



St. Philip's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

6180 Highway 65 NE
Fridley, MN 55432-5158

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUEST



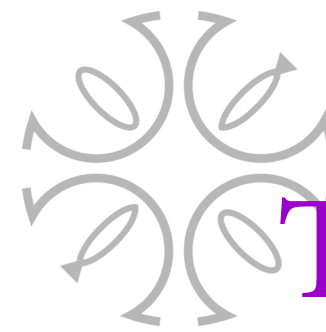
Mission:

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).



The Friend



April

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Welcome God as He Comes to Us
Matt Flom, Pastor

23 But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. 24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.'

John 4:23-24

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. There are seven purposes of the Christian church. Service, Evangelism, and Fellowship connect us with each other. Stewardship, Discipleship, and Sabbath connect us with God. Worship brings it all together. Worship is the most visible and it is often what people think of first when they talk about church, but sadly it may well be the most poorly understood purpose of the church.

The spirits of our modern consumerist commercial world teach us that life is all about us. We are taught that what we consume and what we partake in should be oriented toward our likes, our tastes, and our moods. Sadly, we often let this spirit into our worship life. When we let the spirits of the world dictate our worship life, we lose connection with God and his divine presence. Yet despite this, we still yearn for an encounter with the divine. Our soul seeks to find God in worship. This is why mega churches gather a lot of people for concert-style worship services, but many people don't stay connected or grow in their faith. For a long time, there was a popular theology of worship called entertainment evangelism. The idea was to have the most professional and entertaining services to draw people in. Then the congregation could tell them about Jesus. People came for the show but never became growing disciples of Jesus.

If we are to connect with God's Holy Spirit in our worship, we must let go of ourselves and welcome God as he comes to us. Worship means for us to offer praise and adoration towards God. In worship, we receive Christ, God's living Word, in music, reading, preaching, and the sacraments. Worship is not a passive time of just listening or watching, like going to a concert. It is an active work that we do together. In fact, liturgy comes from the ancient words for the work of the people. Offering praise and adoration to God puts us in the proper perspective to apprehend the presence of God's Holy Spirit. Jesus said, "And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." (John 12:32) The word for lifted up means not only to hold up, but to glorify. Our worship should be about glorifying God and inviting others to meet God's Holy Spirit. In this way our souls will be fed, our hearts will be moved, and we will serve God by building up his kingdom. Let us worship God in spirit and truth.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Easter Monday Office Closed 12:00 pm Easter Flower Pickup 1:00 pm Joy Circle	2 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	3 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	4 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	5 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf	6
7 9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:00 am Library Open House 10:30 am Worship	8 10:00 am Parish Fellowship Mtg. 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries	9 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	10 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	11 8:30 am Men's Book Discussion 7:00 pm 55 and Under Gathering 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	12 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf	13 11:00 am Festival of Tables
14 SPDR Team Commissioning 9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship 12:00 pm New Member class	15 Friend Articles Due 9:30 am Glory Circle 6:30 pm Executive Mtg	16 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 Rehearsal	17 8:30 am Men's Work Crew; P&G Mtg. 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	18 1:00 pm Endowment Committee Mtg. 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	19 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf	20 SPDR leaves for Mayfield, KY
21 9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship	22 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries; Knitters & Crocheters 6:30 pm Board of Administration Mtg.	23 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	24 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	25 8:30 am Men's Book Discussion 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	26 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf	27
28 SPDR returns from Mayfield, KY 9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship	29	30 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal				



God's Spring Prayer

Spring is a breath of fresh air, cool — not cold, gentle — not bold. Its life sprouting up from the ground, the birds and insect sounds. A reminder of renewal, a marvel from You. Your gift to me is deserving of all the thanks and praise I can offer. Blessed are You, Creator of seasons.

St. Philip's Lutheran Church

A member of the ELCA
 www.splcmn.org ~ info@splcmn.org
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 Pastoral Emergency Phone: 763-571-1500

Church Staff

- Pastor Matt Flom, Pastor**
MattF@splcmn.org
- Pastor Eric Nelson, Associate Pastor**
EricN@splcmn.org
- Katie Buettner Business Manager**
KatieS@splcmn.org
- Jenni Anderson, Communications Director**
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- Jerry Salitros, Bookkeeper**
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- Connie Yerigan, Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries**
ConnieY@splcmn.org
- 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
- Brian Munsterman, President**
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- Missionaries: Jim & Carol Sack**
- Companion Congregation:**
Bille Lutheran in Nigeria
- Ministers: All members of the Parish**

Looking for Spring...

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

For now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.

