

The Epistle

ST. PHILIP LUTHERAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 2022



Pastor's Message

Happy Fall! It's a relief to finally have the sweltering heat of the summer break and to welcome the cooler temperatures of autumn.

These are heady times at St. Philip as of late. We have had many repeat visitors in both worship services, people who don't have a connection to a family member, friend, or acquaintance here. And they're continuing to come. We are looking at holding another New Member's Class in November, and we already have around nine people showing interest. Our Pub Ministry is only two weeks into a service project to assist the North Raleigh Ministries (NRM) Food Bank – which will last through the end of October – and we have already received over \$2,100 in financial donations, as well as many non-perishable food items (the first week, we received just shy of \$300; and the next week, we quintupled that amount, to over \$1,500). Kai Thurow will soon have been here one month, and he is already bringing fresh vision and helpful ideas to our ministry. We have had several babies and children in worship lately. It looks like we may have a teenager, Topher Ware, joining our Crossing praise band.

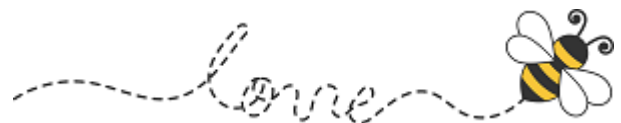
Now...how to respond? October is always our Stewardship month here at St. Philip. And stewardship is in large measure our response to God's goodness and blessings to us.

Our mission statement at St. Philip is "Sharing the Love of Christ," and our Stewardship theme this year is "What Can I BEE doing?" We just had our kickoff with Wayland Smedley portraying a sunflower, Shelley Bower portraying "Busy Bee," and several of our kids portraying bees (thank you to all of them for a compelling presentation).

All bees work together for the good of the hive and nature. Think of the "hive" as St. Philip and "nature" as the world. We will soon begin weekly Temple Talks on the subjects "Bee loving...grateful...generous...joyful...and faithful." You and I are individual bees which serve a wonderful hive in God's world. Everything we do is a response to God's grace and abundance.

Won't you join me, please, in prayerfully considering how you will respond to all that God has done for you – and us – when filling out your pledge card on Sunday, October 23rd at our annual Commitment Sunday? Please pray about how you can contribute of your time, talents, and financial treasures to our ministry here at St. Philip. We will BEE eternally grateful.

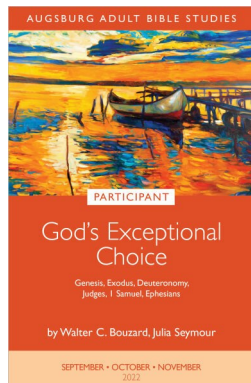
Yours in Christ,
Pastor Tim



Augsburg Sunday School Class

Sunday mornings, at 10:00 in the Music Room.
The class will use the Bible study guide, *God's Exceptional Choice*.

This class is an opportunity to deepen and share your faith with your brothers and sisters in Christ here at St. Philip. Class facilitation is rotated among the members and meets in the Music Room. All are welcome!



OCTOBER 30, 2021

One United Worship Service
10:00 am


Don't forget to wear RED!



**Congregation
Meeting for
Council Nominations**

October 9th

Following both services
in person, via Zoom
after the 11:00.



