



The Friend

Holy Week

April 10 - Palm Sunday

9:00 and 10:30 am

April 14 - Maundy Thursday

7:00 pm

April 15 - Good Friday Cantata

7:00 pm

Easter

Sunday, April 17

9:00 and 10:30 am



April 2022

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PRAYER & SERVE

Fellowship

Matt Flom, Pastor

24 And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:24-25

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Grace, love, and peace be to you from God, our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As we all know, the pandemic moved most churches to live stream their worship services on the internet. We went through a season together of learning new technologies and what it means to worship in the kitchen or living room. The new way of worship has been a boon to folks who were shut-ins before the pandemic. It has also resulted in folks reconnecting with the church. There is a lively debate among church leaders and pastors these days about worship attendance and live streaming worship services. Researchers say that most congregations have in-person attendance numbers that are a third to half of what they were before the big change. There is a fear that many people just won't come back in person and so there are leaders who are urging congregations to not put their services on the internet. As your pastor here at St. Philip's, I believe that we should keep on streaming our services. It is true, much of our worship attendance is on the internet. We have to learn to look at in-person worship attendance in a new light. If we stop live streaming to force people to come in person, we will exclude many folks who can't come. I also strongly believe that the church should never withhold the Word and Sacraments from folks in order to manipulate behavior, even if it's for a good cause.

All that said, I do encourage you to come back as soon as you feel comfortable. The fellowship of the saints is crucial in so many ways. We truly do need each other. We are also making a few changes in worship. We will continue to have sealed communion cups available for folks at home and in person (gluten free as well). Starting in April, we will be using small cups from the trays for communion. The first Sunday of the month will be at the communion rail and the other Sundays will be at stations with trays. Folks can always choose to have sealed cups. We tried this on Ash Wednesday and had overwhelmingly positive feedback. We will need volunteers to serve and so we are sending out emails to see if folks are willing. If you would like to serve or would like to find out more, please contact Jenni in the office. Whether you worship at home online or in person, may the worship services be a blessing to you.



Hope for Spring in Minnesota

Eric Nelson, Associate Pastor

Folks who have lived around Minnesota and the surrounding midwestern states know how the transition to springtime often works. We could spend a few days in shorts and then get the shovels out again for the last blast or two of winter storms. But spring is coming.

This can occasionally feel like our hopes in the faith as well. Christ has died and risen to save all from the punishment of sin. We long for the full death of this destructive force of sin in the world. We live in hope for this and we move toward it.

But then we hear news of Ukrainian children being pulled out of the rubble from the attacks that stun and confuse much of the rest of the world. Where is the hope? Where is the death of sin? Sin and evil appear to be alive and well. And we don't have to look across the globe for these wonderings either. Plenty of pain and sin surround us much closer to home as well. People hurt in our own communities. . . families even, from destructive forces in the world.

Yet, we live in hope. When the April blizzard comes we do not resign ourselves to thinking winter will never end (even if it might feel like it some years). No, we know spring and summer will come. We know this to be the true and next progression of things.

This is how we ought to handle our hope as Christians in the world as well. Keep the shovel ready, able to do work when the storms come, but keep the shorts ready too. Know that good things are coming and bring this hope with you even as you carry your shovel.

We are called to work in the difficult seasons and remain in hope for the seasons to come.

In all of this, we are able to glorify God, knowing God will carry us through the difficulty and will bring hope beyond our wildest imagination.

Rest in hope. Get your shovel and your shorts. Share the love of Christ in each season.



PRAYER

Christian Faith

Margie Guelker, Visitation Pastor

My mother passed from this life on Good Friday 27 years ago. It was a devastating blow to our family. I called the Bishop to tell him and ask for prayers. He kindly asked if I wanted him to come to hold my services and preach for me on Easter Sunday. I thanked him but declined saying that I needed to preach resurrection and then we would get on with the funeral.

I think of that Easter so often. I needed the promise of the resurrection to see me through. And now my father has recently passed from this life so many years later. His was a peaceful passing, so that is comfort in itself. He had lived a long, full life. He was 98 and chose to go on hospice toward the end.

A neighbor in his assisted living building stopped by a few days before he passed and told him he was just checking in. My dad smiled and said he was just checking out.

