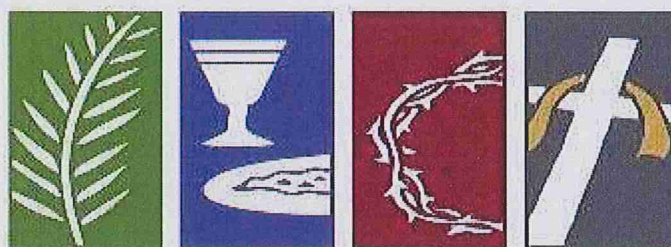


# The Friend

## Holy Week and Easter Services



*Come Worship With Us!*

**Maundy Thursday – April 17**

**Good Friday Cantata – April 18**

**6:00 pm Worship**

**Easter Sunday**

**April 20**

**9:00 and 10:30 am**

### April

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# GROW & SERVE

## Prayer Matters

Sherri Otto, Associate Pastor

Last month, the staff and two Board members attended the Tool Kit, put on by the Minneapolis Area Synod. This was a morning of learning, networking, and connecting with lay leaders and clergy in our Synod. During this time, we had the opportunity to hear from Bishop Jen and her staff and also attend two workshops of our choosing.

Bishop Jen emphasized the importance of having a diverse set of tools in our own tool kit to navigate the challenges of ministry, reminding us that we are not alone in this work. She highlighted the interconnectedness of churches within the Synod, emphasizing that when one church faces difficulties or is in transition, the others are there to offer support and prayers. The bishop's message stressed the significance of prayer as an essential practice that unites and strengthens the entire community.

So, I started to think about my own prayer life and would like to share a personal story that recently happened to me. I had been on leave from call, and after a few months, was feeling a bit down about it all. Despite my husband's assurances, not working made me feel like I wasn't contributing to our household and I felt I needed a job. I was sitting in our sunroom and I had an extensive conversation with God, going something like this: "God, what do you want me to do? Should I continue in the ministry or just go and get a job at PetSmart or Home Depot? I'm feeling a bit lost. God, can you please give me a sign?"

After sitting for a bit, I pulled myself together and began working around the house. When the phone rang two hours later, it was Pastor Matt. He invited me to lunch to discuss the possibility of me serving as St. Philip's Interim Associate Pastor! I got off the phone and said, "Thank you God!"

I understand that prayer doesn't always work instantaneously; there are people who pray daily for health, healing, strength, and other blessings, and sometimes the answers to those prayers take longer than we would like. I believe that God hears each one of us and sends us people in our lives to help with the things that we cannot do alone. I also believe that the Holy Spirit is active in our lives, moving in ways we cannot even fathom. Prayer is an action that we can do when we are left without knowing what to do. It helps us connect with God to find comfort and peace.

So today and in the days to come, I pray for blessings upon you, dear people of St. Philip's. And I thank you for welcoming me with such warmth and sincerity! For inviting me in and making me feel like a member of this community from the very first day.

As Bishop Jen so beautifully reminded us, we are all connected in this journey of faith, and I am grateful to be walking alongside each and every one of you. I look forward to our future conversations and please know that my door is always open. I would love to hear from you!

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Sherri



### Return to the Lord

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

*Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. Joel 2:12-13*

Grace and peace to you! As I write this, we are in the midst of our Lenten season. I believe this season is an important time on our journey of faith. A time to slow down and reflect on all that Jesus has done for us. A time for renewal and a chance to deepen our relationship with God. Whether you choose to fast, focus on prayer, devote your time through acts of charity or meditate on the journey Jesus took to the cross, it is my prayer that you have found a way to grow in your faith, and return to the Lord.

By the time you read this, we will have completed this year's First Communion classes. I am so happy to say we will welcome five children to the Lord's table this year on Maundy Thursday! 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. Please join me in celebrating them and this milestone of their faith journey!

There is sure to be positive energy on Palm Sunday! Our children and youth will gather and sing at both services. You will see the energy radiating from them as they lift their voices and jump up and down! A huge thank you to our Sunday School teachers and helpers. None of this will be 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. The theme for summer activities is True North! Our youth are preparing for their Mission Trip to Duluth...and Vacation Bible School participants will learn that we can trust Jesus in a wild world! On behalf of the children, youth and their families...thank you so much for continuing to support them, both financially and through prayers.

I pray that your Lenten season has been and continues to be filled with renewal as you grow in your faith, and return to the Lord.

# GROW & SERVE

## Spring is Here!

Brian Munsterman, President

I hope everyone is having a wonderful Lenten season. Spring is finally here! Although we really didn't have much of a winter again this past year, I am ok with that. I have noticed that the older I get, the more I don't mind skipping winter and look forward to warmer weather. I am really excited about Spring as there is so much to look forward to. The trees and bushes are already starting to bud with new growth and soon the flowers and other plants will start poking up through the ground. 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 at St Philip's. 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 Tennessee for their Spring Disaster Relief trip later this month. Happy Easter and Blessings to All!

