





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





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

From the Senior Pastor - Pastor Patrick

Welcoming a New Piece of Sanctuary Furniture

If you have been in worship in the last couple weeks you will have noticed a new addition to the sanctuary. In the chancel area is a new stand for the paschal candle.

What is the paschal candle? This candle symbolizes Jesus' victory over sin and death - light shining through the darkness of those times. We light this candle during the Easter Season, Advent Season, during baptisms and funerals, and on Pentecost and All Saints Sunday. Essentially, it is the liturgical times when that symbolism is most powerful.

The old stand we were using was donated years ago by Doug and Karlyn Fields and has blessed our sanctuary for years. In fact, that old stand is still right there as part of the new one. It provides the support structure of the new stand and is inside the wooden "box" of the new one.

The new stand is made from the wood from the pews of the old church, just as the altar and pulpit and other wooden pieces in the sanctuary. You'll notice the cross that is inlaid in the stand - that cross was lifted from one of the endcaps of the pews and you'll see it on the candle stands on the altar, the baptismal shelf, the credence table, and the pedestals. That's a design theme we've continued through the pieces.

Stop by the chancel on Sunday and take a look at the work our own Bill LaRue did on the new stand.



From the Associate Pastor - Pastor Amy

To quote one of my favorite theologians/singers, Taylor Swift, "August slipped away" and nowhere we are in September! This month is a new month, a month where the Church reignites its energy as we gather back together after the summer and enter into the church year together.And do you know what that makes me think of? Coffee. Delicious coffee. Served hot or over ice.Starbucks or Dunkin, or from anywhere really. Standard black coffee, latte, macchiato, coldbrew, cappuccino, breve; whatever you're feeling. And as we enter into this almost-fall season, Ican't help but give a nod to the Pumpkin Spice coffees! Did you know there are over 20 ways toenjoy a cup of coffee?! But coffee is something that, for me personally, can kick-start my day. Itprovides me with an extra jolt, igniting the day for me. Even if coffee didn't have the caffeinebenefit I would still drink it just for the taste alone - but the caffeine is definitely a bonus.There's a saying that couldn't be more true for me: "all I need is a little bit of coffee and a wholelot of Jesus!"

I feel like nature has a season of "electricity", if you will. A season where we get an extra jolt of beauty. A season so bright and full of energetic color. And that is the season of fall that we are about to enter into soon. There is a quote that I think of every single time we get a glimmer of cool weather: "Fall has always been my favorite season. The time when everything bursts with its last beauty, as if nature had been saving up all year for the grand finale." The colors, thecoziness of the season, the apple orchards, the seasonal coffee drinks, the cooler air; nature'sfinal caffeinated kick. What joy and I am grateful to experience such joys with you all this year.I am especially giddy and electrified (no coffee necessary, though a perk) as we enter into thisnew church year because I get the privilege to begin the new church program year with you allhere at St. Philip's! As Pub Theology, Youth Group, Confirmation classes, small groups, Growing in the Gospel, Kids Club and the "Bible According to Bluey", and so much more starts up again, may we be mindful of what electrified joy we have in Jesus. It is because of Jesus that we are here and it is the work of the Holy Spirit in and through us that makes this church so vibrant!

God's abundant and vibrant blessings to you all this season! Yours in Christ,



NATIVE GRASSES TAKE ROOT AT ST PHILIPS!

Have you noticed the Bio-Retention Areas behind the church recently? They have a new look!! These 2 basins are designed to capture rainwater runoff from our existing parking areas and slowly disperse the water into the soil. New Castle County has rules about such areas, and has recently granted St Philips permission to plant native grasses. The long, deep roots (2-3 ft. in many cases) of the native grasses will absorb the rainwater and, over time, the tall grasses will grow and shade out invasive plants.

The deer, groundhogs, and those invasive plants are challenges, but slowly the Property Committee and the Habitat Restoration Crew are sorting the tares from the wheat grasses! If you can help, we would love to hear from you. We work on invasives on the **1st Saturday** and **3rd Wednesday of each month**, **8:30** -**10:30**. Come when you can and leave when you need to. Contact Phil or Mary Duncan for more information.



From Council - Mike Rosen

True peace

Shalom shalom

Our Jewish brothers and sisters have used this greeting to say "hello" or "goodbye" for ages. If you research the meaning, you will find many discussions with slight variations of the translation or meaning, but one that has stuck with me is "perfect peace".

But, do we really know what "peace" is? Peace is more than the absence of violence, or noise, chaos or disturbance.

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Recent events in the news highlight violence and war in Israel and the Ukraine, an attempted assassination of a former U.S. President, and a black woman shot in her own home by the very police officers she called to report a disturbance.

Violence is a tool of the frightened. While it can be used to defeat an enemy, win a conflict, or protect a population, it cannot defeat itself. Violence cannot defeat violence, only peace can do that.

Jesus acknowledged this in the garden of Gethsemane, where he warned his disciples that those who draw the sword will die by the sword. (Matthew 26:52)

Just as soldiers and warriors can hone their skills in battle, so, too, do those who seek peace. To practice peace, we need to acknowledge the source of violence, and be with those who feel that there is no other means to feel heard, find justice, or be loved. Cultivating this may lead to tranquility, but it starts in the chaos of our daily lives.

