

St. Philip Invitation

LIVE LIKE THAT - LOVE, FEED, SERVE OCTOBER 2022



FAITH FORMATION

As the temperatures cool and the leaves change, we're excited to keep learning more about God's love for us in all seasons. There are Faith Formation opportunities for both adults and children. Adults are invited to Faith in Real Life conversations in the library with Pastor David on Sundays at 10:30am. Children are invited to explore Bible stories with Pastor Laura on Sunday mornings at 10:30am.

COVID UPDATE

We never imagined that in March 2020 we'd still be talking about COVID heading into 2023, but it is our reality. Through the immense challenges of this extended COVID season, we give thanks to God for the mitigation efforts, vaccines, and technological advancements that have allowed for us to be together, both in-person and virtually. As we enter into the Fall season, there are some health updates we wanted to share. There is a new COVID vaccine booster, specifically designed for most recent variants that is now available for the public. In addition, the Flu vaccine is now available for this season. You can get both at the same appointment! Masking continues to be an effective tool for those who wish to have an added layer of protection. There are no changes in protocol proposed at St. Philip at this time, but we wanted to share this information with you as you make decisions with your doctor and family. COVID brought many unwanted lessons and learnings, but most of all it reminded us how important it is to care for not only our own health, but to care for our neighbors also!

Leave a Legacy to Love Feed and Serve

*"At the end of life, you **are** going to be charitable - planned giving help us be charitable to the people and things we love" - Marianne Brock, ELCA Foundation*

As an initial step in helping our congregation to better understand the options and the benefits for planned giving, the St. Philip Stewardship Team has invited a Gift Planner from the ELCA Foundation to address our congregation on Sunday October 9th. Her name is Sister Marianne Brock, who is quoted above. Mark your calendars to be present this day.

St. Philip is a vital, mission oriented, discipleship centered community. We want to invite you to help ensure that resources are always available to continue living out God's love made known in Christ in the world. Do not hesitate to ask questions in the weeks ahead.

Thank you Bev and Don Stith

St. Philip is grateful to have received a generous gift of \$10,000 from the estate of Bev and Don Stith, who both recently died and now celebrate life eternal with Christ. In their relatively short time at St. Philip (just 3 years ago), they both significantly impacted God's mission for this faith community. And St. Philip clearly was a place where they experienced community and the love of Christ.

The Stith legacy gift speaks both to their hope for St. Philip to continue to be a place where God's grace is spoken and shared, and to the vitality and the welcome of this community of faith. What an amazing testimony - thank you Bev and Don Stith.

Where is God Calling St. Philip?

So much has changed over the last several years and groups of all kinds have adapted in a landscape that seems different each day. The church as a whole and St. Philip congregation in particular has certainly joined in that need to adapt and create.

Your St. Philip council very much wants to be attentive to and even plan for the ways God's Spirit calls us into this ever changing world. On Sunday, October 23 our council will gather for a retreat time to brainstorm and have conversation around how we respond to the Spirit's calling. The Rev. John Wertz from the Virginia Synod will help guide the retreat, particularly thinking about the shared St. Philip values: grace, service, welcome, and care. The hope is to develop some clarity and some tangible ways we might grow even more into those values as we follow Jesus.

Please pray for this gathering and be ready to engage in our shared calling to love, feed, and serve for the sake of Christ Jesus.

Council News----September 2022

Karen Lowdon

Council met on Tuesday September 13, 2022 at 7:00 pm in person and via Zoom.

Treasurer's Report by Peter Shick shows receipts in August of \$18,037 and YTD of \$178,115 which is \$24,705 below budget.

The only unusual expenses were repairs to the HVAC systems for the church and parsonage.

Pastors will schedule a meeting with Renee Taylor to debrief after the conclusion of the Community Outreach Pilot Program Partnership with Taylor Tutoring Services.

St Philip received an undesignated estate gift from the Stiths who were members for about three years. Council voted to place the gift in investments for the Staff Addition Funds.

Pastor Laura reported on the Day of Service at Melrose Towers on August 14 that was well attended. She will be leading the children's group and reviewing bible stories after church services. New Member Sunday is September 25 and the church picnic will be that afternoon. Cafe Time will begin once a month in October. Blessing of the Animals will be October 2 and the community is invited to attend. Pastor Laura will be the partner with Caroline

Wilson as she embarks on her seminary discernment program.

Pastor David reported that an ELCA Foundation representative will be here October 9 to share with the congregation information about estate planning and giving. He will be leading the adult faith formation group after church services. Both pastors will participate in a Zoom meeting with other local church leaders to collaborate about youth ministry. The 21st annual youth golf tournament will be September 24 and is a fundraiser for the youth. Highlighting the importance of community outreach, someone we have provided transportation for to the Thanksgiving Feast at Phillips for about 10 years recently called and asked the pastors to perform his funeral when the time comes.

As we are entering into the fall season with increased indoor activities, we reviewed recent recommendations that people who have gotten both COVID vaccinations and booster also get the new Omicron 5 booster as well as a flu vaccine.

Council will be participating in a retreat on October 23rd. The next council meeting will be October 11.

