



The Friend



Community Supper Picnic

Wednesday, June 9

5:30 pm

The Community Supper will continue being served every Wednesday during the summer.

Bluegrass - Inspired Outdoor Worship

Beginning Wednesday, June 9

6:30 pm

Door 8

(In between the garage and kitchen)

We will be holding an outdoor service every other Wednesday throughout the summer:

June 9 and 23

July 7 and 21

August 11 and 25

The outdoor service will not be live streamed.

June 2021

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PRAYER

Taking Church With Us

Matt Flom, Pastor

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. Isaiah 25:1

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Grace, love, and peace be to you from God, our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Summer is here and it's time to get outside and enjoy the blessing that is Minnesota in the summer. Well, except for the ticks and mosquitos. God has truly blessed us with so many outdoor activities. I'm looking forward to camping, canoeing, and hiking. I know many folks are planning fishing trips, vacations, and long road trips. In the past these trips meant that we had to miss church. We might be able to catch a service at the congregation near a state park, but most often people skipped worship. Now, however, we can access our own St. Philip's worship services on our laptops or even our mobile devices. We can take church with us on the road.

Taking church with us is also an opportunity to share the Gospel of Jesus. If you're at a campground, you can invite a neighbor to come to church. If you are visiting relatives and they don't have a church, you can invite them to St. Philip's no matter where you are in the country (or world for that matter). It's also not just worship that people can take with them. Our Tuesday night prayer meeting and Tuesdays Together Bible Study are streamed live each week. It would be fun for folks to let me know where the church has been around the state and country this summer. May God bless you and keep you safe as you travel. May you be a blessing to others as well.



Strength and Peace

Eric Nelson, Associate Pastor

*The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.
May the LORD give strength to the LORD's people. May the LORD bless the LORD's people with
peace." -Psalm 29:10-11*

I lived for seven years near the Red River and became accustomed to floods in the spring. In fact, within my seven years in the area, the Red River recorded four of its top ten highest flood crests for the area. The number one crest was during my senior year of college. Campus had been evacuated and I was completing my time in student teaching in a nearby town. With only two days left until the school I taught at began spring break, I foolishly decided I would remain in my off-campus house and then retreat to my parents' home after that. Arriving back to the house after teaching the day campus had evacuated, I found myself driving through water up to the bumper of my vehicle as I pulled onto the street in front of our college house. My plans changed. I packed up, ready to teach for the next day, and ready to leave the house until it was wise to return.

Many had done plenty in preparation for the flood, but the waters could not be fully held back by human force. Too many know this reality. People have floods, storms, and unforeseen circumstances beyond their control change life at minimum for a season and many times changed for the rest of their life. We face these floods in a pandemic and all else we face together and on our own. At times it can overwhelm us how little we can seem to do to deal with these forces around us. Even as flood waters subside, as things approach normal, we know, things are different.

Yet, we have these words from Psalm 29. "The LORD sits enthroned over the flood." These floods that cannot be held back, these waters that will flow where they will and will sweep up whatever is in their path – the LORD sits enthroned unmoved and unshaken in the midst of this. These forces of destruction do not have the power to harm, destroy, or change our God. And our God does not sit enthroned, idly watching as we struggle. No, the LORD gives strength to the people and blesses the people with peace. God is our source of strength and peace and these are things we are able to share in the world. I will always remember the kindness of others in the midst of the chaos. They still had strength and peace to share. We don't gloss over the difficulty, but instead we share the strength and peace that we are given, knowing that our God is unshaken and is with us to give the strength and peace to move forward. As we gratefully move forward, we do so knowing that the past year and a half has touched each of our lives differently. We honor this in our neighbor as we continue to show God's grace and love. And we remain grounded knowing that our Lord sits enthroned above any storm we endure, as our ever present bringer of strength and peace to share with ourselves and our neighbors as we weather storms and recover as community together. God's strength and peace to you and your neighbor!

JOY & PRAYER

Reaching Out

Margie Guelker, Visitation Pastor

*Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father!
There is no shadow of turning of turning with thee;
Thou changeset not thy compassions they fail not;
As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.
Great is thy faithfulness, great is thy faithfulness,
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided,
Great is thy faithfulness Lord unto me!*

June is a time of transition and change. It has been the traditional month for weddings, so it follows that there are many anniversaries and remembrances. It is also the time we celebrate commencements - transitions in our school settings. This year we are even able to do that in most settings!

All of these changes take us to new places where we have never been before. Some of this is good and welcome and some is difficult and troublesome. We can begin to experience small griefs as these changes affect us. Sometimes we don't even know what our sadness and anxiety are about. We just know there is a need to talk it out.

