



# The Friend



## THANKSGIVING EVE

**Wednesday, November 25**

**5:30 pm - Curbside Community  
Supper Thanksgiving Meal**

**6:30 pm - Worship Service**

### November 2020

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# PRAYER

## What is Your Apple Tree?

Matt Flom, Pastor

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ Jesus,

What is your apple tree? We are still working our way through the COVID pandemic, cities have burned, and the nation is in an uproar. We are on the cusp of a history making election. People are anxious; people are worried. Martin Luther looked at the great calamities of his day and said, "Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I would still plant my apple tree." Everything may look hopeless, but God is not done with us yet and He expects us to carry on His mission in this world. Planting an apple tree is a great analogy for our mission. Planting a tree is an act of faith. Will it survive? Will it take hold? We can't control the weather and drought and wind can destroy any tree. Planting a tree is signing up for a lot of work. Trees need fertilizer, water, and pruning. They must be looked after to flourish well over a long time. Planting a tree is a gift to future generations. An apple tree will benefit the planter after a few years, but the best rewards will come to the following generations.

We have a choice. We can let fear and doubt consume us so that we only turn inward and grasp on to what we have and how things are as tightly as we can. Or, we can put our future into the hands of the living God in a radical act of trust and worship. What is your apple tree? In the midst of all the upheaval in this generation, what is God calling you to do as an act of public faith and service. What is St. Philip's apple tree? What public acts of faith and mission is God calling us to do? This time of great upheaval has created an opportunity for us to minister to a hurting community of people. God wants to use us to feed the hungry, clothe the cold, speak out for the downtrodden, and build His kingdom. In a time of hate, chaos, and fear God calls us to live and speak love and grace. It's time to roll up our sleeves, we have apple trees to plant.



## In God's Time

Margie Guelker, Visitation Pastor

*I will stand at my watch-post, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. Habakkuk 2:1-3*

Are you good at waiting? Most of us are not. I believe it is an acquired skill. Waiting can make us anxious and we can turn our trust away from the One who knows the answers to our prayers.

The companion of waiting, as we know, is worry. There is much to worry about right now. . . our health and health care, the state of the nation, the weather, family and friends that we cannot see as we once did, our livelihood and our sustenance.

Even though we know that God holds us in God's care, we wish He would let us in on the plans He has for us. We know the answers will come, they surely will, but in God's time, not in ours.

There is a cabin on the North Shore which I have visited many times in the last twenty years. My companions and I have a morning ritual. We light a fire and start the coffee and then we turn our chairs to face the direction the sun will rise. And we wait, usually in silence, for the first hints of light. Sometimes we are gifted with a glorious sunrise and sometimes the sky barely lightens. But, no matter what, the sun rises. We trust it is there. It does not depend on our seeing it.

In the same way, we trust that God is with us. God's presence does not depend on us, we depend on God. And so, we wait with hope, a sure and certain hope, in God's providence. And we pray.

Gracious God: Give us a calm heart in the midst of that which we cannot control. Hold us in peace. Give us wisdom and strength to endure any difficulties we are now suffering. Help us to trust in your goodness and love.

Amen.





# PRAYER & SERVE

## Family is Love

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

*Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.*

*1 Corinthians 13:4-7*

That is one of my favorite Bible verses. We had it read at our wedding, like so many people do. . .and to this day when I read it, it brings me back to that special day, when two families became one. For some, the true meaning of family means a group of people related by blood or ancestry. For others, like myself, it has nothing to do with genes and everything to do with love, compassion, and support.

When I became a member of this congregation 18 years ago, I was instantly welcomed into the St. Philip's family and I am forever grateful for that. Over the past four years, I have had the honor of expanding my St. Philip's family by leaps and bounds with our children and youth families. Walking this faith journey with them has been a blessing.

Since March, I have been recording and live streaming our worship services. I love seeing the comments come in each morning. A majority of the comments say something along the lines of, "Good morning St. Philip's family!". Not necessarily related by blood or ancestry, but we are called to be together through love, compassion, and support of one another. What we have is pretty amazing. We are family.