We practice this by sharing the grace that we are given: Forgiving our friends and family for wronging us; Making time to have awkward silence with a child, parent, or spouse; Talking with a shunned co-worker or acquaintance.

Peace is the ability to find safety with the uncomfortable moments in life. Peace gives space to hear the unheard, to speak the unspoken, and to accept and care for the undesirable. Peace allows rest.

Perfect peace heals.

Perfect peace is the divine gift that Jesus foretells as the coming of the Holy Spirit in John 14:27: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

Peace isn't the absence of anything, but rather the presence of divine security which allows us to endure when life gets hard. The pursuit of this peace isn't easy, but it is worthwhile, and becoming an advocate for this peace, in today's world is necessary.

May God bless and keep you, may God's face shine on you, may God be kind to you, and give you Peace.

Shalom shalom.

From the Christian Music Festival - Pics by Pastor Amy and Chuck Cory



















From Finance - Teri Suddard

8/12/2024	St. I	Philip's Lutheran Chur	ch		
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		y of Fiscal Year 202 Responsibility: All Fund: 01 - General	4		
		July	Year-to-date	Year-to-date	Percent of
	_	Actual	Actual	Budget	Budget
Income					
Group 00		38,955.58	322,882.02	287,899.98	112.15
	Total Income	38,955.58	322,882.02	287,899.98	112.15
Expense	Total Income =	38,955.58	322,882.02	287,899.98	112.15
	Total Income =	1,488.49	322,882.02 25,105.78	287,899.98	112.15 113.56
Expense	Total Income =				
Expense Administration	Total Income =	1,488.49	25,105.78	22,108.38	113.56 106.67
Expense Administration Committees Pastor Staff	Total Income =	1,488.49 33,507.17	25,105.78 117,898.21	22,108.38 110,524.12	113.56
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Women's Ministry: Serving Women Near and Far

The Women's Ministry Team is partnering with the Water is Life Kenya team to help girls and women in Wilmington and Inkisanjani, Kenya. Both near and far, girls and women without access to feminine products cannot go to school and work for several days each month because they don't have adequate period supplies. Women who struggle with incontinence and lack adult diapers are not able to leave their homes without the risk of embarrassment.

In the United States, a year's worth of period supplies costs about \$200 and aren't covered by public assistance programs like WIC or SNAP. Additionally, they aren't eligible to be purchased with flexible spending or health savings accounts. In Kenya and the US, women without adequate supplies miss out on school, work, and activities. However, in Kenya women are also challenged by the lack of water and inability to stay clean, especially without adequate period supplies.

During the month of September, the Women's Ministry Team is collecting supplies and funds to help women near and far.

• If you would like to purchase adult diapers, tampons, or pads for women in our community, there will be a box in the narthex for their collection. We'll take any size and any brand of these products. All items will be donated to our own food pantry and the food pantry at St. Stephen's in Wilmington.

• For the girls at the St. Luke's School in Inkisanjani, we are collecting monetary donations to purchase wholesale period supplies in Kenya and have them delivered and distributed through the school. To make a monetary donation, put cash or a check in an envelope, label it "For Period Supplies," and place it into the offering plate. You may also donate money through Dawn Downes' Venmo @Dawn-Downes-3 (venmo.com/u/Dawn-Downes-3). In the comments, write Period Supplies.

Help women near and far by making a donation. All gifts will be matched 1:1 by the Women's Ministry Fund, up to \$1000.

The **Daytime Women's Book Club** meet once a monthWe have not chosen a book for **September 17th**. *The First Ladies* is the book discussion for **October 15th**. The Taster is the book discussion for **November 19th**. Our Annual Christmas Social is **December 17th**. The summer meetings are at Gigi s house. Fall will be meeting at St. Philip's

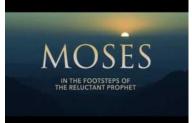
THE YOUNG AT HEART GROUP has grown to 20 women. We are taking a late summer break and will meet again at Gigi s on **Saturday, September 14th, from 1:30-3:00 p.m**... as the date gets closer, please let Gigi know if you are coming.

Fall Women's Retreat—Saturday, November 2nd, 2024 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. *The Potter and the Clay* is our very interesting topic. Gigi is being joined this year by Pastor Arlene and Crystal Solie. We are planning some neat things. Let Gigi know if you have any pottery you would like to bring and share something about it. Sign up on the poster in the Narthex or use the link below: https://www.signupgenius.com/ go/8050949A9A62CA3FC1-50836693-womens

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. **Our next meeting is September 13th**. 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!

Adult Large and Small Group Program for 2024-2025





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Rappin' With Martin Luther - Sept to Dec 2024

Martin Luther is ranked as one of the most influential people who has ever lived. His teachings transformed Christianity, but many people think his influence is only historical. What Luther discovered affects how we think about God to this very day. This study will be taught by Pastor Amy and Pastor Patrick via video lessons and participants will have discussion each week in their small groups.

