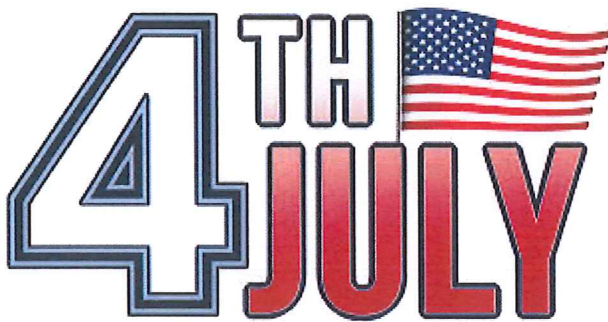




# The Friend

Have a Happy  
and Safe



Holiday!

## July 2021

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# PRAYER

## Gracious Invitation

Matt Flom, Pastor

*"but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you;" 1 Peter 3:15*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Grace, love, and peace be to you from God, our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We have a lot of good things going on here at St. Philip's. We have great music, impactful ministry to the community, quality Christian education, and all kinds of wonderful groups. We worship God, we grow as disciples of Jesus, and we serve people in God's name. You don't have to be here long to figure out that there are a lot of good things going on at St. Philip's. We know the good things here, but does the community? Are people missing out on a chance for fellowship? Are people looking for a chance to make a difference in the world. Are people looking to meet God through praise and worship? How will people know unless we tell them?

But "Matt," you say, "we don't like evangelism. We don't want to accost people on street corners with signs and tracts." Well, please don't do those things. I'm asking you to offer gracious invitations to the worship services, fellowship gatherings, and service opportunities of our congregation. Evangelism in the Lutheran way is different from what other churches do. We can respectfully and graciously invite people to come and see. I would like your help in doing so. This summer we are putting together an evangelism team. If you have an interest in reaching out to our community, please let me or Pastor Eric know. We want to equip our congregation for evangelism as Lutherans. Join us as we learn new ways to offer gracious invitation.

*All are Welcome*

## Which Commandment is the Greatest of All?

Eric Nelson, Associate Pastor

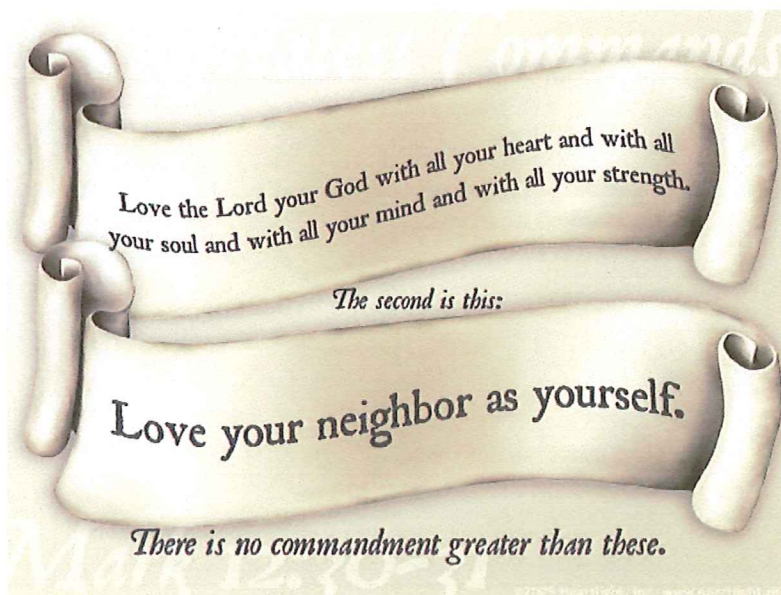
*"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these." – Mark 12:30-31*

We find ourselves in the midst of times of continuous transition as both church and society. The experiences of individuals have varied so greatly over the past year that we find added difficulty in this transition. Jesus' reminder of the greatest commandments is always important, but especially now as we interact with the wide array of people who have each had unique challenges.

While one rejoices, another struggles in the stress and burn-out they are still recovering from. While one breathes a sigh of relief, another struggles in grief from loss of loved ones in a time when they were forced be apart. We know that this goes on and is not entirely unique to pandemic. We each experience different happenings in life and are not always aware of what our neighbor goes through. However, we can listen and we can love. I have seen great examples and reminders of this. I have seen neighbors of all sorts offering love to each other. What a great picture of God's church in the world.

