

# The Guidepost



St. Philip's Lutheran Church  
5320 Limestone Road  
Wilmington, DE 19808



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## November 2023



*Give Thanks to the Lord*  
for He is good, His love endures forever

Psalm 106:1 NIV

**"As an inclusive and caring congregation, our mission is to make disciples,  
praise God, and serve the community"**

## **Welcome Pastor Amy Wright!!!!**

On November 6th, Pastor Amy Wright will officially begin her call as the Associate Pastor of St. Philip's Lutheran Church. I wanted to share some of my vision of how we need to be receiving Pastor Amy as she makes the transition to St. Philip's - that way we are all on the same page as she begins to do ministry with us here.

The first thing is that while Amy has the title of Associate Pastor, I am not thinking of her as less than me and none of us should think that way. Amy is also not "the Youth Pastor" of St. Philip's. Yes, I am the Senior Pastor of St. Philip's and Pastor Amy will be handling Youth Ministry along with the advisers and youth here at St. Philip's. But that is certainly not everything that she will be doing. Likewise, we did not call Pastor Amy because "we need to lessen the work on Pastor Patrick." Will Amy lessen my work?? Of course she will. But that is not the only reason why we called her.

Pastor Amy is a pastor of the Church of Jesus Christ as much as I am. But she also has her own distinct set of gifts and talents. Some of those are with youth. Some of those are with young adults. Some of those are giving a different preaching voice to the scripture we read on Sundays. Some of her gifts lie in the passion she has for building up community and bringing people together. Some of her giftedness by God is her eye for looking out into the world to discern who else needs to be served by the Church so that new people may receive the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Now, there will be some things that I distinctly take care of at St. Philip's and some that Pastor Amy will take care of. However, I think the best thing for Pastor Amy and I to do is to work so that both of us bring our passions and gifts to all the ministries of the church. Sometimes I will attend a particular meeting and other times it might be Pastor Amy. Sometimes it might be both of us. What I want is for Pastor Amy to have as full a pastoral experience as possible ("Associate" or not). Because in that way, she will be blessed by the ministry she does with us and she will be a blessing to us. It will be about me and Pastor Amy working as a team to do the best we can for St. Philip's and for the Church of Jesus Christ.

Welcome Pastor Amy . . . We can't wait to share our joys and lives with you!



# THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM

A Journey to the Newborn King

Chancel Choir Christmas  
Cantata

Sunday, December 10, 2023

7:00 p.m.

at St. Philip's Lutheran  
Church

LLOYD LARSON

Wow! Seems like we were just talking about summer and the process of calling a new Associate Pastor. And suddenly, fall is here and spooky Halloween and family-oriented Thanksgiving are about to kick off the holiday season. However, it's about more than just eating candy corn and Reese's peanut butter cups, not to mention turkey, stuffing, creamed onions, and pumpkin pie. As I write this, we are approaching Reformation Sunday and All Saints Day. This is the time when we celebrate the blessings of the past year. It's about being grateful and thankful for all of the gifts that our heavenly Father has bestowed upon us. Not just material things, of course, but also for Jesus our Savior. We need to thank Him for His love in good and bad times, and even when we fail. Remember Psalm 136:1-2, "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever."

I recently read some prayers by Cindi McMenamin, an award-winning writer and speaker. Cindi, through her writing, has assisted many women in discovering their inner strength. For those of you who may not be familiar with Cindi, she was born in California, is a national speaker, Bible teacher, and award-winning writer who helps women and couples strengthen their relationship with God and others. She is also a mother, pastor's wife, and author of 17 books. Wow! When I first came across her work, I was both impressed and moved. I would like to share one of her prayers which is fitting for the upcoming Holiday Seasons:

A Thanksgiving Meal Prayer for Blessings Past and Present.

Lord God, we gather around this table to humbly thank You for all that You have given us this past year – not just what is on this table, but who is sitting around this table. Thank you for life and laughter, health and happiness, relationships and memories. Thank you, too, for the lessons learned and the tears we've cried because of Your ability to grow us through them. Thank You for Your comfort and presence in light of good days and bad. Thank You for what we have now, what we had yesterday, and what You will continue to give tomorrow. Let us never take that for granted, but always be grateful for every good and perfect gift that comes from You. May we have hearts full of thanksgiving today and every day of our lives. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, Amen. ~ Cindi McMenamin.

Have a wonderful Fall Holiday Season, and, don't eat too much! (LOL).