Moses: the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet - Jan/Feb 2025

Moses is probably the most significant character of the Old Testament. In this winter large group series, we'll use videos with Adam Hamilton to explore the birth, life, and struggle of the one chosen by God to lead people out of slavery into the promised land.

When Bible Stories Conflict - March/April 2025

Have you ever noticed that sometimes bible stories are different? So, different sometimes that they take place at different times and in different places? Sometimes the same stories are told and they look nothing like one another? What is true? How do we understand them? This study will help us sort through them.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer - May 2025

For the final two weeks of our program year after Easter, we will return to a large group format for two classes on Dietrich Bonhoeffer. We'll explore his life and explore what turned this pastor/theologian into one of the most complex figures in history as he took on the role of a potential assassin: working to assassinate Adolf Hitler as part of the resistance. **Small Group Registration**

Small Groups Return September 2024!!

Fall will be Rappin' With Martin Luther

This will be a new learning experience that will involve videos each week from Pastors Amy and Patrick who will teach us about how Martin Luther's teachings impact how we live our faith today.

January and February will be a Large group video series on Sunday mornings.

Springtime we will study "When Bible Stories Conflict," (again in small groups) which compare and help us sort through Bible Stories that conflict with each other. How do we understand them better?

A large group study on Dietrich Bonhoeffer will wrap up our studies on Sundays, May 4 & 11

Let us know what Small Group you want, Sunday morning at 9:15 am or Tuesday morning at 10 am! If you have questions contact Sharon Price or Pastor Patrick.

Small Group Registration - Cut and place in Offering Plate

E-mail_____

Sunday Morning: Women____ Men ____ Mixed _____

Tuesday Morning _____



Kick off the 2024 - 2025 Program Year!

- 8:00 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion
- 9:15 a.m. Small Groups for All Ages begin. Adult Bible Study will meet in the Fellowship Hall for an introduction to Small Groups for Fall
- 9:15 a.m. Kid's Club will meet in the Christian Ed Wing
- 9:15 a.m. Youth will meet in the Youth Room for the first Breakfast Club
- •10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion
- •11:45 a.m. Annual St. Philip's Picnic Lunch with Fun and Games for Children of All Ages including a Bounce House!!!

St. Philip's Lutheran Church Sunday, September 8, 2024

Join us on this Special

Day as We Celebrate

the Return of the Fall

Programs, and

bring to a Close our

Summer Sabbath Time.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

Mission Kids

Mission Kids had a blast swimming at our July pool party. Many thanks to the DeWeese family for graciously hosting our growing group of kids! As summer begins to wrap up, our monthly events will resume.

Join us on **Saturday, Sept 7th @ 11am for Chalk the Walk**! Bring a lunch and come ready to decorate the sidewalks in preparation for Rally Day the following day. Sunday, Sept 8th join the whole congregation for a luncheon after the 10:30 service! We will have a bouncy house and games run by the youth group!

Mark Sunday, Oct 13th on your calendar for apple picking at Milburn Orchards. We are joining the youth group for a fun fall adventure starting at 1pm. Accurate head count will be necessary so watch your email for a sign up!

Kids Club

Kids Club returns on September 8th @ 9:15! We will explore the Golden Rule and the 10 commandments with the help of our favorite Australian Blue Heeler...Bluey!!! Join the whole congregation for Rally Day after the 10:30am service for food, games and a bouncy house (weather permitting!).





PUB HEOLOGY

Martin Luther once said: "Whoever drinks beer, they are quick to sleep; whoever sleeps long, does not sin; whoever does not sin, enters Heaven! Thus, let us drink **beer**!"

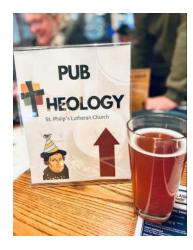
Get excited because *Pub Theology* is back AND begins again on September 19th from 6:30-8:30pm! It will be every 3rd Thursday, at Miller's Ale House in Newark (1323 Churchmans Rd.).

ALL are welcome at any time! Sign-Up in the Narthex! You won't want to miss this!

Pub Theology is all about open and honest, faith-filled conversations about things that matter. A table where all perspectives are welcome and appreciated. The format is simple: *beer, conversation, and God.* Come and bring your questions and thoughts, bring a friend, pull up a chair, and join Pastor Amy. You'll be able to share your own wrestling's and thoughts while learning something new along the way, and hey— there's likely to be a good craft beer you haven't tried yet!

See you then! Cheers!

Pr. Amy









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 on Sunday morning (and between services as well starting September 8).

Our **Summer of Service** has ended. A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who participated. Our **Tower of Food** provided over 900 items to our food pantry and the pantry at St. Stephen's. Our **E.A.G.L.E.S. project** provided school children in the Dominican Republic with supplies for the school year. Volunteers for our **Meals project** assembled 15,000 meals to go to St. Stephen's pantry and the Delaware Food Bank. See pictures from Summer of Service on pages below.

RALLY DAY is on Sunday September 8. Kid's Club, Breakfast Club, Adult Small Group Bible Study and Growing in the Gospel will all begin on that day. Kid's Club and Breakfast Club will meet in their classrooms. The Adult Small Group will meet in the fellowship hall to hear about the new curriculum and changes to the program's format for this year. The Small Groups will begin meeting in classrooms the following week. (See separate pages for more details and sign up links/sheets.