It is our Christian faith that gives us the peace, strength and courage to live a full life in the face of all that life can throw at us. It is also our Christian faith that gives us the peace, strength, and courage to pass gently from this life.

Easter is the promise we are given that this life is the threshold into eternal life. The stone is rolled away. The grave clothes are folded neatly. The trumpets sound. The flowers spread their glory and fragrance everywhere. And all shall be well. Thank you, Jesus, for your promise of eternal life!

Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen, Indeed!



Spring Into . . .

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

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Psalm 51:10

Grace and peace to you! As I write this, it is a beautiful, 60 degree spring day. The birds are chirping, snow is melting...and I'm wearing my sandals! I love days like this, they always make me sit in awe of the beauty of creation. I especially love springtime because it is a time of new growth, and renewed energy. A time to "spring into" gardening, or take time to enjoy other hobbies that winter might not allow us to do. A time to ask God to renew our spirits.

Something that is sure to renew energy and spirits, is to watch the joy of children and youth as they participate in and look forward to various events. Coming up on Maundy Thursday, we will get to witness some children receive their First Communion. Their families have brought them to class, and together we will get to show our support and excitement for them at that special service.

Energy is certainly ramping up with the children & youth here at St. Philip's as we get closer to summer. We have a few kids going to Camp WAPO this summer, so stay tuned for info and dates for the fundraiser to "Light Their Fire" as they prepare to go to camp. The youth attending the mission trip to Nashville are counting down the days now! They have waited for this trip for two years and are so excited! On behalf of the children, youth, and their families, thank you so much for continuing to support them, both financially and through prayers.

There is sure to be some positive energy on Palm Sunday. The youth and chaperones attending the Mission Trip will "spring into" action early that morning to bake some yummy cinnamon rolls! The rolls will be on sale between worship services and after second service...if there are any left! Be sure to save the date for Sunday, April 10.

Again, thank you for your continued support of our children, youth, and their families. I pray you are able to find God in your lives, and that you are moved to "spring into" something that brings you happiness.



THANKS & SERVE

Budding Beauty

LaRae Kazmierkoski, President

I look out of the window and see winter gradually melting away, which is such a good sight! We patiently wait through the cold and snow, knowing that spring, with its warmth and budding beauty, will eventually appear. We have a few weeks of brown, dull landscape, but soon beautiful buds will appear, and leaves will begin forming on the trees. I think the season of Lent is something like that. We patiently watch the weeks slip by, awaiting the rolling away of the stone and Jesus to appear in all His glory! So many things are worth the wait if we are willing to endure and be patient. So, rejoice in the rolling away of the stone and the beauty of the world which is springing forth around us. Easter blessings to each of you!

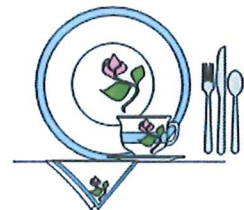
Board of Administration Highlights



- BOA appointments of president, vice-president, and treasurer
- Announcement of Katie Swenstad's promotion to business manager

Save the Date Festival of Tables, 2023

The Parish Fellowship Committee is happy to announce that next year's Festival of Tables event will be held on Saturday, April 22, 2023. We were sad to have to cancel this year's Festival but are happy to have a date on the calendar for next year. Watch for information closer to the end of the year. Happy Easter!



Meals on Wheels - Spring is Here!



Well maybe not quite yet! A huge thank you to all who helped deliver Meals on Wheels the first week of March in the cold and ice! You are truly God's hands and feet to help feed those in need.

God's blessings to Cathy & Neal Anderson, Monica Anderson, Gidget & Edd Brooks, Phyllis & Larry Ehlers, Kathy & Chuck Eichelberger, Steve Ess, Harlan Hohenstein, Ellen & Roger Musolf, Sandy & Eldy Nelson, Jennifer Prasek & Jody Davis, Lynette Thompson, and Dawn & Richard Young.

Walking Alone Together

Widow Group is now, "Walking Alone Together" and will meet the second Wednesday of the month in Room 1!

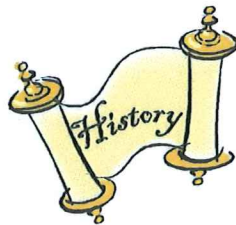
Clothing Shelf—To Our Generous Donators

We want to thank you for your generous donations to the St. Philip's Clothing Shelf. We have had so many positive comments regarding the quality and the care of the garments donated. It presents a real sense of dignity for those we serve. You have been Christ to so many and it is appreciated.

