

St. Philip Invitation



LIVE LIKE THAT - LOVE, FEED, SERVE APRIL 2021

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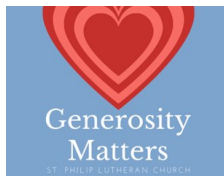
Congregational Meeting

Mark your calendars for the congregational meeting on Sunday, April 25, at 10:00am via Zoom. You may participate in the meeting by using the meeting I.D. 860 4019 9836 password 24019 or by calling 929-436-2866. The congregation will be electing church council members as well as acting on a proposed change to the Endowment Fund Policy. Please check your mail or email box for notice and more information including brief biographies of candidates running for church council. The endowment policy will be available on the church website as well as in the church office.

It is so important for all of us to be a part of God's mission through St. Philip. Make plans to participate on April 25!

Generosity Matters

Generosity is a way that God grows us. In May, St. Philip plans to continue to cultivate a culture of generosity with some specifics from our Stewardship Team. In the meantime keep remembering Generosity Matters.



Easter 2021 Schedule

On Sunday, April 4, St. Philip will celebrate the wonder and joy of the resurrection in many ways! Please make plans to participate in worship as we give thanks for the new life we share together in Christ.



- † **7:00am - In-Person Sunrise Service with Holy Communion at the Outdoor Chapel** Please bring your mask and lawn chairs so that we can safely worship. You are also welcome to bring your own communion elements, or use the ones that will be provided.
- † **7:00am - Facebook Premiere Sunrise Service** You do not need a Facebook account to access this service, just go to the www.facebook.com/StPhilipLutheran.
- † **9:30am - Easter Sunday Drive-Up Worship with Holy Communion**
- † **11:00am - Easter Digital Worship** Join online at <https://stphiliplutheran.online.church> and by conference call

We look forward to celebrating with joy and hope the miracle of Jesus' resurrection and the boundless love of God! Join us for a wonderful Easter celebration!

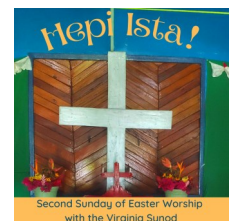
Spring Flowers for Easter Season

On Easter Sunday - April 4 - spring flowers will adorn and decorate the worship space. These potted flowers will be available for you to take home for a love offering (make a donation on the St. Philip website using youth activities option). All donations will go to the Youth Group for youth ministry throughout the year. The purchase of these flowers was made possible by an Action Team from Thrivent, so all money raised will go to helping St. Philip youth grow in faith.



Hepi Ista! Worship for the Second Sunday of Easter

The congregation is delighted to join the whole Virginia Synod for worship on the Second Sunday of Easter! The Virginia Synod staff will record a worship service, with Pastor Kelly Bayer Derrick preaching! The service will highlight and celebrate Virginia Synod's companion relationship with the New Guinea Islands District of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Papua New Guinea. Join in for worship in St. Philip's usual digital formats (<https://stphiliplutheran.online.church>) that Sunday at 11am and celebrate the Good News of the resurrection in a global way!



Blood Drive News

One of the powerful ministries of St. Philip is our partnership with the American Red Cross for blood donation drives. We have increased our number of drives during this pandemic season, as there is an increased need for units of blood. St. Philip is having another blood drive at

St. Philip on Monday May 10 from 10 am - 4 pm and Tuesday May 11th from 1 pm - 7 pm.

Please make plans to attend and give the gift of life! The blood drive team will also serve you a wonderful to-go meal to enjoy after your donation. You may sign up by going to <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find>

-drive or by contacting Debbie Kanode at (540) 589-6865. The blood drive team and pastors give thanks for your help in supporting the wellness of the St. Philip local community and beyond!



Church Council News

Linda Duncan Rhodes

Council met on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

The Treasurer report showed receipts for month ending February 28, 2021 of \$17,187.79 and year-to-date receipts of \$44,860.97 which is \$7,099.03 under budget. There were no unusual expenses in February. Expenses for the month were \$23,763.54, which was \$6,575.75 more than income received for February. Year-to-date expenses are \$50,651.61 which is \$5,790.64 more than the year-to-date income received.

The special offerings for the Super Bowl of Caring were \$1,429.00. This was donated to Feeding America

Southwest Virginia. A contribution was made to the Virginia Synod in the amount of \$2,450.00 from the 2020 Endowment Fund Allocation as approved by council at the February 2021 council meeting.

Council will participate in a Council Retreat on Saturday, April 24 from 9:00-noon. This retreat has tentatively been set to be held via Zoom.

A congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, April 25 following the drive-up worship service to review and vote on the changes made to the Endowment Guidelines and to vote on new council members.

Council discussed return to in-person worship. Council members asked if the COVID Preparedness Team could

meet and review the details and protocol previously discussed on returning to in-person worship and make necessary changes if needed. The team will present their recommendations at the April council meeting.

When making final arrangements, parishioners will often contact the church or the pastors to ask if they will do their funeral. Going forward, when asked, St. Philip will agree to do the service. When someone dies, one, or both, of the pastors will conduct the service and provide pastoral care for the family. Who conducts the service will be up to discretion of the pastors.

The next council meeting will be held on April 13 at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

Are you getting a Stimulus Check?

