

The Friend



Worship Schedule:

October 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29

9:00 am (Traditional)

10:30 am (Contemporary)

Children & Youth Discipleship:

9:20 am

October 2023

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GROW & WORSHIP

Scrappy Church

Matt Flom, Pastor

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

Matthew 28:16-20

Grace, love, and peace be to you from God, our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In October, Pr. Eric and I will be preaching a series called Scrappy Church. The series is about congregational renewal and revitalization. The name comes from the idea that when a team is down, they need to not lose heart, but have a scrappy attitude. Throughout the 20 teens, St. Philip's declined for a dozen years. The congregation lost membership, worship attendance, and budget. St. Philip's also had a congregation dust up which saw many long-time members leave. Just before the pandemic we came together and had a congregation wide family discussion about change and our future. We started the process of turning things around and moving in a positive direction. Covid put a pause in our progress for sure, but now it's time to continue our positive movement. Change is difficult for everyone, but we must change if we want St. Philip's to continue.

We have an existential choice in front of us. If we keep doing things the way they have been done for many years the congregation will cease to exist in less than twelve years. It would mean the end of an incredible legacy handed down to us by many faithful people who build our faith community. The building would have to be sold and most likely it would be torn down and redeveloped as commercial property. The organ, the stained glass, the artwork, and even the memories would eventually be gone.

It doesn't have to be that way. We can choose to change and grow; change and live; change and serve to the glory of God. We have all of the necessary components for congregational renewal and growth. First, we need to be honest with each other and choose renewal. Next, we need to make some changes to how we do things. Our goal is to change not too fast and not too slow. We need to be fully committed to being followers of Christ. We need to make sure that the new folks can find their place here. We also need to have an overwhelming focus on service and outreach in our community.

You may ask, "What can I do?" The biggest and most important thing is prayer. We must all pray each and every day that God would renew St. Philip's. We must pray for changed hearts, open eyes to see God's path for us, and courage to go forward. I look forward to all the wonderful things God will do through St. Philip's in our lives and the lives of our community.

The Goodness of God

Margie Guelker, Visitation Pastor

*I sought the Lord, and he answered me,
and delivered me from all my fears.*

*Look to him, and be radiant;
so your faces shall never be ashamed.*

*Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the Lord rescues them from them all.*

*He keeps all their bones;
not one of them will be broken. Psalm 34:4-5, 19-20*

Psalm 34 has long been a source of comfort to me. When things are not going well for me, when I am ill or hurting, when I am afraid -- this Psalm reminds me that God is with me and will never leave me nor forsake me.

Many of my doctors use this phrase, I suppose to allay my fears, "As we age . . ." But it does little to bring me comfort. I feel as if they are saying, "Well, live with it, everyone else has to."

I get this, but each loss, large or small, exasperates me. And so, I try to compensate as best I can. This of course means celebrating all that I can do, and there is much in my life to still bring me joy.

God is with me in all things and sends me help when I need it. This, however, requires patience as I wait for someone to come to change a light bulb, for instance, or to take me to a doctor's appointment when my eyes need to be dilated.

I understand why old people get crabby and I work at remaining positive and pleasant. I have a friend who replies, "Not bad for an old lady!" when she's asked how she is. This never fails to bring a smile to the faces of those asking this question because they know she means it.

Let gratitude for the goodness of God fill your heart and your life with joy this day. Savor the beauty of autumn and the generosity of family and friends for they are gifts of God!

Blessings to you all!

GROW & SERVE

Leading With a Grateful Heart

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

I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever. Psalm 86:12

Grace and peace to you this beautiful autumn day. This is one of my favorite times of year. The beauty that surrounds us in the changing of the leaves is just around the corner, the cool weather that brings out the fuzzy socks and comfy sweaters is here and gone in a minute, but I'm sure it will come and stay soon. Also, whether you like it or not...tis the season for all things pumpkin spice! There is no shortage of pumpkin spice items anywhere you look, it's all around! I love it!

The program year is off to a great start! The children and youth are all enjoying the lessons and activities in their classes, and we have some truly amazing volunteers this year. Some are parents of kids currently in the program, and yet some are parents of kids who have grown up through the program. I am continually amazed at the capacity all of our volunteers' hearts have to teach and love on these kiddos.

This season is going to be a busy one around church. The children will begin practicing for the pageant very soon, the youth will be preparing for the fundraising activities for their summer mission trip, and I am so thankful to be able to walk alongside them through it all!

Another exciting event coming up soon is the presentation of Bibles. Children & Youth who are new to our church or who have moved up a level, will stand before our congregation with their families and receive a blessing and their new bible on October 22nd. Putting God's word in their hands is an incredible milestone on their faith journey.