Check out the Lending Library in Rooms 128 and 129, 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.



Fall Women's Retreat - Gigi Mueller



Mark your calendars now for the

Fall Women's Retreat

Saturday, November 2nd, 2024 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Potter and the Clay is our very interesting topic.
Gigi is being joined this year by Pastor Arlene and Crystal Solie. We are planning some neat things.
Let Gigi know if you have any pottery you would like to bring and share something about it.
Sign up on the poster in the Narthex or use the link below:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050949A9A62CA3FC1-50836693-womens

Approximately **900** items were in the **Tower of Food** Collection! **1,500** Non Parishable items went to the St. Stephen's Food Pantry. The rest of the items went to St. Philip's Food Pantry! Thank you to Everyone!!!!!





E.A.G.L.E.S. School Supplies: classroom supplies and school supplies to fill 15 backpacks going to the Dominican Republic.





15,000 Meals









From Summer of Service - 15,000 meals - pics from Mary Duncan and Pastor Amy























15,000 MEALS

15,000 Meals: Members of St. Philip's along with members of St. Mark's Methodist and Bethel Lutheran assembled 15,000 meals in less than 1.5 hours. Ten boxes of meals (2160 meals) were delivered to St. Stephen's pantry; the remainder of the meals went to the Delaware Food Bank.



From Daytime Women's Book Club





Daytime Book Group - Summer Fun!!!





From Women's Ministry Pool Party









Women's Ministry Pool Party at Joann Steven's!!!

Good Food, Good Drinks, Great Weather and Fellowship!



The Guidepost

Fall Men's Retreat

St. Philip's Men's Group will be on retreat October 3rd to 6th. If you are interested in joining this Band of Brothers for the weekend in Western Virginia, contact Chuck Cory for details.

Youth Group - ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans - Pastor Amy







Youth Group - ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans - Pastor Amy









Bishop Bill Gohl with our Youth and Pastor Amy!





Youth Group - ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans - Pastor Amy

















ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans!!! July 16th to July 20th

Youth Group - Pastor Amy



Let's get ready for an *incredible* new program year for our Youth Group starting up in September!!

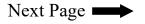
We have Breakfast Club, youth events, synod youth retreats, and Confirmation classes starting back up! Let's get pumped because we are going to have a blast! We can't wait to see you! See Youth Group emails for more details.

Youth Group Schedule for 2024-2025

September 2024

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- September 8 Rally Sunday Church games + picnic at 11:45am #rainraingoaway
 - Breakfast Club starts back up @ 9:15am!!
- September 15 Kickoff Pool Party + Grill Out @ 1:30pm (Chuck Cory's House)
 - See Sign-Up Genius to bring a side!
- September 22 Mini Golf + Ice Cream (12-2:30pm)
- September 29 Karaoke + Dinner + Friendship Bracelets + Game Night (5 -8pm)





October 2024

- October 6 Blessing of the Pets Service (12:00pm)
- October 13 Apple Orchard + apple picking (12:15-4pm)
 Bring a lunch/snack & RSVP
- October 20 –Pumpkin Carving + Blind Taste Test + Caramel Apple Dipping + showing of "*It's the Great* Pumpkin, Charlie Brown" (12)
- 2:30/3pm)
 - Lunch will be provided
- October 27 YG presentation at "*Together in Faith*" (9:15-10:15am) about ELCA National Youth Gather ing + Youth lead *both* worship services (8 & 10:30AM)
 - Wear your *white* Youth Gathering t-shirt (with our names on the back)

November 2024

- November 3 Fall Clean-Up (12-3pm)
 - Bring a lunch/snack
- November 10 Driving Scavenger Hunt (12-3:30pm)
 - Bring a lunch/snack
- November 15-17 Synod Middle + High School Retreats in Falling Waters, WV
- November 24 No Youth Group Thanksgiving Break





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! The Koinonia Group that meets at St. Philip's will be taking a break for the summer and will return in September. A second group, that meets with the Mueller's, that Koinonia group will meet on Sunday, September 15th at 6:30 pm at the Mueller's home. Come to discuss positives in your life. Please let Gigi Mueller know if you have any questions and if you are coming. Questions about Koinonia? Contact Sharon Kittle.

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 **September 10th at 1 p.m.** in Room #128. For more information, contact Erica Holmes. 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 September 12th at 12:30 p.m. lunch/1 p.m. meeting in the Social Hall here at church. If you are interested in being a part or learning more, contact Sally Krapf.

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.



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. Any questions contact Dave or Donna Porter

Help Us Restock the Care Kits for the Homeless – As you may know, we provide care kits for our members to keep in their cars or wherever to help people in need when we come across them in our daily life. Our supply of care kits are running low and we need help restocking our care kit bags. It's winter, so socks, hats, gloves, band-aids, etc. are needed. There is a bin in the narthex into which you can place all the items you donate. Thank you so much for your care and generosity. A signup for the things we need can be found here:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050949A9A62CA3FC1-47073305-homeless

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, September 11, 2024 and September 25, 2024



TOWER OF FOOD

Thank you to everyone who donated items to the Tower of Food.Almost 900 items were divided between the St. Philip's and St.Stephen's food programs.

