

# St. Philip Invitation



LIVE LIKE THAT - LOVE, FEED, SERVE JUNE 2020

## Summer Worship Schedule

Following the traditions of St. Philip, there will be **one Summer worship service at 9:30am**. This service will be on the Church Online platform at 9:30, but will also be available on the church website and Facebook page. You may also access the service by phone, please contact the church office for those details.

In addition to the online worship each Sunday, on the second Sunday of each month at 11:00am a special drive up worship with communion will be celebrated in the church parking lot. Please see the church website or call the church office for details about that worship.

We are so grateful that even in the midst of pandemic, we are still able to gather for worship. It's not quite our in-person gatherings, of course, but we are thankful that the love of God meets us exactly where we are.

## Summer Zoom Café

One of our beloved traditions at St. Philip is gathering for Cafe. Immediately following 9:30am worship each Sunday this summer, join in here: <https://zoom.us/j/83365884341> and enter password 24019 at the prompt. or call 929 436 2866 and enter meeting number 83365884341 at the prompt.

## Pastoral Updates

*Pastor David and Pastor Laura*

Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour. With these words from the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus teaches his disciples to live into the kingdom of God even as the uncertainty and unpredictability of the world is ever present. These words likely speak to our current experience. So much is uncertain, unpredictable, and unknown. Yet, St. Philippians we are still to live into the kingdom of God.

We continue to face complications from an unpredictable Corona Virus. We, your pastors, want to thank our COVID Preparedness Team for continuing to help us respond to the ongoing complications this challenge creates. Congregation members can help by continuing to make suggestions and providing feedback to one of the preparedness team members - Shannon Radmacher, Donna Wright, Dan Horine, Marlene Craig, or Nancy Shadix. Always remember that we are a faithful community who lives out faith even as long practiced traditions change and new ways of doing ministry take shape.

We are still to live into the kingdom of God - a kingdom that values all of creation and that craves justice. There is so much in our world that is hurting and there is injustice surrounding us all the time, but right now the church has the unique opportunity to speak to the painful hurt and suffering of intrinsic racism. We, as your pastors, want to help lead not only that conversation, but also faithful response. Some of you have already started exploring opportunities and resources including watching the movie Emanuel. As we seek to more fully live into the kingdom as God intended, it is important that we hear perspectives different from our own. More specifically, it is vital that we hear from our siblings of color to learn more about their experiences. We commend to you these resources, but know that this list is not exhaustive:

*White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo

*Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the US* by the Rev. Lenny Duncan, ELCA

*I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness* by Austin Channing Brown

*Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America* by Ibram X. Kendi

In addition, try the 21-day Racial Equality Challenge using the this link <https://www.eddiemoorejr.com/21daychallenge> for more resources to further your understanding of power, privilege, supremacy, oppression, and equity.

We hope to provide formational events in the weeks ahead, but know that some of you are wondering "what should I do right now?". Additionally, a financial contribution has been made from St. Philip to the Roanoke Chapter of the NAACP. We know that these conversations are hard, but they are important. The work of the kingdom to which we are all called.



## St. Philip Preschool News

After serving at St. Phillip Preschool for 6 years the last 5 as our Preschool director, Danielle Murray is exploring new employment opportunities to use her many gifts. We are so, so grateful for Danielle's faithful service as she has given extraordinary leadership to this community connected ministry. We would like to celebrate Danielle's ministry and encourage you to send a note of thanksgiving to the church (8115 Williamson Rd., Roanoke, VA 24019) to share with Danielle before she begins this next part of her journey.

We wanted to share with you excerpts from the letter Danielle shared with church council - she will be missed!

*I know that I echo the sentiments of many when I say that St. Philip Lutheran has been a place of healing for me. Being able to minister alongside Pastor David and Pastor Laura has been an honor, and not one that I leave flippantly. While new jobs are always a time for excitement, leaving St. Philip is difficult as it has grown to be such a haven of safety and love for my family and me. I am so grateful at the opportunities St. Philip has provided for me, not only in providing a safe and loving place for both of my children to attend, but also a safe space to cultivate my leadership and ministry skills.*

*I want to extend my most sincere and heartfelt thanks to the community of St.*

*Philip for welcoming me 6 years ago, investing in my leadership abilities, prayerfully covering me and my family and (hopefully) sending me forward into a new ministry field with your blessing and prayers. I had no idea what kind of connection I would develop with this body of believers and volunteers, and I am forever thankful for the opportunity to be a part of building the kingdom alongside you all.*

*Danielle Murray,  
Preschool Director St. Philip*

Your St. Philip council is considering next steps as we continue to think through how God's mission is best served in our current context and circumstances.



