

The Friend

HELLO
September



Rally Sunday - September 13

Worship

9:00 and 10:30 am

Rooted Sundays Kickoff

9:15 - 10:00 am

Congregational Brunch

9:45 - 10:45 am

Fellowship Hall

Stay after the brunch for fun activities—bouncy house, face painting, and much more!

September 2026

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Rooted

Matt Flom, Pastor

*1 O God, you are my God; I seek you; my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
2 So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.
3 Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.
4 So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.*

Psalms 63:1-4

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. The program year is starting up again. We are excited for Rally Sunday on September 13. We are also excited to bring back Wednesday night faith formation. Join us for a meal at 5:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will have worship in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 pm and at 6:45 pm we will have faith formation. Faith formation is often thought of as Bible study, but it includes more. It is about growing in faith together.

This year, our faith formation ministry will come together under the name ****Rooted****. Our hope is to help people of all ages become ****Rooted**** in God's love, ****Rooted**** in God's Word, and ****Rooted**** in a caring community of faith. Rooted is about more than a class or a program—it is about creating opportunities for children, youth and adults to learn, connect and grow in faith together.

Wednesday evenings are an addition to our Sunday morning faith formation opportunities, giving families another way to participate in the life of the church. Families can choose Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings, or both—whatever works best for their schedules. Our hope is to make faith formation

The worship theme and text for most of the Wednesdays will be the same as on Sunday. We will however have special themes on Wednesday for Advent and Lent. This will allow busy families to eat together, worship together, and grow in faith all at the same time. It will help out all households who often can't make it on weekends. It will also help those for whom mornings just don't work well. We would love to see you there and it's a great opportunity to bring a friend. Come and See!

God's Peace,

Pr. Matt

Rooted: Growing Together in Faith

Connie Yerigan, *Director of Faith Formation*

"As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith..." Colossians 2:6–7

Three years ago, I used this same verse as we began a new program year. At the time, I wrote about planting roots and being reminded that God is our foundation. I had no idea then just how meaningful the word Rooted would become for our ministry today.

As we begin the 2026–2027 program year, I am incredibly excited for what is ahead at St. Philip's. Rooted is more than the name of our faith formation programming. It is what we hope for every child, youth, adult, and family who walks through our doors—that together, we continue to grow deeper in our faith, stronger in our relationships with one another, and more firmly rooted in God's love.

This year brings some exciting new opportunities as we add Wednesday evening faith formation alongside our Sunday morning programming. My hope is that offering both Sundays and Wednesdays gives families more opportunities to find a rhythm that works for them. Whether you join us on Sunday, Wednesday, or both, there is a place for you. We are not simply adding another day to the calendar; we are creating more opportunities to learn, ask questions, build relationships, serve, worship, and grow together in faith.

As our children and youth grow, we will also continue celebrating our Ministry Stepping Stones—milestones that help mark important moments along their faith journey. From receiving a first Bible as a young child to affirming their faith through Confirmation, these moments remind us that faith formation does not happen all at once. Like strong roots, faith grows over time, nurtured by families, teachers, mentors, our congregation, and most importantly, by God's love.

Our Ministry Stepping Stones include:

Receiving a My First Hands-On Bible

First Communion

Receiving a Hands-On Bible for Kids

Receiving The Small Catechism

Joining the Youth Program and receiving a Student Life Application Study Bible

Attending the Youth Retreat/Lock-In

Confirmation

I am, once again, so grateful for the opportunity to walk alongside the children, youth, and families of St. Philip's. I am excited to see where this year takes us and all the ways God will work through this community. We will kick off our program year with Rally Sunday on September 13, including a youth-led worship weekend. I hope you will join us as we celebrate the beginning of another year of learning, growing, serving, and being together.

Welcome Back!

Brian Munsterman, President

September is here and that means that Fall is right around the corner. I really enjoy summer, as that is probably the season that I like the best. However, I do enjoy being in Minnesota where we do get to experience the best of all seasons. I look forward to the start of Fall and all that Fall has to offer, especially the colors of the changing season. This also means that kids are going back to school. Here at church, I look forward to Rally Sunday, this year on September 13, the return of the children, Sunday School, Confirmation, and seeing so many people back at Sunday worship.

