

The Epistle



St. Philip Lutheran Church
April 2019

Pastor's Message

Dear Friends in Christ,

Imagine sitting in church on Easter Sunday and someone says "He is Risen!" Someone replies from somewhere in the sanctuary, "Say what?" Do you think that could perhaps be a little disturbing way to start Easter. How about you share the peace of the Lord with "Peace be with you" and the person responds with, "Why?" Responses to what is said can be surprising. Sometimes when we don't hear what we expect to hear we can be pretty surprised too. The power of words is really amazing. Then there is the power of God's words.

Take God's words in Genesis 1, "Let there be light, and there was light". Now that is using words with power. God just says it and it is so! That is the way it goes through the whole creation story in Genesis 1. God's word creates not just light but a dome, separate places for water and earth, plants, lights in the sky to tell time and seasons, living creatures and human beings.

With JUST HIS WORDS God has the power to create. If we have God's word don't we then have the power to create too? Maybe it is not just the words. Maybe it about how we use them, for what purpose. Could it also require some practice, training, or understanding. It may be dependent on the intent with which God's word is used.

Especially as we enter into last weeks of Lent and our reflections on The Lord's Prayer and how we pray, enter Holy Week and then Easter—words are more and more significant. The words we use and the words we remember, take on a power not so different from Genesis 1. These words of Christ have power to forgive, reconcile, share His Life and His Spirit and bring us to new life in the resurrection. It is in the words that we are "called", renewed, and reconciled to God the Father and directed into lives of faith.

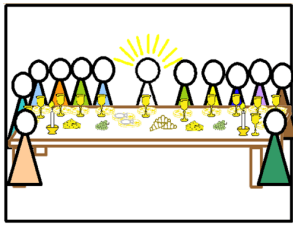
Given these wonderful gifts and power, let's make sure we hear the word to the core of our soul, know the word in our heads **and** hearts, consume the word and make it a part of us. Then see what God can create through us.

SHALOM Pastor Jim

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Lent 2019



Join Us for a Lenten Meal and A Look at Prayer

Wednesdays - 6:30-7:30 through - April 10

As we approach Holy Week we will break bread together and look at one of the gifts God gave us in the form of prayer.

We began focusing on prayer during our *I Love St. Philip* stewardship campaign in the fall, when we prayed very intentionally each week for shared purposes and, finally, took the name of a congregant with the intention to pray for them throughout the year. During lent let's recommit ourselves to prayer and study together the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray, the Lord's Prayer.

Ministries throughout our congregation will host each week providing our meal as well as set up and clean up. Just bring yourself and your stories! This will provide another great way for us to listen to each other and learn more about ourselves.

All are welcome!!!

Holy Week

The Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week and is unique in our liturgical cycle. The liturgy begins outside as we gather with palm branches and hear the account of Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem. Once inside, the liturgy makes a dramatic shift as we turn to the reading of the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Within this liturgy, the joy of Palm Sunday quickly moves to the sadness of what happens to Jesus after the welcome parade is over.

These shifts in mood remind us of the dramatic events that occurred between that triumphal entry and the death of Jesus on the cross.

We humbly and reverently move through this liturgy giving thanks that Jesus Christ is God for us and acknowledging that his death is the reality that gives us salvation. Together we proclaim "Hosanna!" Save us, Lord.

On **Maundy Thursday** we gather at Noon and at 7 PM. This liturgy includes four different emphases. First, we begin the service with confession. We end what we started on Ash Wednesday with what was absent then: a clear and personal statement of the gospel: "In obedience to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins."

The second emphasis is the New Commandment, that we love one another as he has loved us. It is from that commandment that this day receives its title. We will embody the command to love one another, as Jesus loves us.

The third emphasis is Jesus' gift of himself in the bread and cup and his commanding this as the way to remember him, the crucified and risen one. Finally, there is the foreshadowing of Good Friday with the stripping of the altar and leaving in silence at the end of the service.