Song of Songs 2:11-12

Grace and peace to you! As I write this, it is a cloudy, cool 27 degrees. We have become a bit spoiled this winter with warmer than average temperatures and no snow on the ground. While I love all seasons that Minnesota has to offer, I will be the first to tell you that this winter was by far my favorite of all winters in my memory bank! As many of you checked my feet each Sunday, you were not surprised to see my bare feet in my sandals...it undoubtedly gave many of you goosebumps, but it gave me pure joy!

This year things may look a bit different. We are forced to look for spring in a new way, but that's ok. Without the snow melting to show us, let's instead look in our church for telltale signs of spring. By the time you read this, we have just welcomed three new children to the Lord's table. On Maundy Thursday, Frances, Isabella, and Leo received their First Communion. What a joy it is to watch children and youth as they attend class to learn about Holy Communion. A huge thank you to their families for bringing them to class, and thank you to those who gathered that night to show our support and excitement for them at that special service.

There sure was positive energy on Palm Sunday! Our children and youth gathered and sang at both services. You could see the energy radiating from them as they lifted their voices and wiggled about! A special thank you to Tasha Browne for teaching the kids the songs. A huge thank you to Jordan Mesenbourg, Kari Davies, Staci Gondorchin, Andi & Eddie Erwin, Jack Angerhofer, Payton, Alex & Owen Kozarek, Rita Schwieters and Kaitlynn Nelson. None of this would have been possible without y'all! This crew of amazing teachers, parents, and youth volunteers have spent the last couple of months assisting with music practice. From teaching the songs, mirroring the motions with the kids, to just making sure they stayed in the room...thank you!

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 interested in going to Camp 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 will participate in various service-based activities locally this year...and Vacation Bible School will have a fun new twist! On behalf of the children, youth, and their families...thank you so much for supporting them financially and through prayers.

I pray you can find God in your lives, and that as you are looking for spring, you find something that brings you happiness.

Spring Growth

Brian Munsterman, President

I hope everyone had a wonderful Lenten season and a Happy Easter! Spring is finally here! Although we really didn't have much of a winter this past year, I am really excited about spring. There is still so much to look forward to. While I am writing this article in March, I look out the window and can currently see the trees and bushes already starting to bud with new growth. We will need the April showers to bring us May flowers, and to recoup the moisture we need from the lack of snow. I am always excited for the continued growth that St Philip's is having as well. That is in part thanks to all of you for your continued support for all St Philip's has to offer. Let's pray for the SPDR team for safe travels and work as they travel to Kentucky for their spring Disaster Relief trip later this month. Blessings to All!

BOA Meeting Summary



- Discussed location of the AV control center/sound booth for streaming the services.
- Identifying and training "quick linkers". Quick linkers are volunteers who would greet and welcome visitors to St. Philip's, answer questions, and hopefully get them connected.
- Discussed lighting options for the choir.

Save the Date - Spring Clean-Up



It has been an interesting winter, and even odder spring, nonetheless we look ahead with excitement. This means it's time to get the church grounds in shape for the summer! Please save the date and join us Saturday, May 18 from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm, as we get together to weed, rake, edge, etc. More details to come!

Growing Through Loss

This 6-week series provides an opportunity for individuals to obtain information and support for a variety of loss and grief issues. Each session begins with an educational presentation by a professional from the community, followed by small groups facilitated by leaders who understand the grieving process. Although there is no cost, donations are welcome. Registration takes place each evening before the program. Church affiliation is not necessary. Each session is complete in itself; attend any or all sessions. Childcare will not be provided for safety reasons. Call [763-755-5335] or visit [www.growingthroughloss.org] for more information. The next series will be held Monday evenings, April 8th through May 13th, from 6:45 to 9:00 pm at: Christ the King Lutheran Church – 1900 7th St. NW New Brighton, MN 55112 651-633-4674.



Life Events



Leland and Marilyn Drossel on 4/23/1965 for 59 years
 David and Shirley Hogan on 4/3/1971 for 53 years
 Steve and Lisa Clovning on 4/30/1977 for 47 years
 Lee and Betty Hinnenkamp on 4/12/1978 for 46 years
 Nancy and Martin Menzia on 4/22/1978 for 46 years
 Steven and Kay Haglund on 4/25/1981 for 43 years
 Joe and Wendy Wegleitner on 4/14/1984 for 40 years
 Gwendolen and Patrick Zeman on 4/5/1986 for 38 years

Cameron and Rhonda Ollila on 4/4/1992 for 32 years
 Michael and Nancy Varichak on 4/3/1993 for 31 years
 Jerry and Laura Havon on 4/27/1996 for 28 years
 Brian and Jessica Munsterman on 4/8/2006 for 18 years
 Bryan and Bridget Hovde on 4/5/2007 for 17 years
 Lauren and Jennifer Goldenstein on 4/25/2015 for 9 years
 Toan and Jennifer Tran on 4/2/2016 for 8 years



3/31/2024

Thomas William Olinger



The friends and family of:

*Kent Lanners
 Daniel Olson
 Ray Olson
 Kathleen Venne*

Endowment Fund

The St. Philip’s Endowment Fund

Be a Blessing to Future Generations!