## Giving Thanks

LaRae Kazmierkoski, President

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. 1 Chronicles 16:34*

It is the time of year when we celebrate Thanksgiving, and all the things for which we are thankful. The year has gone quickly, which is probably a good thing, given all that is going on in the world! The end of the year is rapidly approaching, and it is always a busy time. Our stewardship campaign will soon begin, and that is a time to consider our blessings and search our hearts and decide what we can share with our church home. Giving is always on our minds at this time of the year, and we will be giving Thanksgiving baskets to those in need. In December, we share with those less fortunate with our Giving Trees. It is a time to thank God for all he has done for us and a time to share with others. It is a time of the year I really love, and it challenges me to do my best. So, as I ponder how fortunate I am to be able to share God's love with many of you, I send my best wishes for a wonderful Thanksgiving to all of you. Thank you for all you continue to do for St. Philips!

### Board of Administration Highlights



- Approved increase in hours for Eric Nelson as Interim Lay Associate to increase focus on adult education and new members until the part-time associate pastor position is filled
- Affirmed proposal to use Door 3 foyer for Food & Clothing Shelf distribution during cold weather
- Approved Facebook charity donations by members for the Food & Clothing Shelf
- Accepted financial report showing that St. Philip's continues to be financially strong thanks to the commitment of our members

### Coats for Kids

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Coats for Kids project. On Wednesday, October 21 we were able to supply the Early Childhood Center, Hayes Elementary, Stevenson Elementary, Fridley Middle School, and Fridley High School with 75+ coats. St. Philips is doing God's work!

### Food & Clothing Shelf

The Food & Clothing Shelf has continued to serve the needs of the hungry. We have been preparing for cool/cold weather and are making plans to gradually and safely make the move inside. The Board of Administration approved our use of the curbside entry Door 3 Foyer to use as a clothing area so people can shop inside for clothing while we continue our curbside food distribution. As it becomes too cold for comfortable curbside distribution we plan to move back inside in the Food & Clothing rooms. With the help of a grant from the Minnesota Department of Human Services Office of Economic Opportunity (MN DHS OEO) and Hunger Solutions Minnesota we will be able to have a monitor station and laptop computer at our normal entrance at Door 12 for visitor sign-in. We'll also have a monitor station with scale for weighing at the clothing room Door 11 (which will be used as an exit door). One person at a time will be allowed inside the food room to choose the foods they prefer and then will move through the clothing room where they'll shop if they wish and exit when done. One volunteer will staff the Food & Clothing room and will hand the visitor refrigerator and freezer items that they prefer. Once they exit another person will be allowed in. Three volunteers will make sure face masks and safe distancing rules are adhered to.

We have so many heartwarming visitor stories to share. Numerous homeless men have been gathering warm clothing and much needed easy open food. We've had visitors walk up with a wagon for curbside pick up. We've had visitors on bicycle. A woman drove up in a motorized wheel chair holding an umbrella to shield herself from a light rain. We loaded her chair full and she drove off with joy.

With the help of the generous donations from the congregation during COVID-19 and the amazing amount of free grant food from 2nd Harvest Heartland we are in a stable position to sustain this wonderful ministry to the needs of the community.



## PRAYER & THANKS

### “God’s Work. Our Hands”



**God’s work.  
Our hands.**

Like so many other things, “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday was different this year. It looked different without Fellowship Hall full of tables and supplies staged for several activities. It sounded different without the conversation and laughter as St. Philip’s members worked side-by-side and without the music and singing for the residents of The Landmark and White Pine care facilities. It even tasted and smelled different without the ice cream sundaes and a thousand bologna sandwiches.