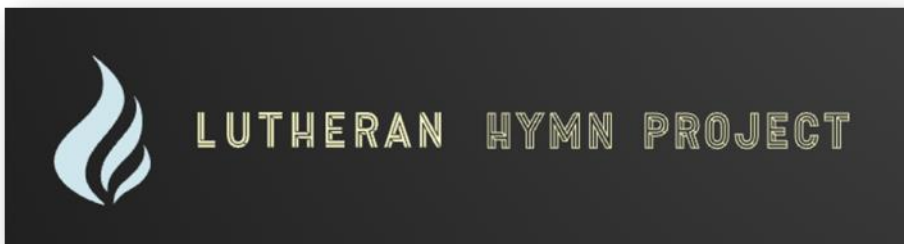
## LIVING THE GOOD LIFE... PSALM 1

*Lately I hear a lot of people stating “I’m living the good life” when asked how they are doing. I have to admit that I have said the same thing, feeling lucky that I have my health, my family is close by and I belong to a Church that I not only love but where I have made many friends. But with all the turmoil in our country, whether it be political, violence OR especially what has happened to Israel this past weekend, am I really living the good life or have I been living in a bubble.*

The Bible’s message is that God created us in love and has saved us through faith in Jesus, by grace alone. As people saved by grace, we are invited to live the good life that God has designed for us. We live this way not to earn our salvation, but to show our gratitude to God, to grow in faith, and to flourish in the good life God wants for us. God has given us salvation as a free gift, and we gratefully aim to follow God’s law because it’s the best way to live. It’s what we were designed for.

Psalm 1 says that living this good life is like being a tree planted by streams of water. That tree will yield fruit and will not wither, because the tree is living the way it is meant to live, nourished by the water of life given by its creator. So it is with people. When we are planted and nourished by God’s way of love, we will flourish.

*God, make me like a tree planted by streams of water. Root my life in your law of love, so that I can live the way you have designed me to live. Amen.*



**Come join the Hymn Project!**

**November 4**  
**10:00 a. m. - 12:00 p.m.**

**St. Philip's Lutheran Church**  
**5320 Limestone Rd. Wilmington, DE**

**Recording**  
**Advent and Christmas**  
**Favorites**



## Women's Daytime Book Group



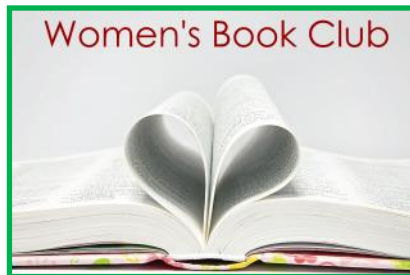
**Women's Daytime Book Group:** Our next book club meeting will be Tuesday, November 21, 12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The book for discussion is, *THE SECRET LIFE OF SUNFLOWERS*, by Marta Molnar. Let me know if you would like to lead the discussion.

Mark you Calendars: Monday, December 11, will be our Christmas Social.

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### Ministries at St. Philip's - Women's Evening Book Club

Dawn Downes and Donna Daugherty



The Women's Evening Book Club meets on the second Friday of the month at 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall or individual homes. Our time together is much like a happy hour with good friends! Feel free to bring a snack or beverage to share. If you have any questions please contact Dawn Downes or Donna Daugherty. Mark your calendars and plan to come... we hope you will join us. Everyone is welcome! Our upcoming reads are:

November 10 - *By Her Own Design* by Piper Huguley

December 8 - Cookie Exchange and Poetry Sharing (My favorite night!)

January 12 - *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver

February 9 - *We Are Not Like Them* by Christine Pride and Jo Piazza

March 8 - *the Mountain Sings* by Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai

April - New Castle County Reads book - TBD





**O.W.L.S. (older, wiser, Lutheran seniors)! We will gather on Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>.** Our presenter that day will be **Water is Life Kenya**. Aaron Lemma will provide a brief presentation offering an overview of the work this group does to provide clean water to the people of Kenya as well as the different ways folks can get involved. He will also bring a small set up of Beaded Handicrafts collection from Kenya that they sell here in the U.S. We will meet from 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring whatever you would like to eat or drink that day. We look forward to seeing you on the 14<sup>th</sup>!

## From the Finance Committee

Teri Suddard

10/10/2023

01:07p

St. Philip's Lutheran Church

**Treasurer's Report by Major Group**

September of Fiscal Year 2023

Responsibility: All

Fund: 01 - General

	September Actual	Year-to-date Actual	Year-to-date Budget	Percent of Budget
<b>Income</b>				
Group 00	48,647.64	362,062.98	354,751.56	102.06 %
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>48,647.64</b>	<b>362,062.98</b>	<b>354,751.56</b>	<b>102.06 %</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
Administration	2,173.21	30,363.94	26,475.12	114.69 %
Committees	10,591.19	106,839.71	132,585.03	80.58 %
Pastor	10,441.04	95,241.07	95,020.56	100.23 %
Staff	8,040.65	86,440.17	146,709.18	58.92 %
Utilities	1,564.36	17,137.35	13,650.03	125.55 %
Benevolence	1,458.33	13,124.97	13,124.97	100.00 %
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>34,268.78</b>	<b>349,147.21</b>	<b>427,564.89</b>	<b>81.66 %</b>
<b>Income Less Expense</b>	<b>14,378.86</b>	<b>12,915.77</b>	<b>-72,813.33</b>	





**There is an exciting ministry returning to St. Philip's in September!**  
**"DINNERS OF EIGHT"**

There is within all three Abrahamic Faiths (Judaism, Christianity, Islam) a deep appreciation for and practice of hospitality. In the modern era, there are few opportunities to experience its main expression, that is, meal fellowship. "Dinners of Eight" seeks to offer members of a congregation, their friends, and, possibly in time, people of other faiths, opportunities to experience each other. It is small (actually, intimately so), relatively easy to pull off (eight is a manageable number to fit around any formal table so as NOT to exclude people with smaller homes), and once established, tends to sustain and grow itself.