## BOA Meeting Summary



- We acknowledged the need to speed up the call process to call a new associate pastor, or at least start the call process sooner than currently planned.
- Since the May meeting date falls on Memorial Day a motion was passed to move the May Exec Committee and BOA meeting dates a week sooner.
- We approved moving pews to accommodate the choir.
- The new staging is here so we'll be able to use it right away for Wednesday Lent services in the Fellowship Hall.

## Financials

### St. Philip's 2025

### Actual February

### Actual YTD

Income

\$65,082.28

\$126,990.02

Expense

(\$71,641.78)

(\$136,548.86)

TOTALS

(\$6,559.50)

(\$9,558.84)



## SERVE & PRAYER

### We're Making Progress Heritage Group

We've gone through all the slides and put them in some kind of order. We actually have two boxes of slides that we plan to throw away. If anyone wants to save them for some reason...let us know. Many are too dark, have their backs to us, unidentifiable, especially youth trips of scenery pictures. We have many pictures of the Sanctuary, inside and out. The church is beautiful to take pictures of and we have many!

Our next step is to hold a party to show the slides we want help identifying. Doraine Newland has loaned us a projector and we hope to get them on a big screen. We need people of all ages. As soon as we get a date and time, you will be the first to know!

Last week we tried for the first time our TV that has the ability to show VHS tapes and CDs. We picked the musical "Wise Guys" (1997). We didn't watch the whole thing but enough to identify some of the kids and an interim pastor at St. Philip's for a short time - Susan Eidal. We have many more tapes and CDs to go through. If you want to join our working meeting... we meet the first and third Tuesday at 9:00 am. We'll even bring some popcorn if we know you're coming!

Below is a picture of the Heritage Group at our meeting on March 11, 2025: Mike Anderson, Kathy Swenson, Gary Blomster, Dick Lekang, Carol Anderson, Erna Thomley, plus Patti Kondziolka, who was absent that day. We also want to acknowledge past members: Arlene Hamernik, Thelma Nash, Grace Kurtz, Marlin Sorum, Ron Seekamp, and Diane Campeau.





# GROW & SERVE

## Spring Trip St. Philip's Disaster Relief



The SPDR spring trip will take place Saturday, April 26 to Sunday, May 4. The team will be headed back to Clarksville, TN to help the survivors of devastating tornadoes which took place in December 2023.

The team will be staying at the Madison Street United Methodist Church, where we stayed on our previous trip to Clarksville. Tentative plans are to do rebuild work through Tennessee/Western Kentucky UMC Disaster Recovery and possibly build new homes through the Appalachia Service Project.

Registration for this trip is March 24-31, via email. If you are interested in being part of the Clarksville team, please complete the registration. If you did not receive the trip registration email and are interested in the trip, send an email to [spdr@splcmn.org] or call Renee Johnson at [612-202-1959]. Building skills are not required only willing hands and a heart to serve. Suitable tasks can be found for everyone – from holding up walls or sheetrock, to driving screws or nails, to helping cook meals for the team.

Plans are also underway for the 20th anniversary of the SPDR ministry. Watch the wall in the office hallway (Sanctuary side) for the 20-year SPDR journey. The journey continues...

## New Church Photo Directory!

Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album. Pictures will be taken April 24 – 26 and May 20 - 22.

Schedule your professional photography session when you stop by the sign-up table in the Mission Corner. Or if you would like to sign up online,

- ◆ go to [www.ucdir.com]
- ◆ click the Photography Session Sign-Up button.
  - ◆ Enter mn529 in the Church Code field
  - ◆ Enter photos in the Church Password field.

Online signup may not be available on Saturday and Sunday so we can have paper sign-ups at church on the weekends.

Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory!

## New Books in the Library!

St. Philip's has more than a dozen new titles for you to enjoy. Look for them on display soon!

### Fiction

*April's Promise* by Terrie Todd. Three sisters share a secret that could destroy their lives. Christian Book award winner.

*The Berry Pickers* by Amanda Peters. A child disappears under mysterious circumstances.

*Code Name Edelweiss* by Stephanie Landsem. Jewish spies discover a storm of Nazi terror in Hollywood.

*The God of the Woods* by Liz Moore. A young girl is missing from her summer camp. Her older brother went missing 16 years earlier.

*The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride. When workers began digging foundations for new housing, they discovered an old well with a skeleton inside.

*Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. No equality for chemist Elizabeth Zott in the early sixties. Except for one brilliant, lonely chemist who falls in love with her mind.

*Orbital* by Samantha Harvey. Astronauts are on a 9-month mission in space where they discover much about themselves and each other. Winner of 2024 Booker Prize.

