

# St. Philip Invitation



LIVE LIKE THAT - LOVE, FEED, SERVE NOVEMBER 2023



## We Give God Thanks

We give God thanks for the diversity of people throughout our community and for the unity we celebrate in Christ

Jesus our Lord. Witness to the gifts of diversity and unity is happening again this year as the churches of the Hollins community gather to give thanks. Participating churches are Enon Baptist, Summerdean Church of the Brethren, St. Philip Lutheran, Northview United Methodist, Hollins Church of the Nazarene, and First Baptist of Hollins.

We gather to celebrate the goodness that is God's promise in Christ Jesus. We lift up our connection to one another and boldly give our thanks and praise to God as we worship and as we live the life of faith in our neighborhood.

Again this year, the churches of the Hollins Community will worship together. The worship service **Sunday, November 19, at 7:00 p.m.** will be held at **St. Philip Lutheran.**



## Building Community at St. Philip

"For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another." These scripture verses from Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome speak to how God calls us to live in community together. This year at St. Philip, we're embracing the theme of "Building Community" as we strive to know one another and God more fully. What a gift it is to build community, to be the body of Christ, together!

God creates us to be in relationship with one another; to be in community. That can happen in lots of different ways. Just in this newsletter you can see evidence of community building as we celebrate lives saved in a blood drive, care for people experiencing homelessness with new socks, neighborhood children gathering treats, worship with ecumenical neighbors.

As we celebrate community living, you are invited to pay attention to the places and spaces in your own lives where God's intention for relationship building takes shape. Let's share these stories with one another, let's intentionally strengthen established relationships and grow new ones all for the sake of living into the community God intends for us to enjoy.



## What is All Saints Sunday?

What is All Saints' Sunday? It's a special worship service in which we celebrate the gift of

all the saints who have gone before us. It's a somber time to reflect on those dear ones we miss so much and a celebration of the unity we share in Christ - in life and in death!

As part of that worship service, we will read the names of those loved ones who have died in the past year. If you have names of saint(s) to add to this reading, please list them on the sign-up in the gathering area or email them to [officemin@stphiliplutheran.net](mailto:officemin@stphiliplutheran.net).



## Council News -- October 2023

Karen Lowdon, Council Secretary

Council met on Tuesday August 8 in person.

Council will review the Proposed Spending Plan at the November meeting.

There was good attendance for the first Young Families Monthly gathering.

Trunk or Treat will be Sunday October 29, from 2-4pm

Feast at Phillips will be held Saturday November 25 at the Community Solutions Center.

Rooms in our building are being used by multiple programs and events.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

SEPTEMBER RECEIPTS WERE \$28,366 YTD \$200,398 \$36,483 UNDER BUDGET

SEPTEMBER EXPENSES WERE \$26,017, YTD \$234,342, \$2,539 UNDER BUDGET

THE GAIN FOR SEPTEMBER IS \$2,349 YTD

THE DEFICIT \$33,944

THE CASH BALANCE IS \$16,495.

## Prayer Requests

Scott Buchanan – Member

Betty Hammond –Member

Bev Horvath—Member

Sara Aubitz - Member

Emily Totten - Member & Scott Buchanan's sister

Hannah Chabot - Bev Horvath's granddaughter

Margaret Mitchell—Member



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Renee Hiller	November 3
Karen Lowdon	November 5
Kevin Farmer	November 7
Gary Sahn	November 9
Rick Brosius	November 9
Jack Parker	November 11
Patricia Hunt	November 14
Cedric Wilson	November 21
Catherine Markham	November 21
C.P. Staley	November 23

## St. Philip Endowment Grants for Ministry

We are blessed. The St. Philip Endowment Fund is an incredible resource for ministry. During the past decade disbursements from this fund have made possible so much ranging from benevolent contributions to partners locally, nationally, and globally, to seed money for new ministries like our digital worship, to capital improvements, and much more.

The St. Philip Endowment Team now through the end of the year is receiving Endowment Grant Applications to consider for disbursements in the year 2024. The Endowment Team is asking that everyone, both ministries originating among the St. Philip community and ministries from our neighbors, to complete an application. Find the application here <https://stphiliplutheran.breezechms.com/form/fa8edb> or upon request from the church office. We are blessed.



## Young Families Gathering

We are so happy that our first two young Lutheran families gatherings have gone so well! This new partnership with local Lutheran churches has been fun. Our next gathering will be November 19th at 5:00pm at the St. Philip fellowship hall. We'll enjoy a pizza dinner and get to learn about, and meet!, a therapy dog and learn about how they share God's love in the community!



## Congregational Meeting

Mark your calendars for the congregational meeting on Sunday, December 17th at 10:30am, held simultaneously in the sanctuary as well as via Zoom video conference. To access the meeting, go to [www.zoom.com](http://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.

**SAVE THE DATE!** Sunday, November 19, at 11am Thrivent and St. Philip will sponsor an informational meeting on Medicare and Social Security changes. Mr. Shannon Able will be leading the meeting and a light lunch will be served.

RSVP to the church office 540.366.7046 or signup sheet in the Narthex. Need more information, call Nancy Shadix at 540.366.3897.



Thank you to everyone who donated socks to the Socktober Drive! These hundreds of pairs of socks will be delivered to the Rescue Mission, RAM house, and Samaritan

Inn to ensure our neighbors have warm socks this winter. Thank you for helping to love, feed, and serve!



## BLOOD DRIVE THANK YOU -



Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers and donors who made the blood drive such a success! We collected 60 units of blood helping to save 180 lives! Mark your calendars for our next drive, December 18 from 12pm to 6pm. It's open on the Red Cross portal to sign up now if you want.

## Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 25 for Feast at Philips!

This annual event provides a free community meal and is a wonderful opportunity to serve together and fellowship with our neighbors in the valley! The Feast will be held at the Feeding Southwest Virginia Community Solutions Center. We appreciate your prayers, volunteering, and donations for this important ministry! Sign-ups and more information will be available in the Narthex and via email.

## TRUNK OR TREAT!

Thank you to everyone who made Trunk or Treat such a fun event! Lots of excitement and candy was shared and many children enjoyed a safe evening of Halloween fun!

Thank you to all of our coordinators and volunteers for all of your hard work!



## SAVE THE DATE!

December 13th is the day for our Ladies' Christmas Luncheon!

More details to follow!



*Ladies*  
**LUNCHEON**



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

Change Service Requested

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

**Church Council**

Paul Economy, Council President; Ellen Mehalic, Council Vice-President;  
Peter Shick, Treasurer; Dave Mellon, Financial Secretary; Karen Lowdon, Council Secretary;  
Members: Patti Henkel, Kendra Meighan, Bruce Johnson,  
Dedi Spradlin, Sue Huntington, Donna Wright

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