When we return on **Good Friday** at Noon and at 8 PM it is to hear the passion according to John, sing the traditional hymns associated with the crucifixion, and to offer prayers for people in all conditions of life. The services focus on the contemplation and adoration of the cross, a means of death becomes the means of life and salvation.

At 8:00 we will have a Service of Tenebrae—the service of darkness is characterized by gradual extinguishing of candles, and by a strepitus (loud noise), taking place in total darkness representing the closing of Christ's tomb.

We will leave this service in silence.

Easter Sunday. Every Sunday is a celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord because "on this day" as the Eucharistic Prayer of Thanksgiving states, Christ rose from the dead.

We gather on this day, like we do on all other Sundays, to give thanks to God for the salvation that God has prepared for us through the death and resurrection of Jesus. Empowered by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God proclaimed, the waters of baptism that makes us new creations, and the meal of Christ's body and blood, we are strengthened and sent out to bear Christ's redeeming love to the world.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!



Do you have hidden talents that you've always wanted to share?

Do you love an audience? Are you waiting to be discovered?

All excellent reasons to enter the youth-hosted

TALENT SHOW on **Wednesday, April 24th!**

We'll start with a meal at 6:30 with the big show beginning at 7:00!

We're looking for entries that may be performed in Kepley Hall and are about 5 minutes or less long.

Please contact Cathryn if you are interested!!! cathryn@st-philip.org

We will be graciously accepting free will donations
to be used within youth ministry over the course of the coming year!

We thank you in advance for your support!!!



Continuing to Pray for Each Other



Note from Pastor Elizabeth

I would like to express my deep gratitude for all the thoughts and prayers lifted for me during my sinus surgery and recovery. I felt your presence and support with me, and I'm finally able to breathe! The doctor even commented that I had "some seriously messed up sinuses", but recovery is going well. Thank you again for your prayers and support.

Message from Pastor Elizabeth, Director of C.M.S.M. (Children & Middle School Ministries)

Lenten Dinner and Discussion for Families

Children are invited to participate fully in our Wednesday dinner conversations during Lent. Activities and discussion will be provided that they will also be able to enjoy.

Agapé Day Camp at Grace June 24-28

Day Camp is for children who are RISING 1-8 graders. Registration is \$95 per camper and includes a t-shirt!

We will encounter daily Bible studies, nature activities, puppets, songs, crafts, games, group challenge activities, and FUN! Each day begins at 9:00 a.m. and concludes around 3:00.

Registration forms available from Pastor Elizabeth and outside the gathering office.

Palm Sunday Easter Egg Hunt and Social

St Philip Children's ministry will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt and social at 10:00am on Palm Sunday. Please invite your neighbors and friends for this festive celebration of Jesus' love for us.

We will, again, hide empty eggs that will be redeemed for goody bags following the hunt.

HOW YOU CAN HELP: small (non-food) prizes for participant goody bags, help assembling the goody bags, help assembling the resurrection eggs take-home kit, individually wrapped candy for the reception

If you would like to participate with any of these opportunities, please contact Pastor Elizabeth.



Preschool Vacation Bible School

July 7–11 9:30–11:30 am

I Love God's World

For children who turned 2 by October 15, 2018 through rising kindergartners. All children must be potty trained.

Registration forms are available outside the Gathering Room.

Are you interested in being a part of the Children's Sunday school teaching team? With our teaching team in place, you have the opportunity to teach and to be a part of your own Sunday school hour opportunities. Sunday school curriculum is provided for the class that meets the needs of the various ages present in our classroom. Contact [Pastor Elizabeth](#) for more information!!

Children's Ministry social activities!! Would you like to go to the park together? Or go roller skating? Would you like to attend a Saturday Safari at Camp Agape? Let's make it happen!! Contact [Pastor Elizabeth](#) to host and plan fun activities for our church families.



Agapé Day Camp

- Who:** Rising 1-8 graders
- Where:** Grace Lutheran
- When:** June 24–28
9:00 am–3:00 pm
- Why:** To learn about creation, God, themselves.
To enjoy the company of other young folks.
To have fun singing, dancing, crafting, playing, serving...

