

**St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
Wilmington, Delaware

**Making Disciples** - As impassioned believers of Jesus Christ, we envision:

A community of believers in which all members are able to articulate their faith, and are comfortable sharing their faith stories with others.

Inviting all people to share in the love of Jesus Christ, and through the Holy Spirit discover what is often missing in the world: grace, mercy, peace, and abundant life.

Our church as a safe place, where the hurting, the depressed, the alienated and the lost can find love, help, hope, acceptance, forgiveness, guidance and encouragement.

Our membership immersed in God's Word and in Small Group Experiences, so that each one of us is given both the comfort of the Gospel and the ability to see how God's Word guides and informs our everyday lives.

A congregation that empowers families to raise their children with Christ at the center of their lives in an increasingly busy world.

Relevant and exciting programs for our youth and young adults in which they build faith-filled relationships with one another and with our congregation that continue to be meaningful to them as they enter each new phase of their lives.

**Praising God** - As impassioned believers of Jesus Christ, we envision:

Our worship services filled with a diverse congregation of believers that reflects all origins and backgrounds of the community in which we live and that we serve.

Joyous and exciting worship services, in which we as a community come together collectively to offer thanksgiving for everything we have as a blessing from God, and to celebrate Christ's presence in Word, in Sacrament, in prayer, and in new expressions of faith.

Our praise for God as transforming our lives, as we share a personal relationship with our Creator and allow the Holy Spirit to guide and direct every aspect of our lives – our praise goes with us into our week to nourish our souls and announce God's love to all we meet.

Diverse worship services, using traditional and contemporary sources, which engage each member in opportunities to use their God-given gifts in the worship setting to actively glorify the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Members of our congregation immersed in daily, constant prayer that offers gratitude and adoration to God for His immeasurable grace, as well as provides the comfort and guidance we need in times of fear and despair.

A congregation of impassioned believers, who read and study the Bible as the inspired and living word of God, revealing His plan for grace and salvation.

All of our members giving generously of their time, talent and treasure, as signs of our thanksgiving and praise for everything we receive from God.

**Serving the Community** - As impassioned believers of Jesus Christ, we envision:

A congregation that loves every person as a child of God and embraces all individuals for who they are as brothers and sisters with us in Christ Jesus.

Every member of our congregation actively participating in outreach, as the Holy Spirit empowers each of us to serve others in ways that build value and respect in those we serve, as well as transforming us as servants of God.

Members of the congregation working together towards the next transformative ministry (the next Family Promise) that will make a meaningful difference in the lives of individuals and our community.

A community of believers called to Christ's service in great joy to share our gifts toward achieving Jesus' commandment of loving one another.

A connection with the world at large that unites us as brothers and sisters in Christ in a global community, and that builds ongoing relationships that allow us to use our gifts to bless those far removed from our comfortable lives, so that we too are transformed.

A fellowship of believers connected by strong caring relationships, in which we comfort one another within the walls of St. Philip's, sharing our faith with and constantly praying and caring for those in the midst of adversity, illness, distress, or mourning.