

The Friend

Thanksgiving Eve Schedule

Wednesday, November 22

5:15 pm - Curbside Community Supper

6:00 pm - Worship

Sunday Worship Schedule:

November 5, 12, 19, and 26

9:00 am (Traditional)

10:30 am (Contemporary)

November 2023

Worship Schedule	1	Financials	7
Pastor Eric's Column	2	The Legacy of Art at St. Philip's	8
Pastor Margie's Column	3	Changes to Thanksgiving Outreach	8
Children, Youth & Family	4	Community Supper Annual Thanksgiving Meal	8
President's Column	5	Life Events	9
BOA Meeting Highlights	5	Endowment Fund	9
Earl Hatten Update	5	Friendly Takeaway	10
St. Philip's Disaster Relief	6	Contact Info	10
BFTF II - Outreach Storage Facility	6	November Calendar	11
Food & Clothing Shelf	7	Mission & Vision	12

GROW & WORSHIP

Attitude of Gratitude

Eric Nelson, Pastor

*"Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord to thee; take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise." - Take My Life, That I May Be ELW 583*

November marks one of my favorite non-church holidays - Thanksgiving. The very nature of the day has deep meaning to us as believers. And I am not speaking of the mixed bag of American history, with the highs and lows that we remember in honesty as people living in this country. I am speaking of the nature of giving thanks for all that we have.

A pastor planted a simple but important phrase in my mind years ago. "Live with an attitude of gratitude."

When we live in gratitude to God for all that we have, we live differently. We see the blessings and hardships from a new perspective. We see the resources we have in our time, skills, and finances in a new light to utilize them for all the best we have to offer.

As the song says, we ask that God would take our whole life to be consecrated to God's work. "Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise." Each moment, each day, and our entire life is meant for praising, glorifying, and serving God. This doesn't mean we ought to be involved in every single church activity. I distinctly remember a faithful church member who at one point told me she would do anything other than teach to support the Sunday School ministry. She meant it! She had gifts to prepare crafts, organize, and do much more. She found her place in other ministries of the church, but she knew teaching children was not her calling.

The church needs your unique presence and gifts, given joyfully to the glory of God. Whether you travel with the disaster relief team, help feed our community, tie quilts, or tend tomatoes in our community garden; your gifts are needed.

In addition to Thanksgiving month, November is our dedicated stewardship focus month in the church. I encourage each of us to examine how we can continue to grow in our cheerful giving. Can we increase our regular financial giving just a bit each month? Can I give more time and skill to a ministry? Can I train someone else in a ministry that I know I won't be able to lead forever?

God has given us so much to joyfully use to God's glory right here. Thank you deeply for all you give in such a variety of ways. Thank you for your investment in God's ministry of caring for neighbors and proclaiming the gospel here in Fridley and the north metro area.

Let us continue to live lives consecrated to the Lord's work, joyfully taking an attitude of gratitude in our lives as disciples of Christ, gratefully using and giving what the Lord has first given us.

Blessing to you in this season of thanks.

Give Thanks!

Margie Guelker, Visitation Pastor

*Psalm 136:1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.*

*Psalm 136:26 O give thanks to the God of heaven,
for his steadfast love endures forever.*

This Psalm recounts the good God has done for his people in ancient times. The first line of each verse implores us to give thanks. The last line of each verse tells us that God did all of these deeds out of God's great love for us.

It reminds us that we are to give thanks always and in all things. This involves living a life of gratitude for all God does for us, even when it seems things are not going so well. Even when we are having a really bad, no good, horrible day, God's steadfast love remains with us.

I am writing this on Monday, October 16, and if you look back on the past two weeks you must admit that we have experienced some horrible things as the people of God -- unspeakable things -- things that we cannot unsee or unhear. We might find ourselves shaking a fist and shouting heavenward, "Where are you?!" Surely a loving God cannot permit these things to happen! And yet they have and will likely continue for some time.

It is during these times that we must remember that we do have a loving God and remember to give thanks for this love each moment of each day. We must also remember that we are the eyes, the ears, and the hands of this loving God. We must not turn aside thinking that these problems belong to someone else in some other part of the world. The very least we can do is pray, and this is no small matter. We are called to pray without ceasing knowing that our prayers are heard and can change the world, don't ever think they can't.

And practice peace each and every day. When Jesus said to "Love your neighbor as yourself", Jesus meant it. Give thanks for a God who loves us beyond measure.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." John 3:16

GROW & SERVE

Thankful

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

Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:18

Happy fall, y'all! There is so much to be thankful for, especially this season. Today and always, I give thanks to God for calling to my heart seven years ago to work at St. Philip's. The children and youth, the 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 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 baptism. It was amazing to be able to stand with them and affirm my faith this year as well.