You will have your opinions and I will have mine, but we can stay focused on this commandment. Let us love God through all things and let us love our neighbor as ourselves. Let us grant each neighbor the care, listening, respect, and support we would desire as we continue as God's church wherever we are gathered this summer.

God's peace to you and your neighbor.





## JOY & PRAYER

### Journeys

Margie Guelker, Visitation Pastor

*"... and he journeyed on by stages." Genesis 13:3*

This Bible quote is from the story of Abram and Sarai. It was in my reading for today and I thought how appropriate it is to all of our lives.

We all journey on in stages through life from our first breath to our last. The years go by, often without our paying much attention until something suddenly catches us. That happened to me at least twice this week. My oldest grandson, Tony, called to tell me he and Olivia were engaged. My thoughts went to the day he was born and taking him deep sea fishing to now when he helps Grandma with things around my home. Tony and Olivia are getting married!

The second thing was a memory popping up on Facebook of my Ordination Day - June 21, 1992. 29 years ago. That was a journey I thought to be impossible, but I journeyed on in stages until I felt hands on my head and shoulders and heard prayers being said.

One of the things I like best about what I do for the members of St. Philip's is to listen to the stories of people's journeys. I love hearing about their lives and families, their childhoods, their weddings, their faith journeys. Often, I know that they are actively waiting for the next stage of their journey knowing that they must put themselves in God's care as Abram did.

Listening to someone is no small thing, even for a moment. The things they share are a gift given into your keeping to be prayed over. Listen. They, as are you, journeying on by stages.

Blessings on your journey.



### Be Still

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

*Be still and know that I am God. Psalm 46:10*

Be still. A simple command from God, yet in today's world, it can easily become so complex. Are you like me where you sit at the end of the day, week, or month, and say; "Where has the time gone?" I find that as my daughters get older, the time is going by more quickly. Our schedules are often filled with activities, appointments, and meetings, and it can be difficult to just be still.

As I reflect on this past year when the world was turned upside down, I think back to what was once "normal" and how things were taken away or forced to change. In adapting to the change of pace, I chose to look for the good. A slowing of schedules allowed for more family time, more time to work on other projects around church, and more time to just be still.

I am so excited that things are starting to return to "normal." I am looking forward to gathering with the children, youth, and their families this summer and planning fun activities for the fall. I can't wait to see everyone, hear their stories, and let their laughter fill the halls.

It is my prayer that you and your family will have opportunity to take time this summer and be still. Take time to sit in nature and admire God's beauty around you. Take time to sit quietly in prayer and thank God for all that you have been given.

### Thoughtful Participation

LaRae Kazmierkoski, President

Happy Independence Day! I always feel like this marks the halfway point of summer. We have had an interesting summer already and now, instead of the bitter cold to complain about, we have the scorching heat! Ah, Minnesota; It is a good thing we have weather to discuss. For as much as I complain about the cold, I try not to complain too much about the heat, although this year has been a bit more difficult than many other years!

I know it has been difficult for the many - young and old, who are homeless and on the streets. Thank you for your donations to Hope4Youth. If you have not yet had the chance to donate, you have until Sunday, July 11. Unfortunately, there are more teens experiencing homelessness than ever before so whatever we can donate will be greatly appreciated.

The summer is busy, with our school supplies drive beginning in late July and the garage sale coming in August. The Community Supper is now serving to indoor seating again and many are anxious to dine together with friends. There is still the option to take a meal home for those who are not quite ready to join us indoors or who are delivering prepared meals to others. God has blessed this congregation with the ability and willingness to do so much to help others. More help is needed for any of our community outreach programs. Even an hour of your time is helpful. Come and join us! Be God's hands for whatever time you have to give!

# SERVE & THANKS

## Board of Administration Highlights



- Approved expenses for subscription to *Outreach*, a Christian media service providing materials for childhood education, leadership training, bible studies and entertainment
- Received notice that 2020 PPP loan from Small Business Administration has been fully forgiven
- Pastors Matt and Eric provided an overview of plans for church life including worship, evangelism, discipleship, small groups, and outreach via social media as well as preparation of materials for visitors and new members

## 24th Annual Garage Sale - Save the Date!

Join us for the 2021 Garage Sale! Please mark these dates on your calendar: Wednesday, August 18 Pre-sale, 5:00 - 8:00 pm (\$3 admission fee), Thursday, August 19 and Friday, August 20, 9:00 am - 7:00 pm, and Saturday, August 21, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. Donations will be accepted beginning Friday, August 6. Stay tuned for more information.

