

St. Philip Invitation



LIVE LIKE THAT - LOVE, FEED, SERVE NOVEMBER 2021

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Congregational Meeting

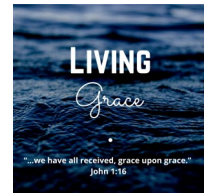
Mark your calendars for the congregational meeting on Sunday, December 12 at 10:30am, held simultaneously in the sanctuary as well as via Zoom video conference. To access the meeting, go to www.zoom.com and enter meeting i.d. 860 4019 9836. The passcode is 24019. You do not need a computer or internet to join! Just call into the meeting from your landline or cell phone at 301-715-8592. At the prompt, use the meeting i.d. and passcode above.

There will be an update as to the ministry we share in and through St. Philip. Additionally, we will be voting on the annual spending plan. It is important for all of us to be a part of our church's mission and the resources needed to make it happen. Please make plans to be present, either in person or virtually.



Living Grace - Grace Moments

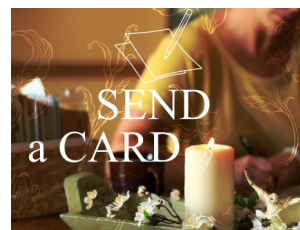
As St. Philip celebrates God gifting grace upon grace, we want to share stories of God's grace. As life happens, think about and pay attention to moments when you have experienced the amazing grace of God - in moments great and small. Think about and pay attention to times when you felt God's love and abundance. Think about and pay attention to times when you received or shared God's mercy, forgiveness, or compassion.



Then as you mark those moments, make the moment a story to tell. Write it down in a journal. Make a voice memo on your phone. Record yourself telling the story in a video. Take a picture of the place or the people (with permission!) that brought that moment to your attention.

We want to tell these stories! So after you record them, please share those moments with St. Philip! You may do this by sending pictures, videos, or written stories to pastorlaura@stphiliplutheran.net, mailing them to the church office, or dropping them in the grace moments box in the narthex.

Living Grace best celebrates who God is, when grace is shared. We hope then over the coming months to share Grace Moments: in worship, in communications, in social media posts, in conversations, in community and neighborhood. You can even remain anonymous if you so choose. Living Grace happens in life, everyday life - we have stories to share.



Living Grace - One Note at a Time

Grace upon grace is marked by stories told in a variety of ways, but God's grace lives in the things we do as well. Acts of service and care are a primary way we respond to the love of God made known in Jesus. In the coming weeks, we at St. Philip and you in particular are invited to serve and care with the simple act of a hand written note.

Communication can and does happen in lots of ways today, but we want to resurrect the power of handwritten notes of grace. St. Philip will even provide the cards and the postage. Send a note to someone you have missed at St. Philip, or to a neighbor across the street, or to the nurse you know who has worked so intensely of late, or to the relative who is lonely, or to well, really anyone and everyone! Living God's Grace happens in life - one note at a time.

Caring for Congregation and Community in COVID

As we continue to live with the COVID 19 virus in the community, St. Philip seeks to faithfully be the body of Christ. Please know that your church council is continually

monitoring how the pandemic influences what and how we do ministry. At this time, the plan is to continue to worship on Sunday mornings at 9:30am both in person with masks as well as live streaming via the St. Philip Facebook page.

St. Philip council continues to review these practices every month. Thank you for your grace as we boldly respond to Jesus' call to discipleship even as we simultaneously respond to Jesus' call to care for neighbor - especially the most vulnerable.

Advent 2021 - Journey to the Stable

On November 28, we will begin the season of Advent! Advent is a season of the church year that leads to Christmas. In Advent, we wait with hope and expectation for the coming of Christ both at Christmas, and again in the future! It's a powerful season that

reminds us of our longing for Christ's light and love in the world. In worship, we will celebrate Advent with the theme of "Close to Home." We also have an exciting devotional activity! As we did with the Stations of the



Cross in the Valley during Lent, you are invited to "journey to the stable" by reading the story of the nativity while visiting sites in the Roanoke valley. Each station will be accompanied by a scripture text and a Bible verse. May this Advent season be one filled with the hope and expectation of Emmanuel, God with us!

Feast at Philips

Feast at Philips is almost here again! Mark your calendars for the Feast on Saturday, November 27. This year, we will again package traditional Thanksgiving meals to deliver throughout the valley. Deliveries will be made to Melrose Towers and other residences with limited access to food, Roanoke Police and Fire departments, and more.

To make the feast happen, **help is needed!** You may make financial contributions on the St. Philip giving page or by making a donation denoted for Feast at Philips. We are also in need of prepared hams and turkeys to send with the meals, volunteers to package the meals, and drivers to deliver the meals.. If you are able to do any of those, please contact the church office or sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4ba4ac28a0f4c61-feast1>.



Thank you for all your support in loving, feeding, and serving our community this Thanksgiving.