I want to give a HUGE thank you to everyone who donated items and/or time to make our August Annual Garage Sale so successful – both within our congregation and those from the community! This year was huge for what was brought in. This task takes a lot of time, talent, and donations to ensure success year after year, so be grateful for all your contributions. Without these, we wouldn't be able to do this. With that said, we need more and younger volunteers to step up and help. If we do not get more help, there is a chance that this wonderful event will not be able to continue the way that it is, and that would be sad to see as this provides so many funds for wonderful things. Please take time over the next 10 months to pray and see where you can spare a little time to make sure this wonderful event continues.

BOA Meeting Summary



Discussions were had about:

- Protecting the assets of the church building, starting with the Sanctuary and the Fellowship Hall roof.
- Food truck policy. Further discussion and vote were tabled for next month's meeting.
- An approved policy for emails to the congregation.

Financials

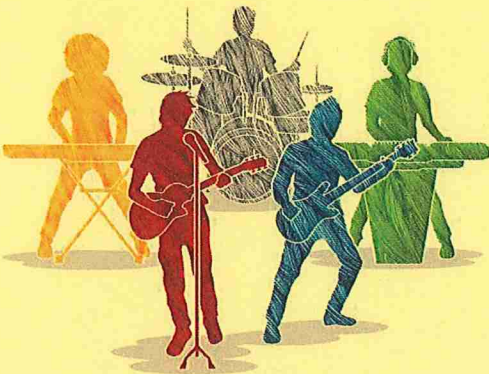
St. Philip's 2026	Actual July	Actual YTD
Income	\$67,750.31	\$414,578.05
Expense	(\$66,174.47)	(\$439,973.35)
Total	\$1,575.84	(\$25,395.30)

Join the Sanctuary Choir!

It's the start of a new church season and a great time to join the choir. We rehearse on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm, beginning on September 2, and sing most Sundays at the 9:00 am service. Come join us!



Calling All Singers!



The 10:30 am Worship Band is always seeking singers! Spread joy through music with us! Because you are singing into a microphone, you need a good "blending" voice that is in tune. However, you don't need to be a soloist. You may contribute occasionally, or more often. We'll work with your schedule. Join the party/rehearsal on Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm! Then we lead congregational song every Sunday at 10:30 am. Check us out at [<https://splcmn.org/worship-band-videos/>]. Please contact Cheri Sykes [651-335-0048 or cheris@splcmn.org].

Bells of Praise

The Bells of Praise is a dedicated volunteer group who participate in both worship services monthly, using music to praise God. They also participate in special musical events, including the Christmas concert and Music Sunday. St. Philip's has 5 octaves of handbells and 3 octaves of hand chimes. A variety of techniques are incorporated into our ringing. The Bells of Praise welcomes additional ringers any time during the season. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 7:30 pm in the Lounge. Please join us! For further information, please contact Dawn Hansen at [763-780-0360 or dawng48@hotmail.com].



Lectors and Communion Servers



We would love to find more people to read the scripture and serve communion on Sunday mornings at either of the 9:00 or 10:30 am services. If you would like to be a part of one or both opportunities, please contact Jenni at [JenniA@splcmn.org].

Garage Sale - That's a Wrap!



The 29th annual garage sale is now a fond memory for those who worked tirelessly to help make it a success. This year, we set a record by making over \$51,000, which will be used for both church needs as well as many charitable groups. Thanks to the staff for dealing with extra work during the sale, to Pr. Matt for his endless support of the sale, to the board who helped set up prior to the sale, to the 40-plus volunteers who came each day to sort, clean and display the items donated, to the Scouts who helped with set up and clean up. We also appreciated the help of Brian, Jessica and Blake Munsterman and Julie Lueck and her husband who came to help with cleaning up on Saturday. By the time Saturday rolls around, the garage sale group is exhausted so extra help is so helpful! And community volunteer Annie Brytowski came with her pickup and made 5 trips to various Savers and Salvation Army to distribute the left-over items. We are so grateful for the time she spent hauling items for us! Discussions will be held as to the future of this sale. We definitely need more help and will have to determine how we will continue this event. We are excited to have so much money to distribute and to know all our hard work certainly paid off!

Garage Sale Fund Requests

Requests for funding will be accepted through September 15. Forms are in the church office and on our website [<https://splcmn.org/2026-garage-sale/>]. Please return all completed forms to the office. If you are requesting funds for church property, you must present a proposal to Property and Grounds for approval.

