

# St. Philip Invitation

LIVE LIKE THAT - LOVE, FEED, SERVE JUNE 2025



## New to St. Philip

Together we are on a mission to Live Like That: Love, Feed, Serve. We are called together by God's Holy Spirit to be about God's work in the world. And we are grateful for that same Spirit who has called some newer disciples to add to our collective response to God's grace. Please welcome, include, engage with, and introduce yourself to:

**Matthew (Matt) & Pamela (Pam) Peters** were born and raised in Morris County, NJ. They met in high school and were married in May of 1989. They have 2 children; Tyler (34) and Aimee (30) and 1 granddaughter Josie (2). They moved to the Roanoke valley in 1996 due to a job transfer for Matt. They are both retired and spend their time on household projects and babysitting their granddaughter and loving every minute of it.

Welcome  
New Members



## A Stewardship Message

On Sunday, June 22nd, we will celebrate Consecration Sunday. Please highlight this date and make every effort to attend worship this day. This is the Sunday that we ask each member of our church family to respond to an important question:

"What is God calling me to give?"

The Church believes that our giving is, among other things, an act of worship. Therefore, on Consecration Sunday we want to dedicate and consecrate our gifts to God's service.

For several weeks in the month of June prior to Consecration Sunday, the Stewardship Team has arranged to provide messages and stories about giving, gratitude, generosity, and discipleship. Our hope is that this messaging will draw your attention to some spiritual concepts that could impact your decision about giving.

Probably the most helpful messages you will hear during this time are the personal stories of three fellow Christians in our community. Jesus told parables to teach and to inspire us. So, these personal stories are often a way that he does the same thing today; Through stories told by our Christian brothers and sisters. We hope you take advantage of the opportunities to hear these powerful stories at our worship services over the next several weeks.

God's Peace; and thank you for your consideration of this matter.  
Your Stewardship Team

*"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."*  
2 Corinthians 9:7

## Council News -- May 2025

Karen Lowdon, Council Secretary

Church Council met on Tuesday May 13 in person and via Zoom.

The Solar Energy Program is completed and we are realizing significant savings--our power bill dropped from \$1080 to \$180 in March and \$78 in April.

New Council members are Brent Ferguson and Maribeth Schermer. Council elected for the coming year: Ellen Mehalic as President, Dan Radmacher as Vice President, David Melon as Financial Secretary, Max Holland as Treasurer and Karen Lowdon as Secretary.

Pastor David spent a considerable amount of time planning and leading liturgy for the Easter Season, assisting midweek Lenten worship with other churches, identifying someone to lead music weekly and continuing to assist with finding someone for our musician role. He visited 15 homebound people prior to Easter and also sent cards and messages and made phone calls.

The Virginia Synod Assembly is June 13-15.

The Property Committee is researching updates to our security system, evaluating HVAC issues and the need for painting the outside of the building.

Name tags seem to be well received and many people are using them each Sunday as a way to make connections.

Treasurer's Report Max Holland

April receipts \$16,298

April expenses \$18,895

We are in a good financial position at this time.



# Happy Birthday!

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Bronce Monroe	June 3
Marty Frazier	June 5
Wendy Johnston	June 5
Emileigh Smith	June 16
Sharon Price	June 20
Kelly Derrick	June 26
Don Hunt	June 27
Charlie Shadix	June 28
Paul Roush	June 29

**YOU CAN HELP!**

### Items needed for Rescue Mission Shelter:

flip flops  
hairbrushes  
full size body wash  
full size shampoo  
trial size toothpaste  
toothbrushes

## FESTIVAL OF PENTECOST

Happy birthday, dear church! What is Pentecost, you ask? It's a festival of the church that celebrates the power of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church! On Pentecost Sunday, hear the story from the book of Acts of how the Holy Spirit descended like tongues of fire above people's heads. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, they were able to understand one another, even though they were speaking different languages!

On Pentecost Sunday, wear the color red to celebrate the movement of the Holy Spirit then and the ways the Spirit is moving among us now! Join in worship this Pentecost Sunday, June 8th as we give thanks to God for the ever transforming power of the Holy Spirit and the gift of the church!



## **BLOOD DRIVE UPDATE**

Many thanks to all of our donors and volunteers who made our blood drive a great success. It takes a huge amount of help to make it all come together. THANK YOU !

We collected 67 units of blood, saving 201 lives.

Mark your calendar for our next blood drive is on **Monday, July 28th** from 12 noon - 6 pm



## **Lutheran Night at Salem Red Sox**

**Calling ALL LUTHERANS OF THE ROANOKE VALLEY (and FRIENDS)!**

You are invited to a special night at the Salem Red Sox on August 9, 2025! Come and cheer for the Sox against the Kannapolis Cannon Ballers!

Take advantage of special pricing for our group--tickets are just \$13 for reserved seating where we'll all sit together in the concourse level!