Confirmation Sunday is also quickly approaching! It is always an honor to walk alongside our youth who will gather to affirm their baptism. This year we have two youth who will stand before us, as well as two adults! I am excited and honored to be one of those adults who will stand before you and affirm my baptism this year. Please join us in supporting and celebrating our youth and adults on Sunday, October 29.

There are so many things to be thankful for...if we truly take the time to look. I will forever praise the Lord for all of the blessings in my life. If you are reading this, please know you are a blessing to me. What are you grateful for?

We're Headed to the Farm!

Join our Children, Youth & Family Ministries Director, Connie, on Sunday, October 22 at 1:00 pm at Eveland Family Farm in Andover, 2575 Andover Blvd. Andover, Minnesota 55304, for an afternoon of fall fun! Take a hayride, see animals, and even pick out the perfect pumpkin! This will be an afternoon of fun for all ages! The signup sheet is located in the Narthex or reach out to Connie [ConnieY@splcmn.org] and let her know if you can make it and she'll reserve your ticket!

Welcome to Fall!

Brian Munsterman, President

Welcome to fall! Soon the trees will be changing colors, the daylight is getting shorter, the temps are becoming cooler and everywhere you turn is all things pumpkin spice! That also means that it is time to put away the summer gear. Time sure seems to be flying by! As we come into fall, this is when the farmers start to go out into the fields to harvest their crops. It becomes a time to be thankful for the hard work and dedication that they can harvest the seeds that were planted. Our stewardship campaign is coming up and this is a time when we can continue to plant our seeds for our crop. Let's be thankful for what we have and let's continue to grow. Thank you for all that you do.

Board of Administration Meeting



- A congregational vote on the new proposed constitution will commence between services on November 12 at 10:05 am in the Sanctuary.
- Both screens have been installed and have greatly enhanced the worship experience.

Meals on Wheels

Fall has begun and our Meals on Wheels drivers are delighting our recipients with warm meals delivered to their door! A special thank you to our September drivers: Monica Anderson, Deb & Mike Carroll, Kathy & Chuck Eichelberger, Shirley & Dave Hogan, Carole & Jerry Jensen, Renee Johnson, Jennifer & Ron Prasek, Mary & Rob Shimanski, Lynette Thompson, and Dawn & Richard Young.



Sunday Brunch - Hosted by the Endowment Committee



The Endowment Committee invites you to brunch on Sunday, November 5 beginning at 9:45 am. Breakfast will consist of scrambled eggs, sausage, assorted fruit, coffee, and juice. We would love to see everyone and chat. All are welcome; we hope you can make it.

New Storage Facility

Our new storage facility is completed except for the landscaping, which will be finished this fall. On Sunday, October 15, the St. Philip's congregation will have opportunity to celebrate the completed project. The storage facility will be open for viewing from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm and there will be a building dedication at the end of the 9:00 am service. Everyone is welcome. Refreshments will be served.

GROW & SERVE



New Books in the Library

Several new books are winners of the Christy Award. This award was established in 1999 to acknowledge the value and impact of the novel of faith in contemporary culture. The awards go to writers who write from a perspective of faith. The following books are some of the recent winners.

The Secret Keepers of Old Depot by Amanda Cox. Revel/Baker, 2021. Cox explores the complexity of the mother-daughter dynamic, the way the secrets we keep shape our lives, and the healing power of telling the truth. Winner: Book of the Year.

Drawn By the Current by Jocelyn Green, Bethany House, 2022. In 1915, a birthday excursion turns deadly when the S.S. Eastland capsizes with Olive Pierce and her best friend on board. Hundreds perish, and Olive barely escapes. This is a story of sacrifice, protection, and redemption. Winner: Historical Fiction.

Shadow by Kara Swanson, Enclave Publishing, 2021. Peter Pan has crash-landed back on Neverland. But this is not the island he remembers. Desperate to rescue Claire, his twin sister, and the Lost Boys, Peter must unravel what tore Neverland apart. Winner: Young Adult.

Dust by Kara Swanson, Enclave Publishing, 2020. This book is a prequel to *Shadow*. The trouble with Neverland is that it is far more dangerous than a fairy tale. Claire believes the world is too dark for magic to be real. She's been looking for her twin brother Peter Pan, who was stolen away as a child.

Until Leaves Fall in Paris by Sarah Sundin, Revell, 2022. When the Nazis march toward Paris, American ballerina Lucie Girard buys her favorite English language bookstore to allow the Jewish owners to escape. She must keep Green Leaf Books open, though Germans make that difficult. She aids the Resistance by passing secret messages in the pages of her books. Winner: Historical Romance.

For Younger Readers

Patrick Wigglesworth's Bizarre Bible Adventure: Over My Head by Liz Hagler, Tyndall Kids, 2022. Fourth grader Patrick Wigglesworth finds himself in a faith-based adventure with Moses as his tour guide. A graphic novel.

