

The Friend

ALL ARE WELCOME!



August 2023

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GROW & WORSHIP

A Part of the Group

Matt Flom, Pastor

*For where two or three are gathered together in my name,
there am I in the midst of them. Matthew 18:20*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ Jesus,

Grace, love, and peace be to you from God, our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We all know that every Christian is called to help bring people to Jesus. For some, it is their primary ministry, but we all need to be inviting people regularly and being hospitable to guests. Most of the time when we think about inviting people to our congregation, we imagine inviting them to worship. Studies have shown that a majority of the unchurched would go to worship if someone they know would just invite them. I also want to point out that there are many other opportunities to invite people.

I don't know of anyone who doesn't want to be helpful or at least feel like they are needed. If you are volunteering for a ministry at church, think about inviting someone to come with you and help. The garage sale is a great example. We are all gathering items to donate. If you have a box that is too heavy, ask someone to help you bring it in. Then introduce them to the folks working at the sale. Or maybe you like shopping at the garage sale. Invite someone to come with you for a nice day out. Be sure to introduce them to other members. Let them know when you are volunteering at the sale and suggest that they come back then as well.

Another area is transportation. Perhaps you don't drive as much anymore. It's OK to ask a friend or relative to drive you to a church function like the festival of tables. Get them a ticket and invite them to the meal and program. They will get to visit with and know the members at the table. When you invite them to come with you to worship, they will already know several folks and will feel much more comfortable.

One of my favorite outreach events of the year is Trunk & Treat. A great way to invite someone is to ask them to come with you and decorate a vehicle. If your friend is creative, they might enjoy wearing a costume. Ask them to help you hand out candy; who doesn't like giving out candy for Halloween? It's another opportunity to introduce someone to other members.

The next steps are very important. After a person has accepted an invitation and has come to an event or worship, we then need to follow up with them. If they have helped, write a thank you note. If you get introduced to a visitor by another member, make sure you greet them the next time you see them. Also invite them to come back. Invite them to your small group or your service group. We need to shepherd people through the process from prospect - to visitor - to participant - to new member. It takes several connections and contacts for people to feel part of the group. It's a team effort and it's a lot of fun. Take some time and make a list of people you can first pray for and then invite into the life of our wonderful congregation.

Our Mighty God

Margie Guelker, Visitation Pastor

*He reached down from on high, he took me;
he drew me out of mighty waters. Psalm 18:16*

Many years ago, I was in Northern New Mexico with a friend. My interest was in visiting its many old mission churches. The art and the architecture fascinated me. They were sacred spaces of worship, and I couldn't get enough of them.

My friend told me that if I insisted on visiting all of these mission churches, I needed to go white water rafting on the Rio Grande with her. And so, I did.

We had a guide, and he gave us rudimentary instructions and we entered the river. We stopped part way down and he explained that we were about to enter a difficult passage. He said that if we lost our focus we would end up in the river.

Just as we approached this narrow rock passage a friend of his called to him from the road. He lost his concentration and the raft slid up the rock and out I went. I knew enough to keep my feet up because if they got stuck between the rocks I could drown. Down the river I went in the swift current.

The guide got the raft turned around and paddled back toward me. He reached down and grabbed me to pull me in shouting "Breathe! (Expletive) Breathe!" He was wiry and strong and got me back on board.

I'm sure I was in shock. My friend got my attention and asked what I was thinking. The psalm above came out of my mouth.

Our God is a mighty God who rescues us when we need rescuing. God sent his only Son to save us and for this I am grateful.

Facebook photos from New Mexico pop up on my feed every so often. A few days ago there was a picture of the Rio Grande near Pillar. It looked so peaceful and I remembered the miracle that I experienced in its waters and tears flowed from my eyes.

When has God reached down and drawn you out of mighty waters? Keep that memory close.

GROW & SERVE

Gather and Grow

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

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen. 2 Peter 3:18

Once upon a time, there were five very excited youth, and three brave chaperones who all climbed into a multi passenger van and embarked on a trip to Chicago. Eager to be God's hands and feet for those they would encounter and serve, this trip was sure to make an impact on each of them.

No, this isn't the intro to some novel with a catchy name, and it's not the opening monologue to this summer's best movie. What it is, is the start to what was an amazing week of our 2023 Mission Trip.

I don't want to give away too many details of our trip...I'm going to save that for the youth to share...so please ask them when you see them. I will say that it was life changing for each of us. We were called to Chicago to be God's hands and feet. Called to gather together to serve in a city with great need. We each grew stronger...in our faith, in our friendships, and in our minds.