You don't have to be Lutheran to enjoy "Lutheran Night," but you will meet many Lutherans from congregations throughout the Roanoke Valley!

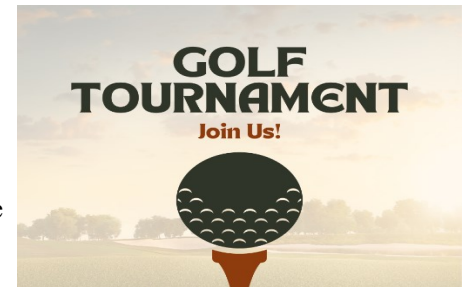
## **SAVE THE DATE! Roanoke Valley Lutheran Youth Group**

24<sup>th</sup> annual captain's choice golf tournament.

Blue Hills Golf Club

**Saturday, October 25, 2025.**

Please mark your calendar to save this date for a day on the golf course and a day to support the ministry of faithful youth (We will let you know if we need to make adjustments but save this date).



## **Witnessing Paws Ministry**

We hosted another Pet Therapy Team evaluation event on Saturday, 4/29/2025.

A total of seven teams registered and passed the evaluation. Three teams were here to renew their registrations and four teams are new teams serving in our community.

Pet Partners requires teams to renew their licenses every two years. This helps to make sure that as the animals age they are still considered fit to continue their Pet Therapy work and it is also a good process to review procedures with the handlers.

A million thanks to all the volunteers to help us support our evaluation activities: Ruth Heinzelman, Robin Burke, Shannon Radmacher, Cindy Fielder, Judy Burnette, Paul Henegar, Karen Black, Mark Nelson, and our neutral dog, Razzle Dazzle!

If you are interested in participating or just want to observe a future evaluation, please reach out to me via email at [SybilleNelson@aol.com](mailto:SybilleNelson@aol.com).



### **Thank You St. Philip Praise Band**

At St. Philip we have been blessed with over a decade of musical inspiration provided by our St. Philip Praise Band. We have had the great experience of hearing longtime favorite songs like Amazing Grace, A Mighty Fortress, and I'll Fly Away led in a new way. We have also had the great experience of learning together some great new, more contemporary songs including one Live Like That that serves as inspiration for our mission at St. Philip to Live Like That, like Jesus as we love, feed, and serve.

As we at St. Philip dream, and vision, and wonder, and search for a gifted person to help lead music ministry for the congregation, the St. Philip Praise Band is "pushing the pause button" for a bit, as these faithful praise band musicians take a breath to dream and vision and wonder along with all of the rest of us. When asked what do you love about being a part of the St. Philip praise band listen to what some of our musicians had to share:

Playing with the other musicians in the praise band has been a wonderful experience for me. Learning in such a forgiving atmosphere helped me grow as a musician and gave me the confidence to pursue other musical opportunities. - Dan Radmacher

Working with a fun group of people and learning new songs that contain uplifting lyrics that speak to you or you have some other sort of connection with. - Brian Johnston

I have loved being part of the praise band and sharing a more contemporary style of music with the congregation. I especially enjoy it when I hear a song on the radio and feel like the message is a perfect fit for the St Philip community. Contemporary praise and worship songs often do a good job of putting words to how we navigate a relationship with God in today's world— not to mention being fun to play and to sing! - Shannon Radmacher

Though it is just a pause for now. Thank you, St. Philip Praise Band for sharing your gifts and inspiring our worship.

### **Thank You to Our Office Administrator Alice Lebow**

Thank you, Alice! We give great thanks for Alice Lebow and her wonderful ministry at St. Philip over the past 3 years. In that time Alice has received with grace and compassion thousands of phone calls and visitors. She has done much of the behind-the-scenes preparation that makes our Sunday worship experience happen smoothly. She has communicated through newsletters and announcements countless activities, events, and celebrations. She has been a steady presence to contact with question, needs, and ministry. Alice has set the date for her retirement from her position as our Office Administrator for Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup>.

Many of you may wonder what will we do? The St. Philip church council is working hard to identify someone who might serve with some of the administrative needs in a stop gap sort of way, while also quickly pivoting to a search for a part time administrator who is impassioned to join St. Philip in God's mission to Love, Feed, and Serve for Jesus' sake.

St. Philip Lutheran Church  
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Change Service Requested

**David C. Derrick, Pastor** ([pastordavid@stphiliplutheran.net](mailto:pastordavid@stphiliplutheran.net))  
**Alice H. Lebow, Office Administrator** ([officeadmin@stphiliplutheran.net](mailto:officeadmin@stphiliplutheran.net))

**Church Council**

Ellen Mehalic, Council President; Dan Radmacher, Council Vice-President;  
Max Holland Treasurer; Dave Mellon, Financial Secretary; Karen Lowdon, Council Secretary;  
Members: Mary Jo Sahm, Liz Leonard, Brent Ferguson,  
Maribeth Schermer, Dedi Spradlin, Paul Economy

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

