

The Friend



May

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GROW & WORSHIP

Your Calendar: A Holy Document

Eric Nelson, Pastor

People have told me for years that time seems to go by more quickly as you get older. I recognize that I'm not exactly old yet. (As the peasant Dennis says in Monty Python and the Holy Grail, "I'm 37! I'm not old!") However, I've already found this to be true. In previous years, a month seemed to last forever. Now, when I blink it seems like three weeks have flown by.

This is not meant to be some complaint. Instead, I see it as a challenge. Often, as time keeps flying by, the things we put on the backburner remain there. The eventual visit, project, or improvement gets pushed back again. As we approach summer, I am already preparing for this. The lists of summer dreams from the children (along with our own ideas) have already begun.

In our household, the calendar is the document by which things do or do not happen. If it isn't on the calendar, we haven't allocated any time for it and it probably won't happen. If something is on the calendar, we're going to make it work. Last summer, the boys begged for another night of tent camping. I said I'd get to it, but it never got onto the calendar and it never happened. This year it will. (It is already on the calendar... along with sports, VBS, summer care, and more.)

A pastor friend of mine once described things like calendars as holy documents. She didn't say this to elevate the schedules by which we run, but because this can tell a story of priorities in our lives. Is church online or in-person a priority? Is a visit or call to family or friends a priority? By filling our calendars, we can remember how we are using the wonderful gift of time we are given. Yes, time runs fast. Yes, time runs short whether on summer vacation or any season. But we can make plans for how we will use these quickly passing moments. Something 'holy' is something that is set apart. Our calendars are not holy on their own. They can be made holy documents by telling the story of how we use this precious resource of time for what God desires for us. We can set time apart for what matters most, setting apart holy time dedicated to God and the callings God has put into our lives.

Whether you look at your summer calendar and it is nearly empty or chaotically full, I challenge you to think about what story of your faith is told in this document. Where can something be added to live into God's callings?

Where can something be taken away for a time of sabbath rest?

What story of love shown among friends, family, church, and community is told in your activities?

Whether you wish for more or less on the schedule, I pray you will find blessing in using the precious gift of time that God has given. I pray you will prioritize both sabbath and work as times and tasks with holy purpose in what God has made you for. God bless you in this changing of seasons and blessings on your calendars reflecting how you follow God and set apart holy time in each day and each season.

Peace, Hope & Joy

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

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

Grace and peace to you on this beautiful spring day! As I write this it's 60 degrees out and cloudy...but it is a beautiful day that the Lord has made. Spring, and all that it brings gives me hope. Mother Nature sure keeps us on our toes! It is easy to take for granted the simple things around us. From the grass growing, to the trees budding, there are signs of new life everywhere. In each thing, I see hope. God is at work all around us, if you look closely, you will see Him in all things. I give thanks to God for each little reminder of new life...I am so grateful.

This spring has been a busy one for the Children & Youth program. The kiddos did a fantastic job singing at our Palm Sunday worship services, as well as at both services the weekend after Easter. Currently the kids are practicing two songs to sing at our Music Sunday (May 19th) worship services. Those songs are sure to put a smile on your face and fill your heart with joy. Also on that day, we will have the opportunity to celebrate some of our Youth who will be graduating High School. Join us on May 19th, at one or both worship services, as we bless and congratulate Allie, Heather, Logan & Sam. Cookies and punch will be served between both services.

Looking ahead, we are excited for Vacation Bible School! Planning is underway! Something new and exciting about VBS this year is that we are holding activities in the evening! That's right! From 5:00 - 8:00 pm, June 17-21, kids will dive deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. I know evenings can get overwhelming when balancing work, daycare, dinner, activities, and bedtime routines. Careful thought and consideration were put into this switch to evenings. Dinner will be offered, and if 8:00 pm is cutting it close to bedtime, kids can be picked up earlier. I am in need of volunteers. If you are feeling God calling you to Vacation Bible School volunteering, please let me know. You don't need to have a child attend to volunteer...just a caring heart and helping hands.

Around the church on any given day, it's easy to see where God is. If we sit back and look around, our St. Philip's family is God at work. From the beautiful music on a Sunday morning, to the generosity in supporting many ministries including our Children & Youth program...I see hope, joy & peace...and I give thanks to God.

I encourage you to take time each day to think about where did you see God today?

Blessings to you and yours.