I Am Not Afraid: Psalm 23 for Bedtime by Sandy Eisenberg, Beaming Books, 2023. A Child imagines scary shadows chasing away her sleep and peace as she reaches out to God her Comforter.

The Little Book of Joy by the Dalai Lama XIV and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Crown Books, 2022. In this collaboration for children, His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Tutu created this book as a gift for young people everywhere.

Sarah Rising by Ty Chapman, Beaming Books, 2022. Inspired by the Minnesota uprising after the killing of George Floyd, this story follows a little African American girl attending a protest with her father and realizing that she has the power to protect what and whom she loves.

New Books in the Library

Spiritual Reading for Adults

Reading for the Love of God by Jessica Wilson, Brazos Press, 2023. The author shows how to reap the benefits of reading. The simple act of reading can help us learn to pray well, love our neighbor, be contemplative, practice humility, and distance ourselves from contemporary idols.

All Our Grievs to Bear by Joni Sancken, Herald Press, 2022. Church and Christian community look a lot different than they did before coronavirus hit. In addition to the pandemic, there is racial trauma and economic uncertainty. The author encourages church members to focus on resilience and compassion.

Beyond Welcome by Karen Gonzalez, Brazos Press, 2022. This book is for those who seek to welcome immigrants as a Christian response.

Fall Trip

St. Philip's Disaster Relief



Western Kentucky was struck by several tornadoes in December of 2021 affecting many communities. One of the tornadoes was on the ground for over 165 miles. Overall, the 190 mph winds killed 57 people and injured over 500. In Mayfield alone, more than 4,000 structures were impacted (damaged or destroyed.)

A SPDR team comprised of 14 individuals will be traveling and working in the Mayfield, KY area from September 30 to October 8 to assist in the rebuilding effort. The team will be working under the guidance of United Methodist Committee for Relief (UMCOR) and will be staying in Fulton, KY at the United Methodist Church about 20 miles from Mayfield.

The team... of the 14 members,

- 10 men and 4 women

- 8 are members of St. Philip's

- 4 belong to other congregations in the Twin Cities

- 2 others, 1 from Antioch, IL, and 1 from Grand Rapids, MI

- 74 is the average age of this team!

The team will leave from St. Philip's on Saturday, September 30 at 8:00 am with a gathering time at 7:45 am. We encourage everyone to be a part of the gathering/sendoff. Also, you can follow the team's activities on Facebook (search for "St. Philip's Disaster Relief") or on their webpage (<https://splcmn.org/spdr/>).

Fall Cleanup

Please join us Saturday, October 21 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm to help with the fall cleanup. We will be focusing on tree trimming and cleaning the brush and ditches. Please bring a pair of gloves (some will be available if needed) and meet us inside Door 2. Thank you!

SERVE & GROW

Food & Clothing Shelf

September 11 marked the 6th anniversary of the Food & Clothing Shelf. During those six years, The Food & Clothing Shelf has been open 1,250 days, volunteers work a total of 6,574 hours during the days open. 5,452 families have visited. 133,693 pounds of food has been distributed and 15,679 pounds of clothing has been distributed. The cost to keep the Food & Clothing Shelf stocked during the 6 years was \$127,668.07. No funds have been used out of the church budget (prior to closing during COVID \$300 was given from the general budget). Donations and grants given totaled \$142,624. Praise be to God for the sustaining financial support of this ministry. It truly takes a village. Though we continue to be financially stable the number of visits is rising dramatically. God willing, we will be able to meet the increasing needs of those in search of our help as we look forward to 2024.

The Legacy of Art at St. Philip's

Over the next few months, the Heritage Group would like to draw your attention to the various pieces of art that are displayed throughout the building. This month will focus on the three bronze sculptures in the Narthex.

Clem Coverston, a long-time member of St. Philip's, created the sculpture, "My Savior, My Shepherd" in 1996.

Two Granlund sculptures, "Resurrection" and "Cross Section" were donated on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary by Virgil & Shirley Herrick, Elaine Knoff, Robert & Jo McGregor, and Floyd & Lorraine Ordemann.

Paul Granlund is a well-known Minnesota artist.