A big thank you to the volunteers who helped take down the tower, count the items and move it all to our pantry: Sharon Holeman, Dave Thompson, Shirley and Bill Rash, Kenny Zinnato and Ryan Zinnato.



Many thanks to all of you who have contributed food, time, and supplies during St. Philips Family Promise host weeks! Our next host week will be September 1-7. Sign up posters are in the Narthex with menus listing food you can provide for our host week. In addition, if you are able to contribute non-perishable items please click on the Sign-Up Genius link below. You may drop off all items in the box located in the Narthex under the menu sign up posters.

Sign Up Genius Link: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050949A9A62CA3FC1-50497357-family

Thank you in advance for your continued support. Feel free to contact Rebecca Bardenhagen or Marty Budd with any questions. Blessings to all.

FAMILY PROMISE

September 1, 2024 to September 7, 2024 then, the week of: November 17, 2024 to November 23, 2024





Four-legged friends get ready! St. Philip's will be hosting its annual

We are inviting all members of the congregation with pets to join us in the back of the church for a short service of prayer and blessing. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Amy.



Returning in OCTOBER:

O.W.L.S. (older, wiser, Lutheran seniors) will gather on Tuesday, October 8th - Please bring whatever you would like to eat or drink that day. We look forward to seeing you on the 8th!



An exciting ministry is returning to St. Philip's! "DINNERS OF EIGHT"

Meal fellowship, in the form of our "Dinners of Eight" ministry, seeks to offer members of our congregation, their friends and possibly, in time, people of other faiths, opportunities to experience and foster relationship with one another. With smaller gatherings of eight people the dinners are relatively easy to pull off and those with smaller homes are also able to participate as host. Once established, with guests taking their turn at hosting a gathering, the ministry tends to sustain and grow itself.

Look for signup sheets to be posted in the Narthex in the coming weeks allowing all congregation members the opportunity to participate in a "dinner of eight". Those that choose to host should provide the main course and beverage and ask the others coming to dinner to bring an appetizer, vegetable, salad, or dessert. After meeting and sharing dinner, it is encouraged that the guests in attendance host a dinner of their own, with an open invitation to members of the congregation to join. As this process is repeated the ministry is able to expand.

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.



LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY at the University of Delaware

All of us at Lutheran Campus Ministry at UD are looking forward to an outstanding year to come! Our student group is strong, fun, faithful, and creative. This past summer, student members worked on summer jobs, traveled to Europe, went to boot camp, took courses, worked as camp counselors, and reconnected with family and friends. It's great to hear about their service and adventures. ©

Please save the date of **Saturday afternoon, November 2**! We'll gather at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Wilmington for our next LCM fundraiser. We look forward to sharing tasty food, hearing presentations from amazing students, bidding in a live auction, and enjoying the grace of gathering with the wider LCM community. We hope you can join us!

During fall term, we welcome your ongoing prayers:

- Please pray for the Holy Spirit to draw new students to our group, for whom LCM can be a blessing
 and a safe, fun, and nurturing Christian community. May we welcome them warmly and accompany
 them with grace and joy, as they grow in faith and service!
- Please pray for wisdom in our search process for a new office administrator, as well as in identifying new members for our Directing Committee (governing board), that we may expand, deepen, and strengthen our leadership team. Thank you!

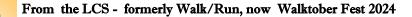
If you'd like to visit LCM on a Tuesday evening, please let me know. We enjoy connecting with visitors and are so grateful to those who bring dinners to share with the students. Please <u>watch</u> our website (*www.lcmde.org*) for updates and opportunities. We're grateful for your continued support through prayers, dinners, and contributions, and we look forward to seeing you this fall at our fundraiser.

We wish you God's blessings, abiding peace, and daily grace! 😊

In Christ, Mindy Holland, Minister of Word and <u>Service †</u> Chaplain, Lutheran Campus Ministry at UD 302-368-3078; <u>chaplain@lcmde.org</u>



LCM's Senior Honor Night in May was a beautiful occasion, including laying on of honds and prayer for each graduate! +





2809 Baynard Blvd, Wilmington, DE, 19802



Outreach Update

Upcoming Events:

Family Promise Host Week—September 1-7

The next host week for St Philip's to provide meals for families is September 1-7. Look for the signup poster in the Narthex for food items needed, and the signup genius for household goods wish list to support the homeless families in the FP program. See Rebecca Bardenhagen or Marty Budd for more information.

Lutheran Community Services Walktoberfest on Saturday September 21st. Walk or Run to raise money to support LCS food pantries. Stay for the Octoberfest hosted by Concordia Lutheran Church! Free food, fun, music, and beer. Join fellow St Philip's members and other Lutherans and LCS supporters for this great event. Register at <u>https://lcsde.org/event/5k-event</u>

Water is Life Kenya Lunch and Learn – Sunday September 29th 11:45 to 1 pm Join WILK team for a presentation by Joyce Tannian and Aaron Lemma of WILK. Joyce and Aaron will provide an update about the water project St Philip's is supporting in Kenya. Light lunch served. Sign up on poster in narthex so we know how many to expect!