Gifts were received in memory and honor of

David Fennig

John Hinsverk

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 2024	Actual February	Actual YTD
Income	\$79,826.95	\$130,420.37
Expense	(\$63,931.90)	(\$125,914.04)
TOTALS	\$15,895.05	\$4,506.33



Spring Trip
St. Philip’s Disaster Relief

On December 10, 2021, an EF4 tornado moved across Western Kentucky, causing severe damage in numerous towns, including Mayfield (pop. 10,000) and taking 57 lives. 4,000 structures in Mayfield were damaged or destroyed. A St. Philip's Disaster Relief team will travel to and work in the Mayfield, KY area from April 20 - April 28, assisting tornado survivors help rebuild their homes and lives.

Trip registration forms were emailed on March 25. Registration closes in a few days – on April 1. If you are interested in the trip, but did not receive the registration email, send a message to [SPDR@splcmn.org].

Follow the team’s travels and work in Mayfield, through their daily messages, on Facebook (search for St. Philip’s Disaster Relief) or their webpage [splcmn.org/spdr]. Thank you for your continued support.

Global Health Ministries - Newborn Kits

It has been quite some time since we have collected and donated to Global Health Ministries, so during April, we will be collecting items for newborn kits. Beginning Sunday, April 7 we will be collecting the following items:

- ◆ bath towels (not too thick)
- ◆ washcloths
- ◆ 30x30 receiving blanket
- ◆ cloth diapers
- ◆ diaper pins
- ◆ newborn caps
- ◆ cotton side snap tee shirt
- ◆ individually wrapped bars of Ivory soap

Tags will be available on the board in the Mission Corner and items will be collected until Sunday, April 21. Assembly of the kits will be done in the Mission Corner between services on Sunday, April 28. As always, should you wish to donate money for this project, please indicate on the online giving page your intent for "newborn kits" or in the memo line of your check. For those of you who are Amazon shoppers - cloth diapers, diaper pins, newborn caps, and tee shirts can be found online.

Thank you for your support!

Food & Clothing Shelf

With the unprecedented increase in food shelf visits, St. Philip's Food & Clothing Shelf has been hit hard as we try to maintain our food inventory to keep up with the demand. The majority of donations to keep our food & clothing shelf in the black comes from donations from members of our church. We purchase 95% of our food from 2nd Harvest Heartland and purchase new socks and underwear for our clothing department as needed. With the rise in visitors and price increases from our food supplier, 2nd Harvest Heartland, we are nearing a point where we will be unable to sustain the increases using our current visitor allowance of two bags of food and one bag of clothing.

In 2023 grants covered the shortfall in donations. Plans are in the works to secure support grants for 2024 in hopes of covering any donation shortfalls to the projected costs anticipated in 2024. Without which we will be forced to adopt a lesser food & clothing shelf model of giving to those in need.

2024 Grant Requests & Planned Grant Requests:

	Date Requested	Amount
Spring Lake Park Lions	March 09, 2024	\$10,000.00
St. Philip's Endowment	March 10, 2024	\$5,000.00
EFSP/Anoka County	_____	\$10,000.00

Possible Grant Donations:

St. Philip's Parish Fellowship Festival of Tables - TBD

St. Philip's Garage Sale - TBD

2023 Expenses	2023 Income
\$48,337.28	\$43,864.70
\$4,028/month	\$3,655/month
Projected 22% Increase in 2024	Current Income per month
\$5,157/month current costs	\$2,366 x 12 months = \$28,398
\$61,884 2024 projected	\$33,486 projected need

Until all are fed . . . and clothed,

Bob Becker - on behalf of Judy Greer and all the volunteers and donors that make this ministry happen. Thanks to you all!

Festival of Tables



Festival of Tables will be held on Saturday, April 13 at 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. The entertainment will be music and dance from the 50s, by Malt Shop Melodies. This is a fundraiser for St. Philip's Food and Clothing Shelf, and the Wednesday Community Supper. Guests are invited to bring nonperishable food items to the festival. Thank you to Thrivent and St. Philip's Endowment Committee for their support.

Meals on Wheels

The first week in March was a spring blessing to our amazing drivers for Meals on Wheels! No snow to deal with! Even the smiles on the faces of the meal recipients were full of sunshine! Many thanks to our volunteer drivers: Mike & Carol Anderson, Edd & Gidget Brooks, Larry & Phyllis Ehlers, Chuck & Kathy Eichelberger, Steve Ess, Harlan Hohenstein & Flo O'Donnell, Eldy & Sandy Nelson, Ron & Jennifer Prasek, Rob & Mary Shimanski, and Richard & Dawn Young.