We respectfully ask that you donate clothing only. The type of clothing we cannot use; men's suits and sport coats, uniforms, stained and torn clothing, and coats/clothes that need to be dry cleaned.

Please do not donate toys, books, pillows, suitcases, backpacks, or any household items. We do not have storage for these items. If you have questions regarding items to be donated, please call Judy Greer [763-350-8755] or Karen Block [763-234-6915].

Heritage Group



The congregation's help is requested in identifying a number of items that have been given to the Heritage Group. Over the next few months, we will be including pictures of these items in the *Friend*.

We would appreciate any information on who donated the item, where the item came from, or how the item has been displayed in the past.

We believe the first two pieces are examples of Hmong artwork. The larger piece is approximately 100"x75". The smaller is approximately 33"x33".

The Heritage Group thanks you in advance for any help you can give us! Please send any comments or questions to Richard Lekang [richardlekang@comcast.net], Carol Anderson [caa0204@aol.com], or Kathy Swenson [kathyaswenson@outlook.com].



THANKS & SERVE



New Books in the Library

We invite you to "check out" some of the new books we have to offer in the Library. There is something for everyone!

- *Help, Thanks, Wow* by Anne Lamott. This book is three essential prayers.
- *The Lightkeepers* by Abby Geni. In this book, we follow Miranda, a nature photographer who travels to the Farallon islands, an exotic and dangerous archipelago off the coast of California, for a one year residency capturing the landscape. Shortly after her arrival, Miranda is assaulted by one of the inhabitants of the islands. A few days later, her assailant is found dead, perhaps the result of an accident. And when more violence occurs, each member of this strange community falls under suspicion.
- *The Lost Girls of Paris* by Pam Jenoff. This is a remarkable story of friendship and courage centered around three women and a ring of female secret agents during World War II. 1946, Manhattan.
- *The Twelve Days of Christmas in Minnesota* by Constance Van Hoven. On each of the twelve days during her Christmas visit with her cousin Jack, Hannan writes home describing the history, geography, animals, and interesting sites of Minnesota that she has explored.
- *Boundary Waters* by William Kent Krueger. Former sheriff Cork O'Connor leads a desperate search and rescue mission into the unforgiving Minnesota wilderness in this "gritty, bloody adventure".
- *A Christmas Story* by Brian Wildsmith. Rebecca, a young girl living in Nazareth, accompanies a small donkey searching for its mother to a stable in Bethlehem where they both witness a special event.
- *Christmas Song of the North* by Marsha Bonicatto. Follows the pattern of "The Twelve Days of Christmas" to introduce the forest animals of the north woods during the winter months. Includes information about the animals.
- *The Nature of the Beast* by Louise Penny. Hardly a day goes by when nine year old Laurent LePage doesn't cry wolf. From alien invasions, to talking trees, to winged beasts in the woods, to dinosaurs spotted in the village of Three Pines, his tales are so extra-ordinary no one can possibly believe him. But, when the boy disappears, the villagers are faced with the possibility that one of his tall tales might have been true.
- *Alzheimer's Caregivers* by Coach Frank Broyes. This playbook for Alzheimer's Caregivers is a practical tips guide. This book deals with caring for people with Alzheimer's and describes the three stages of the disease and how to help those affected by each stage.

Sack Family Letter 2022

Greetings to our good friends and family far and near. We pray this missive finds you well and sustained by love, while adapting to the many challenges of our unusual times. Allow us to share the latest events in our family.

Jon continues his work by day on the first grade team at the nearby American School in Japan, and by night with online math tutoring. Along with school, *Kaya* (10, 4th grade) and *Nina* (8, 2nd grade) are involved in abacus lessons three times a week, dance lessons and cooking classes. Both girls speak, read and write very well in both Japanese and English, which helps their grandparents a lot. *Miho* ably supports all members of the family and keeps the home center running smoothly for their busy comings and goings. We still can't believe our good fortune in having them live within a healthy morning walk's distance.

Zelda (Bethany) and *Nate* and beloved dog *Leila* have been in Detroit for a year. *Zelda* has leaned into her new love of gardening, while also studying for (and passing the first of three) acupuncture board exams. *Nate* has been transitioning from ten years of teaching into new creative endeavors as he finishes up his master's degree in Sustainable Design. As 2022 comes, they are actively seeking ways to move back to Japan. Both grandma and grandpa are happy about that.