Blood Drive We are looking forward to another successful Blood Drive on Monday, October 3 from 11am to 7pm. If you would like to donate, go to RedCrossBlood.org or call Debbie Kanode at 540-589-6865. Thank you for your support in saving lives!

LET'S CAFE - Starting October 2, St. Philip will host a fellowship and refreshment time immediately after worship on the first Sunday of the month. If you are interested in preparing for Sunday fellowship time, please contact Patti Henkel (blacklj5@yahoo.com) for details.

Can You Name Than Tune?

Judy Burnette

In the mid 1970's, there was a TV show called, "Name That Tune." The premise of the game was for each contestant to guess how many notes they would need to hear before they could identify a song.

When you are sitting in church and the music of a congregational song begins, you probably recognize the song immediately. That is really great! Did you know that some melodies just happen to be written in a way which makes it easy to write new words for the same tune?

This may sound very confusing, but it is actually an easy way to write songs using a familiar tune with the words and stories of today. This allows us to learn new songs more easily to use during worship.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of America has introduced a new music supplement to be used along with the ELW called: All Creation Sings. This book has several songs that have the "new" words written to "old" tunes. We will be adding some of these songs to our worship service.

Listen carefully and see if you can recognize any of these songs during future worship services.



Blessing of the Animals

As a celebration of St. Francis of Assisi's life and works, St. Philip will host a blessing of the animals service near his feast day. In 2022, this special worship service will be held on **Sunday, October 2 at 2pm** near the playground. If you have a special animal – great or small, real or stuffed – you wish to be blessed, please bring that animal or a picture of that animal to St. Philip on October 3 for this opportunity. If you know a fellow animal lover who might be interested in this service, invite them to come with you!

Saturday, October 15 - A ladies' outing to have lunch at Cracker Barrel and then go to the matinee at Attic Productions to see "Steel Magnolias". There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex for those wanting to attend so we can purchase tickets to sit together. The tickets will cost \$15-\$18 for the show. A fun day of fellowship and fun!



Feast at Philips Makes a Difference

In November, St. Philip will once again host a thanksgiving feast for neighbors throughout the Roanoke Valley. After a couple of years particularly affected by COVID precautions, the plan is to once again have the opportunity for people to gather in person to share the meal and share community. Be on the lookout in the coming weeks for opportunities to serve through this wonderful ministry that truly has impacted our congregation AND those around us.

Just recently, one of the folks who was a regular Feaster (each year he was picked up at his apartment complex and brought to the St. Philip fellowship hall) called the church. His experience of Feast at Philips both being fed with food but also fed with relationship and community, led him to ask St. Philip and our pastors to officiate his funeral. What an incredible testimony to this ministry and at its heart being a ministry of relationship. Feast at Philips is one of the ways we love, feed, and serve - and it makes a difference.

SOCKTOBER Did you know that one of the most requested items in homeless shelters is socks? St. Philip is going to once again participate in Socktober to help meet this need, especially as the winter weather approaches. In the month of October, you are invited to bring both mens and womens socks to the church and place them in the collection bin. Our goal this year is 800 pairs of socks! Start collecting now and join in showing love to our neighbors.

Please make plans to attend the Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 30 from 2-4pm. We will need decorated car trunks for handing out candy, candy donations, and volunteers! Come on and enjoy the fun! Last year's event was well received in the Hollins community and provided a safe place for children to trick or treat.



Can You Help With a Project for St. Philip?

Speak to one of the pastors if you are willing:

- Help with refilling our hand sanitizer pumps around the building
- Clean out and disinfect one of our heating and air conditioning closets
- Repair one of our folding tables
- Do some weed pulling



Scott Buchanan – Member
Calvin Knotts – Member
Judy Diekow – Member
Kathryn Buchanan – Member
Betty Hammond – Member
Bev Horvath – Member
Emily Totten - Member &
Scott Buchanan's sister
Barbara Simpson - Member
Hannah Chabot - Bev
Horvath's granddaughter
Sara Aubitz - Member
Cookie Consiglio- Member



Ian Lowdon	October 1
Sheila Overstreet	October 1
Sara Aubitz	October 6
Thomas Latham	October 8
Matthew Smith	October 10
Max Holland	October 11
Loretta Roush	October 13
Nick Muir	October 15
Charles Jeeminek	October 21
David Mellon	October 23
Jacqueline Streithof	October 25
Derrick Radtke	October 29
Ruth Heinzelmann	October 30
Lynn Lawson	October 31

St. Philip Lutheran Church
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Change Service Requested

David C. Derrick, Pastor (pastordavid@stphiliplutheran.net)
Laura Swanson, Pastor (pastorlaura@stphiliplutheran.net)
Alice H. Lebow, Office Administrator (officeadmin@stphiliplutheran.net)
Judy Burnette, Director of Music Ministries (music@stphiliplutheran.net)
Jody Draper, Custodian

Church Council

Shannon Radmacher, Council President; Paul Economy, Council Vice-President;
Peter Shick, Treasurer; Dave Mellon, Financial Secretary; Karen Lowdon, Council Secretary;
Members: Patti Henkel, Daniel Hickox-Young, Bruce Johnson,
Doug Layman, Donna Spradlin, Donna Wright

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

