

St. Philip Invitation

LIVE LIKE THAT - LOVE, FEED, SERVE FEBRUARY 2024



Midweek Lenten Worship 2024

Every Lent, several Lutheran churches in the Roanoke Valley gather together for worship and fellowship on Wednesday evenings. We are looking forward to this great tradition again this year. Each week we will consider what it means to sit with our grief rather than try to push it aside. We will discover that many faithful believers have wrestled with grief, sorrow, and questions for God about why the innocent suffer. We will find a God who can take our grief and disappointment and transform them into holy joy and renewed hope. We will learn, ultimately, that Jesus' death on the cross—the place to which the season of Lent leads us—is the reason we never mourn as those without hope. Make plans to come to worship at 7pm and stay for light refreshments following worship as we enrich our faith in God and relationships with one another this Lenten season.

February 21 - 7pm - *What is Lament?*
Glade Creek Lutheran Church
Rev. James Davis

February 28 - 7pm - *"Little" Laments*
Trinity Lutheran Church
Rev. Laura Swanson

March 6 - 7pm - *Laments from the Depths*
St. Philip Lutheran Church
Rev. James Armentrout

March 13 - 7pm - *Individual Laments*
St. Timothy Lutheran Church
Rev. John McCandlish

March 20 - 7pm - *Communal Laments*
St. Mark Lutheran Church
Rev. Luke Swanson



ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY February 25th

On February 23, 1958, a charter was signed beginning the life of Saint Philip Lutheran Church. On Sunday, February 25, we will celebrate in worship our 66th congregational anniversary. The community of St. Philip has a great history of service, growing faith, and creative ministry and we celebrate all of those things even as we look with hope to a Spirit-led future. Check out worship on the 25th at 9:30am to mark an anniversary together. After worship, we will have some fun with a congregational activity and then share a meal together, celebrating the anniversary of St. Philip and everyone's birthdays!



LENT 2024

This month we will enter into the season of Lent, a season focused on centering ourselves on our need for God's grace and mercy. We will begin our Lenten journeys together on Ash Wednesday, February 14, both online and in person at 7pm. As we gather for worship each week, we join together in recognizing the ways in which we fall short of the glory of God and give thanks for God's abundant mercy shown through Jesus Christ,

Council News -- January 2024
Karen Lowdon, Council Secretary

Council met on Tuesday January 9 in person and via Zoom.

Max Holland was introduced as the new Treasurer. He serves as financial advisor for Thrivent and is working to streamline our processes.

Synod Assembly is April 27 and we are looking for members who are willing to attend the online meeting.

Quarterly Congregational Gatherings have been discussed with various options and ideas on how to move our mission forward. Our job is to invite and share with others the congregation and mission of St Philip.

Council approved one additional week of vacation for 2024 for each of the four staff members as a sign of appreciation for our staff in a year with no increase in financial compensation.

Pastor Laura reported on the upcoming National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer and also Winter Celebration in February. She reviewed the Advent/Christmas programs and said the Holly Jolly Breakfast and worship was well attended and a joyful event. The next Young Family Gathering is Jan 21 at Christ Lutheran Church.

Pastor David stated the Endowment Team Meeting will take place and recommendations will be made to council in February about how to use the 4% annual disbursement. He will participate in a discussion with the NW Wisconsin Synod about the Global Mission Malawi Partnership and how we might re-energize our global mission team and partnerships.

Hannah Staley will become the new nursery attendant and we appreciate the Hollins students who helped for a few months.

Treasurer's Report

COMMENTS DECEMBER 2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER RECEIPTS WERE \$18,341 YTD \$261,674 or \$54,168 UNDER BUDGET. DECEMBER EXPENSES WERE \$25,538 YTD \$312,351 or \$3491 OVER BUDGET. THE LOSS FOR DECEMBER IS \$10,604 YTD, THE DEFICIT \$43,479 . THE CASH BALANCE IS \$11,520. We finished the year as expected. There were no unanticipated expenditures.