## Church Council News – June 2020

Linda Duncan Rhodes

Council met on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

The Treasurer's report showed receipts for month ending May 31, 2020 of \$23,026.58. Expenses for May were only \$5699.96 due to a credit of \$17,312.00 in payroll expenses covered by the CARES Act Payroll Protection Program. The Payroll Protection Plan payment we received will cover 10 weeks of payroll expenses for St. Philip. Year-to-date through May 31 receipts equal \$121,812.00 and expenses were \$103,912.47.

A project team has been appointed, and a meeting has been scheduled for June 18, 2020 to discuss needed updates to our constitution.

Pastor David reported the Preschool balance sheet was very low due to the loss of classes and summer camp due to COVID 19 and funds were needed to meet payroll through August. Council passed a motion to gift the Preschool with \$5,000.00 to enable them to meet payroll through August. The money will come from cash

reserves we have accumulated so far this year.

Pastor Laura updated council on the church database management client called Breeze. Council members were sent an email as the test group to log into Breeze to look for their profiles, make edits to it, and to review the website. She reported the application can be downloaded to your phone or used on a web browser on a computer for free. Once information in the current membership database has been completely migrated to Breeze, and each member given the opportunity to make edits and upload photos, the system will allow us to print picture directories on-demand.

Danielle Murray resigned her position of preschool director effective July 1 to take a full-time position with a child care facility in Blacksburg. Council expressed their gratitude to Danielle for her six years of ministry to the St. Philip Preschool and congregation.

A Zoom meeting was held last week with Pastors, Shannon Radmacher, Dan Horine, Nancy Shadix and Donna Wright on plans for returning to in-person gatherings and procedures on getting back in the sanctuary.

The cross on the roof has been cleaned and painted.

Our sanctuary has several spots in the carpet upfront in the aisles and around the altar which have lifted because these are high traffic areas. Rod Dillman reported the only way to repair this is to replace the carpet in those areas. It has been suggested we do this before we have the pews and the rest of the carpet cleaned. Council is waiting for a quote from him as to the cost to replace the carpet.

Council passed a motion to give a \$500.00 donation to the Roanoke Chapter of NAACP. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is the oldest, largest and strongest civil rights organization in the United States.

Pastor Laura reported we have been approved for "We are Church Together Daily Bread" matching grant for a \$250 from the VA Synod. This grant will be used to purchase food and supplies for Melrose Towers. A "God's Work, Our hands" event for Melrose Towers will be held on July 26

The next council meeting is on July 7, 2020 at 7:00 pm via ZOOM.

**Live Like That: Love, Feed, Serve**

8115 Williamson Rd., NW  
Roanoke, VA 24019  
540-366-7046



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June 17, 2020

Dear Pastor David Derrick:

On behalf of Church Council, the staff, and the whole congregation, we want to congratulate you on your twenty (20) years of Pastoral Service to the Congregation of St. Philip Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Thank you for your joyous dedication, hard work, inspirational leadership, and faithful service.

I wish we could have done this in a more formal, celebratory manner, but the reason we are doing this open letter in the newsletter is not only to congratulate and thank you, but to also “let the cat out of the bag.”

Back in February of this year council began a conversation about recognizing your service in a surprise celebration event in May. Well, we all know what happened to prevent that from happening.

In the February meeting of Church Council, during a session when you and Pastor Laura were invited to leave the room for a few minutes to allow discussion of compensation increases, we ALSO discussed your 20-year anniversary! As a result of that session, a motion was made, seconded, discussed and approved by Council to earmark \$5,000 for a gift to a benevolence of YOUR choice, in honor of your service. We, of course, did not inform you of this decision at the time.

What precipitated this “confession” is the fact that your anniversary day came and went in May, without any public recognition, and that was an oversight we regret. However, the idea of conducting an event to celebrate your ministry with us is still a goal.

In addition, our Endowment Committee just approved the distribution of \$16,000 from our Endowment Fund for 2020 in their meeting on Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. It did not seem prudent to continue to keep our decision a secret any longer, when we should be making plans for how to allocate this disbursement in 2020.

Begin to give some thought about *your choice* of a benevolence to receive the \$5,000!

Thank you again for your Service, as we celebrate your ministry among us with this gift.

In Christ,  
Gary Sahn, Council President



## “God’s Work, Our Hands” and “Christmas in July”

This year the picnic St. Philip normally provides for the residents at Melrose Towers as part of the “God’s Work, Our Hands” Day of Service will look quite different due to COVID-19. The congregation plans to prepare a picnic meal for the residents in to go boxes and will deliver them to Melrose Towers on Sunday, July 26 at noon.