**Contact Pastor Elizabeth
for more information!**

PastorElizabeth@st-philip.org

2019 Youth Mission Week June 16-21



We're headed to Philadelphia!!!

Philadelphia is a city full of history and character. There are many opportunities to serve the needy in the City of Brotherly Love, especially in the areas of immigration reform and working for an end to poverty.

The city is full of non-profit organizations advocating and working for social justice that could really use our help. Also, no trip to Philadelphia is complete without a visit to Fairmount Park and the Liberty Bell!

June 16-21

Deposit - \$100

TOTAL COST - \$400

Where will we stay while serving?

We will have housing at an ELCA congregation in the community in which we work. 10% of our registration fees are gifted to the host congregations for their ongoing mission in the community. At most of our sites this means that you will be sleeping on the floor, so be sure to bring an air mattress!

What does a typical day look like?

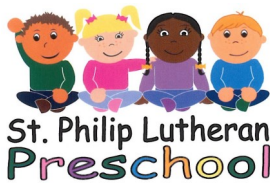
A typical day begins breakfast and devotions by 9am, followed by serving at a worksite until around 3pm. The late afternoon and early evening have time scheduled for showers, free time, dinner and a variety of evening events. The day concludes with worship, a time for church groups to check-in, and a little more free time before lights out. Sleep fast after a full, fun and meaningful day!

Do we get to do anything fun?

Yes! Besides the awesomely fun days of service, we will have free time in the afternoon and events are planned for each evening. These events take advantage of some of the cultural attractions in the community we are serving, as well as simply providing opportunity to be social and get to know and spend time with old and new friends alike.

Please let Cathryn know of intent and get a \$100 deposit to her ASAP!!

St. Philip Lutheran Preschool News



Our classes will enjoy celebrating Easter with an Easter egg hunt, party and learning the true meaning of Easter from God's Word! We are thankful that Jesus gave us life!! April is filled with Spring Break, Spring Art Show and our Spring pictures!!

Everyone is welcomed to visit our Spring Art Show on Thursday, April 11 and Friday, April 12 at 11:00am in Luther Hall. There will be many "masterpieces" on display!!

Our registration for the 2019-2020 school year is ongoing. Several of our classes are full but if you are interested in attending next year or know someone who is, please contact us at 919-870-5841 or Leigh Anne Barham at 919-818-9585. Please feel free to stop by and visit with us!! We love to "show off" our wonderful school!!

Thanks for opening your doors to us and for all your love and support throughout the year!!

Saints and Sinners

We will meet on April 9th at 11:30 am for lunch and fellowship. After lunch we will have an interesting program presented by a representative from AARP. Please RSVP to reserve your place for lunch by calling Carole Mason at 919-872-1518 by 3/10/19. Lunch is \$7.00.



Men's Pub Ministry

Watch the Friday eNews for details about our next get together in April.

Men's Pub Ministry is an opportunity for men in the congregation to meet and socialize once a month. We select places where we can talk and have a beer or other beverage and, perhaps, a meal.

All men are welcome, hope to see you there!

Questions?

Contact Mark Glass at
mark.glass@gmail.com



Puzzle Get Together

Tuesday, April 23rd at 10:00

Come, relax, and have fun completing a puzzle.

Questions? Contact Claire Muller at 919- 752-6541 or claire6078@att.net
Hope to see you there!

Men's Breakfast Club

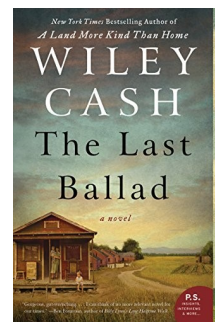
Will meet on April 16th at 9:30 at **iHop** at Six Forks & Sawmill

Come and enjoy good food and fellowship—there's room for you at the table! Questions? Contact Frank Bouknight 919-302-1812 or bouknightf@yahoo.com



Senior Adult Book Club

Join us on April 23 at 10:00 in the parlor to discuss *The Last Ballad* by Wiley Cash. Set in the Appalachian foothills of North Carolina in 1929 and inspired by actual events. The chronicle of an ordinary woman's struggle for dignity and her rights in a textile mill. This book is available at the Wake County Library. Everyone is invited to join the group, bring book suggestions with you! Contact [Kathryn Edwards](#) or [Carol Williamson](#) with questions.