Each evening we would gather together in worship and to reflect on the day. Sharing our highs, lows and God moments with each other. Allowing for a safe space and time to be open, honest, raw and genuine with each other...knowing that we were all gathered there together to grow and serve our Lord and the community.

I know I will forever cherish our time in Chicago. It is my prayer that our youth and chaperones will carry the experiences, and people we met along the way in their hearts for some time to come. I pray that each of you may always grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord too.

Summer is Flying By!

Brian Munsterman, President

Wow, this summer is flying by fast! I hope everyone is able to enjoy one more month until summer is over, and we head back to the everyday hustle and bustle of life. The garage sale is coming up quick (reminder to drop off your items!). I know that the garage sale is always a time-consuming affair, but it is one that the community always looks forward to and loves. Summer vacations will soon be over, and the kids will go back to school. Enjoy this last month of summer activities, whether they be at home, at the lake, or out of town.

Board of Administration Meeting Highlights



- A staff and BOA retreat was held Saturday, July 22 at Totino Grace where attendees participated in conversations and brainstorming of ideas for St. Philip's.
- A new water bottle filling station was installed in the Fellowship Hall and a couple of others will be installed around the church soon.

Food & Clothing Shelf

The Food & Clothing Shelf is averaging 4,500 pounds of food distributed and 360 pounds of clothing every month. We average 40 first-time visitors each month which indicates the growth in our numbers and the number of people in need.

The first refrigerator we received from SHIP (Safety Health Improvement Partnership) 5 years ago is no longer cooling properly. They have agreed to provide us with a new replacement refrigerator. We give thanks for their generosity.

We also give thanks to St. Philip's member donations that continue to keep this ministry funded, offering those in need a dignified choice of food and clothing.

SPDR Fall Trip

St. Philip's Disaster Relief



The 2023 SPDR Fall trip is scheduled for Saturday, September 30 - Sunday, October 8.

At this time we are planning to go to Mayfield, KY. Western Kentucky was struck by several tornadoes in the summer of 2021 affecting many communities. We are currently working on the team registration process with UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Recovery). More information will be published in the coming weeks concerning final plans and the registration process.

Benevolence Committee Backpack Drive

The Benevolence Committee is asking for help in purchasing backpacks for Fridley Middle and High School students, as well as notebooks, loose leaf paper, and folders. Tags for requested items will be found in the Mission Corner. We will collect items in August. Stay tuned for specific dates in publications soon.



SERVE & GROW

26th Annual SPLC Garage Sale!



26th Annual SPLC Garage Sale

The time has arrived - donations for the garage sale can be dropped off:

August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4 1st Day to Drop Off Donations 9:00am to 7:00pm	5 Donation Drop-Off 9:00am to 4:00pm
6 Donation Drop-Off 9:00am to 12:00pm	7 Donation Drop-Off 9:00 am to 4:00pm	8 Donation Drop-Off 9:00am to 7:00pm	9 Donation Drop-Off 9:00am to 4:00pm	10 Donation Drop-Off 9:00 am to 7:00pm	11 Donation Drop-Off 9:00am to 4:00pm	12 Donation Drop-Off 9:00am to 1:00pm
13 Last Day to Drop Off Donations 9:00am to 12:00pm	14	15	16 Garage Sale Preview Night 5:00 to 8:00pm (\$3/admission)	17 Garage Sale 9:00am to 7:00pm	18 Garage Sale 9:00am to 7:00pm	19 Garage Sale Everything ½ Price! 9:00am to 12:00pm

What we CAN accept: gently used clothing & shoes (adult and children's), household goods, small appliances, craft and sewing supplies, jewelry, small chairs, lamps, end tables, collectibles, wall art and frames, decorative & holiday pieces, books, linens, tools/hardware items, lawn furniture, sporting goods, luggage, toys.

What we CANNOT accept: men's sport coats and suits, bed frames and headboards, mattresses, bed pillows, TV's, car seats, playpens, cribs, VHS/cassette tapes, Christmas trees, computers, monitors, printers, encyclopedias, large exercise equipment, chemicals.

NO Large Furniture accepted – if one person can't lift it, we can't take it. Thank you for understanding!

You can also donate snacks and beverages to fuel the many volunteers that make the garage sale happen! We welcome donations of cases of bottled water, cases of cans of pop and sparkling water, and assorted individual bags of chips . Please drop off snack and beverage donations in Room 6 by Sunday, August 13th.

In addition to sorting and displaying items to be sold, we are also looking for a cook for one or two days to supply meals to other volunteers. If you can help, please contact LaRae Kazmierkoski [laraekaz@aol.com or 763-571-4266].