New Phone System

In February we replaced our phone system within the church. With that came direct phone numbers for most of our employees. You may still reach the staff through the main line of [763-571-1500] or you can now call them directly. If someone you are trying to reach does not have a separate number, please call the main line.

Pastor Matt Flom	763-231-0557
Pastor Eric Nelson	763-231-0526
Katie Buettner	763-231-0420
Jerry Salitros	763-231-0489
Connie Yerigan	763-231-0518

Jenni Anderson can be reached at 763-231-0414 or by continuing to call 763-571-1500.

Also, if you need to reach a pastor after hours, please call [763-571-1500] and follow the prompts.

Update from Tokyo

Jim and Carol Sack

Dear Sponsoring Congregations:

We once again send greetings from Japan. This coming academic year (April 2024 to March 2025) will be our final year to serve as missionaries. Jim officially had to retire from the school at the end of the 2022 academic year, since he was over 70. However, the school has asked him to remain an additional two years to teach. Likewise, Carol continues to teach as well. After retirement, we will remain in Japan and live in a place called Nagano Prefecture where the 1998 Winter Olympics were held. We have had the honor to live and work in Japan as missionaries, much due to the financial and spiritual support we have continued to receive from you all. For that, we can only say a big "arigato gozaimasu (thank you)." This coming summer will be our last home leave assignment back in the States. We will be visiting as many sponsoring congregations as possible in the two months we will be there. If you would like us to visit your congregation can you please indicate which of the following dates would be good for you? It would be helpful if you could give us at least two dates, as we have more congregations than open Sundays and there may be more than one request for a particular Sunday. If it is possible to get your requests by March 25, 2024, then we will make out a master schedule and respond to you by the first week of April about the date of our visit with your congregation.

Please send them to [James.Sack@elca.org]

~July 21 ~July 28 (already taken) ~August 4 ~August 11

~August 18 ~August 15 ~August 18 ~August 25 ~September 1

As in the past, ELCA policy asks congregations that host a visit from missionaries, to provide lodging and travel expenses for that visit. In the past, we have been lodged in members' homes and have stayed in motels. Either of these is just fine. The congregation is also expected to pay for travel costs en route. In the past, an average visit to a congregation has been approximately \$200-250. One method that has worked very well is to take up a "freewill" offering at the service. Even if we do not receive enough to cover expenses, that is not a problem as we can also cover part of that personally. In the past, God has always graciously provided enough funds to be able to do this. We do hope and pray that we will be able to see you once more before we finish our careers as missionaries. We have consistently received so much support and prayers from our sponsoring congregations over the 40+ years we have served in Japan. We have a great deal of gratitude for you all from the bottom of our hearts. Thank you again for being in relationship with us and helping to plant seeds in Japan for the Kingdom of God. It has been a privilege to know you.

In 2024, we still will be sending out newsletters to you. Today we are having the ordination of 4 new pastors who have graduated from the seminary. In the next newsletter or two, we want to introduce you to a couple of these new servants for Christ.

May the rest of your Lenten journey be meaningful, and may you experience the overwhelming joy that God offers us at Easter!!

Blessings, Jim and Carol Sack, Tokyo

The Legacy of Art at St. Philip's Heritage Group

The Legacy of Art at St. Philip's series this month draws your attention to the various quilt banners that are displayed throughout the building. We went to the experts to learn more.

Quilts in Fellowship Hall

Joan Kruse and Becky Becker both found inspiration with the stained-glass windows in the Sanctuary and hallways. Joan drafted an original pattern which was used to make the quilts. Both Joan and Becky made the colorful panels, Joan added the sashing and borders and after being professionally quilted, they were bound and labeled. The project was completed and installed in the spring of 2011.



Village Quilt by Door 3

Joan Kruse made this story quilt. Originally it was displayed in Fellowship Hall. Funny story there – St. Philip's is a polling site. During one election, a woman was upset because the wording is the title of a 1996 book by Hillary Clinton. This woman thought it was inappropriate to have it hung in a polling site. To resolve the issue, the quilt was flipped up so the words were not visible.



Colorful Quilt by Door 3

Becky Becker made this quilt in 2014. She was inspired by a pattern found in a quilting magazine. Its title comes from Genesis 1:3 *And God said, "Let there be Light!"* Many people coming to the Food & Clothing Shelf have commented on how pretty it is. It's in a perfect location!



Quilt in Prayer Room

Joan Kruse and Becky Becker both worked on this quilt while on a quilt retreat in 2012. They report that it is not always easy for two people to make one quilt, but they made it work and the result is beautiful! It was originally hung in Fellowship Hall but was moved when the sound panels were installed.