On Sunday mornings, our youngest disciples are enjoying gathering in their classrooms, learning that Jesus loves them, and God is always with them. Our middle and high school students spend Sunday mornings with a few wonderful parent volunteers and me. It is truly a blessing to watch them grow in their faith.

It may be fall, but we are looking forward to Summer 2024. Things may look a bit different this summer...but I think it's going to be a wonderful change. Please stay tuned for information on what we'll be up to! I would also like to extend heartfelt thanks in advance for your support of our children and youth throughout our various fundraising opportunities. One opportunity of which is the Holiday Market, that's right, it's back! December 10th our youth will host the Holiday Market. If you would like to donate baked goods or other holiday items, more info will come soon.

Also on December 10th, our children and youth will be putting on the annual Christmas Pageant! Join us at the 9:00 am worship service to hear the Christmas story told in a cute, funny, and unique way! This year's pageant is titled, 'The Good News Flash.' It is sure to bring a smile to your face and joy to your heart.

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

Blessings to you.

Thanksgiving

Brian Munsterman, President

November, the month of Thanksgiving, a time when we are reminded to be thankful. There are many wonderful things that our congregation does to help those who are less fortunate, and I am very thankful for that. Please remember those as we go into the upcoming holiday season. As our stewardship campaign begins, please pray and consider our blessings and what we could be doing and giving for our own church.

On November 12, we will have a Congregational Meeting to vote on updating our constitution. This is a vote that is long overdue. The Board has been working on the new constitution for three years. A special thank you for the Board members that did all the hard work in getting this completed. While we will not be changing anything that we do here at St. Philip's, the constitution is really being aligned with what we are doing and to match that of the Synod.

This year, I am going to try to recognize and be cognizant of all that I have to be thankful for every single day. Even through times of heartache and pain, when I look around, there are many, many things that tell me and show me how lucky I am for what I have. I am going to try to continue to bring that with me every day as well moving forward. I hope all of you will do the same as well. I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving and thank you for all that you do for St. Philip's!

Board of Administration Meeting



- Budget is complete for 2024. The BOA will vote to accept or deny at next month's meeting.
- Great start on the nominations for 2024 officers and committee chairs
- Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 12 at 10:05 am in the Sanctuary to vote on proposed new constitution

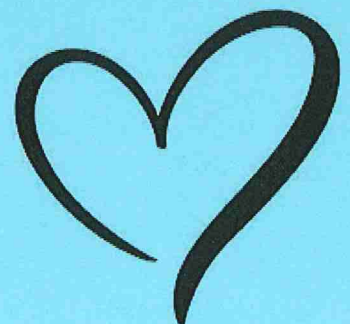
Earl Hatten Update

St. Philip's Friends,

Earlier this spring, Earl contracted COVID which permanently impacted his memory.

He spent weeks in the hospital and the rehabilitation center, before staying at Willows Bend Care Facility for the past few months. He is moving to Benedictine Living Community in New Brighton in mid-October. Visitors are welcome.

Earl has limited memory, tires easily, and is confined to a wheelchair which makes it difficult for him to be transported. - Written by Bill Hatten



GROW & SERVE

Fall Trip and Outreach Facility Dedication

St. Philip's Disaster Relief



A SPDR team of 12 individuals travel to the Mayfield, KY area to help rebuild homes following devastating tornadoes which occurred in 2021. It was a nine day trip from Saturday, September 30 through Sunday, October 8, including four travel days.

The team traveled 1750 miles - from St. Philip's to Fulton and back and to and from the jobsites in Mayfield each day. We worked a total of 480 hours rebuilding three homes and cooking for the team. The average age of the team members was 74 and the average number of trips for the twelve team members was 25. Kentucky weather the week the team was there... two very hot days, one rainy day and two cool and comfortable days, a bit of everything. Thank you to all the team members on this trip and to all of those who support our journeys.

SPDR coordinators participated in the new Outreach Storage Facility dedication and open house on Sunday, October 15. Pastor Matt dedicated the building and gave the blessing. Following the dedication an open house was held so those in attendance could view the new facility. It was attended by about 75 individuals.

Building For The Future II - Outreach Storage Facility

A dream that began in 2014 at a Property and Grounds Committee Meeting, is now a reality.

The new St. Philip's Outreach Storage Facility was dedicated on Sunday, October 15. The dedication was followed by a facility open house so those in attendance could tour the new building. About 75 individuals were present at the dedication. This was the first of five projects to be completed by Building For The Future II funding.

Storage Facility, yes, but it is really St. Philip's Outreach Storage Facility. It was designed to house our main outreach ministries of which over 300 individuals participate yearly.