## Meals on Wheels

History is in the making once again for St. Philip's!

Forty-eight years ago, we were a part of the beginning of Meals On Wheels for this area. In July of this year, Meals on Wheels is merging with a company called Impact Services. We will continue doing the same great service as in the past.

Since July of 1973 when Meals on Wheels began for our area, St. Philip's has had nine volunteer coordinators who call members to drive for six to eight routes during one week, six to eight times per year. A big thank you to: Paula Cable, Jan Dean, Joann Haugen, Meredith Hille, Eva Jeppson, Jane Kuykendall, Barbara Lundberg, Beth Terpstra, and Dawn Young.

Members volunteer an hour or two of their time each time they drive and deliver to six to 10 stops on their route. Some drivers deliver one time that week, some deliver several times, and some take the whole week. Over the years this would be about 3,000 routes. Since most routes are delivered by two people, we have provided over 6,000 drivers! Amazing what a couple of hours at a time can add up to! A huge thank you to all the members who have given of their time to touch the lives of unknown numbers of folks in need of food. We sure wish we could thank all of you individually!

A special thanks go out to our drivers for June: Edd and Gidget Brooks, Larry and Phyllis Ehlers, Chuck and Kathy Eichelberger, Harlan Hohenstein and Flo O'Donnell, Roger and Ellen Musolf, and Sandy and Eldy Nelson.



# THANKS & SERVE

## Enter Here

### Lynette Thompson, Garden Group

A very active space can now be found on the church property. It's the outdoor vegetable and perennial flower garden, a sunny and inviting area located next to the Chapel and Food & Clothing Shelf rooms.

You likely won't hear human voices or human produced music or singing. You may however hear water or buzzing bees that stop by for a drink of nectar.

Feel free to enter this space and consider the silent sounds that surround you:

Roots are tunneling below ground. Leaves are emerging from tender stems for beans, squash, and cucumbers. Raspberries are racing to plump themselves. Cloves of garlic are expanding. Onions are learning how to form layers around their slim stalks. Tomatoes are choosing their colors and shapes - red, yellow, orange - cherry shaped, oval shaped or are aiming for the coveted "big boy" status.

You can call your time in this garden "taking a break", an experience in mindfulness, a stroll of curiosity, a COVID-19 safe activity, or whatever you choose. We welcome all visitors and encourage returns.

## 2021 Trips

### St. Philip's Disaster Relief Team



Plans are moving forward for two disaster relief trips this year! After a record-breaking year for hurricanes and other disasters in 2020, coupled with limited volunteer resources, the need for rebuilding help is greater than ever.

The first trip is scheduled for Tuesday, August 24 to Wednesday, September 1 and will be to help those that were flooded from heavy rains in the Nashville area of Tennessee in late March. The team will travel 1 ½ days on each end of the trip and stay six nights at Faith Lutheran Church in Lebanon, TN. Team members will be responsible for their hotel and meal costs while traveling. The SPDR funds will pay for gas for vehicles, and the lodging and meal costs at Faith Lutheran. Building skills are not required for this trip. As needed, COVID-19 precautions will be in place. All team members will be required to be fully vaccinated. Registration information will be emailed in early July to those that are on the SPDR email distribution list. Registration will end in late July. If you do not receive emails from SPDR and want to be added to the list to receive registration information and other emails, or have questions about this trip, send a message to [[spdr@splcmn.org](mailto:spdr@splcmn.org)].

Planning has started for the second 2021 trip. The dates are October 16-24 to Galveston, TX to help with the rebuilding from Hurricane Harvey and other storms. Watch for emails and additional information in St. Philip's publications.