Council News—October 2021

Linda Duncan Rhodes

Council met on Tuesday, October 19 at 7:00pm in the church library and via Zoom.

The Treasurer's report showed receipts for the month ending September 30, 2021 of \$22,339.48 and year-to-date receipts of \$184,937.31 which is \$48,882.69 under budget. Expenses exceed

income by \$133.26 for September. Year-to-date expenses exceed income by \$35,920.43 for September.

Council discussed the present protocol St. Philip is using for COVID and determined protocols are appropriate given the state of the pandemic in our area.

Council reviewed the draft of the fixed expenses for the proposed spending plan for 2022 and

determined it will be a static plan, meaning increases in spending will not be proposed.

Council approved the expenditure of up to \$1,500.00 to have the scatter garden weeded, rocks removed, shrubs and bushes trimmed and mulched.

The next council meeting will be November 9 at 7:00pm in the church library and via Zoom.

Sing for Joy and Celebration

It is wonderful to once again sing as a church family during a worship service. The St. Philip choir is truly joyful for their opportunity to sing together again. The choir is being COVID responsible by wearing masks and distancing, both in rehearsals and while participating in worship to keep themselves and others safe.

The choir loves preparing anthems each week as well as for special

celebrations during the church year.

Rehearsals have begun on the music for Christmas Eve. The choir would love for you to share in Christmas Eve and other musical experiences by singing for worship this holiday season. Rehearsals are each Wednesday at 7:00p.m. in the Sanctuary. If you have any questions, please speak with Judy, the pastors or any of our choir members. Come one, come all!! 'Tis the Season!



St Philip Youth Golf Tournament a Success

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in any way in this year's St. Philip Youth Golf Tournament. We enjoyed one of the largest groups of golfers ever with 64 golfers heading out to the course on a magnificent Saturday. This event is the primary fundraiser for youth ministry at St. Philip and enables youth retreats, events, and activities to happen without using regular

church offerings. The tournament this year raised over \$5000!

We are particularly grateful this year as our youth make plans to participate in the Lutheran National Youth Gathering next summer in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Youth need safe spaces to live and grow - St. Philip is one of those spaces. Again thank you to sponsors, volunteers, golfers, and most especially to the God of abundance for a great day of experiencing grace upon grace.



Prayer Requests

Scott Buchanan – Member
 Calvin Knotts – Member
 Judy Diekow – Member
 Kathryn Buchanan – Member
 Betty Hammond – Member
 Ruth Albertin - Juli Albertin's mother
 Emily Totten - Member & Scott Buchanan's sister
 Barbara Simpson - Member

Hannah Chabot - Bev Horvath's granddaughter
 Don Stith - Member
 Nancy Shadix - Member
 Sara Aubitz - Member

November Birthdays

Renee Hiller	Nov. 3
Karen Lowdon	Nov. 5
Kevin Farmer	Nov. 7
Rick Brosius	Nov.9
Gary Sahn	Nov.9
Jack Parker	Nov.11
Pat Hunt	Nov.14
Wende Markham	Nov. 21
Jonah Gruver	Nov.22
C.P. Staley	Nov.23
Stacy Frost	Nov. 24

Thrivent Action Teams

Attention Thrivent members! (This is anyone who owns a Thrivent financial product – if you are not sure if you are a member, speak to Max Holland) Did you know that as a Thrivent member you have access to \$250 of seed money for community service activities? Called Thrivent Action Teams, this program is a wonderful gift Thrivent shares with our faith community!

There is an online form to complete that is very short. It asks for a name of your event, a short paragraph on who it will benefit and what you intend to purchase, and then asks if you need thank you letters and marketing/advertisement types of things from Thrivent. The grant request process takes five minutes to complete. Thrivent approves your request and then mails you a packet with the items you have asked for and a \$250 gift card for you to utilize. St. Philip does the event, and reports back to them about its success. It is really that simple.

And as a Thrivent member, you get to do this twice a year! It is not too late for you to take advantage of this opportunity to put together a team with some seed money for your project before the end of the year. Opportunities you might consider are Feast at Philip's, Advent devotionals, note card writing supplies, sheet music for Christmas Eve, dinners for the youth group. See one of the pastors for even more inspiration!

A Successful Socktober

St. Philip embarked on Socktober with a goal of collecting 500 pairs of socks for people experiencing homelessness in the Roanoke Valley. Thanks to your generosity, we well exceeded that goal! Thank you for your partnership in caring for the community!

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

Shannon Radmacher, Council President; Gary Dudley, Council Vice-President; Peter Shick, Treasurer;
Abby and Dave Mellon, Financial Secretary; Linda Duncan Rhodes, Council Secretary;
Members: Doug Layman, Bruce Johnson, Kathleen Radtke, Gary Sahm, Donna Spradlin,
Donna Wright, 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



Live Like That: Love, Feed, Serve.