Senior Ministry Committee Meeting

Wednesday, April 3rd at 10:00 am
in the Music room.

We will be discussing our senior adult ministry needs and planning activities

New ideas are welcome.

You do not need to be a member of the committee to attend. All are welcome.

Ladies Lunch

Will be held on Thursday, April 4 at
Ruby Tuesday

6201 Capital Blvd. Lunch begins at noon.

Please make your reservation with Claire Muller, 919-752-6541 or claire6078@att.net.

Hope to see you there!



Women's Fellowship Group

St. Philip women meet on the 4th Tuesday evening of the month at a local restaurant for good food and fellowship.

Our next meeting will be on April 23rd at 6:30 pm, at **Poppyseed Market, 8801 Lead Mine Rd.** All women are invited!

Questions? Contact Carol Rogers at
parakayaker@gmail.com





**FAMILIES
TOGETHER**
a PLM organization

Our plans include:

Creating a new Bridge Housing program enabling families living in motels to move in a FT unit where they'll stay rent-free, save income, and move into an apartment under their own lease.

Solidifying a new partnership with Habitat for Humanity aimed at creating an innovative incubator that will move families from homelessness to home ownership.

Diverting families from entering the existing shelter system altogether by moving them directly from motels into permanent housing.

A new matching grant makes this a great time to give. Visit our website and see how you can have twice the impact on the life of a local child.

White Elephant Drive

For the month of March we are asking for donations of like new and new household items. Items like,

sheet sets and blankets, pots and pans, towels, dish sets, small appliances and air mattresses. All of these items can be crucial needs that families just can't afford when they sign their new lease. By donating these items, you are helping to make "home" a little more comfortable for a family in our community.

Volunteer News

The Families Together Volunteer Team has been working hard developing a new skills-based volunteer program! We are looking for community members that want a regular long-term assignment that supports our mission to end family homelessness. Currently we are recruiting volunteers for Administration, Children's Enrichment, Family Workshop Facilitation and Pantry Facilitation.

All volunteers must complete our Volunteer Orientation. The next orientation is April 13th. Please contact Meghan Olesen with any volunteer-related questions. Meghan@FamiliesTogetherNC.org

Please visit our website FamiliesTogetherNC.org, or reach u s by mail at Families Together, P.O. Box 14395, Raleigh, NC 27620 to learn more. Questions? Email Jennifer@FamiliesTogetherNC.org or 919-212-1123 ext. 231.

We are sincerely grateful for any support you can provide at this critical time if you haven't already.

Brown Bag Ministry



BBM meets every month on the 2nd & 4th Saturday morning at 10:00 in Luther Hall to prepare and deliver lunches to neighbors at Cedar Point.

- ◆ This is a great opportunity to serve for the whole family!
- ◆ We need your hands to help make and distribute the lunches.
- ◆ Food donations are usually needed to round out what food comes from the NC Food Pantry, watch your email for donation needs.

Brown Bag Ministry

- ◆ Questions? Email Stacey Bell at raleighbells@yahoo.com



DIAPER BANK
of North Carolina

St. Philip gives baby diapers every month through our partnership with The Diaper Bank. Contact Stacey Bell for information on how you can contribute.

Raleighbells@yahoo.com



Pray, fast and give during ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving – for the good of our families, our neighbors and communities around the world.

This Lent, you're invited to join together with fellow members and supporters of ELCA World Hunger to study, reflect and give during ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving. Experience how the grace of Christ moves us to engage in transformative works of love around the world as God calls us into the ministry of hope, liberation and restoration for our world. Visit the [ELCA website](#) for more information.