Peace
Hope
Joy

GROW & SERVE

Spring Growth

Brian Munsterman, President

May is such a wonderful time of year for me! As I look out my window, I see the buds on the trees, the flowers starting to poke through the ground and robins are in the yard. The weather is getting warmer, and I know summer will be here soon. I give thanks for these gifts. At the end of April, we will welcome back the SPDR crew from Mayfield, KY as they continued to help rebuild after all the tornado damage that affected that area. The Food and Clothing shelf continues to reach a tremendous amount of people, the Wednesday Community Supper is still serving many and the outreach to Global Health Ministries with the items needed for the kits is spectacular. All this while still ensuring that we are reaching the needs of our church and community as well. Our congregation is really truly wonderful in all the gifts that we share. This is a great time to give thanks to the Lord for all that He provides us every year.

BOA Meeting Summary



- Prayers for safety for the SPDR team.
- Board approved sending benevolence money to Sacks in Japan and to Nigeria now rather than waiting until December.
- Food & Clothing Shelf was able to obtain a large amount of clothing for men at a substantial discount.
- Board approved using up to \$5000 from the Moss-Kurtz fund for a down payment to Auferworld for materials for relocation of the AV Control Center.

Save the Date - Spring Clean-Up



It's spring and time to clean up the church grounds and get them in shape for the summer. Please join us Saturday, May 18 from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm, as we get to spruce up the church grounds by weeding, edging, trimming, mulching, blowing, etc. Please bring your tools with you and clearly mark them so they are easily identifiable. Necessary tools include wheelbarrows, shovels, leaf blowers, axes, rakes, trowels, and gloves. Please contact Katie with any questions [KatieS@splcmn.org]. We look forward to seeing you on May 18.

Community Supper

During the past few weeks we have seen a rise in number of dinners being served. On April 10, we had the largest number ever at 189! Given the larger numbers, we will be increasing our weekly budget from \$200 to \$250 or \$300. So, if you have ever thought of donating to this ministry, please do so! And, we can always use pantry items, which you will find listed on tags on the bulletin board in the gathering corner. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry!

Spring Trip & SPDR Sunday

St. Philip's Disaster Relief



Spring Trip

The SPDR spring trip started April 20 as 17 team members left from St. Philip's. Joining them in Mayfield, KY were five additional team members. Hailing from seven different states, this is a relatively young team – with an average age of 66 ½. This is the second SPDR trip to Mayfield following a large tornado in December 2021 that damaged or destroyed 4000 homes and businesses in Mayfield, a town of 10,000.

The team's rebuilding work is under the supervision of the Tennessee Western Kentucky United Methodist Church and the Appalachian Service Project. Most of the work is building new homes and consists of framing and painting and everything in between.

You can read the daily messages from the Mayfield trip on Facebook (search for "St. Philip's Disaster Relief) or on the SPDR website [www.splcmn.org/spdr].

SPDR Sunday

Sunday, May 12, will be "SPDR Sunday" at St. Philip's. This is an opportunity for us to present, at both worship services, some of the SPDR history, past projects/events in the last four years (since Covid), along with photos from the spring trip to Mayfield, KY. We encourage all those that have been on any SPDR trip to attend and wear a SPDR shirt of your choice, if you have one. Also, we invite everyone to spend some time in the Gathering Corner following worship to chat with the SPDR team members and answer any questions you have about this ministry. Refreshments will be served.

Festival of Tables

The Festival of Tables is over for another year! We had a wonderful time! Please enjoy the pictures and stay tuned for more information next month.



GROW & SERVE

Update from LCCN Bille

Mr. Jotham Samwashe, on behalf of the Bille congregation, sends greetings to the leadership and all members of St. Philip's.

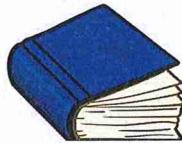
LCCN Bille has ordained an additional pastor, The Reverend Dalbi Briska, and now has 2 pastors and 12 elders in its leadership group. This year, they baptized 80 infants, confirmed 120 youths, and received 2 converts.

Catechist/Evangelist Amos Antebas, whom we jointly support, and his family are doing well. They have finished putting the roof on their new church.

Mr. Samwashe wrote, "Please pray for my country, Nigeria. We are encountering a lot of insecurities, hunger, economic hardships, and persecution of Christians in some states. We have seen God's hands on Bille for we are progressing seriously. New churches are being erected in Bille Division."

"Our people are scared with what is going on in the world today, hunger, death, high cost of living, terrorists, bandits, kidnapping, war in Europe and in the middle east. May Almighty God continue to guide us, amen. May the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all."