Signup sheets are posted in the Narthex allowing all congregation members the opportunity to join a "dinner of eight". Those that choose to host should provide the main course and ask the others coming to dinner to bring an appetizer, vegetable, salad, or dessert. The offering of wine and/or beer should be decided by the whole group.

After meeting and sharing dinner, it is encouraged that the guests then host a dinner of their own, which is again open to the members of the congregation to join. Following these gatherings, the ministry would expand again in the same way with the guests hosting their own "dinner of eight". Our plan is to restart this program here at St. Philip's in September. I look forward to witnessing our congregation come together and grow into a community bound together in fellowship.

For more information please contact Allyson Myers or Gigi Mueller.



**Thanksgiving is fast approaching**, and with it our annual collection of materials to make Thanksgiving baskets for the greater Wilmington community. **This year, we will be making baskets for Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center as well as participants in our St. Philip's Grocery Club programming.** Items need to be dropped off at the church by **November 12th**. This will give us time to pack and distribute the meal baskets by Thanksgiving. Please use the link below to sign up for the items you would like to donate to these wonderful organizations. The turkeys have already been donated by a generous St. Philips member (Thank you Michael Imgarten) but we need lots of help with everything else. Thank you all so much for your generosity! Please sign up using the link found here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050949A9A62CA3FC1-45354859-2023#/>

People in our congregations and communities are facing a number of challenges and hurts--and the number of people in need continues to grow. Many struggle alone and they don't have to. Stephen Ministry can help meet those needs. If you or someone you know is in need of someone to talk to and just listen, please let Pastor or Gigi Mueller know. We have 10 trained Stephen Ministers at St Philips and we are here to help.

**Daylight Saving Time** is ending on Sunday, November 5, 2023. Don't forget to turn your clocks back. We don't want to lose out on an extra hour of sleep that day.



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**From Ministries at St. Philip's - Stewardship**

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**Commitment Sunday was Sunday, October 15th.** Our annual stewardship appeal is underway. Stewardship is not about what the church needs to receive, but rather, what we, as people of faith, entrust to God and God's Church in proclaiming the Gospel in the world. Commitment cards and time and talent forms for our members were mailed out in early October. If you have not already turned yours in, please place it in the offering plate or return to the church office in the coming days.

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**Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service**

DATE: Wednesday, November 22, 2023  
TIME: 7:00 p.m.  
PLACE: St. Mark's United Methodist Church  
1700 Limestone Road  
in Wilmington, DE

**Happy Thanksgiving To All!!**



# Attention Parents!

**Need a Babysitter So You Can Do Some  
Christmas Shopping or Just Get Out of the House??**

**Attention parents: are you looking for a night when you are able to  
go Christmas Shopping? Would you like to go out for a quiet night  
without the kids? Or do you just want a night to rest your ears and  
nerves?**

**Either way, the youth group will be doing their**

**Annual Babysitting Project and Activity Night on  
Friday, December 1st from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.**

**Drop your kids off and we'll have crafts, games, movies, video games,**

**Donations are suggested. All the funds we raise will go toward  
purchasing Christmas Gifts for the needy children that we have  
adopted through Hilltop. The more generous your "tip" the more  
generous the gifts we can buy.**

**Reserve your spot today by contacting Pastor Patrick!**

# CHILDREN'S ADVENT WORKSHOP

Sunday, December 3rd, 2023

9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

St. Philip's Fellowship Hall



Make Advent and Christmas themed crafts.

Meet some new friends.

Socialize with other families and friends.

*Invite a friend or neighbor! All Ages Welcome!*

Please RSVP below by November 19th, so we can plan for enough craft supplies

There are two options: Fill out slip below and place in offering plate or  
use the QR codes below!!!

Kids Sign Up-

<https://forms.gle/MWvMS5ast9M4PaR2A>

Volunteer Sign Up-

<https://forms.gle/v7cCFhC7nqBGgCLc7>



Number who will attend the Advent program: \_\_\_\_\_ adult's \_\_\_\_\_ children

can help with: \_\_\_\_\_ set up \_\_\_\_\_ clean-up \_\_\_\_\_ program activities/crafts

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**HELP BUILD OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH!**

Build relationships, meet new people, find an activity that works for you!



The **Nursery** is open for both services and during the education hour in between services. Contact Sandy Budd if you have questions.

**Learning Opportunities During the Christian Ed hour on Sunday morning**

*Small Group Bible Study (Adults)* Learn about Water in the Bible and make connections with other adults

*Rise and Shine (Younger Adults)*. Bring you coffee and hang out with other adults for casual conversation

*Breakfast Club (6th-12th grade)*. Breakfast along with fellowship and learning

*Kid's Club (3 yrs - 5th grade)*. Have fun with Lyrics, Learning and Legos

**Youth Group** is up and running again. Come have fun and serve the community.

**Mission Kids** has an activity each month. November will be Friendsgiving.

**Growing in the Gospel** takes place during the sermon at second service. Children hear an age appropriate Bible story and have craft time.

Check out the **Lending Library** in room 128 where you'll find bible reference books and books by Christian authors with a wide range of topics. Use the sign out sheet if you want to borrow a book; when you return the book sign it in and drop it in the basket next to the book shelves.