*Table for Two* by Amor Towles. Short stories from the author's time in New York and Hollywood.

*The Warsaw Sisters* by Amanda Barratt. Two sisters in WWII fight against the terror that surrounds them.

### Nonfiction

*In Cod We Trust: Living the Norwegian Dream* by Eric Dregni. The author's great-grandfather fled Norway in 1893 when it was the poorest country in Europe. More than 100 years later the great grandson comes back. Find out why.

*In My Time of Dying: How I Came Face-to-face with the Idea of an Afterlife* by Sebastian Junger. This well-traveled war reporter came close to death in 2020.

### Prayer

*Family Prayer Made Easy* by Teresa Herbic. A practical guide for family prayer.

*Praying the Scriptures for Your Children: Discovering How to Pray God's Purpose for Their Lives* by Jodie Berndt. Effective guide for parents.

### Religion

*The Hidden Jesus: A New Life* by Donald Spoto. The author weaves together literary criticism, historical research, and theological scholarship in this history.

*Jesus for everyone: Not Just Christians* by Amy-Jill Levine. Reasons why Jesus is relevant.

*Life After Doom* by Brian McLaren. Wisdom and courage for a world falling apart.

*The Loneliness Epidemic* by Susan Mettes. Why people experience acute loneliness.

*Poverty in the Promised Land* by Walter Brueggemann. This book supports the charitable mandate.

*This Is Going to Hurt* by Bekah McNeel. A call to the highest sacrifice; following Jesus in a divided America.



GROW & SERVE

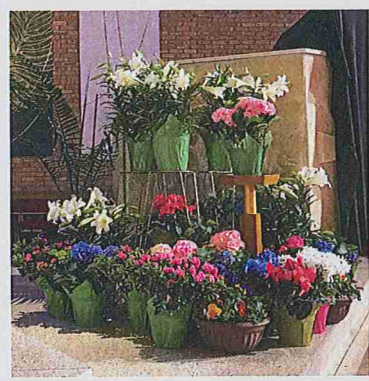
Festival of Tables



The 2025 Festival of Tables will be held on April 12. This fun and beautiful fundraiser will benefit the St. Philip's Food & Clothing Shelf and the Wednesday Night Community Suppers. Thank you to all who attend and support our efforts!

Easter Flowers for Sale

Beautiful Easter flowers are available for purchase in the church office! The plants will be used to decorate the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday! You may take home your plant after the 10:30 am service. Flowers will also be for sale in the Mission Corner in between services on Sunday, April 6.



Endowment Fund

*The St. Philip's Endowment Fund*

*Gifts were received in memory and honor of*

*Don & Anne Gilbertson*

*Paul Wilson*

Grant monies available for distribution in 2025 is \$ 21,574.00.

Grant request forms are in the office.

All requests must be received in the office no later than Tuesday, April 15.



## PRAYER

## Life Events



Leland and Marilyn Drossel on 4/23/1965 for 60 years

David and Shirley Hogan on 4/3/1971 for 54 years

Steve and Lisa Clovning on 4/30/1977 for 48 years

Lee and Betty Hinnenkamp on 4/12/1978 for 47 years

Nancy and Martin Menzia on 4/22/1978 for 47 years

Steven and Kay Haglund on 4/25/1981 for 44 years

Joe and Wendy Wegleitner on 4/14/1984 for 41 years

Cameron and Rhonda Ollila on 4/4/1992 for 33 years

Michael and Nancy Varichak on 4/3/1993 for 32 years

Brian and Jessica Munsterman on 4/8/2006 for 19 years

Bryan and Bridget Hovde on 4/5/2007 for 18 years

Lauren and Jennifer Goldenstein on 4/25/2015 for 10 years



*The friends and family of:*

*Arlene Hamernik*

*&*

*Joyce Johnson*

## Welcome

*New Members:*

*Jacob Caswell*

*Danielle and Kai Herrera-Markwald*

*Jane Hastings*

*Johnny Howell*

*BreAnna, Kevin, Cleo, and Hadley Humenansky*

*Michael, Heather, Nelson, and Oscar Hurley*

*Carolyn Kennedy*

*Janelle Loye*

*Tonya and Jen Starken and Alaina Tallman*

## Friendly Takeaway

*Thine is the glory,  
risen, conqu'ring Son;  
endless is the vict'ry  
thou o'er death hast won!*

### St. Philip's Lutheran Church

A member of the ELCA

[www.splcmn.org](http://www.splcmn.org) ~ [info@splcmn.org](mailto:info@splcmn.org)