1. Property and Grounds equipment that is needed to maintain our seven-acre campus which in turn invites our community to worship and spread the word of God.
2. All the supplies needed to hold *St. Philip's Annual Garage Sale*, a ministry that provides the necessities of life to the community at a low price.
3. The *St. Philip's Disaster Relief* trailers, tools, equipment, supplies, and workspace needed to assist the survivors of natural disasters across the United States.
4. All the needed supplies for the *Chore Corps* to assist local residents with household tasks they cannot do themselves.
5. Equipment and workspace for the *Wednesday Morning Men's Work Group*.
6. Many of the *Garden Group's* tools and supplies are stored in the new building, a ministry that produces 600 – 800 pounds of produce each year for St. Philip's Food & Clothing Shelf Ministry.

Thank you to everyone who was involved with the design and construction of the new Outreach Facility and everyone who supported the project in so many ways.

Food & Clothing Shelf

During the past 6 years much has been accomplished by the Food & Clothing Shelf. Our motto is Until all are fed . . . and clothed and that we have done.

But did you know:

We do blood pressure screenings on Tuesdays and Fridays and nearly half of all the guests choose to have their blood pressure taken.

We started stocking Bibles on the shelves and all the Bibles, including a few printed in Spanish have flown off the shelves. We have talked to Pastor Matt and will get more to hand out. We are overjoyed that we are not only feeding and clothing our neighbors, but we are also spreading the WORD.

We have a rack of crisis information to help point guests to possibilities for housing, physical and mental health, and other Anoka County Food Shelves for those who need food more than once every 30 days.

We receive a delivery of approximately 1,000 pounds of food every Tuesday morning. Daryl & Carol Gabrielson, Wes Grandstrand, and Richard Young are there almost every week to put all the food away before the 10:00 am opening of the doors to the first guests of the week. Jeanne Moffat is there every Tuesday to repackage and sort items.

The Garden Group has provided an incredible variety of produce throughout the summer months. Spence and Gay Minear, Art Demeyere, and others also share their garden bounty. Karen Block brought in (40) 5-pear trays from the pear trees in her yard. All this produce has been greeted with much appreciation from our guests.

Judy Greer, Karen Block, and Sandy Kallroos spend countless hours cleaning, sorting, tagging, and stocking all the donated clothing that we offer for free. In early October, Karen and Judy added new donated shelving units to better display kid's clothes, quilts, blankets, towels, and other various folded items. They also purchased a round rug for kids to sit on while reading books as their parents shop for clothes. In mid-October, they switch out summer to winter wear. The large quantity of off-season clothing storage is now being stored in one half of Room 6.

With gratitude.

Until All Are Fed . . . And Clothed

Financials

St. Philip's 2023	Actual September	Actual YTD
Income	\$57,045.86	\$560,817.45
Expense	(\$45,890.88)	(\$549,811.79)
TOTALS	\$11,154.98	\$11,005.66

WORSHIP & SERVE

The Legacy of Art at St. Philip's

Our Legacy of Art continues with the three Usher Tables located at the back of the Sanctuary. The tables are used by the ushers for bulletins, offering plates, and more recently COVID masks and individual communion glasses.

The three pieces were designed by Norm Johns and Howard Mosman. Howard crafted the three pieces and Norm made the sand casting in the middle table.



Changes to Thanksgiving Outreach

In past years, we have collected food items and packed Thanksgiving baskets for 50 people who register through the church. This year, we are giving Walmart gift cards, and those who register will be able to choose their own food. As the dollar amount of the cards will vary depending on family size, we will have donation tags asking for \$10, \$15, and \$20 cards. The Benevolence Committee will purchase cards of higher denomination. Look for a tag board in the Mission Corner beginning Sunday, October 22. Please indicate the gift card amount before dropping off your donation. Cards may be dropped off in the office or in the card box in the Narthex. If you choose to make a monetary donation, please indicate on your check or when you give online.

Community Supper Annual Thanksgiving Meal

Thanksgiving dinner will be served on Wednesday, November 22 at 5:15 pm via curbside delivery. Food donations of the following are greatly appreciated:

- Boxes of instant mashed potatoes
- Boxes of turkey dressing
- Jars of turkey gravy

If anyone would like to donate a turkey breast, we would greatly appreciate and humbly accept, as we need 12 in total!