We will be getting into the thankful mood for our November gathering!  
On November 11<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM we will gather for Friendsgiving in the  
Social Hall at St. Philip's.

Below is the link for the Signup Genius to RSVP.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080F4FA5AF2CA6FE3-45247381-mission>

Please sign up for a side dish, dessert, or drinks. This is a great time to test out new holiday recipes and enjoy each other's fellowship! We hope to see you all there!

### UPCOMING!

The Advent workshop is on December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9:15 AM - 10:15 AM. Join us for crafts, snacks, and learning about the Advent season! This is a great event that is held annually and is open to kids of all ages! And friends and neighbors are more than welcome!

An RSVP will be sent out for this event in November.



**December** - Advent Workshop is on December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9:15 AM - 10:15 AM. Join us for crafts, snacks, and learning about the Advent season! This is a great event that is held annually and is open to kids of all ages! And friends and neighbors are more than welcome! An RSVP will be sent out for this event in November.



**Rise and Shine! Hello young adults of St. Philip's!** We are excited to share that we will be creating a new Sunday morning small group for the Fall 2023 programming! Our group name will be Rise and Shine. This group will be geared more towards the young adults of the church. Whether you are a parent that is dropping a kid off at Breakfast Club or Kid's Club or if you simply never found the right fit in another Sunday morning small group. We would like to welcome you to a space that is available to sip your coffee, or water, and get to know the other young adults of the church. We would like to create a space to hold casual conversations with friends and a place to share the highs and the lows from your week. This group will not be following along with the weekly Bible Study, and there is zero commitment involved. This group will meet every Sunday at 9:15 AM in room 130. We hope to see you there! Please contact Liz Freburger if you have any questions or would like more information!

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**Ministries at St. Philip's from Koinonia****Sharon Kittle and Gigi Mueller**

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**Koinonia:** If you're looking for a small group that has fellowship, food and support for one another a koinonia group (Greek for fellowship) might be right for you! Our next koinonia gathering is on **Sunday, TBD at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall**. We will be starting the book *Fascinating Bible Studies on Every Parable*. A second group, that meets with the Mueller's, that Koinonia group will meet on **Sunday, November 5 at 6:30 pm** at the Muellers, topic TBD. The Koinonia Christmas Social will be Sunday, December 3 at 6:30 p.m. More details to follow. Please let Gigi Mueller know if you have any questions and if you are coming. Questions about Koinonia? Contact Sharon Kittle.



**Worship Assistants Are Needed!!!** We could use everyone's help as we work through this pandemic time. A small group of us have taken on the task of leading worship and ushering and greeting during the pandemic. Before COVID, we had a huge team doing this task. We need our worship assistants to begin returning to their jobs. We also would love to welcome new servants into this ministry. Contact Louise James if you are willing to help.

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**From Ministries at St. Philip's - Racial Justice Task Force****Phil Duncan**

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**Join Us for a Special Evening with Bryan Stevenson - WFS Nathan M. Clark Speaker Series - Thursday, November 30, 2023 7:00 to 8:00pm at the Chase Fieldhouse** - Delaware native Bryan Stevenson is the founder and Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative, a human rights organization in Montgomery, Alabama. Under his leadership, EJI has won major legal challenges eliminating excessive and unfair sentencing, exonerating innocent death row prisoners, confronting abuse of the incarcerated and the mentally ill, and aiding children prosecuted as adults. Bryan Stevenson's bestselling book, *Just Mercy*, is a powerful true story about the Equal Justice Initiative, the people they represent, and the importance of confronting injustice. An unforgettable story about the potential for mercy to redeem us, *Just Mercy* has been adapted into a feature film.

St. Phillips Host Week: November 5-11

Prior to COVID, the families (usually 3 or 4 families) were housed in different churches throughout New Castle County. During their stays, the hosting churches provided breakfast, lunch & an evening meal.

During the 3 years of the pandemic, the host's duty was to provide the evening meal.

Beginning in 2023, Family Promise families now live at the Jesus House off of Milltown Road. That change has resulted in how and what the host churches provide and the 3 or 4 families now are 5+.

The families live in a cottage that has a kitchen and a laundry shared by all and separate quarts for each family. In order to make the families comfortable, host churches now provide food for breakfast and lunch, staples such as laundry detergent, etc., and prepare an evening meal.

As the needs have changed, so is our way of asking for help. There are sign-up posters in the Narthex with menus and perishables items which will be collected prior to November 5 and a Sign Up Genius for the staples. Please click this link to access the Sign Up Genius:

**<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050949A9A62CA3FC1-44954014-family>**

These staples can be left in the Narthex anytime before November 3. Those who signed up on the posters will be contacted about one week before the host week regarding how to drop off food.

A huge thank you in advance for your continued support and feel free to contact Rebecca Bardenhagen or Marty Budd with any questions.

Blessing to all.

### **FAMILY PROMISE**

**Our Next Host Week: November 5, 2023 to November 11, 2023**

November 5<sup>th</sup>, is All Saints' Sunday. It's the time in the church year when we remember all of the faithful who have gone before us in faith, especially those who have died during this year. It's time to reflect and to thank God for these saints. It's our opportunity to thank God for his faithful promise and assurance that we will join our departed loved ones and live with God forever.