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, September 21 - October 26, from 6:45 - 9:00 pm at: The Church of St. William - 6120 5th St NE Fridley, MN 55432 [763-571-5600].

Meals on Wheels



After a hot crazy two weeks of the giant St Philip's Garage Sale- these angels were still willing to drive for August Meals on Wheels! A big note of appreciation to: Mike and Renee Youngberg, Cathy Challman, Chuck & Kathy Eichelberger, Nick Pongratz, Jerry & Carole Jensen, Dave & Shirley Hogan, Larry & Phyllis Ehlers, Rob & Mary Shimanski, Mike & Deb Carroll, Mary Palmer, and Olga Palmer.

Fall Trip

St. Philip's Disaster Relief



Parts of the Milwaukee, WI area experienced record rainfall in August 2025 and then additional flooding in April 2026, resulting in many homes with flooded basements and other damage that are still in need of repair. Plans are in place for the SPDR Fall Trip to Milwaukee to help with those repairs. This will be SPDR's third trip to Milwaukee.

The trip dates are Sunday, September 27 -Saturday, October 3. The team will be staying at Calvary Lutheran Church in Brookfield and using the shower facilities at a nearby YMCA. The rebuilding work will be coordinated by the Disaster Response Ministry of the Wisconsin Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Registration for the trip will take place in early September and will close on September 8th. Watch for more information via email and in St. Philip's publications regarding registration.

If you are interested in this trip and are not on the SPDR email list, send a message to [spdr@splcmn.org] to receive the registration form. If you have any questions, contact Renee Johnson at [612-202-1959 or spdr@splcmn.org]. Remember, building skills are not required to be part of a SPDR team, just a willingness to help. The journey continues...

Letter from Bille

Greetings from us to members of St Philips Lutheran church in Fridley Minnesota USA

Thank you so much for the Email of April informing us on how you are doing and how you celebrated last Easter. Here we had service on Thursday afternoon and took Holy communion.

During Good Friday we had a combined service with sister churches.

The story of the sufferings of Jesus Christ was divided into 25 passages which was read by 25 people from the various churches while the clergyman summarizes each passage one after another.

Very early Sunday morning at 4:00am we all moved to a nearby rocky area and sing hymns and praises to God ,in addition to that women rehears the resurrection of Jesus Christ after which we would return home singing in procession.

Catechist Amos Antibas who is at our joint project is making good progress over there. His family is doing well.

We are praying for the quick end of the war in the middle East and Ukraine.

Please pray for our Country Nigeria.

Jotham Hatuka Sumwashe (For LCCN Bille)

**This letter was received many months after the Lenten season, but we always want to share any correspondence from Bille.

September Events

Tuesdays Together – Returning September 8

Tuesdays Together will be on hiatus for the remainder of August. We will resume meeting on Tuesday, September 8 in the Lounge at 1:00 pm when we begin talking about the letters of St. John and St. Peter. We hope you will join us.

Rally Sunday!

Join us as we kick off our program year Sunday, September 13. This is a fun-filled day for all ages! Rooted Sundays class time that day will be 9:15 - 10:00 am. Children aged 2 1/2 through high school will leave from first service, and head to the Fellowship Hall for a morning of fun activities and learning. Parents will be asked to pick up their children after the first service at 10:00 am, and all ages are encouraged to stay for brunch, and then stick around for fun activities, including a bouncy house, face painting, and more! We hope to see you there!

Join Us for Brunch on Rally Sunday!

Everyone is invited to brunch on Sunday, September 13 from 9:45 – 10:45 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Rooted on Wednesday Evenings

5:15 - 6:00 pm Community Supper - Everyone is encouraged to come!

6:00 pm Worship

6:45 pm Rooted Faith Formation Classes

6:45 pm Rooted Adult Discipleship

Endowment Fund

The St. Philip's Endowment Fund

For more information on St. Philip's Endowment Fund visit our website at [www.splcmn.org].

Gifts were received in memory and honor of

Eva Coverston

Thank you for your support!

