

The Friend

There's
always
SOMETHING
TO BE
thankful
FOR

Thanksgiving Eve

Wednesday, November 24

Food & Clothing Shelf: 5:00 - 6:30 pm

Community Supper: 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Worship Service: 6:30 pm

November 2021

In this issue:

Being Thankful	1
Thanksgiving Eve Schedule	1
Pastor Matt's Column	2
Pastor Eric's Column	3
Pastor Margie's Column	4
Children, Youth & Family	5
President's Column	5
BOA Highlights	6
Chore Corps	6
St. Philip's Disaster Relief	7
Thanksgiving Baskets	7
Coats for Kids	7
Garden Group	8
Book Fair Cancelled	8
Yoga	8
Garage Sale Funds	9
Endowment Fund	10
Life Events	11
Financials	11
Friendly Takeaway	12
Contact Info	12
November Calendar	13
Mission & Vision	14

PRAYER

What Can You Do?

Matt Flom, Pastor

33 But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today. Matt. 6:33-34

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Grace, love, and peace be to you from God, our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I have read more than one article lately about how troubled our times are. They lurch back and forth between apocalyptic predictions and reasons why it's never been this bad before. I'm not quite sure that this is true. Maybe this age is the worst, but I wouldn't know as I'm not that old, all things considered; and even though I'm a historian, it's really quite hard to compare life in one age to another. I may not know if all things will fall apart, but I do know a few things that we should all keep in mind.

God has a mission for us as a congregation right here and now. God has called us to Worship, Grow, & Serve. We gather for Word and Sacrament, prayers and music, and fellowship. We walk together on the path of discipleship in each season of our lives. We serve our God by serving His other beloved children. In the coming year, if everything comes up sunshine and roses, our mission will be a bit easier. If the next year turns out to be more difficult than this one (God forbid!) then our mission will be a bit more difficult. We still must continue as God has called us. Especially in difficult times. People in our community count on us to bring food, clothing, and assistance, but perhaps even more importantly, hope, and the good news.

Stewardship of Time, Talents, and Treasure is not some theoretical church teaching. The hours we spend, the abilities we use, and the money we give translate directly into making a difference in peoples' lives. I urge you to carefully consider what you can do for this next year. I ask you to pray about it, talk it over in your household, and to look around our community and congregation and see the need. Martin Luther once said, "Even if I know that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I would still plant my apple tree." What is your apple tree?



Voices in Praise to God

Eric Nelson, Associate Pastor

*"Voice raised to you we offer; tune them, God, for songs of praise.
Hearts and hands we bring in tribute for your gifts through all our days.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Triune God, to you we sing!" Voices Raised to You (ELW 845)*

Thanksgiving has to be one of my favorite holidays that is not one of our recognized Christian holidays in the church. However, giving thanks and praise to God is certainly a wonderful practice and this holiday fits well in the mix. One of the great ways to give God thanks and praise is in song. While there are many great hymns, this one struck a chord with me in this season.

"Voices raised to you we offer; tune them, God, for songs of praise." This line is for the skilled musician and for the individual who couldn't clap on beat or sing a simple line. The text is not about a beautiful melody, but about God taking our voices to make them fit for songs of praise: tuning them to be rightly praising our God.

Often we find ourselves not rightly focused on truly praising and thanking God. Perhaps we are overly focused on our appearance as Christians in the sight of others. Perhaps we are overly focused on the things in life rather than the God who has given us all good things. Perhaps we live in fear that we won't have enough. Our list can easily go on with the worries and distractions that can detour us from praising and thanking God. But here we ask that God would tune us to rightly bring our voices in praise of God.

I hear these words and remember a friend who helped lead camp worship regularly. He would hit maybe one in ten notes. He would clap way off beat. But he brought energy and joy in praising the Lord. May we be tuned like that in this season. Life always brings many worries and difficulties, but we have so much to thank God for in praise. Let our heart be tuned to praise our God as we give thanks in all circumstances. Alleluia!

Praise
the Lord

PRAYER

Abide With Me

Margie Guelker, Visitation Pastor

I recently finished another Kristen Hannah book, *The Great Alone*. This epic story takes place in Alaska and Hannah writes about the beauty of Alaska, but also the long cold winters with darkness 24/7.

