

St. Philip Invitation



LIVE LIKE THAT - LOVE, FEED, SERVE MAY 2022

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Blood Drive - May 9

St. Philip is continuing the awesome ministry of supporting our community's wellness through blood donations this month! **We are hosting another blood drive on May 9, 11:30am-6:30pm.** Please contact the church office or Debbie Kanode to sign up. You may also register at redcrossblood.org/give. If you have received a COVID-19 vaccine, you are still eligible to give. One donation can save up to three lives, so please help us save lives together! Volunteers are also needed the day of the blood drive. Please use the sign up sheet in the gathering space or contact Debbie Kanode or the church office.

Monday Morning Bible Study - Start your week in the Word! The Monday Morning Bible study group will meet both via Zoom and in the church library. Come join to discuss the upcoming lectionary texts and discuss how God is at work in those stories and our world today! (meeting I.D. 838 9536 5636, password 24019). Bible Study will take a break for the summer beginning May 30.

Building a Culture of Generosity

Thank you! Thank you so much for your continued support of the ministry we share at St. Philip. We are called to live the faith in every way including practicing generosity.

During the month of May, the congregation plans to have good healthy conversation about the impact of our ministry and how generosity is a part of that. Along with a number of other churches across the country, St. Philip's stewardship team is learning and drawing guidance from GSB Generosity Center as we explore the theme Building a Culture of Generosity.

Starting April 24 and continuing to Intent Sunday on May 22 the St. Philip Stewardship Team will be sharing stories, resources, and communications with the intention of growing faith. As always check your mailboxes, your inboxes, the St. Philip website, and social media platforms to celebrate the culture of generosity at St. Philip!

I want to Live Like That (like Christ) - Love. Feed. Serve.

It can be hard being new in any setting, including walking into a church where many people already know one another. Even if an invitation has been extended, there are often questions: Will I feel comfortable? What will this church be like? What is this community of faith all about? Is there a place for me to grow in faith and live the faith?

Marty, despite asking at least some of these questions did indeed show up. All of the questions weren't answered right away, but he did discover that St. Philip might be a place to grow in faith and live the faith.

"Pastor, this congregation seems to really have a strong sense of truly living through faith. Sometimes that means with each other but a lot of times that means with people all around us. I really want to be a part of sharing God's love, whether that's by sharing food, or sharing care, or even trying to share that love with the kids on the school bus I drive."

Well that sure feels like you want to Live Like That (like Christ). That first courageous step into St. Philip has grown faith. Faith enough for Marty to invite friends he knows to see if they might discover how to live out God's at St. Philip too. "Pastors, I want you to meet my friends - I want them to feel the grace and love here at St. Phillip and meet some of my new friends."

St. Philip is a community that is called by God to be God's love in the world. People want to share in the mission - so we together continue with faith to Live Like That.



Stories of Generosity

Pastor David

My parents, and particularly my dad were shaped by the events of the great depression. That reality then had a tremendous impact on me and how I think about financial resources. I always could feel this ongoing disconnect. My parents were generous with me and my brothers as children, with the church (making an offering was presumed - though amounts were never, ever mentioned), with people in the neighborhood. But at the same time the strong influence of the Great Depression equally instilled a sense of scarcity. What if we don't have enough? We can't afford... I have joked that I didn't want to respond to



the call to be a pastor because I wanted to eat real Oreo cookies, not the Cost Cutter generic brand that we got only on occasions.

All of that is background to say I am still a work in progress and I still feel the tension of deeply desiring unbridled generosity with a nagging weight of living out a life of scarcity.

This past year, our family wanted to connect with our greater community and wanted to financially support a business that was providing tutoring services for students in our neighborhood. It was easy to make the decision to offer support - the harder one was how much? We didn't want to

redirect any of the offering we were making to St. Philip - so again how much? It turns out stretching a little bit on how much was more doable than we thought. Scarcity thinking was holding us (mostly me) back.

Here's what I hope, for me and then maybe for us; that we can name scarcity thinking when it intrudes on our desires to practice generosity. And that we might stretch a little when we plan for sharing God's abundance in the coming year. We plan to increase our giving to St. Philip this year while continuing to support people in our neighborhood. I look forward to hearing and sharing more stories of generosity as together we build a culture of thankfulness.