Life Events



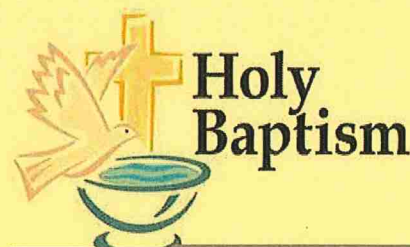
Richard and Joyce Lekang on 9/29/1962 for 64 years
Chuck and Suzanne Lunde on 9/1/1962 for 64 years
Robert and Rebecca Becker on 9/13/1969 for 57 years
Kent and Julie Small on 9/7/1974 for 52 years
Ronald and Jennifer Prasek on 9/13/1975 for 51 years
Robert and Mary Shimanski on 9/6/1975 for 51 years
Allen and Jan Spitzer on 9/6/1975 for 51 years
Linda and Gene Gondorchin on 9/17/1977 for 49 years
Kenneth and Sheryl Oestreich on 9/24/1977 for 49 years
John and Kathy Swenson on 9/10/1977 for 49 years
Brian and Marna Dahlgren on 9/18/1982 for 44 years
Fred and Lynne Haggard on 9/3/1988 for 38 years
Robert and Cathy Barker on 9/29/1990 for 36 years
Jennifer and Kent Tjader on 9/19/1992 for 34 years
Julie and Michael Booth on 9/4/1999 for 27 years
Al and Kari Davies on 9/18/1999 for 27 years
Dave and Rachael Ostrom on 9/8/2001 for 25 years
Grant and Alexandra Heinrich on 9/19/2020 for 6 years



The friends and family of:

Ed Simko

Genevieve Slavik



8/30/26

Azalea Rose Thompson

Friendly Takeaway

But those who HOPE in the Lord
will RENEW their STRENGTH



Isaiah 40:31

They will SOAR on wings like eagles

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

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Pastor Heidi Zimdars, Visitation Pastor

HeidiZ@splcmn.org 612-799-1232

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RitaS@splcmn.org

Jerry Salitros, Bookkeeper

JerryS@splcmn.org, 763-231-0489

Connie Yerigan, Director of Faith Formation

ConnieY@splcmn.org, 763-231-0518

Cheri Sykes, Worship Band Leader

CheriS@splcmn.org

Curt Morales, Sanctuary Choir Director

CurtM@splcmn.org

Peder Flaten, Organist

PederF@splcmn.org

Dawn Hansen, Bells of Praise Handbell Director

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]
- 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

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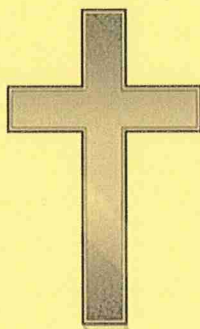
September 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 6:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	2 8:30 am Men's Work Crew 9:00 am Quilters 10:00 am EA Mtg. 5:00 pm Food & Clothing Shelf 5:15 pm Community Supper 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	3 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	4 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf	5
6 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Worship	7 Labor Day Office Closed 1:00 pm Joy Circle	8 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 2:00 pm Benevolence Mtg.; Heritage Group Mtg. 6:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal	9 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 5:15 pm Community Supper 6:00 pm Wednesday Worship 6:30 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal 6:45 pm Rooted Wednesdays; Adult Discipleship 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
13 Rally Sunday! 9:00 am Worship 9:15 am Rooted Sundays 9:45 am Brunch 10:00 am Activities 10:30 am Worship	14 10:00 am Parish Fellowship Mtg. 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries	15 9:00 am Library Group 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 6:30 pm Worship Band Rehearsal; This is Most Certainly Brew	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 5:15 pm Community Supper 6:00 pm Wednesday Worship 6:30 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal 6:45 pm Rooted Wednesdays; Adult Discipleship 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	17 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	18 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf	19
20 9:00 am Worship 9:15 am Rooted Sundays 10:30 am Worship	21 Friend Articles Due 10:00 am Glory Circle 6:30 pm Executive Mtg.	22 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 6:30 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 6:00 pm Wednesday Worship 6:30 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal 6:45 pm Rooted Wednesdays; Adult Discipleship 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	24 8:30 am Men's Book Discussion 1:00 pm Book Club 5:00 pm Garage Sale Dinner 7:30 pm AA Mtg.	25 10:00 am Food & Clothing Shelf	26
27 9:00 am Worship 9:15 am Rooted Sundays 10:30 am Worship	28 1:00 pm Global Health Ministries; Knitters & Crocheters 6:30 pm BOA Mtg.	29 10:00 am Staff Mtg.; Food & Clothing Shelf 6:30 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 6:00 pm Wednesday Worship 6:30 pm Bells of Praise Rehearsal 6:45 pm Rooted Wednesdays; Adult Discipleship 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).