NC Synod Congregation in Focus

Christus Victor Lutheran Church

Christus Victor started a new worship schedule last September. We expanded from 1 worship service in the Sanctuary with both a choir and a small band, to 2 very different worship experiences and the same Jesus. Now at 8:30 AM, there is a band-led worship service in Fellowship Hall with the bulletin on a screen and moveable chairs. At 10:30 AM, there is a choir-led worship service in the Sanctuary with paper bulletins, hymnals, and pews. Amazingly, the worship attendance is almost equal. Please pray for us as we miss the unity of worshipping together every Sunday. As both services have grown since September, we are working to find ways to be church together (and get to know each other) outside of worship too.

Christus Victor has been working for months on discerning a new mission statement that will have a large amount of community buy-in. We have met 5 times since October as an entire congregation to work on the mission statement. This work is rooted in 3 things: prayer, Bible Study, and discussion (because we know God speaks through us today too).

Four concepts have risen to the surface that we are wrestling with: Acceptance, Give Comfort, Fearless, and Trust. Pray that we not only discover God's mission for us, but that we live it out in powerful ways.



CVLC 2019 Council at Camp Agape for a council retreat.



Music Camp 2018. Pictured is Stephanie Burke liturgically painting during the worship service on Music Camp Sunday, where the participants also gave a concert.

Abundance Ministry



Due to several factors, but especially the decline in new arrivals in the Raleigh area, Abundance Ministry will no longer operate as it has been.

Many families still need laptops to continue education, increase technical skills, and search for jobs. If you have a laptop you are not using in your household, but are not sure how to 'wipe it' and reinstall the operating system, our very own Jason Smith is a pro and will be happy to do that for you! Contact Stacy Bell for information at raleighbells@yahoo.com.



Join us on **April 28th**
at either service as we
celebrate our newest retirees &
bless all retirees

Milestone Blessings



Graduate Blessing

Sunday, May 19 at
both services

Men's Softball

Men's Softball will be starting in April 2019. We need new recruits. If you are interested in participating, please contact Mike Davis @ mdavis6364@gmail.com or 321-356-6673.

We need a cheering section too! Come on out for some fun & support the guys!

April Game Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Away</u>	<u>Home</u>	<u>Location</u>
4/16	St. Philip	Asbury	Bay Leaf
4/23	St. Philip	N. Raleigh Presbyterian	Bay Leaf
5/3	New Bethel	St. Philip	Bay Leaf



Send a Card Sunday

April 7th — Before & after both services.

Nurture each other by sending a card or a note of hope and of gratitude. Send God's Light into the world with a card.

We have the cards, postage and will deliver to the Post Office.

Send a card to

♥ a member

♥ friend

♥ military person

♥ a neighbor



Wednesdays in Lent

6:30 pm

Join in the meal & conversation
about prayer

OUR FATHER,
WHO ART IN
heaven

Planting Hope Sunday School



Generation Name	Birth Years	Ages*
Pre-Boomers	1925-45	74-94
Baby Boomers	1946-64	55-73
Generation X (Baby Bust)	1965-79	40-54
Xennials	1975-85	34-44
Millenials (Gen Y, Gen Next)	1980-94	25-39
iGen / Gen Z	1995-2012	7-24
* 2019		

Stories of the Generations

During Sunday school (10:10-10:50) in Kepley Hall, we have so far offered the gift of listening to panels of St. Philip folks from Generation Z and Pre-Baby Boomer/Older Baby Boomers. It has been enlightening hearing the stories these generations have shared. Following each panel discussion we engaged in small group discussion around what we have learned about and from each generational panel, and how we might be able to better serve and pray for each.

Gen Z Panel / Youth - Major Themes:

- Hang out time includes video gaming, talking,
- watching Netflix, communicating through texting or social media
- Texting and social media open room for connections across the world
- Education needed to achieve career goals often passes undergraduate degrees requiring masters degrees and a good deal of experiential learning through service hours or internships, etc.
- Their fears have a common theme of school shootings: Schools have overreacted and now students feel overprotected which exacerbates fear
- Most are self taught. New information comes rapidly so they rely on Google, YouTube
- Passionate about social justice
- They are comfortable talking about their faith but respect views of others
- They are engaged with faith-based programs: Youth Group, LYO, TEC
- Try to live out faith through behavior, attempting to show God's love to the world
- They desire to influence society and make a difference. Their key word: action
- Teens are over scheduled and sleep deprived.