Faith Builds a Farm

Pastor Laura

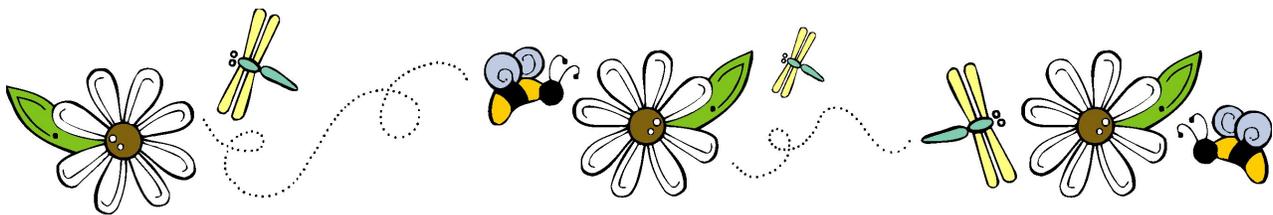
On our children's ministry table are paper barns for God's Global Barnyard. Children can assemble the barn and then use it to collect change to help purchase farm animals for families in need. These animals then sustainably help support the family they are given to.

One Sunday morning, one of the St.

Philip children asked for help assembling their barn. I helped them and didn't think much of it. But the next week, the child came back with her barn and two Ziploc bags of change! She loved the idea of raising money to support families through God's global barnyard so much that she worked all week to collect money from friends, family, and classmates. It was over \$30! We hoped to buy a few chickens with what she had raised. But then we decided to ask our community

of faith at Saint Philip for their help through noisy offerings and we've more than tripled the amount raised! Instead of just chickens, we're looking at more farm animals we could provide for a family in need.

Thanks be to God for the gift of faith, for children who enthusiastically follow God's call to serve, and for a supportive community of faith that helps build a farm!



Council News—April 2022

Linda Duncan Rhodes

Council met on Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 7:00 pm in the church library and via Zoom.

Church council discussed the upcoming stewardship initiative and as part of that, shared impactful moments of St. Philip ministry during the pandemic. Stories of digital ministry, music, parking lot worship, and more were shared.

Upcoming ministry was discussed including a unique faith formation experience of "Acts on the Road."

The Treasurer's report showed receipts for month ending March 31, 2022 of \$16,921.92 and year-to-date receipts of \$69,982.75 which is \$6,074.75 under budget. St. Philip expenses for month ending March 31, 2022 were \$24,382.72 and year to date expenses were \$74,565.55. Year to date expenses exceeded the budget by \$4,582.77. Cash balance month ending March 31, 2022 was \$8,716.22.

Office Administrator, Laura Weatherford Burns tendered her resignation. She has accepted a position as Administrative Services Manager with LEAP. Beginning April 25, 2022, she will work 20 hours per week until a new person is hired. (See page 4)

The next council meeting will be May 10, 2022 at 7:00 pm in the church library and via Zoom.

Faith Formation

Faith Formation for all ages - Acts on the Road

During the season of Lent, the congregation of St. Philip has been studying the book of Acts. Learning more about the First Century Church inspires us to follow Jesus more faithfully as the Twenty-first Century Church! In the month of May, we're going to take that study to another level with Acts on the Road! Each Sunday after worship, disciples of all ages are invited to travel together to some unique places in the Valley. There we'll read scripture, share a reflection, pray, and have good fellowship and conversation! Mark your calendars for these exciting adventures!

- **May 1:** Witnessing to the Ends of the Earth: Acts 17:16-33 - Marketplace, Downtown Roanoke
- **May 8:** Called and Empowered to be a Witness: Acts 1:6-11-The Towers at Towers Mall
- **May 15:** Witnessing in our Circles: Acts 6:1-7 - Wheatland Community Garden
- **May 22:** Witnessing to our Community: Acts 8:26-40 - Carvins Cove

Blessing for Making Music

contributed by Judy Burnette

I play because there is a song inside of me,
and I want to hear what it sounds like out here.
These notes and beats are a language all their own,
from a mystical guild singing across time and space.
When I play, I am with them and they know me.
When you listen you help make it temporal,
holding me in the here and now
lest I fly away into our cosmic melody.
When you sing along it is a blessing and my favorite refrain of all.

~Meta Herrick Carlson



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
Sara Aubitz - Member
Cookie Consiglio - Member



Power in the Spirit: July 14-16, 2022

Power in the Spirit is an inspirational conference for people of all ages who wish to explore God's call to service through joyous worship, Bible studies, keynote addresses, workshops, games, and fellowship. In addition, congregational leaders—teachers, music directors, choir members, council and committee members, family life consultants, deacons, pastors, and others—will find Power in the spirit nurturing and challenging as they consider their mission and ministry.