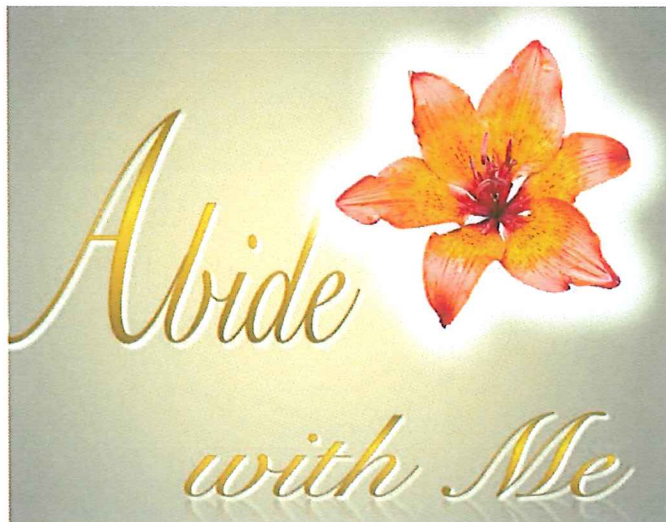
I found myself thinking, "And we think we've got it bad in our seemingly endless dark days of late fall and winter!"

Since I've lost my ability to drive at night I have sometimes felt like I've been imprisoned during those months. I check to see when the sun will be going down and make plans for appointments, etc., accordingly. I appreciate it when there are worship services during the day at Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Lent. I am grateful for those who can drive at night when they pick me up for something special.

But still there is something lonely about those long dark evenings when we've drawn the blinds by the time the evening news comes on.

Might this be a time to invite Jesus into our dwelling and spend some time in prayer remembering the blessing of summer days and the memory of time well spent with friends, neighbors, and family, and giving thanks for that blessing? Maybe you could pray for the news stories on TV or in the newspaper. There is simply no end of the things and people for which we can pray. Make use of our darkness and begin to see it as a gift, because it is.

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide,
The darkness deepens, Lord with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.
(ELW 272)



SERVE & THANKS

Give Thanks

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

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; His steadfast love endures forever. Psalm 107:1

Happy fall y'all! There is so much to be thankful for this season. Today and always, I give thanks to God for the call to work here at St. Philip's. The kiddos, families, the whole congregation, and our community bless my life in so many ways. I am forever grateful for the opportunity to partner with you all in my ministry here.

So many exciting things are going on and coming up for the Children, Youth & Family Ministry program. We recently celebrated this year's Confirmands as they stood before us and affirmed the promises their families made during their baptisms. On Sunday mornings our youngest disciples are enjoying learning with Mr. Jack, while the middle and high school students are growing in their faith with me. On alternating Wednesday evenings, we gather to work on various service projects. The month of October we focused on our very own food and clothing shelf. We made bracelets, painted rocks, and assembled coloring books for the children who visit with their families.

It may be fall, but we are looking forward to Summer 2022 for the Mission Trip! Youth currently in grade 8 - grade 12 are going to be Nashville bound! Please stay tuned for information on our various fundraising opportunities. One of which is the Holiday Market! That's right; it's back! Sunday, December 12, our youth will host the Holiday Market. If you would like to donate baked goods or other holiday items, more info will be coming soon!

Also on Sunday, December 12, our children and youth will be putting on the annual Christmas Pageant. . .live! That's right; join us at the 10:30 am worship service to hear the Christmas story told, in their own unique way!

See? So much to be thankful for! I pray you all have plenty to be thankful for this season, and always. Blessings to you.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LaRae Kazmierkoski, President

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good! November. . . the month of Thanksgiving! It is a month in which we usually pause to ponder all for which we are thankful. And, we begin to think of those who are less fortunate. We open our hearts to help feed those who need to be fed as we think of our Thanksgiving feasts. This year, we will provide 75 food baskets to those who need assistance, and provide Thanksgiving dinner to all who come to our community supper the night before Thanksgiving. I thank God for all he has provided for me and know he continually lifts me up and cares for me. I enjoy giving back as much as I can, and pray that thanksgiving be in our hearts all year, not just during the month of November! It is a beautiful time of the year! Enjoy Thanksgiving, the beautiful colors of fall and the knowledge that we are loved! And, say an extra prayer of thanksgiving for all we have been given. Thanks be to God!

