.org](mailto:MargieG@splcmn.org)

**Jeannine Arcand, Office Manager**

[JeannineA@splcmn.org](mailto:JeannineA@splcmn.org), ext. 104

**Jenni Anderson, Publications & Membership Coordinator**

[JenniA@splcmn.org](mailto:JenniA@splcmn.org), ext. 101

**Jerry Salitros, Bookkeeper**

[JerryS@splcmn.org](mailto:JerryS@splcmn.org), ext. 106

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

[ConnieY@splcmn.org](mailto:ConnieY@splcmn.org), ext. 107

**Eric Nelson, Director of Adult Ministry**

[EricN@splcmn.org](mailto:EricN@splcmn.org), ext. 110

**David Geslin, Organist**

[DavidG@splcmn.org](mailto:DavidG@splcmn.org)

**Cheri Sykes, Worship Band Leader**

[CheriS@splcmn.org](mailto:CheriS@splcmn.org), ext. 103

**Adam Miller, Sanctuary Choir Director**

[AdamM@splcmn.org](mailto:AdamM@splcmn.org), ext. 103

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

**Chris Porter, Utility Musician**

**Katie Swenstad, Facility Coordinator**

[KatieS@splcmn.org](mailto:KatieS@splcmn.org), ext. 109

**Michelle Hill, Part-Time Custodian**

### Worship Schedule

9:00 am Traditional

10:30 am Contemporary

Currently streaming on Facebook Live,  
our website, and on our new App

### Board of Administration

[BOA@splcmn.org](mailto:BOA@splcmn.org)

**LaRae Kazmierkoski, President**

[laraekaz@aol.com](mailto:laraekaz@aol.com)

**Brian Munsterman, Vice-President**

[bmunsterman@comcast.net](mailto:bmunsterman@comcast.net)

**Diane Campeau, Secretary**

[dccampeau46@gmail.com](mailto:dccampeau46@gmail.com)

**Greg Rosholt, Treasurer**

[gsrosholt@comcast.net](mailto:gsrosholt@comcast.net)

**Mike Anderson**

[flooddog97@gmail.com](mailto:flooddog97@gmail.com)

**Michelle Angerhofer**

[mangerhofer@hotmail.com](mailto:mangerhofer@hotmail.com)

**Barbara Cooper**

[cooperstory@msn.com](mailto:cooperstory@msn.com)

**Danielle Nestrud**

[danielle87anderson@gmail.com](mailto:danielle87anderson@gmail.com)

**Andy Tjader**

[andrewtjader77@hotmail.com](mailto:andrewtjader77@hotmail.com)

**Renee Falkum-Youngberg**

[falkum23@gmail.com](mailto:falkum23@gmail.com)

**Missionaries: Jim & Carol Sack**

**Companion Congregation:**

**Bille Lutheran in Nigeria**

**Ministers: All members of the Parish**





6180 Highway 65 NE  
Fridley, MN 55432-5158

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUEST

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).