2012 Colorado Fire Victims Update

Becky & Bob Becker

In 2015, SPDR worked on a house on Dirt Road in the mountains near Bellvue, Colorado, owned by Jackie and Randy Pierce. They had lost their house & all their belongings in the fire of 2012 and were rebuilding. SPDR helped install Hardy board siding and leveled the ground around two sides of the house. In 2016 another group helped with electrical and other projects. We got to know their story and came to love and admire them. We stayed in touch through Facebook.

When we learned that the Patriots Marching Band was marching in the Greeley Stampede parade on the Fourth of July, we knew it was time to make a road trip that included visiting Dirt Road. (Our granddaughter, Sonja, is in the band and we thought it would be fun to see her perform.)

On July 3rd we arrived in Bellvue and began the long journey up the mountain. We'd forgotten how far off the beaten path their house is. Jackie and Randy were warm and welcoming and were very open to giving us a tour of the house and grounds.

There's still a lot of work being done on the outside of the house, but the inside is complete except for the walkout area of the basement which is still Randy's shop. There is a bedroom and bathroom in one corner of the basement. The property looks totally different as they've removed all the dead burnt trees due to safety hazard. They never knew when a tree would fall over, spooking horse and human. New growth is coming back as Colorado had lots of snow last winter and rain this spring.

It was so nice to connect again with Randy and Jackie. If you're interested in reading more about the Pierces' story, there is a book in St. Philip's Library written by Jackie, *Talking Horse, How Equus Taught Me the Language of Hope*. (See synopsis below.)

Please keep them in your prayers as they continue the journey to complete recovery.

Synopsis of the book:

"Talking Horse is one woman's journey toward finding fortitude in the face of tragedy, and how horses inspired her to seek strength and hope over despair. In her memoir, Jacalyn Pierce details her experience with the death of her friend who bequeathed her two horses, and the subsequent loss of her home from a devastating wildfire in Colorado in 2012.

With moments of levity, Pierce captures the small joys in a world full of loss and destruction. With this personal account, she provides hope to readers everywhere to find a little bit of light in the darkness.

Jacalyn Pierce is a former Health, Biology, and Environmental Sciences instructor who taught passionately about the importance of protecting the natural environment and living sustainably. She resides in rural Colorado, where drought and climate change-fueled wildfires are becoming more frequent and intense. Pierce continues to advocate for protections for Colorado's wildlife and remaining wild spaces. She and her husband Randy live at 7,200 feet with horses, ducks, dogs, chickens, and a cat named Gimley."

SERVE & GROW

Endowment Fund

The St. Philip’s Endowment Fund

Be a Blessing to Future Generations!

Gifts were received in memory and honor of

Judy Maas

Harold & Grace Kurtz’s 60th Anniversary

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!

Financials

St. Philip’s 2023	Actual June	Actual YTD
Income	\$55,059.90	\$401,698.22
Expense	(\$65,340.77)	(\$391,533.86)
TOTALS	(\$10,280.87)	\$10,164.36

PRAYER

Life Events



Myron and Thelma Nash on 8/14/1960 for 63 years
Wayne and Mary Ellen Carlson on 8/18/1962 for 61 years
Charles & Kathleen Eichelberger on 8/10/1963 for 60 years
Spencer and Gay Minear on 8/27/1966 for 57 years
Sandy and Eldon Nelson on 8/12/1967 for 56 years
Edd and Gidget Brooks on 8/31/1968 for 55 years
Mike and Carol Anderson on 8/22/1970 for 53 years
Daryl and Carol Gabrielson on 8/11/1973 for 50 years
Larry and MarJean Stromberg on 8/3/1974 for 49 years

Cynthia and Richard Grove on 8/27/1977 for 46 years
Judy and Michael Greeron 8/28/1982 for 41 years
Paul and Nancy Buerkle on 8/4/1984 for 39 years
Jennifer Kunze and Jay Williams on 8/8/1998 for 25 years
Howard Thompson & Elaine Knutson on 8/1/1998 for 25 years
Joshua and Kris Glood on 8/17/2002 for 21 years
Michael and Anna Shimanski on 8/23/2008 for 15 years
Anna Heinrich and Joe Heinrich on 8/6/2016 for 7 years
Tom and Jordan Mesenbourg on 8/6/2018 for 5 years