Financials

St. Philip's 2023	Actual August	Actual YTD
Income	\$41,365.07	\$503,771.59
Expense	(\$54,997.14)	(\$446,531.00)
TOTALS	(\$16,024.84)	(\$149.32)

PRAYER

Life Events



John and Marlys Hinsverk on 10/26/1957 for 66 years

Richard and Betty Nordling on 10/11/1958 for 65 years

Arthur and Bonita DeMeyere on 10/8/1960 for 63 years

Richard and Bette Blair on 10/20/1962 for 61 years

Larry and Phyllis Ehlers on 10/28/1962 for 61 years

Gary and Linda Morris on 10/21/1967 for 56 years

Duane and Arlene Retzer on 10/23/1971 for 52 years

Lonnie and Marsha LeClair on 10/9/1976 for 47 years

Kay and Steven Loucks on 10/29/1977 for 46 years

George and Cheryl Mills on 10/8/1977 for 46 years

Mark and Tamara Zroka on 10/21/1978 for 45 years

Michael and Kristy Dettle on 10/25/1986 for 37 years

Jack and Michelle Angerhofer on 10/7/1989 for 34 years

Don and Jan Nelson on 10/14/1989 for 34 years

Gregory and Wendy Hundt on 10/7/1995 for 28 years

Jeffrey and Melissa Loven on 10/29/2005 for 18 years

Jeremiah and Kelsey Johnson on 10/6/2006 for 17 years

Sarah and Jade Mathre on 10/6/2020 for 3 years



*The friends and family
of:*

Thelma Nash

Endowment Fund

The St. Philip's Endowment Fund

Be a Blessing to Future Generations!

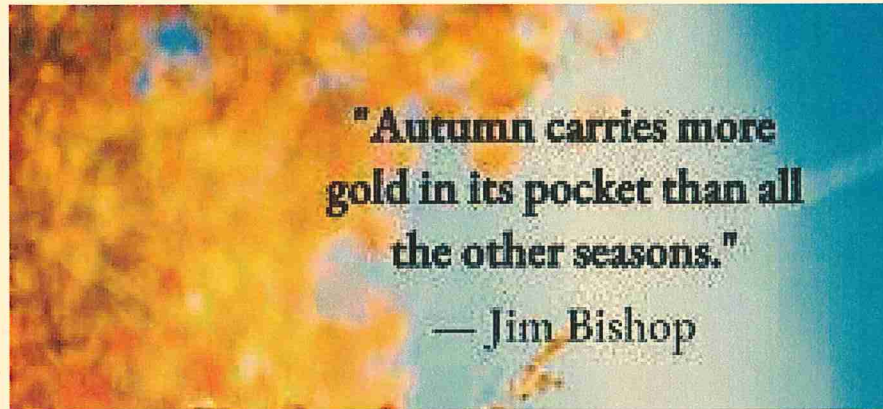
Gifts were received in memory and honor of

Charlotte Fauteck

William McCloskey

Thank you for your support!

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

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CheriS@splcmn.org, ext. 103

Curt Morales, Sanctuary Choir Director

CurtM@splcmn.org

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

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Missionaries: Jim & Carol Sack

Companion Congregation:

Bille Lutheran in Nigeria

Ministers: All members of the Parish

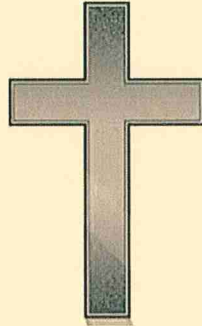
October 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship	2 1:00 pm Joy Circle 7:00 pm Gambler Anonymous Mtg.	3 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	4 8:30 am Men's Work Crew 9:00 am Quilters; 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:15pm Community Supper 6:30 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal - Cancelled 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	5 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	6 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf 7:00 pm AA	7
8 SPDR Team returns from Mayfield, KY 9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship	9 10:00 am Parish Fellowship Mtg. 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries; Benevolence Mtg. 7:00 pm Gambler Anonymous Mtg.; Gam-Anon Mtg.	10 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 2:00 pm Heritage Group Mtg. 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	11 8:30 am Men's Work Crew; WOW 10:00 am EA Mtg.; Women's Book Club 1:00 pm Walking Alone Together 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:15pm Community Supper 6:30 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	12 9:00 am Men's Book Discussion 1:00 pm Endowment Committee Mtg. 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	13 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf 7:00 pm AA	14
15 9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:00 am Storage Facility Dedication 10:30 am Worship 12:00 pm New Member Class	16 Friend Articles Due 9:30 am Glory Circle 6:30 pm Executive Mtg. 7:00 pm Gambler Anonymous Mtg.	17 9:00 am Library Mtg 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	18 8:30 am Men's Work Crew 9:00 am Quilters 10:00 am EA Mtg. 10:30 am P&G Mtg. 1:30 pm Heritage Group Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:15pm Community Supper 6:30 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	19 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	20 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf 7:00 pm AA	21 9:00 am Fall Cleanup
22 9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship 1:00 pm Eveland Farm Trip	23 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.	24 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	25 8:30 am Men's Work Crew; WOW 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:15 pm Community Supper 6:30 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	26 9:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	27 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf 7:00 pm AA	28
29 Reformation Sunday 9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:00 am Youth Cinnamon Roll Sale	30 7:00 pm Gambler Anonymous Mtg.	31 Happy Halloween! 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 5:30 pm Trunk & Treat 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).