That being said, when we ask someone how they are we need to be ready to listen for the transitions in their lives. We are beginning to come out of the darkness of the pandemic. We all have people we have not seen for a while. What can you do about this? Pastor Matt had a very good suggestion in his sermon on prayer. He suggested that we keep our picture directory handy and, during our prayer time, pray for those who are listed in it. Read their names and look at their photos. When was the last time you saw them or spoke to them? For sure you should pray for them, but then take it a step further and call them.

I rarely come to worship without someone asking about someone else. Sometimes I know who they are and how they are doing and can share that information, and sometimes I have no idea who they are talking about. But you do know them or you wouldn't have asked. You hold the life-long connections. Call them.

Let your mercies be new this morning. Your mercies will bring joy to others.



God is Good

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

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Psalms 100:5

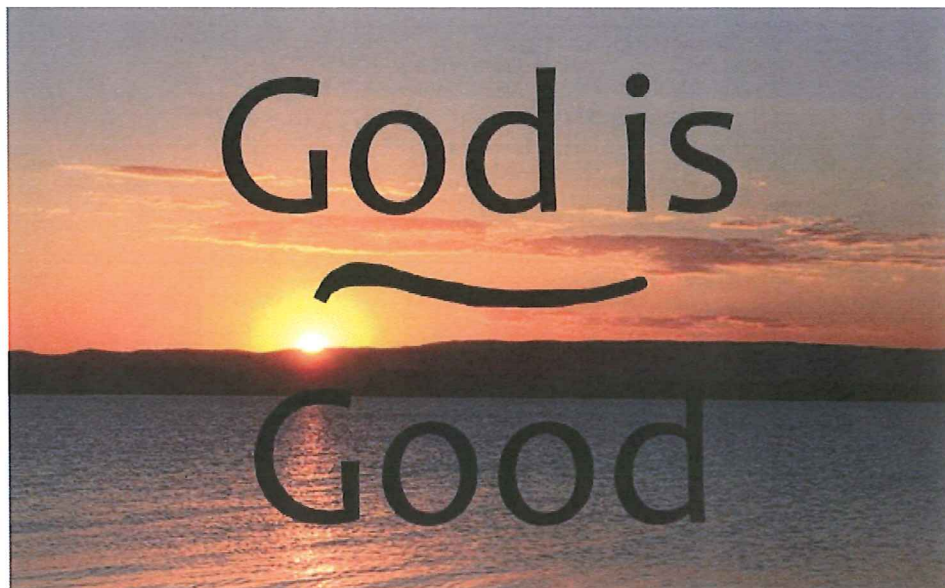
God is good all the time. All the time God is good! A simple sentence that often turns into a call and response when youth gather. Knowing that they can be comfortable to fully worship God, through shouts of excitement, and seeing that they love and are so loved by God, always brings a smile to my face.

I have been reading a book called, *Autism & Alleluias* by Kathleen Deyer Bolduc. Kathleen is a wonderful mother of a son with autism. In this book she shares her honest experiences and how faith, hope, and love have left her open to seeing God in places she least expected. In one passage she talks about how bringing her son to church often felt like trying to fit a square peg into a round hole. Worried about how others would react to how her son worshiped with his whole body. It was through her faith that she then realized that square pegs were never meant to fit into round holes, and that it was time to break the mold. God loves her son, and God is so good.

This passage touched my heart. If we allow children to worship in a way that brings them joy, whether it be with their whole body or their loud voices, then we are breaking the mold and witnessing God's goodness.

When I think about our children and youth at St. Philip's, and I hear their shouts of praise or see them dancing in pews, I think, God is good all the time. All the time God is good!

I pray you are able to take time and truly see God's goodness around you.



SERVE & THANKS

Coming Together

LaRae Kazmierkoski, President

It is so good to see people coming back to in person worship! The numbers continue to grow, and with so many restrictions being lifted, I expect we will see many more returning. Yes, we have great live streaming capabilities now, but to me, there is nothing like worshiping in our Sanctuary and being able to greet people as we come and go. The Community Supper is planning a picnic for Wednesday, June 9, which should be a wonderful opportunity to eat dinner together and then worship outdoors. It should be a wonderful evening! The garage sale is being planned for August and programming will most likely return in the fall. So, there are many things to which we should look forward. We have weathered the worst of the storm, and now it is up to us to determine how we will look when the calm is upon us. Hopefully, we will keep St. Philip's strong, which is up to all of us. Thank you for your support during this unprecedented time. Please continue to support us financially so we can continue the great work done by the congregation of St. Philip's. Remember, as you travel this summer, online giving is still available. Go and enjoy the beauty God has bestowed upon us!