- ◇ Developmentally, teens need 9-9.5 hours of sleep. Sleep supports their developing brain, as well as physical growth spurts and hormone changes.
- ◇ In order to prepare a successful resume for college entrance HS kids are focused on having plenty of service, leadership, and extra curricular activities (varying in type). They also apply themselves to the most vigorous class load they can manage including many taking AP (college level) classes.
- ◇ Here's some math for a hypothetical student: 30 min to get ready and have breakfast+ 6.5 hours in class + 1 hour travel (30 min there/ 30 min back, traffic) + 2.5 hours for after school activities + 1 hour for dinner/down time (+ 3.5 hours of homework + 9 hours of sleep = 0 remaining minutes.)
- ◇ Shorter Attention Span....Or Not?
- ◇ Because so much information is being thrown at young people at such an alarming pace, they needed to find a way to manage without missing out. The 8 second filter allows Gen Zs to see as much information as possible and, if in 8 seconds it does not pique their interest, they move on to the next piece.
- ◇ Today's teens have always lived in a world where terrorism and war are a constant and news is *constantly* available.

Pre-Baby Boomers/Older Boomers - Major Themes:

- Growing Up: Many on farm with hard work and little time for play at an early age. World War II changed the family dynamic. Responsibility assumed at very young ages.

- Toys: Simple-dolls, pocket knife, tool kit, the great outdoors.
- Hanging Out: Youth got together with a sense of purpose (church, school, clubs) not for social reasons (chores not play).
- Communication: All communication done face to face (ring the doorbell). Few had telephones and for those who did it was for adult use only. Best communication was by letters, especially to soldiers.
- Holiday Traditions: Christmas, usually only one gift per family member. Went to church service. Few traditions during WWII.
- Wanted To Be: Engineer, Pilot, Math/Science, Lawyer, Pharmacist
 - ◊ Lawyer: Father said he would send his daughter to college to become a Lutheran School Teacher or Nurse only
 - ◊ Pharmacist: became pharmacy tech through an apprenticeship that led to schooling to become a translator for a pharmaceutical company.
 - ◊ Engineer: Undergraduate degree earned all at once or in spurts as money allowed. Had to seek further math education from the principal of the high school since only simple math was taught.
- Global Event: WWII and Vietnam War, Draft, Civil Rights
 - ◊ WWII made everyone "have to grow up" and had to be "dependable" and "useful"
 - ◊ WWII kicked off a technology explosion that we still build upon today
 - ◊ During WWII, living in Germany as Christian, there was tremendous impact of brainwashing of citizens as the master race that lasts until today in its impact.
 - ◊ Dealing with the draft for Vietnam leaves emotional impact still
 - ◊ Observing the civil rights movement from a place of limited diversity was impactful.
- Toughest Issues of Today: Personal health (especially mental health), poverty and making resources last, climate change for our children and grandchildren
- Who Passed Faith To You: Mom, Dad, Grandmother, Wife
- Try to live out their faith showing Jesus to the world. "They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love"
- The pre-baby boomers and baby boomers have witnessed WW2, Korean War, Great Depression, New Deal, Rise on Corporations, Space Age, Civil Rights, Vietnam War, Sexual Revolution, Cold War/Russia, Space Travel, Watergate, Energy Crisis, Corporate Downsizing, End of Cold War, 911, the War on Terror...
- The pre-baby boomers and baby boomers have seen incredible change in technology as well. Some include: electricity, phones, tv, records streaming music, computers, internet, cell phones, car technologies, ATM machines and credit cards, and so so much more!
- Pre-baby boomers and older baby boomers were often raised in a time of economic uncertainty and a lack of modern luxuries

Haven't been to a panel discussion yet?

We cannot encourage you enough to join in and learn more about your St. Philip community!