Here at St. Philip's, we also remember the children who have been born during this church year, as they are just beginning their faith journey. We celebrate their lives, as they walk with their families and all of us, learning about Jesus, our Savior, and the love that God has for them.

We actually celebrate **all saints** every day, but who are all saints? They are everyone of us throughout the ages. We are saints and sinners at the same time. We are sinners because that's our human nature. On the flip side, we are saints through the death and resurrection of the only human who ever made it through the temptations of an earthly life without sin! We know that by Jesus' innocent death and victorious resurrection, **all** of us are forgiven for **all** of our sins.

Because he was human, Jesus completely understands our failures, feelings, and emotions. When he saw his beloved friend, Mary, weeping at her brother Lazarus' grave, the Bible tells us, "Jesus was deeply moved in spirit and troubled," (John 11:33) and that "Jesus wept." (John 11:35) Nearing the end of his earthly life, Jesus was so concerned about the Israelite people that "as he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it." (Luke 19:41) Because Jesus understood our need for his constant comfort and support, he promised "surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:20b)

God also provides care and support through his children who walk with us on this earth. Those who mourn the loss of a loved one, failing health, or other painful times, can know the present comfort provided by a loving God and a compassionate Christian community. This comfort can be experienced today – not just in the next life. Yet those who mourn still grieve, despite the comfort extended to them from others. It's okay to grieve the loss of our loved ones and to cry despite the care extended by others. We still feel God's comfort even through our tears. Remembering Jesus' words helps: "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." (Matthew 5:4) As Christians we do not pretend that death has no sting; instead we clearly speak of the pain of our loss. Our confidence in the joy of the resurrection and the assurance that our loved ones are already enjoying the total peace, love and joy that only comes in the presence of our Lord, comforts us that our loved ones are resting in eternal life with God.

As you remember your departed loved ones this All Saints Sunday, it's okay if tears stain your cheeks. Hopefully we will also remember to sing "Alleluia!" in our hearts—being surrounded by God's love and the love of a caring congregation! Thanks be to God!



We are always looking for new members – and if you have given a thought to “What would I like to do as part of my ministry for St. Philips” Altar Guild and the Bread Ministry team are here to welcome you – We meet approximately 4 times a year – Everyone is assigned on our quarterly schedules – approximately 2 or 3 times a quarter – and it entails – approximately 1 ½ – 2 hrs the weekend you are assigned. Bread Ministry entails making the bread and bringing it to church for Sunday Services – you are assigned usually 5 times in the year. Don't worry – if this isn't your area to get involved we understand – there are so many areas to share your particular expertise / excitement. If any questions/concerns – you can contact Carol Oesterbo.

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**Ministries at St. Philip's - Shepherd's****Sally Krapf**

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The next Shepherding Team Meeting will be on **Monday, November 6th at 1 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall.

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**Ministries at St. Philip's - Care Kits****David & Donna Porter**

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**CARE KITS for homeless persons are available** under the coat rack in the narthex. Consider picking up one or two to share with homeless persons you may encounter in your travels.



**Grief Group - Attention Widows, Widowers, and Those Who Have Lost Loved Ones!!** If you have lost a spouse, partner, or close loved one and would like to have some fellowship and support, there is now a support group meeting for fellowship and to provide comfort and support through this life transition. The next gathering is **November 9th at 12:30 p.m. lunch/1 p.m. meeting** in the Fellowship Hall here at church. If you are interested in being a part or learning more, contact Sally Krapf.

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**Ministries at St. Philip's****Ellen Lenker and Sharon Holeman**

**Pinner and Knotters, a longtime ministry at St. Philip's**, is meeting on **the third Wednesday of the month at noon in the Fellowship Hall**, and always seeks new volunteers for this important work. Ellen Lenker or any current worker can answer any questions about the ongoing projects. Consider joining for the fellowship, a chance to be creative, and continue this important ministry. The Pinner and Knotters will be meeting on **Wednesday, November 15th at noon** in the Fellowship Hall. We look forward to seeing you!!!

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**Ministries outside of St. Philip's -**

**Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregiver Support Group Continues to Meet at St. Philip's** - The Alzheimer's Assn. of the Delaware Valley is sponsoring a monthly support group for anyone who has a loved one with any form of dementia, including Alzheimer's. Living with or caring for a person with dementia can be extremely challenging, overwhelming and exhausting. The group offers education, support, and the opportunity to connect with others in a similar situation. Free and open to the public, the group will meet on the **second Tuesday of the month**. The next meeting will be on **November 14th at 1 p.m.** in Room #128. For more information, contact Erica Holmes.

**Food Insecurity due to inflation is on the Rise! Can you help?** Food demand still continues to be very high. If you are at the grocery store or if someone goes for you, you can pick up needed items and drop them in the box in the narthex. We are especially in need of: **Pasta, Pasta Sauce** (cans are best and Dollar Store has good prices), Shelf **Milk (2%, Almond Breeze, Whole, or Soy** – Again, the Dollar Store is a good source), **Mac & Cheese, Cereal, Canned Vegetables, Toilet Paper, Salt & Pepper, Crackers, Coffee, Tea Bags, Cake Mix/Frosting.** Thank you so much for your generosity!!