Unable to gather as in the past meant “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday would have to go mobile. 55 kits were assembled for members to take home and work on. They were returned and the finished items were blessed during worship on Sunday, October 4. The end result was:

- 15 fleece blankets for those that visit the St. Philip’s Food & Clothing Shelf.
- Around 1,000 bandages for Global Health Ministries to be shipped to health clinics overseas.
- 30 diapers, also for Global Health Ministries, to be included in their Newborn Kits.
- Almost 100 hand decorated notecards – one for each resident of The Landmark and White Pine.
- 84 pairs of mittens for the St. Philip’s Mitten Makers to sew and then distribute to area schools.

Although it was different this year, some things remained the same. St. Philip’s members continue to love and serve their neighbors, whether they are right down the road or across the ocean, using their hands to do God’s work, whether that happens at St. Philip’s or in their homes. Thank you for that!

## Thanksgiving Baskets

The Benevolence Committee will be giving 75 Thanksgiving baskets to members of the community and food shelf clients. Given the times in which we are currently living, many of you may want to donate money and have us purchase items for the baskets, which is a great option. Any monetary donations should be designated to, “Thanksgiving Baskets.” For those who wish to purchase items and drop them at the church, we will need: Boxes of potatoes and stuffing, vegetables, fruit, large packages of Jell-O, pudding, or dessert mixes, peanut butter, cereal, macaroni & cheese, tuna, hearty soups, chili, or stew. Please bring any donations to the church no later than Wednesday, November 18.

## Giving Trees

Yes, it is almost that time of year! Our Christmas giving trees will be displayed starting Wednesday, November 25. We will be donating to two organizations this year. Hope4Youth and In Love, Word and Deed are organizations giving assistance to homeless men, and homeless teens. Gift lists will be published in the E-News and gifts maybe dropped off at church in the collection boxes under each tree. If you would like to give money and have us shop, we will be happy to do so. Make sure you make a designation on your check, or in the envelope, that you are donating to, “Giving Trees.”

## PRAYER & THANKS

### Meals on Wheels

Covid-9 has had another effect on people. More people are signing up for Meals on Wheels, so now our drivers are giving a little extra to serve this need. We are so blessed to have a group of devoted drivers who willingly become Jesus' hands and feet to help our neighbors. Blessings and a big thank you to our October drivers: Monica Anderson, Gidget and Edd Brooks, Chuck and Kathy Eichelberger, Steve Ess, Renee Johnson, Roger and Helen Musolf, Sandy Nelson, Lynette Thompson, Ann Westby, and Richard and Dawn Young. A special welcome to new drivers, Larry and Phyllis Ehlers! Please contact the church office if you would be willing to help with this outreach. We drive for one week every nine weeks and you can choose the days you drive.



### New Books in the Library

- *Trouble I've Seen* by Drew G. I. Hart. Herald Press, 2016. Leading readers toward Jesus, the author offers concrete practices for churches that seek solidarity with the oppressed and are committed to racial justice.
- *Deadliest Enemy* by Michael T. Osterholm and Mark Olshaker. Little, Brown, 2017. Drawing on latest medical science, case studies, and epidemiological lessons, this book explores the resources and programs we need to develop to keep ourselves safe from infectious disease.
- *God and the Pandemic* by N. T. Wright. Zondervan, 2020. The author examines various responses to the coronavirus and invites the reader to carefully consider the Bible, Christian history, and the teachings of Jesus.
- *Truth and Hope* by Walter Brueggemann. Westminster Press, 2020. This is a collection of essays in which the author provides a guide into biblical teachings that speak to our present age.
- *The Spirit of Hope* by Jurgen Moltmann. Westminster Press, 2019. This is theology for a world in peril. Hope is challenged by ideologies and global trends that deny hope.
- *When Kids Ask Hard Questions* edited by Bromleigh McCleneghan and Karen Ware Jackson. Chalice Press, 2019. This is a collection of 30 essays from a diverse group of young parents, pastors, and experts on a range of tough issues: suicide, sexuality, gun violence, and divorce on how to have faithful conversations and tackle tough topics.
- *How to Help Your Anxious Teen* by Jessica Thompson. Harvest House, 2019. The author helps parents and teachers discover the surprising sources of their teens' worries and fears.