Lunch and Learn - Sunday October 20th

Join Outreach and Racial Justice teams for a presentation by Pastor David Mueller on the Israel/Palestinian conflict from the perspective of Christians living there.

<u>Thank you</u> to everyone who volunteered and attended the Christian Music Festival in June! Great music, food, and community! On behalf of the extended team that is working to **Expand our Parking Lot** and **Create New Classroom Space**, I wanted to provide a progress report since our last communication in May. The team has been busy and overall we are on-schedule and expect the actual construction to begin later this Fall.

Taking a look first at the Parking Lot Expansion project, the design is complete and the multi-step regulatory approval process is proceeding smoothly. We have divided the project into 3 parts for purposes of bidding; parking lot (largest contract), landscaping and lighting. We issued Bid Requests to 6 contractors for the parking lot in early July and are expecting bid submissions by Aug 30. For the two smaller contracts, we issued Bid Requests earlier this month. We believe we have a good number of qualified contractors looking at the project and are expecting a competitive environment. We should get a good sense in a few weeks if our estimated total project cost of \$500-600k was accurate. Barring any unexpected issues, we would expect contracts to be awarded in October timeframe and construction to begin in November depending on contractor backlog.

Turning to the Basement project; the design is complete and was submitted to the County last week. This is about 1 month later than we had planned, but there were a lot of design details that we wanted to get right. We are excited for the new space! It will provide a comfortable space to teach, learn and collaborate and is designed to be versatile to meet a variety of needs. We expect the regulatory process to be fairly quick and anticipate going out for bids in September. We anticipate our internal team acting as the general contractor coordinating the work of the various trades that will transform our unfinished basement into a functional space complete with two good-sized classrooms, men's and women's restrooms, enhanced storage areas and elevator access. We would expect work to begin in October.

If you have any questions, comments or just would like more information, I encourage you to reach out to a member of the project team including Tom Krapf, Dave Thompson, Dave Frampton or myself.

From the WILK - Dawn Downes



Water is Life Kenya Update

The Water is Life Kenya planning team has been busy this summer, meeting with Joyce and Aaron from WILK and planning for how St. Philips can interact with the Kenyan community where the borehole will be established. **The most exciting news is that we have a location for the borehole - the St. Luke's Inkisanjani Primary and Secondary Schools and surrounding community.** You say the name of the area - Inkisanjani - just the way it is written: Ink-ee-săn-jăni. St. Luke's school serves 230 students in secondary school, including 30 teen girls who board there and 800 students in the primary school. Each day the students have to bring two liters of water from their family's water store to school so that the facility has enough water to function.



Woman carrying a five gallon jug of water on her back supported by a strap around her head.

In Inkisanjani, In addition to rain (which has rarely fallen during the current three year drought), there is an unreliable water source in the community where water is delivered through a pipeline about once every two weeks, when it happens to get turned on. However, the storage tank for the water is contaminated from a dog that fell into the tank and died, so people get sick from drinking the water. They don't have any other options, so they use the water anyway. When the pipeline is turned on, it becomes very crowded with people, goats, and cows - all trying to get water. With the water that the borehole will produce, the school will be able to serve additional children and young people through expanding their boarding facilities. A good, productive borehole that is protected and managed will help the school and local community thrive. Next steps for the Inkisanjani borehole project include WILK meeting with the larger community (a few hundred people) to get a sense if everybody is ready for a big community project and to determine if the project will be for the school only or the community together with the school. Once that is determined, WILK will work with the school and community to create the local Water Management Committee who will manage the borehole and keep it running.

There are lots of ways that you can join in supporting the WILK project.

- First, **pray** for the St. Luke's school, Inkisanjani community and the WILK team in Kenya as they build the infrastructure to support the borehole. The actual borehole is only the start. For the project to remain successful over time it must be managed by the community and the Water Management Committee.
- Second, <u>attend</u> the WILK Lunch and Learn on September 29 after the second service. You'll learn more about the schools and community of Inkisanjani as well how WILK will ensure that the borehole is operating for many years to come.
- Third, **purchase** jewelry and crafts items from WILK when they are at the Lunch and Learn. Everyone on your Christmas list can use a beautiful handmade star or an African animal. You'll be supporting the widows of Kenya who don't have any other source of income and would be on the streets begging without the opportunity to sell their handicrafts. Plus it makes an EXCELLENT talking piece to share with others about the work of WILK and how they are able to transform communities.
- Fourth, <u>support</u> the Women's Ministry Team who is collecting sanitary napkins and funds to purchase sanitary napkins for the female students in the Inkisanjani schools. Without sanitary napkins and without enough water to stay clean, girls miss school every month. Read more about that collection in the Women's Ministry section.