**GROCERY CLUB CLOTHING**

We have been getting requests from members for clothing, so Grocery Club is once again accepting donations. We are especially in need of children’s clothing of all sizes but are also looking for men’s and women’s clothing. Summer clothing is preferred. Please contact Nancy Zinnato if you have items to donate.

**GROCERY CLUB**

**Wednesday, November 8, 2023 and November 22, 2023**

**WINTER COATS FOR GROCERY CLUB**

Do you have a winter coat that you don’t wear anymore, or that your kids have outgrown?

We are asking for men’s, women’s and children’s gently used coats along with hats and gloves.

PLEASE make sure coats are in good shape – zippers work, no missing buttons, and no stains!

Coats, hats and gloves can be left in the grey collection bin in the Narthex.

Thank you for helping our Grocery Club families!





Years ago, I was attending an Interim Ministry Network Annual Conference in Pittsburgh. Mrs. Mueller, “Gigi” to most of you, was able to get off work at St. Francis Hospital and tagged along. I dropped her off near the campus of the University of Pittsburgh each morning. The Carnegie Museums of Natural History and Art are right there. She loved visiting those institutions. When I asked her if she wanted to go anywhere for her birthday in May, she said “Pittsburgh.” Since I am from there, I didn’t mind even slightly.

We were waiting for a bus in downtown. Across the street and down a hundred feet or so, a crowd had gathered on the sidewalk with some people sitting on the stone steps of an inner city church.

Both of us were captured by the scene. For the ten minutes before the bus came, we watched with intrigue. The gathered crowd of roughly several dozen included whites and blacks. Unsurprisingly, we noticed no Asians. There were a few who were quite young, a majority, I would guess, of 35 to 50 year olds, just a couple of old codgers. Oh, there were women and men.

They chatted, laughed, gestured “high fives,” and generally were having a good old time, right there in front of the church. Could it be said they were loving each other unconditionally? Clearly, they were getting along just fine. This was hardly the business crowd outside for lunch on a nice spring day. There was no singing, no liturgy, no reading of any word, nor the preaching on it. Without trying to guess who or what was believed, could this have been church?

Three decades or so ago, I was attending a National Jewish-Christian Workshop in Minneapolis. There were no personal cell phones back then. On Sunday I asked at the desk for “Yellow Pages.” Huh? I looked up Lutheran Churches, found one on the same street as the hotel, and started what I thought would be an easy walk. Ha! Thanks heavens I allowed plenty of time. After 15 blocks, I wondered if ever I would get there. I decided to stop at a diner for coffee.

Five of six older black men and two women were gathered. Then in came “Rodney,” a white blind fellow, probably about 30. To make what became a long but beautiful story short, the manner in which they were treating each other and especially Rodney utterly fascinated me, so much so that I got up early on Monday to go back to see if hey were there? They were. There was no singing, liturgy, reading or preaching, but could this be church? I certainly wasn’t sure but wondered? Oh, by the way, on Sunday, the Lutheran Church was another 12 blocks. There was singing, liturgy, reading and preaching. It was church! How do I know? Good and kind Christians gave me a ride back to my hotel!

# FALL BOOK DISCUSSION

Sponsored by the Racial Justice Task Force

Sign up for pizza and discussion about the Lenape nations in our own backyard. Sign up on the poster in the narthex.

**What:** We Are Still Here! The Tribal Saga of New Jersey's Nanticoke and Lenape Indians, by JR Norwood. We will also reflect on the October 15<sup>th</sup> presentation at St Philips, by Chief Adam Waterbear DePaul of the Lenape Nation of Pennsylvania.

Use this link to access the book: [https://nanticoke-lenape.info/images/We\\_Are\\_Still\\_Here\\_Nanticoke\\_and\\_Lenape\\_History\\_Booklet\\_pre-release\\_v2.pdf](https://nanticoke-lenape.info/images/We_Are_Still_Here_Nanticoke_and_Lenape_History_Booklet_pre-release_v2.pdf)  
OR "google" We are Still here - Lenape

**When:** Thursday, November 2, 2023  
6:30 p.m. -- PIZZA  
7:00 p.m. -- Discussion led by Phil Duncan

**Where:** Fellowship Hall at St Philips Lutheran Church

***We Are Still Here!***  
*The Tribal Saga  
of  
New Jersey's Nanticoke and Lenape Indians*



**Join us at the next Outreach Meeting on Tuesday November 7th at 7 pm IN PERSON at St Philip's!** We are always looking for new participants to help with outreach projects to our community, as we live up to our mission to serve others in the name of the Lord. Many hands make light work.

**Family Promise -- our next host week is November 5-11.** Signup posters for food and servers are in the Narthex!

**Thanksgiving Baskets** -- Outreach is collaborating with Grocery Club to gather food and assemble 90 baskets to help our neighbors enjoy a bountiful Thanksgiving! The baskets will go to families at Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center and our Grocery Club families. **Look for the signup genius and drop off items at church by Sunday November 12th.**

**Christmas Caroling to Homebound Members** -- mark your calendars for December 17th from 3 to 5 pm as we merrily sing our way across New Castle County and enjoy pizza at the church afterwards!