Gary Sahn

“50 Great Ways to Spend Your Third Stimulus Check” was the title of a recent article written by a Forbes Advisor. I checked out the list of 50 and found that many of the suggestions seemed like thoughtful,

resourceful ways to live out good stewardship.

But Forbes missed the all-time best, number one suggestion; return to God a part of what God has given me.

Would you consider putting a tithe (one tenth) to St. Philip at the very top of YOUR list of ways to spend your

stimulus check? Please prayerfully consider what God is calling you to give back. After doing so you can check out the Forbes list for some more ideas.

(Exodus 35:5) “From what you have, take an offering for the LORD. Everyone who is willing is to bring to the LORD an offering...”



Tutoring Opportunity - Love Feed Serve

Part of God’s mission for us as Christians is to serve our neighbors. One way to do that is by serving as tutors for some of the youngest in the

St. Philip community. St. Philip is partnering with Cloverdale Elementary School, meeting with students who have fallen behind or are struggling with their studies. Please know that the primary role is to be an encourager and cheerleader. You DO NOT need to be

a school wizard. St. Philip would love to have as many tutors as possible!

If you have time available in the afternoons and can serve St. Philip neighbors in this way contact Pastor David either by email or phone.

Faith Formation News

Kids' Faith Formation: Faith learning continues for young people at St. Philip! Our children, 2 years - 5th grade were sent activity packets that correspond with our weekly videos. Each week, Pastor Laura creates a video sharing a Bible story and song. Those videos are posted on our church Facebook, as well as our YouTube channel. While we look forward to learning in-person again, we are excited to share these resources for the time being.

Monday Morning Bible Study: Study the scripture for the upcoming Sunday the Monday prior. Join us from wherever you are on Zoom.com on Mondays at 9:30am. Meeting i.d. 838 9536 5636, Passcode: 24019.

Youth: (More details are available in your email and texts) Youth Group: Both Middle School and High School Groups meet each month, 4-6pm, with dinner for all at 5:30pm. Check out the schedule below and come join the fun!!

- April 4 – No Youth Group on Easter Sunday
- April 18 – Youth Group Easter Egg Hunt at St. Philip 4-6pm AT THE CHURCH OUTDOORS. Bring an Easter Basket or something to hunt for eggs.
- May 9 – Regular youth group at St. Philip 4-6pm AT CHURCH OUTDOORS!
- May 23 – Regular youth group at St. Philip 4-6pm AT CHURCH OUTDOORS! (We will celebrate earth day one month late - wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty)

The New Normal - The New Church

It is so hard to believe that a year has passed since churches all around the world realized the need to adapt to constraints brought on by a global pandemic. This has been a hard year for the St. Philip community, as we certainly experienced those same challenges. Yet, despite those challenges, St. Philip never ceased to be the church! While we grieve the difficulties and restrictions of this year, we give thanks for all the ways the Holy Spirit inspired our creativity in the midst of those challenges. Though it has certainly looked different this year, we as the St. Philip congregation have always, always lived out our missional call from God. While this year has been filled with phrases like “new normal” and while we move into being “new church,” it’s the same boundless love of God present with us always, empowering us to live out that love in the world.

As the world emerges into a new stage of pandemic living, we know that our boundless God (as is always the case) is constantly doing a new thing and is constantly about resurrection hope. We are convinced that new creation is happening with our community. Please know that your pastors and council leadership are actively working to discern what the “new thing” is. A council retreat is planned for this month to especially consider the new normal; the new church and God’s call to us. Likely, some things will change from what we have always done. Certainly, creativity will need to continue. Faithfully, we will count on God’s promises as we always have AND respond to those gifts of grace by living out the good news of Jesus Christ.

If you have thoughts you would like to share, do not hesitate to speak to your St. Philip leadership. As we listen for the Holy Spirit and discern calls to mission, do pray for our community of faith that we might Live Like That (Like Christ): Loving, Feeding, and Serving.

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
Emily Totten - Member & Scott Buchanan’s sister
Barbara Simpson - Member
Hannah Chabot - Bev Horvath’s granddaughter
Kristi McCraw - Zippie Smith’s daughter



April Birthdays

Marlene Craig	April 2
Ginnie Karkenny	April 4
Bill Diekow	April 7
Jim Burke	April 8
Price Wingate	April 9
Betty Holland	April 14
Barbara Simpson	April 17
Maggie McDaniel	April 18
Beckett Merrill	April 18
Mila Merrill	April 18
Griffin Horacek	April 19
Garth McNeill	April 19
Donna Wright	April 19
Al Jennings	April 22
Justin Motley	April 23
Carol Goad	April 27

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

Change Service Requested

David C. Derrick, Pastor (pastordavid@stphiliplutheran.net)
Laura Swanson, Pastor (pastorlaura@stphiliplutheran.net)
Laura J. Weatherford Burns, Office Administrator (officeadmin@stphiliplutheran.net)
Judy Burnette, Director of Music Ministries (music@stphiliplutheran.net)
Teresa Siler-Lee, Nursery Attendant
Jody Draper, Custodian

Church Council

Gary Sahn, Council President; Gary Dudley, Council Vice-President; Peter Shick, Treasurer;
Abby and Dave Mellon, Financial Secretary; Linda Duncan Rhodes Council Secretary
Members: Doug Layman, Shannon Radmacher, Kathleen Radtke, Donna Spradlin,
Donna Wright, Dan Horine, Jacob Schult

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