# THANKS & PRAYER

## Endowment Committee

### *The St. Philip's Endowment Fund*

Be a Blessing for Future Generations!

#### September Memorials & Gifts

*Clem Coverston*

*Pastor C. David Helgen*

*Bob Johnson*

*Mary Petersen*

Thank you to all who support the Endowment Fund!

Gifts in memory of someone, to celebrate a special occasion,  
or in simple gratitude, should specify "Endowment Fund" on checks.

## Financials

St. Philip's 2020	Actual September	Actual YTD
Income	\$49,772.84	\$612,635.18
Expense	(\$51,071.00)	(\$471,376.27)
TOTALS	(\$1,298.16)	\$141,258.91





## November

Vincent & Janet Lanners on 11/22/1958 for 62 Years

Paul & Grace Wilson on 11/28/1959 for 61 Years

Ronald & Karla Ackerman on 11/26/1966 for 54 Years

David & Dawn Fennig on 11/4/1967 for 53 Years

Gerald & Virginia Olson on 11/30/1968 for 52 Years

Charles & Janet Scovill on 11/29/1969 for 51 Years

Charles & Carolyn Kennedy on 11/17/1973 for 47 Years

Cynthia & Anthony Weber on 11/30/1974 for 46 Years

Patricia & Mike Mandyck on 11/5/1983 for 37 Years

Chuck & Sue Kempf on 11/16/1985 for 35 Years

Karie & Lynn Bergeron on 11/4/1989 for 31 Years

Joe & Paula Gonsior on 11/17/1990 for 30 Years

Gilbert & Mary Haugan on 11/15/1996 for 24 Years

William & Michelle Hatten on 11/28/1998 for 22 Years

Brian & Misty Gilbertson on 11/20/1999 for 21 Years

Dana & Sonja Menard on 11/4/2006 for 14 Years

Jorge & Kellie Bernal on 11/6/2010 for 10 Years

Frost & Amada Simula on 11/26/2016 for 4 Years

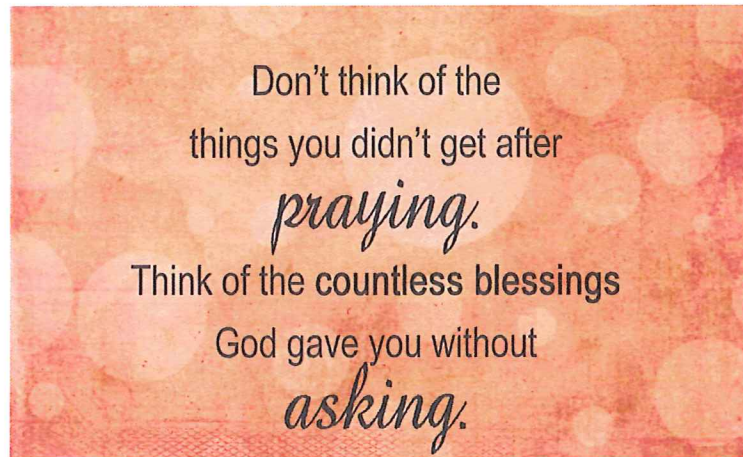


*The friends and family of:*

*Clem Coverston*



## Friendly Takeaway



### 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 Grassley, Office Manager**

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**Jenni Anderson, Publications & Membership Coordinator**

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**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

**Anthony Bloch, Interim Drummer**

[Anthony.j.bloch@gmail.com](mailto:Anthony.j.bloch@gmail.com), ext. 103

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

**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

In person worship is open and also streaming on Facebook Live  
Past links can be found on our website, E-News, and on our 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**

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**Diane Campeau, Secretary**