New Books in the Library



1. *A Senior's Guide to Living Well and Dying Well* by Stuart A. Hanson. This book is an attempt to answer most questions about aging.
2. *The Teammates* by David Halberstam. This is the story of four great ball players who have made the passage from sports icons to men growing older. At the core of the book are four players from the Boston Red Sox - Ted Williams, Johnny Pesky, Dom DiMaggio, and Bobby Doerr. The book is about baseball and the richness of friendship.
3. *The Centered Life: Awakened, Called, Set Free, Nurtured* by Jack Fortin. The centered life is one that is faithful to God, moment to moment in everything we do.
4. *Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy* by Eric Metaxas. As Adolph Hitler and the Nazis seduced a nation, bullied a continent, and attempted to exterminate the Jews of Europe, a small number of dissidents and saboteurs worked to dismantle the Third Reich from the inside.
5. *The Joy of a Peanuts Christmas* by Charles M. Schultz. In this collection of classic comic strips, the *Peanuts* gang gathers around the tree and doghouse to celebrate the holiday season with family and friends.
6. *Out of His Heart* by Ward Patterson. The author has turned Psalms 51-100 into prayers and emphasizes the emotions of these Psalms.
7. *Because Of Mr. Terupt* by Rob Buyea. Seven fifth-graders at Snow Hill School in Connecticut relate how their lives are changed for the better by "rookie teacher" Mr. Terupt.
8. *Control Girl* by Shannon Popkin. Lessons on surrendering your burden of control from seven women in the Bible.

The Vault Heritage Group

We are here to tell you a story of a caper, love for a challenge, and a rescue and recovery mission!

The story begins in The Vault! It is always under lock and key and most people don't know it exists. And even if they know, they can't get in!! Sleuths from the Heritage Group, at the request of Katie, took on the mission and the challenge of cleaning out The Vault!

What did we discover?

Dust & spiders! Along with hundreds of keys. Every good Vault has keys that no one has a clue where they belong!

What did we rescue?

To name a few: Confirmation lists and pictures; membership directories; photos and frames; original drawing by Norm Johns of current church logo; vintage slide projectors; bulletins and Friends; stones for the Columbarium (which found its home); visitor books (1958-and beyond); brass altar cross; 3-ring binders with correspondence from architects and builders; scrapbooks; LP records of "He Lived the Good Life"; ground-breaking shovel; a large poster picture of Lowell Almen & David Preus with native Africans in their homeland; vintage electronic equipment; a book listing memorials given over the years; history of the pipe organs and yes, more pictures!

Where did it go?

Some pieces hit the dumpster. But most went to the Heritage Room. Did you know there was a Heritage Room? The group processed & organized what we found. But this is definitely a story that never ends! (That's a good thing)!

What will remain in The Vault?

The Vault will remain a go-to place for church heritage items. It will continue to store carefully constructed scrapbooks telling the history of our church; photo albums; official church history ledgers, miscellaneous construction drawings & correspondence, and Ralph Petersen's drawings of his work on the Chapel Dove.

One very good thing that came out of the caper is future storage for all the architectural drawings, placed in sealed PVC tubes for protection from fire and water. This includes floor plans from - 1957-1958 Education Wing; the New Sanctuary drawings including beams and windows from 1965 to 1967; also included with the Sanctuary are drawings of the Baldachin; Fellowship Hall 1991, electrical, steel, and stone; 2015 Columbarium master landscape and gardens and the recent drawings of the Outreach storage facility 2022.

Until our next challenge...



GROW & SERVE

Endowment Fund

The St. Philip's Endowment Fund

Be a Blessing to Future Generations!

Gifts were received in memory and honor of

Owen Turnlund

Kathleen Venne

Endowment Fund Grant Recipients

- \$5,000 Food & Clothing Shelf
 - \$750 Festival of Tables
 - \$500 Global Health Ministries - help pay for shipping costs
 - \$1,000 Garden Group
 - \$2,000 Love offering to Jim & Carol Sack in retirement
 - \$3,000 IT Expenses
 - \$1,500 Changing Gaits, an Equine Therapy in Brooklyn Park, MN
 - \$3,007 Irrigation System
- Total distribution of funds = \$16,757**

Financials

St. Philip's 2024	Actual March	Actual YTD
Income	\$77,173.42	\$207,593.79
Expense	(\$57,615.93)	(\$183,529.97)
TOTALS	\$19,557.49	\$24,063.82