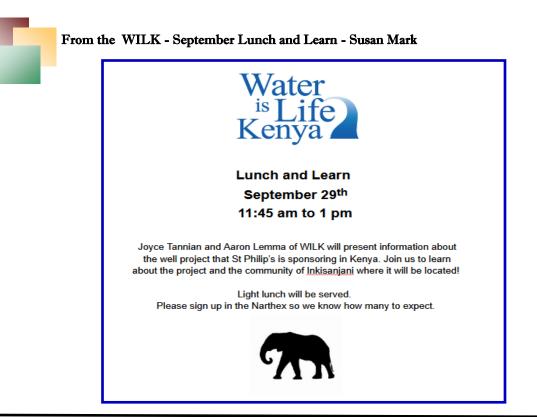
It is so exciting to see the Water is Life Kenya project come alive at St. Philips. The borehole that we are funding will be a gift for the Inkisanjani people that will positively impact their lives for years and generations to come.



Timeline and Estimated Budget for Clean Water Well project that was presented at the Together in Faith in May 2024. Currently, the team in Kenya is working on steps 1-4, putting us on schedule.

	Activity	Date	Duration of work	Estimated Cost
1	Community mobilization meeting	June 2024	1 day	\$500
2	Community needs assessment	July 2024	1-2 days	\$800
3	Hydrogeological Survey to identify site for drilling.	July 2024	1 day	\$700
4	Community work: members of the borehole register their clean water project with the Govt. of Kenya, including list of members, names of leaders (elected by them) (community pays)	July 2024	4-6 weeks	\$200
5	Community membership fee paid (this is important for them to confirm that they have put their "skin in the game") The fee is determined by the project leaders. (community pays)	July 2024	4-6 weeks	TBD
6	Application for Authorization to Drill (community pays)	August 2024	4 weeks	\$200
7	Borehole Drilling - $1^{\rm st}$ vehicles mobilize to the site, drilling begins $(3\mathchar`-5day\ process)$	September, 2024	3-5 days	\$20,000
8	Test Pumping to determine the borehole yield and water quality.	September	2-3 days	Included in 20k above
9	Community Planning and borehole installation design meeting - this happens when the results of the test pumping are known.	October	1 day	\$500
10	Construction of borehole structures - this includes water tank, livestock troughs, latrines, water points, power house, fencing, pipelines.	October	4-8 weeks	\$25,000
11	Installation of the solar powered pump, panels and fence. Make sure the system is working.	November	3-5 days	\$24,000
012	Handing over Ceremony with community members, WILK team, St. Philips team, local leaders. Includes food for all, commemorative sign, transport, press coverage.	TBA, when St. Philip's team is ready	1 day	\$3500
13	Periodic water management committee training, including annual 3-day workshop with all WILK Water Management committees.	After project opens	Periodically	\$1500
14	Ongoing project monitoring by WILK, monthly in the first 4 months, 3 x per year thereafter. (5 year period) total of 18 times @150 each	After project opens	Periodically	\$2700
15	Optional: Tree Planting at the borehole site and school during the St. Philip's team visit	TBA, when St. Philip's team is ready	Handing Over Ceremony time	\$1500

Total Estimated Cost: \$80,600





PRIMER FOR PRESENTATION ABOUT ME CONFLICT

I am not given to making prophetic projections, but there is, unfortunately, a good chance that between this writing (08/12/24) and over two months from now, the Hamas-Israel conflict will have gotten worse. Of course, the worst case scenario is a widening of an already deadly and dreadful situation.

Of all the other wars and rumors of wars, this one has a particular relevance to Christians: A) our Christian population in Palestine/Israel has already decreased to under 1%; and B) this is the "Holy" (?) Land of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Knowing as much as possible about circumstances over there, especially now, mitigates against both bad theology and politics. We will gather for a **Lunch and Learn** on **Sunday**, **October 20th from 11:30 to 1:00 p.m.** to enhance our awareness. Rev. Dave Mueller will speak. Look out for the sign-up information at the end of September.

I love the Olympics. I am writing this just after the Paris Olympics ended and I am already missing it. I loved watching the variety of sports, the stories about people from all over the world, the beautiful venues in Paris. The whole idea of the Olympics is uplifting and even miraculous, that people of all nationalities, races, ethnicities, and religions can gather together in peace for several weeks and allow us to imagine how the world *could* be. The athletes walk in country by country at the opening ceremony, and by the closing ceremony they all walk in together, proud of being Olympians, not just American or Brazilian or Kenyan or Chinese.

Unfortunately, watching the Olympics on television was marred for me by the almost constant political ads, especially the negative ones. The ads that dominated on the evenings I watched the Olympics were about "the border," especially negative ads intended to evoke strong negative emotions – fear and anger – about migrants. The ads use inflammatory, dehumanizing language and imagery to portray migrants as a threat to our safety, jobs, health, and country. Perhaps what is most distressing about these type of ads is how they target people who are among the most powerless and invisible in our society--people who for the most part have no way to fight back, no way to speak up for themselves as human beings worthy of respect. The negative messaging in these ads was particularly jarring in the context of the Olympics.

While contemplating this contrast, words from the New Testament lesson on 8/11 (Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2) jumped out at me as they were being read, "Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear." Paul's letter goes on to say "Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you." As followers of Jesus, we are to "give grace" to those who hear our words, not sow anger, fear, and division. Words matter.

A few online articles and resources about immigration and migrants that I found interesting and informative while writing this reflection:

A wealth of information about refugees and the UN programs to assist them.