Here's what's ahead:

- April 7th:** Millennials and Younger Gen X
- April 14th:** Small Group Discussion
- April 21st:** Easter Sunday, No Sunday school
- April 28th:** Older Gen X and Younger Boomers
- May 5th:** Small Group Discussion

St. Philip Youth Ministry Leaving Footprints

Message from Cathryn Hewett Director of High School Ministries

Have you ever found yourself wondering why there is a picture of a dozen youth enjoying a meal in the basement or a picture of our group from LYO Assembly with 20 youth and yet there are only 2-3 present on a Sunday morning? Of course, part of that is due to folks being able to attend some weekends and not others. But there's more to it.

St. Philip youth ministry includes approximately 22 high school and 10 middle school youth members. Of those youth about 23 are active in some way whether that be youth group, worship, bells, Crossing band, and more, or a combination of these. That means that approximately 72% of our youth members are active at St. Philip. This is actually quite wonderful!

The footprint of the youth ministry of St. Philip extends beyond our members to those of Grace Lutheran. We have been combining for youth group for about 4 years. We offered to share youth group with Grace once learning that there weren't enough high school youth to maintain a youth group on their own. We have created a family that includes us all.

The footprint of St. Philip youth ministry stretches even further through our involvement at the synodical level. We boast 2 youth on the LYO board, 1 youth participant in the synod band, and the majority of the high school youth are active in TEC. Through these experiences, we have gained many friends throughout the synod. As a result, when we attend synod retreats, national gathering, and the like, it's like a reunion with other members of our faith family.

Through these acquaintances and friendships, we hear from youth whose churches may not be active at the synodical level, don't have access to mission trip opportunities, or even a regularly meeting youth group. Well, of course, St. Philip youth ministry adopts them!

St. Philip youth ministry has become a place for everyone. Yes, it includes the youth who are members of St. Philip. And yes, it also includes many more from other congregations and walks of life. By creating an inclusive, grace filled environment, we have developed a diverse group of youth to serve and journey through faith alongside leaving a footprint that reaches far outside the walls of St. Philip!



Congregation Council Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"The youth are the future of our church." I've heard people say that many times over the years and my response was usually something along the lines of "Someone else's church, not ours. The kids grow up, go to college, get married and move away. So how does that help us?"

Recently I was having a conversation with a friend who lives in Nashville, TN. He's a member of one of the fastest growing churches in Nashville. They might be classified as a mega church. We got to talking about how they got so large. His comment was they made it a mission to attract the youth. He said, "if the kids come, the parents will follow." He went on to say that many parents want to get their kids in church but with all the outside activities, it's hard for the parents to force the kids to go to church. But, if it becomes the kid's idea, it's easy. So, this church built a gymnasium, had athletic programs for the kids.

They held a bunch of other activities and really focused on the kids. And sure enough, the parents followed. Over the years, kids have graduated and left but many of the parents have stayed in their congregational home.

I was talking with a member of St. Philip and sharing this story and I was told that their congregation in Florida made it their mission to attract and prepare youth for carrying the message to the world once they left their church. Again, kids would stay 3, 4 or 5 years, graduate and leave, but they had instilled in the kids a sense of ministry and who's they were and carried it out to the world.

As I look around, Ravenscroft School is across the street. Millbrook schools are just down the road. The elementary school at the corner of Harps Mill and Falls of Neuse is being rebuilt and will be huge. There is Durant Elementary and Middle Schools. We have 80 children in our preschool and few if any parents are members of St. Philip. There's a lot of kids all around us and I'm sure they aren't all involved in church.

We have a lot of ministries at St. Philip. Look around. There are a lot of us who have grey hair. I know many, if not most of us, love to see and hear the kids around the church and miss the days when there were more. We don't need to cut back on the ministries that are serving those of us with grey hair, but let's think about how we can enhance and maybe add to those that do serve and attract the youth. If successful, we'll have to get their parents involved. Let's make more of an effort to talk to and include the youth. There's a neat program that has gotten started on Wednesday evenings. Talk with Kathryn Edwards about sharing a meal with the youth and spending some time with them. It helps them to know us and us to know them better. It all goes to build our family.