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**Andy Tjader**

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**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**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> <b>Daylight Savings Time Ends</b> <b>All Saints' Sunday</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Worship - Facebook Live and onsite <b>10:30 am</b> Worship - onsite and Facebook Live	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>Election Day</b> <b>7:00 am</b> Polls Open <b>10:00 am</b> Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf - Curbside Pickup <b>1:00 pm</b> Tuesdays Together - Facebook Live <b>6:30 pm</b> Prayer Group - Facebook Live	<b>4</b> <b>8:30 am</b> Men's Work Crew <b>9:00 am</b> Quilters <b>4:00 pm</b> Adult Catechism - Facebook Live <b>5:00 pm</b> Food & Clothing Shelf - Curbside Pickup <b>5:30 pm</b> Community Supper Curbside Pickup	<b>5</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> Alanon <b>7:30 pm</b> AA Mtg.	<b>6</b> <b>10:00 am</b> Food and Clothing Shelf - Curbside Pickup	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Worship - Facebook Live and onsite <b>10:30 am</b> Worship - onsite and Facebook Live	<b>9</b> <b>2:00 pm</b> Benevolence Committee Mtg.	<b>10</b> <b>10:00 am</b> Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf - Curbside Pickup <b>1:00 pm</b> Tuesdays Together - Facebook Live <b>6:30 pm</b> Prayer Group - Facebook Live	<b>11</b> <b>Veterans Day</b> <b>8:30 am</b> Men's Work Crew <b>12:00 pm</b> Men's Book Discussion <b>4:00 pm</b> Adult Catechism - Facebook Live <b>5:00 pm</b> Food & Clothing Shelf - Curbside Pickup <b>5:30 pm</b> Community Supper Curbside Pickup	<b>12</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> Alanon <b>7:30 pm</b> AA Mtg.	<b>13</b> <b>10:00 am</b> Food and Clothing Shelf - Curbside Pickup	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Worship - Facebook Live and onsite <b>10:30 am</b> Worship - onsite and Facebook Live	<b>16</b> <b>Friend Articles Due</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Glory Circle <b>6:30 pm</b> Executive Meeting	<b>17</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Library Mtg. <b>10:00 am</b> Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf - Curbside Pickup <b>1:00 pm</b> Tuesdays Together - Facebook Live <b>6:30 pm</b> Prayer Group - Facebook Live	<b>18</b> <b>8:30 am</b> Men's Work Crew <b>9:00 am</b> Quilters <b>10:30 am</b> Property & Grounds Mtg. <b>4:00 pm</b> Adult Catechism - Facebook Live <b>5:00 pm</b> Food & Clothing Shelf - Curbside Pickup <b>5:30 pm</b> Community Supper Curbside Pickup	<b>19</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> Alanon <b>7:30 pm</b> AA Mtg.	<b>20</b> <b>10:00 am</b> Food and Clothing Shelf - Curbside Pickup	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Worship - Facebook Live and onsite <b>10:30 am</b> Worship - onsite and Facebook Live	<b>23</b> <b>6:30 pm</b> Board of Administration Mtg.	<b>24</b> <b>10:00 am</b> Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf - Curbside Pickup <b>1:00 pm</b> Tuesdays Together - Facebook Live <b>6:30 pm</b> Prayer Group - Facebook Live	<b>25</b> <b>8:30 am</b> Men's Work Crew <b>12:00 pm</b> Men's Book Discussion <b>4:00 pm</b> Adult Catechism - Facebook Live <b>5:00 pm</b> Food & Clothing Shelf - Curbside Pickup <b>5:30 pm</b> Community Supper Curbside Pickup <b>6:30 pm</b> Thanksgiving Eve Worship	<b>26</b> <b>Thanksgiving Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> Alanon <b>7:30 pm</b> AA Mtg. 	<b>27</b> <b>Office Closed</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Worship - Facebook Live and onsite <b>10:30 am</b> Worship - onsite and Facebook Live	<b>30</b>					





6180 Highway 65 NE  
Fridley, MN 55432-5158

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUEST

**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).