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**From the Environmental Stewardship Team****Phil Duncan**

Environmental Stewardship Team (EST) Activity - Woodlands and Wetlands Restoration Project!

EST work around the church recently can be seen in the photos here and if one takes a little walk around the property. We've been rescuing trees from killer vines, and have cleared masses of crabgrass from the south end of the parking lot in order to plant some native grasses. Lots more to come as we work to restore our lovely property to natural health. You may hear calls to help from time to time, so please consider answering when you can!! Thanks!





## "We Offer with Joy and Thanksgiving What You Have First Given Us..."

The familiar words that follow are, of course, "our selves, our time, and our possessions; signs of your gracious love."



They are indeed signs of God's gracious love for us. And what better way to give thanks than to give back some of our God given bounty to those in need at the Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center.

There are two opportunities for giving back at Hilltop again this year: the Thanksgiving Basket Drive and the Clothes/Toy gift project.

There are many families whose children participate at the Hilltop Center who cannot afford the great meals we spread before our families on Thanksgiving. As a result, the Center staff is asking us, the Lutheran Churches of New Castle County, to help. On **Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup>** please bring frozen turkeys, canned vegetables, boxed potatoes and stuffing plus the fixings for pumpkin pies to church for packing and delivery to Hilltop and the hundreds of folks who are in need there.



Later in November, a poster will appear at church for you to sign up for gifts of clothing and toys to needy children at Hilltop. These children were selected by the staff of Hilltop as having a special need, where there is a severe family crisis. This poster fills up quickly, so please check it out and bring your gifts to church on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you and Happy Thanksgiving from  
*The Board of Directors*  
*The Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center*





## *Lutheran Campus Ministry at the University of Delaware*

### **Warm thanks for all that you do!**

In this month of giving thanks, the students, staff, and Directing Committee of LCM at UD join me in thanking you for all the ways in which you support our students and our ministry:

*Thank you for a wonderful and successful fundraiser on Saturday afternoon, November 4! What a gift to be able to gather in person once more after a long hiatus.*

*Thank you for providing such tasty, home-cooked meals for our students on Tuesday evenings and for joining us for fellowship at our chapel. J*

*Thank you for keeping our students in your prayers, as they seek to prioritize faith and Christian community amid many demands and overflowing schedules.*

*Thank you for your generous financial gifts, which help to sustain our ministry with and among young adults.*

*Thank you for your faithful partnership in embodying the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

We are very grateful for you! May your travels be safe, may your Thanksgiving celebrations be joyful and blessed, and may God's peace and joy surround and sustain you and your loved ones.

*In Christ, Mindy Holland, Minister of Word and Service †  
Chaplain, Lutheran Campus Ministry at UD  
302-368-3078; [chaplain@lcmde.org](mailto:chaplain@lcmde.org)*



*A great retreat in September, together with other campus ministries from our synod. Jumping for joy!*

## Remember Us When You Pray

*We believe in the power of prayer, so please remember to keep the following persons and their families in your prayers. Even if you do not know them it means so much to them to know that they are remembered in our daily prayer lives. Also, it would be a wonderful gift for them to hear from their church family:*

### ***We Pray for the Members of St. Philip's:***

Ron Henry, Russ Hokanson, Judi Parsons, John & Barb Williams, Charles & Ruth Bowles, Lois Hardy, John Newcomer, Sr., Carol Ruckle, Lamont & Sharon Smith, Louise James, Ethel Reichley, Shawn Nascembeni, Helga Kissell, Bob O'Brien, Sam Cory, Richard Pierce, Daniel & Phyllis Bolgiano, Sherry Thompson, Eleanor Georgiana, Leo & Lorraine Velez, Mark & Yvonne Cilento, Charlie Boss, Carol Goodman, Maria Start, Dave Frampton, Danny Mason, Amy Papili, Donna Hokanson, Diane Murray, Lynn Pouser, Jackie Kyle, Bev Reedy