There's a growing energy among this congregation. I'm hopeful and excited about what this year is going to bring.

God Loves You and So Do I,

Don Helmey
Council President

Message from the Property Team

We want to ensure that all members are aware of how much maintenance is required and how much activity actually goes on behind the scenes at St. Philip and to give members ideas of where they can help in our efforts to maintain our wonderful facilities.

Recent accomplishments:

- ⇒ Installed replacement light tubes in both buildings
- ⇒ Monitored water leak & temperature sensors were installed in the main building from Church Mutual Insurance Company
- ⇒ Property Work Day—March 30th
- ⇒ Water back-flow preventer system inspected and found fully functional.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 10:00 am Senior Adult Ministry 10:00 am Staff 6:30 pm Lenten Dinner & Learning 7:30 Youth Group 7:30 Voices of Praise	4 12:00 pm Ladies Lunch 6:30 pm Crossing Rehearsal	5 10:00 am Al-Anon 7:00 pm AA	6 7:00 pm AA
7 9:00 am Crossing Contemporary Service 10:00 am Stories of the Generations 10:10 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service 1:00 pm Restoration Ministry Worship 4:00 pm Stephen Ministry 5:00 pm Handbells 6:30 pm Nurturing Relationships 6:30 pm Worship & Music	8	9 11:30 am Saints & Sinners 6:30 pm Nurture Relationships Table 7:00 pm Preschool Board	10 9:30 am Quilting 10:00 am Staff 6:30 pm Lenten Dinner & Learning 7:30 Youth Group 7:30 Voices of Praise 7:00 pm Finance & Responding	11 6:30 pm Crossing Rehearsal	12 10:00 am Al-Anon 7:00 pm AA	13 10:00 am Brown Bag Ministry 7:00 pm AA
14 Palm/Passion Sunday 9:00 am Crossing Contemporary Service 10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt & Social 10:10 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service 1:00 pm Restoration 5:00 pm Handbells	15	16 9:30 am Men's Breakfast 6:30 pm Men's Softball Game at Bay Leaf Baptist	17 10:00 am Staff 7:30 Voices of Praise 7:30 Youth Group	18 Maundy Thursday 12 noon Maundy Thursday Worship 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship	19 Good Friday 10:00 am Al-Anon 12 noon Good Friday Worship 8:00 pm Tenebrae Worship Service 7:00 pm AA	20 7:00 pm AA
21 Easter Sunday 9:00 am Crossing Contemporary Service 10:10 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Service 1:00 pm Restoration Ministry Worship	22	23 10:00 am Puzzle Get together 6:30 pm Women's Fellowship 6:30 pm Men's Pub Ministry 6:30 pm Men's Softball Game at Bay Leaf Baptist	24 9:30 am Quilting 10:00 am Staff 6:30 pm Columbarium 6:30 pm Dinner & Talent Show	25 6:30 pm Crossing Rehearsal	26 10:00 am Al-Anon 7:00 pm AA	27 10:00 am Brown Bag Ministry 7:00 pm AA
28 9:00 am Crossing Contemporary Service 10:00 am Stories of the Generations 10:10 am Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional 1:00 pm Restoration 4:00 pm Stephen Ministry 5:00 pm Handbells 6:30 pm Congregation Council	29	30				



Easter Lilies

If you would like to place a lily in the Church Sanctuary to decorate for the Easter season, complete this form and place it in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office. Check payable to "St. Philip Lutheran Church" for \$12.50 and note "Easter Lilies" in the memo line. If you would like to donate to the large palms please indicated below.

The deadline is Palm/Passion Sunday, March 14th

Number of Lilies _____ Total \$ _____

Large Palm Donation Total \$ _____

Given in Honor of _____

Given in Memory
of _____

By _____

Phone _____

*Please print clearly the name (s) will be
in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.*

St. Philip Lutheran Church

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Office Hours:
Mon-Fri
9:00 – 4:00

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Organist/Pianist

Dr. Jay Pierson
Choir Director

Jane Gue
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Y'Sang Milo
Custodian

Do you know about St. Philip's Flamingos?