The UN Refugee Agency | UNHCR US

A history of immigration and policy in the U.S.:

Article: Immigration Has Been a Defining, Often Co.. | migrationpolicy.org

Myths about immigration: <u>Pervasive Myths About Immigrants | George W. Bush Presidential Center</u> (bushcenter.org) and <u>Five Myths about U.S. Immigration and the American Dream - Princeton University - Department of Economics</u>

Relationship between dehumanization and anti-immigrant extremism in Europe and the U.S.: <u>The</u> <u>Dehumanization of Immigrants and the Rise of the Extreme Right – AGI (americangerman.institute)</u>

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, Judi Parsons, John & Barb Williams, Charles & Ruth Bowles, Lois Hardy, Carol Ruckle, Sharon Smith, Louise James, Ethel Reichley, Helga Kissell, Bob O'Brien, Sherry Thompson, Eleanor Georgiana, Dave Frampton, Amy Papili, Donna Hokanson, Lynn Pouser, Bev Reedy, Elizabeth Stirk, Barbara Stadelberger, Jeff Stirk, Charlie Boss, Debra Gelesh, Richard Braun, Ellen Lenker, Janette Saxton, Phyllis Bolgiano, Rev. Arlene Favreau-Pysher, Allison Hewitt, Anita Sterling, Colby Stirk and Family, Rev. Amy Wright and Family, Mike Berkeimer and Family

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, Christina Ruble & Family, family of Linda Burkum; Emily Ruckle & Tina Davis, family of Carol Ruckle; John & Carly Hoeni, family of Lynn Muller; Beckie McNelly, sister of Bob Gibble & Barb Williams; Lou Cookson, father of Nick Cookson; Beth Cookson, mother of Nick Cookson; 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; David Martin, Diane Balinski, Debra Jennings, & Barney Jennings, family of Donna Hokanson; Molly Wagner, granddaughter of Margaret Wagner; Jermaine & Joslyn Sanders, friends of Nancy Zinnato; Norman Richards & Phyllis Mensinger, family of Mark & Marge Davis; 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; Alistair Black, grandson of Bob & Delores Wardwell; Family of Rosemary Herron, Loved ones of Edna Basilio; Carol Henzy, sister & Bill Molnar, husband of Beth Molnar; Zoe Kenaley, great-granddaughter of Vic Brick; John Lehne, friend of Carol Goodman; Henry Houtmann, grandson & Doris S. & Kathleen K., friends of Anne Hamilton; Frank Kulick, brother of Ruth Bowles; Christopher Longo, son of John & Kim Longo; Lisa Santak, daughter of Marion Santak, Dave and Sharon Potter, Friends of Lila Hall; Michele Levanduski, Family of Paul Gelesh; Taylor Pouser, daughter-in-law of Lynn Pouser; Kristi Barnett, friend of Angela Klemens; Rick Ricciardi, brother of Nancy Warner; Henry Jones, father of Derrick Thompson

September Birthday's

Daniel Mignogna	9/1	Rebecca (Becky) Harrington	9/13
Joe Potts	9/1	Cherry Shellenberger	9/15
Ken Zinnato	9/3	Derek Frisicchio	9/16
Robert Baronio	9/5	Heidi McDonough	9/17
Angela Klemens	9/5	Alexandra Viering	9/20
Ellen Lenker	9/7	James Suddard	9/21
Mike Rosen	9/8	Carol Goodman	9/22
David Kenney	9/8	Kim Bye	9/24
Samuel Cory	9/9	Michael Berkheimer	9/26
Anna Grieder	9/10	Chris Hewlett, Jr.	9/26
Douglas Larson, Jr.	9/10	Shelby Suddard Donnelly	9/27
Jonathan Downes	9/12	Victoria Rice	9/28

May God Bless You on Your Special Day!



Dear St. Philip's,

Thank you for being a blessing to the Hilltop Community. We are truly honored that you continuoysly think of us, and we are prayerful that this gift and seed will return to you one hundred fold.

Brandon Furrowh, Hilltop Lutheran NeighborhoodCenter



Blake, Bonnie and Franklin Anderson welcomed to their family:

Malcom Henry Anderson on May 13, 2024 7 lbs 11 oz.

We are so excited for them and have happily welcomed him into our St. Philip's Family!

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 <u>any way</u>.

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 Administratoremail: stphilipswilmington@gmail.com

Officers:

Gerry Butler, President Amanda DeWeese, Vice President Teri Suddard, Treasurer Liz Freburger, Secretary Mike Berkheimer, Financial Secretary

Council:

Coleman Bye Carol Johnson David Kenney Mary Kay LaRue John Longo

> ** Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall Between Services Sunday Morning Schedule 9:15 a.m. Small Groups, 8:00 a.m. Worship Service In Sanctuary 10:30 a.m. Worship Service In Sanctuary Christian Ed for All Ages

Council (continues):

Debbi Miller **Dave Porter** Mike Rosen Jim Stevens **Committees/Activities:** Altar Guild.....

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

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

Louise James

Address Service Requestea

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

Phone: (302) 239-2100

Website: www.stphilips.us