## SERVE & PRAYER

### Food & Clothing Shelf

Bob Becker and Judy Greer, Co-Directors

As many of you know, the Food & Clothing Shelf has reopened for inside service. We have moved to rooms 16, 17, and 18 in the education wing of the church. Visitors now enter through Door 3. Room 16 is our office storage and perishable food room and Room 17A is our nonperishable food room. Beyond the flexible wall that separates Rooms 17A and 17B & C are our clothing rooms. Room 18 is off-season clothing and shoe storage and where the clothing donations are received, sorted, and tagged. Members of the congregation that have visited, and especially our neighbors we serve, have been impressed with our expanded location. Visitors appreciate that they are able to choose their own items from our expanded inventory. A second refrigerator and freezer will be donated by SHIP (Safety Health Improvement Partnership) who also provided our initial refrigerator and freezer. SHIP is a joint partnership between the University of Minnesota Extension Service and Anoka County. SHIP was excited to hear that we are expanding to serve Anoka County residents in need. Once we receive the refrigerator and freezer and are fully set up, we plan to have an open house so that all can see the ministry that St. Philip's is providing to the surrounding communities. Until then, please feel free to visit us. We are open Tuesdays and Fridays from 10:00 - 11:30 am and on Wednesdays from 5:00 - 6:30pm. We give thanks for all of the members of the congregation who provide the funding for our food and clothing needs. We give thanks for everyone that has helped to move us in to our new space. We give thanks to Myron Nash for hooking us up with additional electricity. And of course, we give thanks for all the volunteers and their hours of service. We thank God for the opportunity to serve those in need. Until all are fed ... and clothed.



### Community Supper

Going forward the Community Supper will no longer be serving curbside meals. Depending on your comfort level, the new options include dining in the Fellowship Hall or taking a meal to go. Please enter the church via Door 11; the supper will be served every Wednesday at 5:30 pm. The Community Supper is a fun social opportunity to meet and greet others while sharing a meal.

If you have two hours a month, please consider volunteering. We need 14 people each Wednesday: four people from 3:00 – 5:00 pm, eight from 5:00 – 7:00 pm, and one volunteer each at 6:00 – 7:00 pm and 6:45 – 7:00 pm. We are so blessed to have all of you and this wonderful opportunity to serve. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Renee Youngberg at [763-258-7807 or [falkum23@gmail.com](mailto:falkum23@gmail.com)]



## PRAYER & THANKS

### Financials

St. Philip's 2021	Actual May	Actual YTD
Income	\$60,748.66	\$293,098.34
Expense	(\$53,115.42)	(\$284,124.39)
TOTALS	\$7,633.24	\$8,973.95

### 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:

*Byron Teska*

*Roland Zeller*

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](http://www.splcmn.org) and select, 'Ministries' and then 'Endowment'.

Thank you for your support!

## THANKS & PRAYER

### Hope4Youth Donation Drive

A significant number of teens are currently looking for help from Hope4Youth, which has very limited resources right now. We are helping by collecting both food and hygiene items to help restock their supply. Listed below are the requested items which can found at most Target stores:

- Facial cleansing wipes
- Dove body wash
- Goody elastic hair bands
- Up & Up facial cleanser
- Dove dry shampoo
- Chewy granola bars
- St. Ives body lotion
- Deodorant
- Capri Sun drink pouches
- Clean Freak dry shampoo
- Toothbrush
- Instant potato pouches
- Dove body lotion
- Toothpaste
- Spaghetti noodles
- Dial anti-bacterial hand soap
- Hair picks
- Spaghetti sauce
- Peanut butter sandwich crackers
- Manwich

We will be accepting items through Sunday, July 11. There are posterboards with tags of needed items at Door 2 and in the Narthex. You may return your donations to the same location. If you would rather donate money, please include "Hope4Youth donation" in the memo line of your check or online giving form. Thank you for your support and generosity!

### Women's Book Club

The Women's Book Club will resume gathering on the second Wednesday of each month from 10:00 am -12:00 pm in the Lounge. Please join us on Wednesday, July 14.

### The Library Group

The Library will be closed from Tuesday, July 27 through the end of August while it is being used during the St. Philip's Garage Sale.



### Men's Book Discussion

We have finished the book, *Caste*. It was very interesting and lent itself to plenty of material for discussion. The book we have selected to read and discuss now is, *The Wright Brothers* by David McCollough. Please join us for our next breakfast meeting that will be held Thursday, July 8 at Perkins in Fridley. If you have any questions, please contact Dick Lekang [richardlekang@comcast.net].