*The friends and family
of:*

William McCloskey



7/16/2023

Mary Guzek

Trentyn Gideo

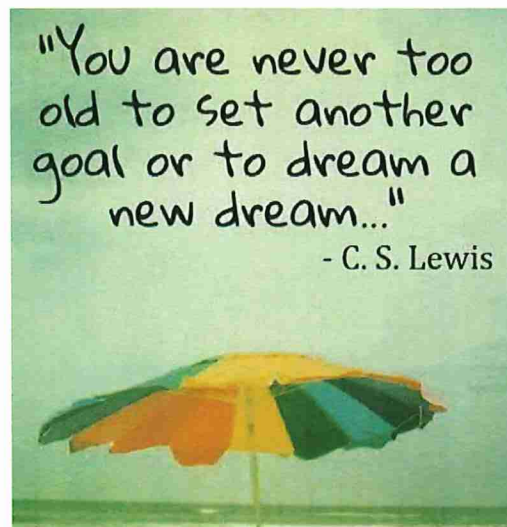
Gavyn Gideo

7/23/2023

Maxwell Challman

Kayla Challman

Friendly Takeaway



St. Philip's Lutheran Church

A member of the ELCA

www.splcmn.org ~ info@splcmn.org

Phone: 763-571-1500

Pastoral Emergency Phone: 612-930-1588

Church Staff

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EricN@splcmn.org, ext. 110

Pastor Margie Guelker, Visitation Pastor

MargieG@splcmn.org

Katie Swenstad, Business Manager

KatieS@splcmn.org, ext. 104

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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

Cheri Sykes, Worship Band Leader

CheriS@splcmn.org, ext. 103

Julie Lueck, Organist

Julie@splcmn.org

Dawn Hansen, Bells of Praise Handbell Director

Dawng48@hotmail.com

Rianna Swenstad, Nursery Ministry Worker

Ryan Gorka, A/V Technician

Michelle Hill, Part-Time Custodian

Everett Washington, Part-Time Custodian

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: 9:00 - 11:30 am for children 3 months - 3 years

Board of Administration

BOA@splcmn.org

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Missionaries: Jim & Carol Sack

Companion Congregation:

Bille Lutheran in Nigeria

Ministers: All members of the Parish

August 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	2 8:30 am Men's Work Crew 9:00 am Quilters - Cancelled 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:15 pm Community Supper 6:00 pm Prayer Service	3 9:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	4 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf 7:00 pm AA 9:00 am - 7:00 pm Garage Sale Donation Drop-Off	5 12:00 pm 55 and Under Work Crew 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Garage Sale Donation Drop-Off
6 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Worship 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Garage Sale Donation Drop-Off	7 1:00 pm Joy Circle - Cancelled 7:00 pm Gambler Anonymous Mtg. 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Garage Sale Donation Drop-Off	8 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together - Cancelled 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal 9:00 am - 7:00 pm Garage Sale Donation Drop-Off	9 8:30 am Men's Work Crew 9:00 am WOW (Women on Wednesday) 10:00 am EA Mtg.; Women's Book Club - Cancelled 1:00 pm Walking Alone Together - Cancelled 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:15pm Community Supper - Cancelled 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Garage Sale Donation Drop-Off	10 7:30 pm AA Mtg. 9:00 am - 7:00 pm Garage Sale Donation Drop-Off	11 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf 7:00 pm AA 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Garage Sale Donation Drop-Off	12 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Garage Sale Donation Drop-Off
13 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Worship 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Garage Sale Donation Drop-Off	14 10:00 am Parish Fellowship Mtg. - Cancelled 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries; Benevolence Mtg.- Cancelled 7:00 pm Gambler Anonymous Mtg.; Gam-Anon Mtg.	15 9:00 am Library Mtg - Cancelled 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together - Cancelled 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	16 8:30 am Men's Work Crew 9:00 am Quilters- Cancelled 10:00 am EA Mtg.; P&G Mtg. - Cancelled 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf - Closed 5:15pm Community Supper - Cancelled 5:00 - 8:00 pm Garage Sale Presale	17 9:00 am Men's Book Discussion; 7:30 pm AA Mtg. 9:00 am - 7:00 pm Garage Sale	18 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf - Closed 7:00 pm AA 9:00 am - 7:00 pm Garage Sale	19 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Garage Sale
20 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Worship	21 Friend Articles Due 9:30 am Glory Circle 6:30 pm Executive Mtg. 7:00 pm Gambler Anonymous Mtg.	22 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	23 8:30 am Men's Work Crew 9:00 am WOW (Women on Wednesday) 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:15pm Community Supper	24 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	25 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf 7:00 pm AA	26
27 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Worship	28 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries 1:30 pm Knitters & Crocheters 6:30 pm Board of Administration Mtg. 7:00 pm Gambler Anonymous Mtg.; Gam-Anon Mtg.	29 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	30 8:30 am Men's Work Crew 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:15 pm Community Supper	31 9:00 am Men's Book Discussion; 7:30 pm AA Mtg.		



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).