Board of Administration Highlights



- Approved additional resources to complete entire flat roof repair
- Reviewed potential language for by-laws describing standing committees and ministry groups
- Initiated process to develop policy and procedures covering use of photos and names in social media practices

Men's Book Discussion

The Men's Book Discussion group will meet Thursday, June 10 and 24 at Perkins in Fridley. We have not decided on our next book at this time but are excited to meet in fellowship. If you have any questions, please contact Dick Lekang [richardlekang@comcast.net].

Warmth

Lynette Thompson, Garden Group

This article was written when we seemed to be stuck in a cold and dreary spring. Occasionally a top ten weather day arrived and filled our physical environment. The effects of such a day were immediate and joyful. Persons of all ages transmitted positive vibrations. No one chose to avoid or protect themselves from the glorious weather.

Walking paths suddenly seemed filled. Folks on bicycles pedaled in patterns north, south, east, and west. Smells of outdoor barbecuing were welcomed by any nose. We were ready for everything spring had to offer.

Well, it's been a slow process. Although shades of green continued to weave into bare outdoor spaces, gardeners were looking for a faster transition. We yearned for the consistent, warmer outdoor temperatures that provide the critical force needed for seedlings to grow.

In this mixed up spring, I've sensed a different sort of warmth developing as we uncover our masked faces.

Vaccination against the COVID disease is giving us some relief and sense of safety. Our "new normal" is evolving.

Seeing a smile without a mask is almost a new experience for both giver and receiver. Let's not take this exchange for granted, just as we should not take the coming of spring for granted. A warm smile may lead to other interactions we need to heal our communities.

Nashville Trip

St. Philip's Disaster Relief Team



The beginning of June marks 20 months since the last SPDR long-distance trip to Houston, TX following Hurricane Harvey. It is time for SPDR to get back on the road and help rebuild homes and lives.

In late March, there was severe flooding in Tennessee with 23 counties receiving a FEMA disaster declaration. SPDR coordinators recently met via Zoom, with staff members of the ELCA's Eastern Tennessee Synod Disaster Response. They explained the recovery efforts that are currently in place and how they are gearing up for volunteers in the Nashville area.

Plans are being made to send a team of around 12 people to Nashville, most likely in August. The safety of the SPDR team members is important so COVID precautions will be in place as needed. It is highly likely that all team members will be required to be fully vaccinated.

Watch for more details in upcoming St. Philip's publications and emails. The journey continues...

PRAYER

Update from Tokyo

Jim and Carol Sack

Dear Friends in Christ:

When Jim and I committed to missionary service in 1982, we did so with the assumption it would be a life-long commitment; and so it has been. Our marriage was young, our first child was 10 months old, and our life's calling lay ahead of us. Our four parents were in their sixties, still vibrant, but even then I remember a still small voice asking, "What are we going to do when our folks become vulnerable with age?" I remember not being able to answer the question, and feeling grateful that my brother was living close by to our folks. Yet, the question remained unresolved, with a lingering twinge of something that felt akin to guilt.

Then, about twenty years down the lifeline, to my own surprise I ended up in a modality of palliative care, end-of-life ministry. At the center of this ministry is the idea of presence, what we sometimes call "with-ness" to persons who are in this very special time, the closing of their human story. So, I could not help see the irony of leaving my own parents' side while "lovingly caring" for God's children on the other side of the world. A classic case, all too common in professional ministries, of "the shoemaker's kids going barefoot."

My Dad is now with the Lord. Mom, who just turned 104 on May 1, has said so many times, "I pray that when my time comes, you will be here to hold my hand." Over the years I kept telling her, "I pray that, too, Mom."

In January Mom had heart issues and was put into hospice care. Pandemic or not, I knew that *this* was the time to offer "with-ness" to my own mother, for my sake, if not for hers. So from the beginning of February I have been living with Mom in her Minneapolis seniors' apartment. (Lo and behold this is largely doable because of the pandemic, some of my normal ministry activities having been put on hold, and others possible by long-distance. What an unexpected confluence of events.)

A few weeks ago, Mom called for me. When I went in, it appeared that "This is it." When I said I would call the nurse she said, "Oh, no need for that, I'm not afraid of dying!" Then she looked at a beloved prayer shawl she had recently received and said, "Oh, what a shame, I won't be able to use this much longer now!" (I could not help chuckling just a little in spite of the adrenaline surge of the moment.) I called my brothers to FaceTime with them. Then, remembering Mom's wish, I held her hand. I wanted to sing to her, wondering what to sing...and just then noticed a song book open on her bed. It was open to, "Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, help me stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn. Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light, take my hand Precious Lord, lead me Home."