## THANKS & PRAYER



### July

Robert & Marlis Johnson on 7/18/1959 for 62 years

James & Miriam Hougen on 7/30/1961 for 60 years

Fred & Janice Kunze on 7/28/1962 for 59 years

Thomas & Sandra Kallroos on 7/15/1962 for 59 years

George & Janice Dean on 7/27/1963 for 58 years

Charles & Bunny Nara on 7/27/1963 for 58 years

Roger & Mary Gehrke on 7/10/1965 for 56 years

Gordon & Dorothy Kuluvar on 7/30/1967 for 54 years

Kenneth & Myra Munsterman on 7/1/1967 for 54 years

John & Margaret Fricke on 7/21/1968 for 53 years

Ralph & Janet Thompto on 7/9/1968 for 53 years

Dennis & Sharon Christensen on 7/25/1970 for 51 years

Ronald & Charmaine Cadwell on 7/31/1971 for 50 years

Todd & Jody Bjerknes on 7/19/1975 for 46 years

Susan & Gary Ellestad on 7/20/1979 for 42 years

Larry & Kathy Weegman on 7/18/1981 for 40 years

Murray & Miriam Jensen on 7/14/1984 for 37 years

Jim & Gail Fackler on 7/5/1997 for 24 years

R.T. & Amy Taylor on 7/24/1999 for 22 years

Mike & Gina Paton on 7/1/2000 for 21 years

Ann & Michael Kozarek on 7/26/2003 for 18 years

Elizabeth & William Wackman on 7/12/2003 for 18 years

Ryan & Ingrid Kleinjan on 7/23/2004 for 17 years

Stacey & Jeremy Repinski on 7/10/2004 for 17 years

Jon & Amber Young on 7/3/2004 for 17 years

Dan & Katie Mae Pritchard on 7/2/2004 for 17 years

Scott & Jennifer Bjerketvedt on 7/17/2007 for 14 years

Matthew & Jennifer Brooks on 7/14/2012 for 9 years



*The friends and family of:*

*Dennis Olesen*

## *Thank You*

Our deepest thanks to you for your prayers, calls, and support during our greatest sadness. Your love and kindness have brought us great comfort, will always be remembered, and is deeply appreciated.

Sincerely, The family of Dennis Olesen





# hope CHANGES everything

### St. Philip's Lutheran Church

A member of the ELCA

[www.splcmn.org](http://www.splcmn.org) ~ [info@splcmn.org](mailto:info@splcmn.org)

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**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

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[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

- 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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**Andy Tjader**

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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 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	2 10:00 am Food and Clothing Shelf	3
4 Happy 4th of July! 9:00 am Worship - onsite and live streamed 10:30 am Worship - onsite and live streamed	5 Office Closed 7:00 pm GA Mtg.; Gam-Anon Mtg.	6 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food and Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm Prayer Group - Facebook Live	7 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 6:30 pm Outdoor Worship	8 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	9 10:00 am Food and Clothing Shelf	10
11 9:00 am Worship - onsite and live streamed 10:30 am Worship - onsite and live streamed	12 1:30 pm Benevolence Committee Mtg. 6:00 pm Social Media Mtg. 7:00 pm GA Mtg.; Gam-Anon Mtg.	13 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food and Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm Prayer Group - Facebook Live	14 8:30 am Men's Work Crew; WOW (Women on Wednesday) 10:00 am Women's Book Club; EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:30 pm Community Supper	15 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	16 10:00 am Food and Clothing Shelf	17
18 9:00 am Worship - onsite and live streamed 10:30 am Worship - onsite and live streamed	19 Friend Articles Due 9:30 am Glory Circle 6:30 pm Executive Mtg. 7:00 pm GA Mtg.; Gam-Anon Mtg.	20 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food and Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm Prayer Group - Facebook Live	21 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 6:30 pm Outdoor Worship	22 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	23 10:00 am Food and Clothing Shelf	24
25 9:00 am Worship - onsite and live streamed 10:30 am Worship - onsite and live streamed	26 1:30 pm Knitters & Crocheters 6:30 pm Board of Administration Mtg. 7:00 pm GA Mtg.; Gam-Anon Mtg.	27 9:00 am Library Mtg. 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food and Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm Prayer Group - Facebook Live	28 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	29 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	30 10:00 am Food and Clothing Shelf	31



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).