Emmy is living with her partner *Brian* and two other friends in Santa Barbara, CA. This past year, she made the move out of the tech world into the food industry, and is now working at a local specialty olive oil and vinegar shop called *il Fustino*. Outside of work, she has been enjoying exploring the outdoors, experimenting with recipes, and spending quality time with her pup, *Dune*. She spent two months here in Japan over the summer.

Jim continues to thoroughly enjoy teaching theology at the Japan Lutheran College and the Theological Seminary, as well as pastoral clinical psychology at the graduate school. He has come to know how fortunate he has been to have his ministry in education. "I am so blessed to be able to teach, because through that activity I have had the privilege to be a learner on a daily basis. Each and every student has been one of my teachers." In his spare time, if not spending time with *Kaya* and *Nina*, you will find him out in the garden, enjoying all that nature has to offer.

Carol has had the remarkable opportunity to live with her mother *Miriam* (104 ½ years into this life!), right in her nursing home apartment in downtown Minneapolis for the first half of the year from February - June. *Zelda* joined for the first whole month, so we had three generations living and learning together. *Miriam* is quite an inspiration. *Carol* would like to close this letter with her mother's often repeated words of wisdom: (1) "This too shall pass." (2) "Remember, it's only money." (3) "Don't borrow trouble." And finally, (4) "You take what comes~~ with gratitude!" She should know! God Bless Everyone!

Pictures of the Sack Family can be found on the bulletin board outside of the Nursery.

SERVE & THANKS

St. Philip's Disaster Relief Spring Trip

Mike Anderson & Renee Johnson



Plans are moving forward to send a team to Middle Tennessee to help with the rebuilding efforts in an area just west of Nashville that was hit by flooding a year ago and tornadoes in December. Dates for the trip are Friday, May 6 - Saturday, May 14. Building skills are not required, just a willingness to help your neighbors in Tennessee. If you are interested in joining the team for this trip and have not received trip information via email, please email SPDR at [spdr@splcmn.org] or call Mike Anderson at [612-209-8529]. Watch St. Philip's publications and media in April for more details about the trip.

The Journey Continues

Endowment Committee

The St. Philip's Endowment Fund

February gifts were received in memory and honor of

Nelda Berry

Michael Blair

Larry & Meredith Hille

Tom Kallroos

David Yerigan

For more information on St. Philip's Endowment Fund visit our website at [www.splcmn.org]. Select the *Ministries* tab and click on *Endowment*. Envelopes and pamphlets are in the office.

The Endowment Committee is happy to announce that the grant monies available for 2022 is \$16,440. Grant request forms are available in the church office and will be accepted through Friday, April 15.

Thank you for your support!

Financials

St. Philip's 2022	Actual February	Actual YTD
Income	\$74,025.19	\$134,998.72
Expense	(\$54,968.33)	(\$115,268.16)
TOTALS	\$19,056.86	\$19,730.56



April

Leland and Marilyn Drossel on 4/23/1965 for 57 years
 David and Shirley Hogan on 4/3/1971 for 51 years
 Steve and Lisa Clovning on 4/30/1977 for 45 years
 Nancy and Martin Menzia on 4/22/1978 for 44 years
 Lee and Betty Hinnenkamp on 4/12/1978 for 44 years
 Steven and Kay Haglund on 4/25/1981 for 41 years
 Joe and WendyWegleitner on 4/14/1984 for 38 years
 Gwendolen and Patrick Zeman on 4/5/1986 for 36 years
 Cameron and Rhonda Ollila on 4/4/1992 for 30 years
 Michael and Nancy Varichak on 4/3/1993 for 29 years
 Ray and Patty Fabian Jr. on 4/23/2005 for 17 years
 Brian and Jessica Munsterman on 4/8/2006 for 16 years
 Jonathan and Julie Kosbab on 4/28/2007 for 15 years
 Lauren and Jennifer Goldenstein on 4/25/2015 for 7 years