SERVE & THANKS

Board of Administration Highlights



- Property & Grounds continue to care for and improve St. Philip's building and grounds adding more parking lot lighting, new doors, security camera, scheduling the roof replacement, and filling parking lot cracks
- New Mover cards are mailed monthly to new residents who have just moved into the area, and invite cards with a St. Philip's magnet are going out to the community and at the Trunk & Treat event. Both of these cards let people know St. Philip's is here for them
- Preparation of the 2022 budget has begun
- New version of the St. Philip's Constitution has been prepared following Synod guidelines and their provided model; the draft has been reviewed by the BOA who will decide at its November meeting if the new version of the constitution is ready to present to the congregation for approval at the annual meeting

Chore Corps

The Chore Corps got off to a roaring start with 17 volunteers working 87 hours on the "pilot" project in early October. Shrubs and trees were removed, plants were trimmed down, flower gardens were cleaned out, a small deck and front pillars were painted, trees were trimmed, limbs were chipped up, windows were washed, blinds and baseboards were cleaned, and more. Four other smaller projects have been completed so far in October. They included leaf cleanup, mowing, putting plastic on the windows of a screen porch, and repairing a storm door that wouldn't close.

If you need help with a seasonal chores or household maintenance tasks that you are unable to do yourself, email Sue Rosholt [gsrosholt@comcast.net or 763-245-0075]. The Chore Corps can help with yardwork, minor household repairs, changing lightbulbs, moving furniture, holiday decorating, and more.

If you have some time to help others with chores, contact Diane Campeau [dccampeau46@gmail.com or 612-669-5166] to have your name added to the Chore Corps volunteer pool. You'll then receive information about upcoming projects. Volunteer as often as you want on projects that fit your schedule and skills.

All ages are welcome!



Update

St. Philip's Disaster Relief Team



St. Philip's Disaster Relief (SPDR) planned to send a team to the Galveston, TX area October 16 - 24 to help those still impacted by Hurricane Harvey (2017). The SPDR coordinators had been communicating with partners in Houston and Galveston for several weeks concerning jobs and team lodging and plans had come together. Trip registration was held at the end of September, but only a few individuals registered. The difficult decision was made to cancel the trip. The Texas partners were contacted about the cancellation and they replied with only positive words about SPDR ministry's work in past years.

SPDR continues to coordinate and communicate with partners in several states following fires, floods, and the nearly two dozen hurricanes over the past two years. Numerous monetary donations have been made to national and regional disaster relief groups to assist those impacted by U.S. wildfires, Middle Tennessee flooding, Haiti earthquake, the Texas winter storm, and several U.S. hurricanes. Many of those donations were matched by Thrivent.

Even though SPDR trips have been put on hold the last two years, the Disaster Relief ministry remains an active outreach of St. Philip's and looks forward to resuming the work of rebuilding homes and lives. Thank you for the continued support and prayers.

Thanksgiving Baskets

We will be providing Thanksgiving baskets to 75 members of the community who register through the Food & Clothing Shelf and the office. A board, listing items needed can be found by Door 2 and in the Narthex. Items needed are: instant potatoes, boxes of stuffing, jars of gravy, tuna, macaroni & cheese, cereal, cans of vegetables and fruit, hearty soups, Jell-O, pudding, and peanut butter. If you choose to make a monetary donation, please make sure to designate it for "Thanksgiving baskets" on the memo line of your check or online giving. We will be happy to shop for you! All donations must be received by Wednesday, November 17. Thank you for your support and generosity.



Coats for Kids

On Thursday, October 14 members of the Benevolence Committee delivered almost 100 coats to Hayes and North Park Elementary schools, Fridley High School, Fridley Middle School, and the Alternative Learning Center.

THANKS & PRAYER

Bare Brown Earth

Lynette Thompson, Garden Group

The 2021 harvest is done. Most, if not all, evidence of growing vegetables, has disappeared from the garden beds. Organic matter that is free of disease is placed in our compost bins. Other debris is sent to the yard waste containers. The end result of fall clean up looks like a dull lifeless brown empty space.

As crazy as it may sound, this is an appropriate time of thanksgiving for this space. Year after year this bare brown earth has responded to our plantings. This soil has stored water, provided space for roots to intertwine, supported vines and bush style structures, and provided a safe environment for worms and other living creatures.