PRAYER

Life Events



Vincent and Janet Lanners on 11/22/1958 for 65 years

Paul and Grace Wilson on 11/28/1959 for 64 years

Ronald and Karla Ackerman on 11/26/1966 for 57 years

David and Dawn Fennig on 11/4/1967 for 56 years

Gerald and Virginia Olson on 11/30/1968 for 55 years

Charles and Janet Scovill on 11/29/1969 for 54 years

Roger and Ellen Musolf on 11/25/1978 for 45 years

Patrick and Donna Miller on 11/30/1979 for 44 years

Patricia and Mike Mandyck on 11/5/1983 for 40 years

Gilbert and Mary Haugan on 11/15/1996 for 27 years

William and Michelle Hatten on 11/28/1998 for 25 years

Brian and Misty Gilbertson on 11/20/1999 for 24 years

Dana and Sonja Menard on 11/4/2006 for 17 years

Jorge and Kellie Bernal on 11/6/2010 for 13 years

Frost and Amada Simula on 11/26/2016 for 7 years



The friends and family of:

Kenneth Munsterman

Allan Nordin



11/5/2023

Leo Ward Morton

*Ryan Nelson, son of Sharon Nelson, would like to prayerfully
acknowledge his mother as a charter member of 65 years.*

Endowment Fund

The St. Philip's Endowment Fund

Be a Blessing to Future Generations!

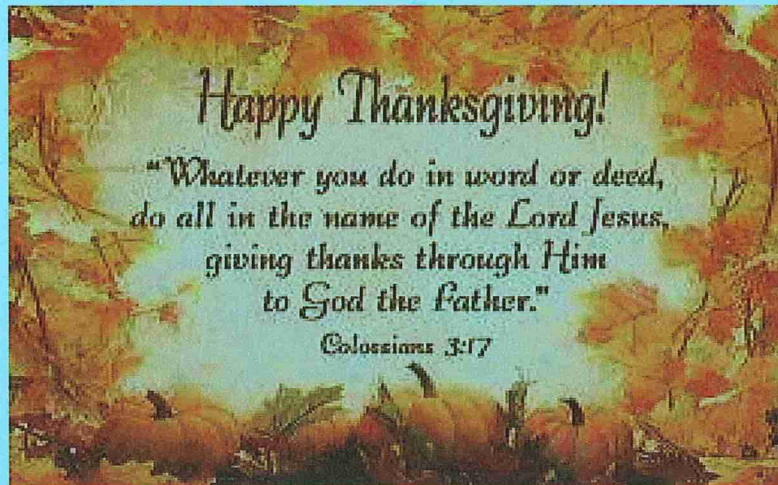
Gifts were received in memory and honor of

Ellen Clark

Don Habig

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

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 Buettner Business Manager

KatieS@splcmn.org, ext. 104

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Connie Yerigan, Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries

ConnieY@splcmn.org, ext. 107

Cheri Sykes, Worship Band Leader

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

Paden Swenstad, 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

Brian Munsterman, President

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Aaron Gondorchin, Vice-President

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Barbara Cooper, Secretary

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Kristine Poelzer

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Missionaries: Jim & Carol Sack

Companion Congregation:

Bille Lutheran in Nigeria

Ministers: All members of the Parish

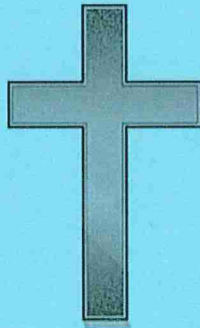
November 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 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 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	2 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	3 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf 7:00 pm AA	4 12:00 pm 55 and Under Work Crew
5 Daylight Saving Ends 9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 9:45 am Endowment Brunch 10:30 am Worship	6 1:00 pm Joy Circle 7:00 pm Gambler Anonymous Mtg.;	7 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	8 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	9 9:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	10 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf 7:00 pm AA	11
12 9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:05 am Congregational Mtg. 10:30 am Worship	13 10:00 am Parish Fellowship Mtg. 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries 7:00 pm Gambler Anonymous Mtg.; Gam-Anon Mtg.	14 7:00 am This is Most Certainly Brew 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 2:00 pm Heritage Group Mtg.' Benevolence Committee Mtg. 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	15 8:30 am Men's Work Crew 9:00 am Quilters 10:00 am EA Mtg. 10:30 am P&G Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:15pm Community Supper 6:30 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	16 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	17 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf 7:00 pm AA	18
19 9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship	20 Friend Articles Due 9:30 am Glory Circle 6:30 pm Executive Mtg. 7:00 pm Gambler Anonymous Mtg.	21 9:00 am Library Mtg 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 7:00 pm This is Most Certainly Brew 7:30 pm Worship Band	22 8:30 am Men's Work Crew; WOW 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:15 pm Community Supper 6:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Service 6:30 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	23 Happy Thanksgiving! Office Closed 9:00 am Men's Book Discussion 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	24 Office Closed 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf - Closed 7:00 pm AA	25
26 9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship	27 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries 1:00 pm Knitters & Crocheters 6:30 pm Board of Administration Mtg. 7:00 pm Gambler Anonymous Mtg.; Gam-Anon Mtg.	28 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	29 8:30 am Men's Work Crew 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:15pm Community Supper 6:00 pm Advent Worship 6:30 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	30 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).