The friends and family of:
Norma Hotvedt-Iacono

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

Pastor Matt Flom, Pastor

MattF@splcmn.org, ext. 112

Eric Nelson, Associate Pastor

EricN@splcmn.org, ext. 110

Pastor Margie Guelker, Visitation Pastor

MargieG@splcmn.org

Katie Swenstad, Business Manager

KatieS@splcmn.org, ext. 104

Jenni Anderson, Communications Director

JenniA@splcmn.org, ext. 101

Jerry Salitros, Bookkeeper

JerryS@splcmn.org, ext. 106

Connie Yerigan, Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries

ConnieY@splcmn.org, ext. 107

Jenn Marquardt, Nursery Ministry Worker

lilac1212@aol.com, ext. 107

Kathy Handford, Organist

KathyH@splcmn.org, ext. 103

Cheri Sykes, Worship Band Leader

CheriS@splcmn.org, ext. 103

Michael Croy, Drummer

croy0001@umn.edu, ext. 103

Adam Miller, Sanctuary Choir Director

AdamM@splcmn.org, ext. 103

Dawn Hansen, Bells of Praise Handbell Director

Dawng48@hotmail.com

Michelle Hill, Part-Time Custodian, ext. 114

Worship Schedule

9:00 am Traditional

10:30 am Contemporary

- Access worship livestreams on our website [www.splcmn.org]
- Past worship links can be found on our website, E-News, and app
- Nursery is available Sundays 9:30 - 11:30 am for children 3 months to 3 years

Board of Administration

BOA@splcmn.org

LaRae Kazmierkoski, President

laraekaz@aol.com

Brian Munsterman, Vice-President

bmunsterman@comcast.net

Barbara Cooper, Secretary

cooperstory@msn.com

Greg Rosholt, Treasurer

gsrosholt@comcast.net

Mike Anderson

flooddog97@gmail.com

Kari Davies

karidavies73@gmail.com

Aaron Gondorchin

zebular@gmail.com

Terry Jeglosky

terryjeglosky@gmail.com

Dianne Lundeen

dianne@gndrg.com

Kristine Poelzer

kpoelzer@msn.com

Missionaries: Jim & Carol Sack

Companion Congregation:

Bille Lutheran in Nigeria

Ministers: All members of the Parish

April 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 8:30 am Totino Grace Retreat 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf	2
3 9:00 am Worship 9:30 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship	4 1:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf; Joy Circle 7:00 pm Gambler Anonymous Mtg.;	5 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 11:30 am Garden Group 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm Prayer Group - Facebook Live 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	6 8:30 am Men's Work Crew 9:00 am Quilters 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:30 pm Community Supper 6:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm Lent Activities; Bells Rehearsal 7:00 pm Lent Worship	7 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	8 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf	9 3:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
10 Palm Sunday 9:00 am Worship 9:30 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:00 am Youth Cinnamon Roll Sale 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Youth Cinnamon Roll Sale 3:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	11 10:00 am Parish Fellowship Mtg. 1:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf; Global Health Ministries 7:00 pm Gambler Anonymous Mtg.; Gam-Anon Mtg.	12 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 2:00 pm Benevolence Committee Mtg. 2:30 pm Heritage Group Mtg. 6:30 pm Prayer Group - Facebook Live 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	13 8:30 am Men's Work Crew; WOW 10:00 am Women's Book Club; EA Mtg. 1:00 pm Walking Alone Together 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:30 pm Community Supper 6:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm Bells Rehearsal	14 9:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	15 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf 7:00 pm Good Friday Cantata	16
17 Happy Easter! 9:00 am Worship 9:30 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship	18 Office Closed Friend Articles Due 9:30 am Glory Circle 1:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 6:30 pm Executive Mtg. 7:00 pm Gambler Anonymous Mtg.	19 9:00 am Library Group 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm Prayer Group - Facebook Live	20 8:30 am Men's Work Crew 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 6:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm Bells Rehearsal; SPARK Generosity	21 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	22 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf	23
24 9:00 am Worship 9:30 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship 12:30 pm Youth Mission Trip Mtg.	25 1:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf; Global Health Ministries 1:30 pm Knitters & Crocheters 6:30 pm Board of Administration Mtg. 7:00 pm Gambler Anonymous Mtg.; Gam-Anon Mtg.	26 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 6:30 pm Prayer Group - Facebook Live 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	27 8:30 am Men's Work Crew; WOW 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:30 pm Community Supper 6:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm Bells Rehearsal	28 9:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	29 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf	30



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).