Mom survived that episode. It was our practice session. But I now sing this song every night as the prayer the Lord gave for this gracious time. I'm not sure when the Lord will call Mom home, and I'm not even sure I will be here to be holding her hand. But that song has assured me that it's OK because He, the Precious Lord, will be holding that hand at that time. It is enough.

Update from Tokyo

Jim and Carol Sack

We never know when our turn to leave this world and be with our Lord will come. However, we can trust in the promise that God made with us through Jesus:

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also."

John 14:1-3

In Christ,

Carol (and Jim) Sack

Endowment Committee

The St. Philip's Endowment Fund

Be a Blessing to Future Generations!

Your gifts to the Endowment Fund, both now and after your lifetime, can make our church stronger and more responsive to the needs of generations to come.

Gifts have been received in memory of:

Glen Byl

Dr. Gary Good

Byron Teska

Gifts in memory of someone, to celebrate a special occasion, or in simple gratitude should be specified for, "Endowment Fund".

For more information on the St. Philip's Endowment Fund, visit www.splcmn.org and select, 'Ministries' and then 'Endowment'.

Thank you for your support!

THANKS & PRAYER

Financials

St. Philip's 2021	Actual April	Actual YTD
Income	\$51,819.66	\$232,349.68
Expense	(\$61,872.70)	(\$231,008.97)
TOTALS	(\$10,053.04)	\$1,340.71

Office Reopening!

Beginning Monday, June 7, the St. Philip's office will be reopening and staff will be returning to regular business hours.

Office hours:

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Friday: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Life Events



Wedding of:
Mike Pofert
&
Kelsie Piepgras



Jordan Austin Simmons
5/23/2021



The friends and family of:
Rollie Zeller

THANKS & PRAYER

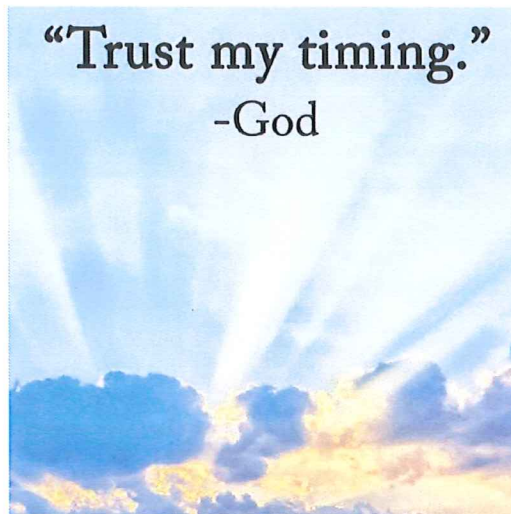


June

Donald & Anne Gilbertson on 6/10/1955 for 66 Years
Ronald & Mary Seekamp on 6/16/1956 for 65 Years
Ed & Arlene Hamernik on 6/20/1959 for 62 Years
Robert & Delores Masuda on 6/5/1959 for 62 Years
Gary & Myrna Erickson on 6/25/1961 for 60 Years
Jerry & Gayle Mattison on 6/9/1961 for 60 Years
Ronald & Mary Mattson on 6/29/1963 for 58 Years
Stanley & Janet Yocum on 6/22/1963 for 58 Years
Harold & Grace Kurtz on 6/16/1963 for 58 Years
Leroy & Kathleen Venne on 6/1/1963 for 58 Years
Bob & Patricia Wharton on 6/21/1964 for 57 Years
Neal & Cathy Anderson on 6/12/1965 for 56 Years
Gary & Deanna Blomster on 6/24/1967 for 54 Years
Arlen & Judy Olson on 6/10/1967 for 54 Years
Marsden & Beverly Sperry on 6/10/1967 for 54 Years
James & Janice Kugler on 6/3/1967 for 54 Years
Roger & Jerelyn Hall on 6/15/1968 for 53 Years
Roger & Roberta Tuey on 6/15/1968 for 53 Years
William & JoAnn McCloskey on 6/20/1969 for 52 Years
Gerald & Carole Jensen on 6/14/1969 for 52 Years
David & Patricia Bretheim on 6/29/1974 for 47 Years
Timothy & Cindy Solberg on 6/28/1975 for 46 Years
Howard & Kari Helgen on 6/21/1975 for 46 Years