We humans have accepted responsibility to steward this space. Many of us relate stewardship to the creation story in the biblical text. Methods and opinions of how to steward our natural resources now vary wildly. Evidence of climate change influences proposals and plans of action.

My appeal to you is to substitute the word sustainability for stewardship. Stewardship of our earthly gifts is worthy indeed, but stewardship could be weakened into short term temporary fixes. Sustainability pushes us to further frontiers. Sustainability requires us to look beyond our lifetimes. Sustainability is our promise to align resources for future generations to maintain God's creation.

SUSTAINABILITY

2021 Holiday Book Fair Cancelled

Library Group

The Holiday Book Fair originally scheduled for Sunday, November 21 has been postponed until 2022. The COVID pandemic has not dissipated enough for a successful book fair to be held.

Keep on reading and remember that books make excellent gifts. Visit The Red Balloon Bookshop (St. Philip's partner for many years in the annual Holiday Book Fair) at 891 Grand Avenue, St. Paul, or visit their website [www.redballoonbookshop.com]



Christian Yoga—Temporarily Suspended



Christian Yoga will be taking a hiatus during November due to the instructor's ongoing health issues. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers. You can stay connected through any of the St. Philip's publications as we will provide additional information when applicable. If you have any questions, please contact the office [info@splcmn.org].

Garage Sale Fund Recipients

Garage Sale Group

At our final garage sale meeting, the group made decisions as to how to disburse profits from this year's garage sale. This year's recipients include:

St. Philip's Property & Grounds:

- Additional roof expenses - \$4,000
- Parking lot lights - \$2,000
- Parking lot security cameras - \$2,000
- Parking lot repairs - \$3,600
- Make Door 11 a keyless entry - \$1,338



St. Philip's Groups and Ministries:

- Benevolence Committee (Fridley schools, Thanksgiving baskets, and CUB cards) - \$1,000
- Gas cards - \$1,000
- Good Samaritan Fund - \$3,000
- Items for the kitchen - \$1,000
- Meals on Wheels - \$1,000
- Mitten Makers - \$500
- Special Music (Christmas musicians, etc.) - \$500
- Take out containers for the Community Supper - \$750

Community Outreach:

- Arise Prison Ministries - \$1,000
- Dress for Success - \$500
- Every Meal - \$500
- Growing through Loss - \$500
- Hope4Youth - \$1,500
- Stepping Stone - \$1,500

Because of your support and the hard work of the garage sale volunteers, we are able to do amazing things. Thank you! See you next year for our St. Philip's 25th Annual Garage Sale!

THANKS & PRAYER

Endowment Committee

The St. Philip's Endowment Fund

September gifts were received in memory and honor of

Janet Beaupre

Rita Lund

Henry Charles Smith III

Wayne Welch

Other special gifts

Ron & Char Cadzwell's 50th Anniversary

Appreciation of Erna Thomley's 55 - year Membership

Gifts in any amount may be given in memory of someone or to participate in the present and future of St. Philip's through the Endowment Fund. Gifts may take the form of cash, personal property, stocks and bonds, life insurance or bequests from 401K, IRA & other retirement accounts.

For more information on St. Philip's Endowment Fund visit our website at [\[www.splcmn.org\]](http://www.splcmn.org). Select the *Ministries* tab and click on *Endowment*. Also, envelopes and pamphlets are in the office.

Thank you for your support!