The words of Saint Thomas reveal a disciple whose faith in Jesus makes him willing to go where Jesus goes, even when danger and death are real possibilities. For Thomas, it's better to be unsafe with Jesus than to stay behind as Jesus heads into dangerous places. For the Church today, we just may be called to a similar faith that goes with Jesus—even into danger. At Power in the Spirit 2022 we'll explore these themes, and more!

Come and learn! Come for fellowship! Come to serve your neighbor!
Come to Power in the Spirit 2022! Register at <https://vasynod.org/power-in-the-spirit>

May Birthdays

Cathy Dudley	May 1
Maribeth Bolster	May 4
Shannon Radmacher	May 6
Kevin Britt	May 7
Abby Mellon	May 12
Chuck Spradlin	May 12
Madison Horacek	May 13
Patti Henkel	May 18
Tina Waldron	May 19
Paul Economy	May 20
Elle Forbes	May 20
Bill Wilhelm	May 21
Stuart Dillon	May 22
Catherine Mehalic	May 22
Peter Shick	May 23
Mary McCutchen	May 24
Gary Dudley	May 27
Billy Elliott	May 27
Anna Radtke	May 27
Jessica Monroe	May 30

St. Philip Graduates 2022

St. Philip congratulates our graduates - we pray for God to care for you, inspire you, and call you into the next steps of your journeys.



Madison Horacek is graduating from Old Dominion University in May with a Bachelors of Science in Health Service Administration & Community Health Management with a minor in Management. During college Madison was the Vice President of Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity and waitressed. After completing her internship at the Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance, she started work for the

Central Virginia Health District as the Community Outreach Coordinator, bringing awareness to community health and health literacy. Madison plans to continue her work with VDH, and eventually get certified as a Nursing Home Administrator to transition into long term care and assisted living.

Griffin Horacek is graduating from William Byrd High School and continuing his education at Shenandoah University in the fall. At Shenandoah university he will be majoring in Cybersecurity and minoring in Gaming Design while being apart of the SU's varsity e-sports team. During Griffin's high school career he participated in 4 years of

soccer, 5 years of golf and swimming. Being a senior captain in both golf and swimming. Griffin was a founding member of the WBHS first e-sports team his sophomore year and has competed at the state level each season. Griffin was a part of several clubs including FCA, BETA, and student voice.

Bradley Craig graduates from William Fleming High School on June 10th. In the fall, he will be attending Virginia Tech to study pre-law and political science. Once receiving his bachelor's degree, he plans on attending law school to become an attorney.



Office Administrator Letter of Resignation

April 12, 2022

Dear Church Council:

The past eleven and a half years as office administrator at St. Philip Lutheran have been immeasurably rewarding. I have grown spiritually and professionally due to the leadership and guidance of the ministers of St. Philip and especially that of Pastor David, Pastor Laura, and Pastor Kelly.

But all good things must come to an end. It is bittersweet that I tender my resignation as office administrator. I have been offered and have accepted a position as Administrative Services Manager at Local Environmental Agricultural Program (LEAP). It's time for me to move on to new and different challenges and opportunities. Also as a single mother of a teenager poised to go off to college, the generous salary offered by St. Philip simply isn't sustainable.

My hope is that beginning April 25, 2022, Church Council will permit me to continue working 20 hours a week until a new office administrator has been hired. I would also be willing to offer my services 5-10 hours a week for the first few weeks onboarding that person and showing them "the ropes." I wish nothing but the best for the pastors, Church Council, and the congregation of St. Philip. You have been family to me.

Peace and Grace,
Laura J. Weatherford Burns

A Note from the Pastors

Pastor David and Pastor Laura

We are so grateful for Laura Weatherford Burns' gifted and faithful service to St. Philip for over a decade. In her time at St. Philip, she has been an amazing resource. She has adapted in significant ways as ministry has evolved and needs have dramatically changed over the past few years. Although we are excited for this new opportunity for her, we will certainly miss all the ways she has added to and been a part of our shared ministry. Most of all we will miss the joy of the ongoing relationship and regular interaction. As we give thanks for Laura and her many years at St. Philip, we want to wish her well and send her with our love and best wishes. We plan to celebrate her time with us on Sunday, June 19. Immediately following the 9:30 worship service, there will be a celebration for Laura with refreshments. Please make plans to attend! If you are unable to attend in person, you are welcome to send a card to the church office for Laura.

St. Philip Lutheran Church
8115 Williamson Road
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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)
Jody Draper, Custodian

Church Council

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