Since it will not be possible to to play bingo, give out prizes, or have the residents select items they need during a giveaway time, instead the idea is to provide already packed bags



with items, such as paper products, cleaning supplies, laundry detergent, and toiletries. Beginning the first Sunday in July, help fill the bags by placing donations in the tubs or boxes at the front door entrance of St. Philip. Tubs will be emptied daily and donations brought inside. If you have questions, please contact Linda Duncan Rhodes 529-9498 or Donna Wright 915-9691.

### Judy Burnette Surgery

On June 20th our music director, Judy Burnette, had surgery on her hand to repair damage from years of blessing the church with organ and piano music. Surgery was the first step, but part of the recovery process precludes her from playing for approximately 10 weeks.

St. Philip is blessed to have Rev.

Keith Olivier, chaplain at Brandon Oaks Retirement community and accomplished church musician, to step in and lead us while Judy is unable to play. We offer prayers for complete recovery for Judy, and thanksgiving for Pastor Olivier’s presence in the interim.



### Congregational Picnic!

Those who attended the first St Philip drive-in service on June 14 know how wonderful it was to see fellow St Philipians in person, to wave and say hello and share the peace. It reminded us that even though we’ve been able to continue worshipping together digitally and communicating via phone calls and Zoom meetings, we miss being in each other’s presence.

So, we’re going to have a congregational picnic, pandemic style! Mark your calendars for

Saturday, July 11 at 4pm. Instead of the traditional potluck, each member/family is invited to bring their own food and beverage to enjoy while relaxing and socializing with other St Philipians.

Bring your chairs or blankets to the grassy area behind the church, where there’s plenty of room to space out but still walk around and chat with those you haven’t seen in a while. Don’t forget your mask to wear when you’re not eating. We can’t wait to enjoy some fresh air and laughter together!

### Treasure the present

Patience asks us to live the moment to the fullest ... to taste the here and now, to be where we are. When we are impatient, we try to get away from where we are. We behave as if the real thing will happen tomorrow, later, and somewhere else. Let’s be patient and trust that the treasure we look for is hidden in the ground on which we stand. ~  
Henri Nouwen

### Prayer Requests

Scott Buchanan – Member  
Calvin Knotts – Member  
Judy Diekow – Member  
Kathryn Buchanan – Member  
Betty Hammond – Member  
Ruth Albertin - Juli Albertin’s mother  
Rusty Johnson - Dolly Johnson’s son  
Dolly Johnson - Member  
Forest Kanode - Kanodes’ grandson  
Jamie Hinkle - Kanode’s friend  
Emily Totten - Member & Scott Buchanan’s sister  
Barbara Simpson - Member

### July Birthdays

David Derrick - 5  
Debbie Kanode - 5  
Jennifer Schult - 5  
Jack Shepp – 8  
Linda Watson – 13  
Louise Jargowsky – 14  
Jacob Schult – 15  
Randy Grimm – 18  
Olivia Karkenny – 18  
Dave Whetzel – 19  
Keith Schult – 20  
Judy Brammer - 24  
Zoe Ell – 28  
Tyler Derrick - 30  
Juli Albertin - 30

St. Philip Lutheran Church  
8115 Williamson Road  
Roanoke, VA 24019

Change Service Requested

**David C. Derrick, Pastor** ([pastordavid@stphillutheran.net](mailto:pastordavid@stphillutheran.net))  
**Laura Dunklin, Pastor** ([pastorlaura@stphillutheran.net](mailto:pastorlaura@stphillutheran.net))  
**Laura J. Latham, Office Administrator** ([officeadmin@stphillutheran.net](mailto:officeadmin@stphillutheran.net))  
**Judy Burnette, Director of Music Ministries** ([music@stphillutheran.net](mailto:music@stphillutheran.net))  
**Danielle Murray, Director of Preschool** ([preschooldirector@stphillutheran.net](mailto:preschooldirector@stphillutheran.net))  
**Teresa Siler-Lee, Nursery Attendant**  
**Jody Draper, Custodian**

#### **Church Council**

Gary Sahn, Council President; Gary Dudley, Council Vice-President; Peter Shick, Treasurer;  
Betty Holland, Financial Secretary; Linda Duncan Rhodes Council Secretary

Members: Doug Layman, Shannon Radmacher, Kathleen Radtke, Donna Spradlin, Dan Horine, Elizabeth Horine

St. Philip Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Virginia Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.  
The Reverend Bob Humphrey, Bishop, Virginia Synod