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



November

Vincent & Janet Lanners on 11/22/1958 for 63 Years

Paul & Grace Wilson on 11/28/1959 for 62 Years

Ronald & Karla Ackerman on 11/26/1966 for 55 Years

David & Dawn Fennig on 11/4/1967 for 54 Years

Gerald & Virginia Olson on 11/30/1968 for 53 Years

Charles & Janet Scovill on 11/29/1969 for 52 Years

Charles & Carolyn Kennedy on 11/17/1973 for 48 Years

Cynthia & Anthony Weber on 11/30/1974 for 47 Years

Patricia & Mike Mandyck on 11/5/1983 for 38 Years

Chuck & Sue Kempf on 11/16/1985 for 36 Years

Karie & Lynn Bergeron on 11/4/1989 for 32 Years

Joe & Paula Gonsior on 11/17/1990 for 31 Years

Gilbert & Mary Haugan on 11/15/1996 for 25 Years

William & Michelle Hatten on 11/28/1998 for 23 Years

Brian & Misty Gilbertson on 11/20/1999 for 22 Years

Dana & Sonja Menard on 11/4/2006 for 15 Years

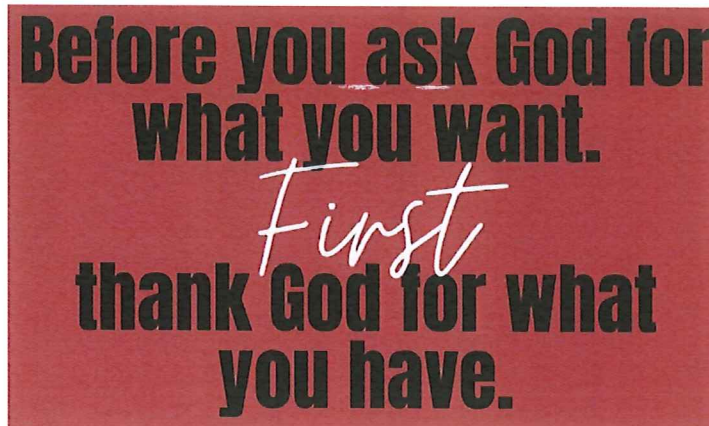
Jorge & Kellie Bernal on 11/6/2010 for 11 Years

Frost & Amada Simula on 11/26/2016 for 5 Years



Financials

St. Philip's 2021	Actual September	Actual YTD
Income	\$37,915.66	\$510,298.75
Expense	(\$57,766.54)	(\$516,118.25)
TOTALS	(\$19,850.88)	(\$5,819.50)



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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DavidG@splcmn.org

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

Dawn Hansen, Bells of Praise Volunteer Handbell Director

dawng48@hotmail.com

Katie Swenstad, Facility Coordinator

KatieS@splcmn.org, ext. 109

Michelle Hill, Part-Time Custodian

Worship Schedule

9:00 am Traditional

10:30 am Contemporary

- Access worship livestreams on our website [\[www.splcmn.org\]](http://www.splcmn.org)
- Past worship 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

November 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 1:00 pm Joy Circle 7:00 pm GA Mtg.; Gam-Anon Mtg.	2 Election Day 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food and Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm Prayer Group - Facebook Live 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	3 8:30 am Men's Work Crew; WOW 9:00 am Quilters 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:30 pm Community Supper 6:30 pm Bell Rehearsal 7:00 pm JUSTMove Mtg.; Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	4 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	5 10:00 am Food and Clothing Shelf	6
7 Daylight Savings Time Ends All Saints' Sunday 9:00 am Worship 9:30 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship	8 10:00 am Parish Fellowship Mtg. 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries 1:30 pm Benevolence Committee Mtg. 7:00 pm GA Mtg.; Gam-Anon Mtg.	9 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food and Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 2:30 pm Heritage Group Mtg. 6:30 pm Prayer Group - Facebook Live 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	10 8:30 am Men's Work Crew; WOW 10:00 am Women's Book Club; EA Mtg. 1:00 pm Widow's Group 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:30 pm Community Supper 6:30 pm SPARK Generosity 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	11 Veterans Day 7:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	12 10:00 am Food and Clothing Shelf	13
14 9:00 am Worship 9:30 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship	15 Friend Articles Due 9:30 am Glory Circle 6:30 pm Executive Mtg. 7:00 pm GA Mtg.; Gam-Anon Mtg.	16 9:00 am Library Group 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food and Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm Prayer Group - Facebook Live 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	17 8:30 am Men's Work Crew; WOW 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 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	18 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	19 10:00 am Food and Clothing Shelf	20
21 9:00 am Worship 9:30 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship	22 1:30 pm Knitters & Crocheters 6:30 pm Board of Administration Mtg. 7:00 pm GA Mtg.; Gam-Anon Mtg.	23 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food and Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm Prayer Group - Facebook Live 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	24 8:30 am Men's Work Crew; WOW 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:30 pm Community Supper 6:30 pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship; SPARK Generosity 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	25 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	26 Native American Heritage Day Office Closed Food and Clothing Shelf Closed	27
28 9:00 am Worship 9:30 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship	29 7:00 pm GA Mtg.; Gam-Anon Mtg.	30 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food and Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm Prayer Group - Facebook Live 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal				



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).