Kathy & Darron Knutson on 6/8/1975 for 46 Years
Marty & Dawn Hansen on 6/9/1979 for 42 Years
Gregory & Susan Rosholt on 6/1/1979 for 42 Years
Gary & Kristin Johnson on 6/6/1981 for 40 Years
Lucinda & Jeffry Marshik on 6/5/1983 for 38 Years
Dan & Connie Bernardy on 6/22/1985 for 36 Years
Duane & Monica Anderson on 6/7/1986 for 35 Years
Jeff & Michelle Ellering on 6/18/1988 for 33 Years
Tony & Jane Kiminski on 6/3/1988 for 33 Years
John & Pam Schwint on 6/23/1990 for 31 Years
Scott & Lisa Rolfs on 6/22/1996 for 25 Years
Tom & Pam Warnke on 6/27/1998 for 23 Years
Denise & Chris Fowler on 6/5/1999 for 22 Years
Phil & Andrea Mitchel Nash on 6/8/2003 for 18 Years
Ken & Barbara Schultz Ohnstad on 6/26/2004 for 17 Years
Doug & Kathy Fransen on 6/30/2007 for 14 Years
Nikolaus & Tasha Browne on 6/13/2009 for 12 Years
Emily & Aaron Sasse on 6/30/2012 for 9 Years
Kyle & Nicky Bohm on 6/16/2012 for 9 Years
Tom & Chelsea Gasser on 6/2/2012 for 9 Years
Pete & Michelle Nash on 6/8/2013 for 8 Years
Bob Jacobson & Diane Haugen on 6/27/2015 for 6 Years
Sherri & Kirk Myhra on 6/19/2016 for 5 Years

Friendly Takeaway



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

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Cheri Sykes, Worship Band Leader

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Adam Miller, Sanctuary Choir Director

AdamM@splcmn.org, ext. 103

Anthony Bloch, Interim Drummer

Anthony.j.bloch@gmail.com, ext. 103

Dawn Hansen, Bells of Praise Volunteer Handbell Director

Katie Swenstad, Facility Coordinator

KatieS@splcmn.org, ext. 109

Michelle Hill, Part-Time Custodian

Worship Schedule

9:00 am Traditional

10:30 am Contemporary

- Sanctuary
- Access worship livestreams from the [\[www.splcmn.org\]](http://www.splcmn.org) homepage
- Past links can be found on our website, E-News, and app

Board of Administration

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Missionaries: Jim & Carol Sack

Companion Congregation:

Bille Lutheran in Nigeria

Ministers: All members of the Parish

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food and Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm Prayer Group - Facebook Live; Worship Band Rehearsal	2 8:30 am Men's Work Crew; WOW (Women on Wednesday) 9:00 am Quilters 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:30 pm Community Supper Curbside Pickup	3 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	4 10:00 am Food and Clothing Shelf	5
6 9:00 am Worship - onsite and live streamed 10:30 am Worship - onsite and live streamed	7 Office is Open!	8 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food and Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm Prayer Group - Facebook Live	9 8:30 am Men's Work Crew; WOW (Women on Wednesday) 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:30 pm Community Supper Picnic 6:30 pm Outdoor Worship	10 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	11 10:00 am Food and Clothing Shelf	12
13 9:00 am Worship - onsite and live streamed 10:30 am Worship - onsite and live streamed	14 1:30 pm Benevolence Committee Mtg.	15 9:00 am Library Group Mtg. 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food and Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm Prayer Group - Facebook Live	16 8:30 am Men's Work Crew; WOW (Women on Wednesday) 9:00 am Quilters 10:00 am EA Mtg. 10:30 am Property & Grounds Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:30 pm Community Supper	17 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	18 10:00 am Food and Clothing Shelf	19
20 Happy Father's Day! 9:00 am Worship - onsite and live streamed 10:30 am Worship - onsite and live streamed	21 Friend Articles Due 9:30 am Glory Circle 6:30 pm Executive Mtg.	22 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food and Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm Prayer Group - Facebook Live	23 8:30 am Men's Work Crew; WOW (Women on Wednesday) 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:30 pm Community Supper 6:30 pm Outdoor Worship	24 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	25 10:00 am Food and Clothing Shelf	26
27 9:00 am Worship - onsite and live streamed 10:30 am Worship - onsite and live streamed	28 1:30 pm Knitters & Crocheters 6:30 pm Board of Administration Mtg.	29 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food and Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm Prayer Group - Facebook Live	30 8:30 am Men's Work Crew; WOW (Women on Wednesday) 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:30 pm Community Supper			



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).