***We Pray for our Loved Ones:*** *(Though we do not explicitly name these beloved ones in worship during our prayer time, please lift up their names in prayer aloud or silently during the time set aside for other intercessions):* **Our soldiers serving overseas and their families; Ruth DiDonato & Family of Earl & Irene Meyer**, family of Linda Burkum; **Emily Ruckle & Tina Davis**, family of Carol Ruckle; **John & Carly Hoeni**, family of Lynn Muller; **Beckie McNelly**, sister of Bob Gobble & Barb Williams; **Lou Cookson**, father of Nick Cookson; **Beth Cookson**, mother of Nick Cookson; **The Greer Family**, friends of Bob Warner; **Dorothy Owens**, sister of Ruth Henry; **Stuart Emerson & Family**, friends of the Swift Family; **Jacob Buckworth & Dawn Cupsie**, grandson & daughter of Lamont & Sharon Smith; **Donald Oesterbo, Jr.**, son of Carol Oesterbo; **Linda Allen**, friend of Faith Simpers; **Mary Jane Myers**, mother of Mark Myers; **Joe Cilento, Jr.**, son of Yvonne Cilento; **Paul Budd, Sr.**, father of Scott & Lee & **Patricia Craig**, friends of The Budds; **Greg Moore**, friend, **David Martin**, **Diane Balinski**, **Debra Jennings**, & **Barney Jennings**, family of Russ Hokanson; **Molly Wagner**, granddaughter of Margaret Wagner; **Jermaine & Joslyn Sanders**, friends of Nancy Zinnato; **Norman Richards & Phyllis Mensinger**, family of Mark & Marge Davis; **Carol Henzy**, sister of Beth Molnar; **Danny Brown**, uncle of Trevor Freburger; **Mildred Marine**, grandmother of Heather Stirk; **John, Sr. & Anna Longo**, parents of John Longo; **Lew & Donna Longhenry**, parents & **Brad Oliver**, brother-in-law of Bryan Longhenry; **Steve Gibson**, friend of Jean Kunkle; **The Family of Robert Schuh**, family of Diana Longhenry; **Martin Page & Family**, friends of Mike Rosen; **Craig Shechter**, father of Amanda DeWeese; **B J Lawson**, daughter of Jean Kunkle; **Pastor Tom Carlson & Ken Worme**, friends of Bob & Delores Wardwell; **Family of Rosemary Herron**, Loved ones of Edna Basilio; **Henry Houtmann**, grandson of Anne Hamilton; **The Family of Brad Scott**, friends of the Brennemans; **Erich Molnar**, son of Beth Molnar; **Zoe Kenaley**, great-granddaughter of Vic Brick; **John Lehne**, friend of Carol Goodman; **Donna Reeves**, sister of Pam Sheffer; **Victoria Frattarola**, granddaughter of Virginia Frattarola; **Doris S. and Kathleen K.**, friends of Anne Hamilton; **Frank Kulick**, brother of Ruth Bowles; **Christopher Longo**, son of John & Kim Longo; **Marilynn Kelley**, Mother of Dawn Downes; **Lisa Santak**, daughter of Marion Santak





Colby Stirk	11/1	Jodi Cookson	11/20
Gerry Butler	11/2	Reagan Bailey	11/21
Caleb Cutler	11/2	Adrienne Basilio	11/21
Amanda DeWeese	11/3	Lynn Muller	11/21
Benjamin DeWeese	11/5	Jerry Aunet	11/21
Phyllis Bolgiano	11/5	Bob Wardwell	11/21
Hilde Crothers	11/7	Ronan Budd	11/22
Robert Fry, Jr.	11/7	Veronica Stevens	11/24
Frances Taylor	11/7	Nora Sanderson	11/24
Ruth Bowles	11/8	Kathleen Streamer	11/24
Teri O'Hara	11/10	Maranda Sheffer	11/25
Maryann Shovestul	11/10	Dana Hauser	11/28
Sarah Myers	11/11	Diana Longhenry	11/29
Richard Braun	11/15	Charlie Boss	11/30
Jim Dickinson	11/15	Chris O'Brien	11/30

May God Bless You on Your Special Day!





Please call the church office at 302-239-2100 when:

- You or a member of your family is sick or in the hospital
- You are planning a meeting or scheduling an event so it can be placed on the church calendar, in the bulletin, and in the Guidepost.
- A baby is expected in your family.
- You want to arrange for a baptism or a wedding.
- Your telephone number, address or email address has changed or you are planning to move, locally or out of town.
- You have a prayer request.
- You feel the church can help you in any way.

## Who Does What at St. Philip's

### **Staff:**

Rev. Patrick V. Downes, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Amy Wright, Associate Pastor  
Dr. Stephen Benscoter, CAGO Music Director  
Dr. Lauren Conrad, Director of Choir Ministry  
Lisa Kalinowski, Office Administrator  
.....email: stphilipswilmington@gmail.com

### **Officers:**

Gerry Butler, President  
Joann Stevens, Vice President  
Teri Suddard, Treasurer  
Amanda DeWeese, Secretary  
Mike Berkheimer, Financial Secretary

### **Council:**

Jerry Aunet  
Coleman Bye  
Liz Freburger  
Matt Grieder  
Carol Johnson

### **Council (continues):**

John Longo  
Debbi Miller  
Shawn Nascembeni  
Dave Porter

### **Committees/Activities:**

Altar Guild.....  
Christian Education.....  
Enviro. Stewardship.....  
Fellowship.....  
Finance/Audit.....  
Grocery Club.....  
Outreach.....  
Prayer Ministry.....  
Property.....  
.....  
Racial Justice Task Force  
Worship and Music.....

Carol Oesterbo  
Sharon Kittle  
David Porter  
Pam Sheffer  
Coleman Bye  
Nancy Zinnato  
Susan Mack  
Contact Church Office  
Dave Frampton  
Mark Myers  
Phil Duncan  
Louise James

St. Philip's Lutheran Church

5320 Limestone Road

Wilmington, DE 19808

Phone: (302) 239-2100

Website: [www.stphilips.us](http://www.stphilips.us)

Address Service Requested

### ***Sunday Morning Schedule***

8:00 a.m. Worship Service In Sanctuary

9:15 a.m. Small Groups, Christian Ed for All Ages

10:30 a.m. Worship Service In Sanctuary

\*\* Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall Between Services