Life Events



Gloria and Leslie Coleman on 5/9/1959 for 65 years

Tom and Kara Ruwart on 5/15/1982 for 42 years

Clarence and Constance Asche on 5/30/1960 for 64 years

Jonathan and Neoma Haugan on 5/26/1984 for 40 years

Thomas and Marlene Schonebaum on 5/19/1962 for 62 years

Dan and Patty Porter on 5/19/1984 for 40 years

Kenneth and Doris Moxness on 5/9/1970 for 54 years

David and Christa Pullen on 5/3/2003 for 21 years

Edward and Sharon Aune on 5/22/1971 for 5 years

Ronda and Seth Bertsch on 5/31/2008 for 16 years

John and Bonnie Shelton on 5/24/1975 for 49 years

Chad and Gina Munsterman on 5/10/2008 for 16 years

Michael and Deborah Carroll on 5/19/1979 for 45 years

Bryant and Melissa Holmstrom on 5/22/2015 for 9 years

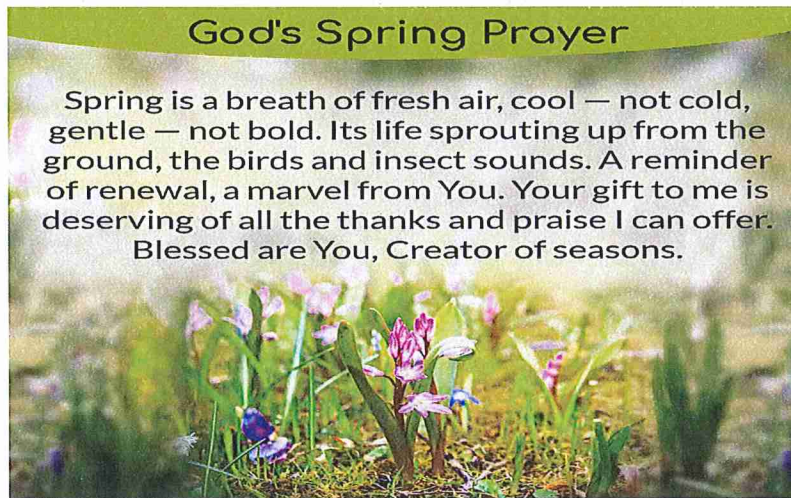
Jon and Mary Johnson on 5/9/1981 for 43 years



The friends and family of:

Laurel Harris

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: 763-571-1500

Church Staff

Pastor Matt Flom, Pastor

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Pastor Eric Nelson, Associate Pastor

EricN@splcmn.org, 763-231-0526

Katie Buettner Business Manager

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Cheri Sykes, Worship Band Leader

CheriS@splcmn.org

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

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Rita Schwieters

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Missionaries: Jim & Carol Sack

Companion Congregation:

Bille Lutheran in Nigeria

Ministers: All members of the Parish

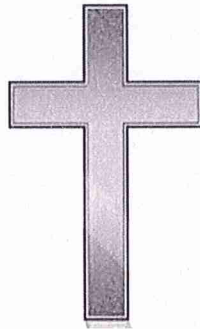
May 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<p>1</p> <p>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</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:00 pm Garage Sale Mtg. 7:30 pm AA Mtg.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf</p>	<p>4</p> <p>3:00 pm Kimberly Brown Concert</p>
<p>5</p> <p>9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship</p>	<p>6</p> <p>1:00 pm Joy Circle</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>8</p> <p>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</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:30 am Men's Book Discussion 7:30 pm AA Mtg.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Happy Mother's Day! 9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10:00 am Parish Fellowship Mtg. 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries 6:30 pm Executive Mtg</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 2:00 pm Benevolence Committee Mtg.; Heritage Group Mtg. 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>15</p> <p>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</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:30 pm AA Mtg.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:00 am Spring Clean-up</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Music Sunday! 9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:00 am Senior Celebration 10:30 am Worship</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Friend Articles Due 9:30 am Glory Circle 6:30 pm Board of Administration Mtg.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>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</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:30 am Men's Work Crew; WOW 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:15 pm Community Supper</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:30 am Men's Book Discussion 7:30 pm AA Mtg.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Worship</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Happy Memorial Day! Office Closed 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8:30 am Men's Work Crew 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:15 pm Community Supper</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:30 pm AA Mtg.</p>	<p>31</p> <p>10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf</p>	



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).