Prayer Requests

- Scott Buchanan – Member
- Betty Hammond –Member
- Bev Horvath—Member
- Sara Aubitz - Member
- Hannah Chabot - Bev Horvath’s granddaughter
- Margaret Mitchell—Member



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Fritz Lovelace	February 1
Clara Johnston	February 3
Anna Kate Swanson	February 3
Doug Layman	February 4
Kari Harvey	February 10
Al Simpson	February 11
Bradley Craig	February 12
Amy Lovelace	February 12
Luke Swanson	February 12
Judy Barnette	February 24
Sharon Whetzel	February 27
Joann Michael	February 28

Winter Weather Policy

It's that time of year again. When roads are too dangerous to travel, announcements about worship services will be made using our telephone messaging service and posted on Facebook. As always, use your good judgment because your safety is important to us.



Souper Bowl of Caring

As you prepare to purchase snacks for the Super Bowl, you are invited to provide food and funds for our hungry neighbors. Americans spend about \$1 billion on Super Bowl snacks. As Super Bowl parties go on, we at St. Philip hope to donate **\$1000 and 800 grocery items** to Elijah's Backpack and the St. Marks Lion's Share food pantry, respectively. You may mail checks to the church or give on our website, just select "Souper Bowl Sunday" when giving. We are accepting food donations at the church the week of February 4 in the bin on the front steps of the church or bring donations to worship on Sunday, February 11. Together we can help end hunger right here in Roanoke!



The Growing Community at St. Philip As a community of faith active in ministry, we expect to worship with zeal, serve the world with gladness, proclaim the good news of Christ Jesus, and grow in faith. Knowing that God is moving in and through St. Philip we excitedly look forward to **Sunday February 4th**, as we officially receive new members to this congregation during worship at 9:30am. You are a part of a growing community. Share your faith with someone you know. Tell someone about the ministry that you are passionate about. Invite someone to worship. Share on social media your faith and your faith community. God's Spirit is moving through you. If you are interested in joining the congregation at St. Philip please speak with Pastor Laura or Pastor David.

Welcome
New Members

RESCUE MISSION DONATIONS:

The immediate New Year donations needed by the Roanoke Rescue Mission are : Acetaminophen, Ear drops, Twin XL cotton sheets, Quilts.



Young Families Gathering

We had a great time at our January game night! We are looking forward to another fun monthly Young Families gathering! Our next gathering will be a bowling party at Lee-Hi Lanes on **Sunday, March 3rd at 3pm!**



St. Philip Partners With Siblings in Malawi Africa

For over a decade, St. Philip has connected with, prayed with, and lived out ministry with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi. This relationship of accompanying one another for the sake of Jesus promised good news has been a great journey of mutual care and sharing. The global mission team at St. Philip is meeting to renew and re energize those connections. Recently our Malawian siblings have shared some crises happening with them particularly related to a devaluing of their currency to the US dollar. The devaluation has created significant inflation of 50% or more for basic needs. We continue to be in communication and are beginning to formulate plans for accompanying and helping our friends in the best ways possible.

Be on the lookout for more communication as to ways we might share Christ's love with one another - but in the meantime be sure to save your change as we anticipate a return of noisy offering collections during worship for our siblings in Malawi. If you would like to be active with our global mission team at St. Philip please speak with Pastor David.

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)
Alice H. Lebow, Office Administrator (officeadmin@stphiliplutheran.net)
Judy Burnette, Director of Music Ministries (music@stphiliplutheran.net)
Jody Draper, Custodian

Church Council

Paul Economy, Council President; Ellen Mehalic, Council Vice-President;
Max Holland Treasurer; Dave Mellon, Financial Secretary; Karen Lowdon, Council Secretary;
Members: Patti Henkel, Kendra Meighan, Bruce Johnson,
Dedi Spradlin, Marty Frazier, 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