Phone: 763-571-1500

Pastoral Emergency Phone: 763-571-1500

### Church Staff

**Pastor Matt Flom, Pastor**

[MattF@splcmn.org](mailto:MattF@splcmn.org), 763-231-0557

**Pastor Sherri Otto, Interim Associate Pastor**

[SherriO@splcmn.org](mailto:SherriO@splcmn.org), 763-231-0526

**Katie Buettner Business Manager**

[KatieS@splcmn.org](mailto:KatieS@splcmn.org), 763-231-0420

**Jenni Anderson, Communications Director**

[JenniA@splcmn.org](mailto:JenniA@splcmn.org), 763-231-0414

**Jerry Salitros, Bookkeeper**

[JerryS@splcmn.org](mailto:JerryS@splcmn.org), 763-231-0489

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

[ConnieY@splcmn.org](mailto:ConnieY@splcmn.org), 763-231-0518

**Cheri Sykes, Worship Band Leader**

[CheriS@splcmn.org](mailto:CheriS@splcmn.org)

**Curt Morales, Sanctuary Choir Director**

[CurtM@splcmn.org](mailto:CurtM@splcmn.org)

**Julie Lueck, Organist**

[Julie@splcmn.org](mailto:Julie@splcmn.org)

**Dawn Hansen, Bells of Praise Handbell Director**

[Dawng48@hotmail.com](mailto:Dawng48@hotmail.com)

**Rianna Swenstad, Nursery Ministry Worker**

**Companion Congregation:**

Bille Lutheran in Nigeria

Ministers: All members of the Parish

### Worship Schedule

9:00 am Traditional

10:30 am Contemporary

- Access worship livestreams on our website [[www.splcmn.org](http://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](mailto:BOA@splcmn.org)

**Brian Munsterman, President**

[bmunsterman@comcast.net](mailto:bmunsterman@comcast.net)

**Aaron Gondorchin, Vice-President**

[zebular@gmail.com](mailto:zebular@gmail.com)

**Kari Davies, Secretary**

[karidavies73@gmail.com](mailto:karidavies73@gmail.com)

**Greg Rosholt, Treasurer**

[gsrosholt@comcast.net](mailto:gsrosholt@comcast.net)

**Connie Bernardy**

[conniebernardy@gmail.com](mailto:conniebernardy@gmail.com)

**Dan Eittreim**

[dane@bsscinema.com](mailto:dane@bsscinema.com)

**Judy Greer**

[jlgreer50@gmail.com](mailto:jlgreer50@gmail.com)

**Tom Mesenbourg**

[tmes72@mac.com](mailto:tmes72@mac.com)

**Rita Schwieters**

[ritaschwieters87@gmail.com](mailto:ritaschwieters87@gmail.com)

**Mike Youngberg**

[zubazwizard@gmail.com](mailto:zubazwizard@gmail.com)



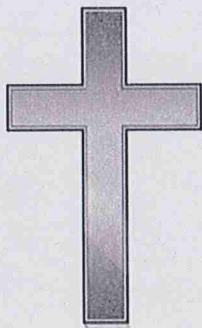
# April 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	2 8:30 am Men's Work Crew 9:00 am Quilters 10:00 am EA Mtg. 12:00 pm Lenten Worship 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:15 pm Community Supper 6:00 pm Lenten Worship/Mentor & Student Time 6:30 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	3 6:30 pm First Communion Class #2 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	4 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf	5 12:00 pm 55 and Under Work Crew
6 9:00 am Worship 9:15 am Easter Flower Sale 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship	7	8 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	9 8:30 am Men's Work Crew; WOW 10:00 am EA Mtg.; Women's Book Club 12:00 pm Lenten Worship 1:00 pm Walking Alone Together 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:15 pm Community Supper 6:00 pm Lenten Worship/Mentor & Student Time 6:30 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	10 8:30 am Men's Book Discussion 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	11 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf	12 11:00 am Festival of Tables
13 Palm Sunday 9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship	14 10:00 am Parish Fellowship Mtg. 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries; Joy Circle 6:30 pm Executive Mtg.	15 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	16 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	17 4:00 pm Endowment Committee Mtg. 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	18 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf 6:00 pm Good Friday Cantata	19 Holy Saturday
20 Happy Easter! 9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship	21 Easter Monday Office Closed Friend Articles Due 10:00 am Glory Circle	22 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	23 8:30 am Men's Work Crew; 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	24 8:30 am Men's Book Discussion 2:00 pm Church Directory Photos 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	25 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf 2:00 pm Church Directory Photos	26 SPDR Trip to Clarksville, TN 10:00 am Church Directory Photos
27 8:30 am Youth Envelope Project 9:00 am Worship 9:20 am Children & Youth Discipleship 10:30 am Worship	28 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries; Knitters & Crocheters 6:30 pm Board of Administration Mtg.	29 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 1:00 pm Tuesdays Together 7:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	30 8:30 am Men's Work Crew 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:15 pm Community Supper 6:30 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir 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).