

# St. Philip Invitation

LIVE LIKE THAT - LOVE, FEED, SERVE APRIL 2024



## Building a Culture of Gratitude

Our annual stewardship appeal for this year will begin right after Easter, and culminate four weeks later with Consecration Sunday set for May 5. Please plan to attend worship service on that day to consecrate our intentions for giving. (consecrate...to make or declare sacred; dedicate or set aside to the service of God)

We are so grateful for the ways we at St. Philip seek to live out the faith; loving, feeding, and serving. The generosity we practice is a sure and certain sign of that discipleship happening in each of us. This month, plan to explore how generosity fuels the mission to which God calls us.



## Congregational Meeting

Mark your calendars for the congregational meeting on Sunday, April 21 at 10:30am immediately following worship both in the sanctuary and by way of Zoom video conference (Meeting i.d. 86040199836, Password 24019 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86040199836?pwd=ZVpoN2NyeFFWTDR2WmNWeWR2SVJkdz09>) The congregation will be electing church council members - please check your mail or email box for notice and more information including brief biographies of candidates running for church council.

It is so important for all of us to be a part of God's mission through St. Philip. Make plans to be here on April 21!

## Youth Events

March was a great month of youth ministry! We participated in the 7th Day youth retreat for 5th and 6th graders at Eagle Erie. Confirmation students have been learning about the Ten Commandments. Our middle and high school youth also gathered for fun with a scavenger hunt throughout St. Mark's Lutheran Church. In April, we're looking forward to more learning, fun, and faith building! Our April Roanoke Valley Lutheran Youth gathering will be in Downtown Roanoke April 21st!



## Young Family Gatherings



Thanks to all who attended the March gathering of bowling - we had a blast and were impressed by how many strikes and spares were bowled! We celebrated the JOY of Easter with an Egg Hunt and Easter Party in March and we're looking forward to celebrating some Spring Fun! Stay tuned!

## UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVE -

Mark your calendars and sign up for our next blood drive! The drive will be **May 6th** from 12-6pm at St. Philip. You may sign up by contacting Debbie Kanode or visiting <https://www.redcross.org/give-blood.html>.



## CONGREGATIONAL EVENT SURVEY

As we continue to explore ways of building community, St. Philip's council is supporting efforts to have more fellowship events at the church. A survey with some possibilities is available on Sunday mornings at worship or if you would like to give input digitally, click [here](#).



## Council News -- March 2024

Karen Lowdon, Council Secretary

Council met on Tuesday March 12 in person.

The Solar energy Task Force will provide a report next month.

Custodian and church cleaning is being evaluated and a report will be presented to council next month.

Pastor David and Pastor Laura have both attended synod youth events in person. Both Pastors have conducted several funerals/memorials and continue to visit homebound and hospitalized members of the congregation.

Pastor David is completing annual reviews with staff.

Pastor Laura has participated in co-leading confirmation classes with Christ Lutheran Church and hosted a young families event with them at Lee-Hi Lanes. She plans to attend the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans later this year.

She is a member of the VA Synod Ministerium Committee and the board of Virginia Lutheran Homes.

Hannah Staley has been serving as the nursery care attendant for a few months and is doing a wonderful job.

A Congregation Event Task Force is working on a survey to gather input on possible events and gatherings.

### Treasurer's Report

February receipts were \$21,732

February expenses were \$24,548

The transition is continuing as Max Holland moves into the new role.



## Prayer Requests

Scott Buchanan – Member

Betty Hammond –Member

Bev Horvath—Member

Sara Aubitz - Member

Hannah Chabot - Bev Horvath's granddaughter

Margaret Mitchell—Member



## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Marlene Craig   | April 2  |
| Bill Diekow     | April 7  |
| Jim Burke       | April 8  |
| Price Wingate   | April 9  |
| Betty Holland   | April 14 |
| Beckett Merrill | April 16 |
| Mila Merrill    | April 16 |
| Maggie McDaniel | April 18 |
| Donna Wright    | April 19 |
| Ron Overstreet  | April 19 |
| Garth McNeill   | April 19 |
| Griffin Horacek | April 19 |
| Finley Monroe   | April 21 |
| Carol Goad      | April 27 |



## INAUGURAL "FEEDING FRIENDS" GOLF TOURNAMENT

APRIL 27, 2024, 1:30 PM IN SUPPORT OF WHEATLAND LUTHERAN MINISTRIES & SPRINGWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH FOOD PANTRY

The Inaugural "Feeding Friends Golf Tournament" will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2024, at the Botetourt Golf & Swim Club. This will be a Captain's Choice Format. Entry Fee is \$85 per player or \$340 per team. Your entry fee includes lunch, chances at door prizes, two mulligans plus one toss per player. Lunch will be served at 11:30 am. To enter Contact: Ken Mowles, 540-520-0967, or by email [kenmowles224@icloud.com](mailto:kenmowles224@icloud.com) or Steve Barger @ 540-589-6310, [sbargerretired@gmail.com](mailto:sbargerretired@gmail.com).



Learn more about this feeding ministry by clicking [Wheatland Lutheran Ministries](#).

### Spring Flowers for Easter Season

On Easter Sunday (March 31) spring flowers will adorn and decorate the worship space. As we continue to celebrate the Easter season you are invited to take any of these potted flowers home to plant and remember the Easter promise all spring and summer long.



### Thank You to St. Philip Custodians Ann and Jody Draper

After serving as custodians for over a decade, Jody and Ann Draper are concluding their service at St. Philip. We are so grateful for their efforts in cleaning our facilities with care and dedication. St. Philip council has appointed a task group ( Paul Economy and Donna Wright) to both determine our cleaning needs and to begin a search for new cleaners to take over this very important role.

Please feel free to share names and contact information of anyone that might be interested in serving as a custodian.

Please also speak with Pastor David if you can volunteer to help with some cleaning tasks as we transition to a new plan for cleaning needs.

### NEWS FROM MALAWI ELCM ALERT ON DRY SPELL AND FLOODING IN MALAWI

See an abbreviated version of the most recent communication from our siblings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Malawi below:

*Receive greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.*

*On behalf of Rt. Rev Dr. Joseph P Bvumbwe, the Presiding Bishop of Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi, I am writing this alert to alert you Partners/Companions that Malawi is experiencing and will be facing other possible disaster due to the dry spell in most parts of the country and over flooding in districts along Lake Malawi. Department of Meteorological Services and Climate Change of Malawi is predicting a possible cyclone in a near future. As you are aware that Malawi as a country and Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi in particular are just recovering from various catastrophes that included cyclones, cholera disease and the recent devaluation of Malawi currency against US dollar, the devastating situation is that the 2024 climatic situation of dry spell and flooding will trigger further escalation of inflation this year and years ahead leading to the suffering of many Malawians.*

*It is for this reason therefore and being aware that we are partners/companions that we have partners and companions in mission and we decided to alert you on this developments, counting on your prayers and support as you have always done.*

With funds designated to support our brothers and sisters in Malawi, the St. Philip Global Mission team has sent \$4000 for emergency response. Please continue to pray for our siblings in Malawi as we seek to be people who love, feed, and serve both near and far.



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;  
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