**ELECTION
Sunday**

October 30th
vote
9:30—11:30

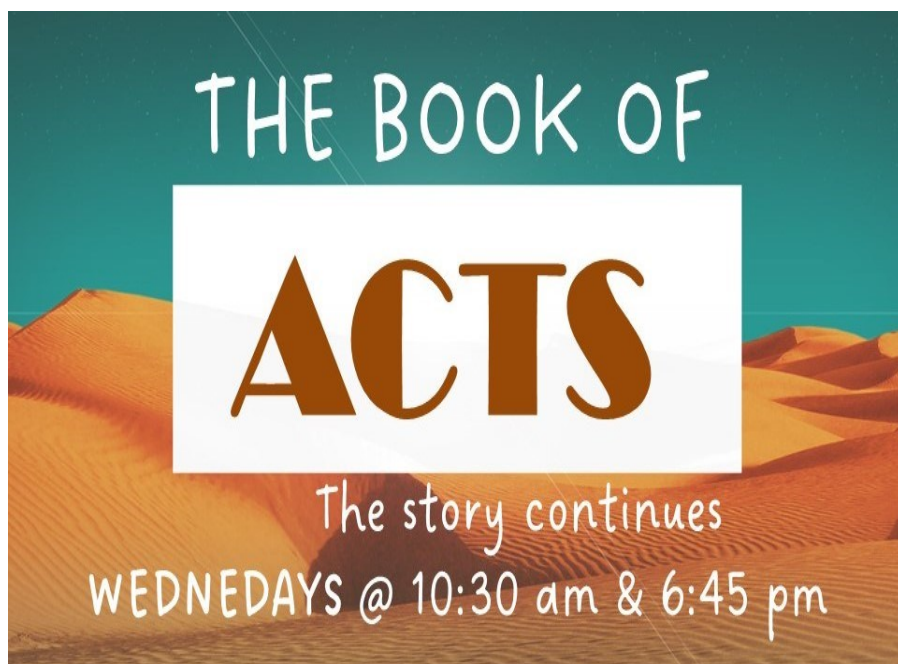
Pastor's Bible Study

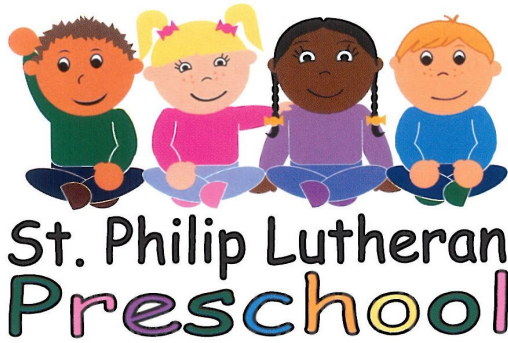
Everyone is welcomed to join Pastor Tim's study of the early Church with the book of Acts telling the story.

On Wednesdays at 10:30 and 6:45 in the Music Room, the group will pick up with chapter 14, where we left off this past May, (but if you didn't attend the study last year, that's okay join us anyway!).

We will meet in person in the Music Room and will utilize Zoom for those who may not be able to attend. Details available from the church office—919-846-2992 or church@st-philip.org

Wednesdays 10:30 am & 6:45 pm





St. Philip Lutheran Preschool is off to a great start with 75 children enrolled!

October is an exciting and fun-filled month as we talk about Fall and harvest time! A field trip for the 4 and 5 year old classes to the State Farmer's Market is coming up soon!! We will buy apples and pumpkins that everyone will enjoy!

Also, the preschool honors our fantastic DADS when we have Donuts for Dads later in the month. The dads will visit their child's classroom, have a donut and enjoy being in a classroom setting with their little one!

There will also be a time for our families to purchase high quality books at an Usborne Book Fair on October 11 and 12.

The end of October brings lots of fun as the children dress up in their Halloween costumes, not too scary though... and have a fun, Fall party. If you ever want to be filled with JOY, then visit our wonderful preschool!

Please visit st-philip.org/preschool for more information about the program and the registration form.

Last month....

We welcomed Kai Thurow & his family to St. Philip. Kai was installed as our Outreach & Youth Ministry Coordinator!



October 11th at 11:30 - Plan on getting together again!

A special meal & program by Ed Peterson is being planned for our gathering together again—that we know everyone will enjoy!

Fellowship, Food, and Fun!

Please RSVP to Carole Mason by Friday, 10/7 @ 919-210-0727

\$7.00 lunch donation would be appreciated

Have you thought of some programs you'd like to see come to a Saints and Sinners luncheon?

Let Frank know at 919-302-1812 or bouknightf@yahoo.com

Messages from Kai

Kingdom Kids (grades K-5)

Kingdom Kids is our Children's Ministry at St. Philip. Kingdom Kids is relational, formative, and fun!

At St. Philip, we have a strong commitment to:

- ★ the growth of each child's spiritual development
- ★ child safety during all activities and events
- ★ a welcoming atmosphere
- ★ most of all, having fun learning about God and building friendships with one another.



Connect with Kingdom Kids

Monthly Kingdom Kids

Kingdom Kids get together for a fun event once a month onsite at St. Philip, or possibly for an outing in the community. Our times together are often split into 20-minute segments and might look like this: - Opening/Welcoming Games (20 minutes) - Discovery Time (20 minutes) - More Games or Service Project (20 minutes)

Kingdom Kids (K-5) Fall 2022 Schedule

Oct. 16 – Kingdom Kids (Kindergarten-grade 5)	4-5pm
Oct. 29 – Trunk-or-Treat (all ages)	3pm
Nov. 13 – Kingdom Kids (Kindergarten-grade 5)	4-5pm
Dec. 11 – Interactive Christmas Theater & Dinner (congregational event for all ages)	4:30pm
Dec. 24 – Family Christmas Eve Worship Service	4pm

Worship

We encourage our Kingdom Kids to be involved in every aspect of our worship services. They can serve in volunteer roles, help lead the service, or participate as best they can in the pews or at home virtually. They are welcome wiggles, giggles, and all!

Questions? You can contact Kai Thurow at Kai@st-philip.org



Youth Group (grades 6-12)

Middle and High School can be messy — and we join in the mess with laughs, authentic community, and creativity.

Get ready for transformational trips and retreats, engaging youth group nights, service opportunities, and God's work in your life! Come join us in a place where you can be yourself and know that you belong.



Connect with our Youth Group

Youth Group Nights

Our youth group every other Sunday from 6:30-8pm for a chance to catch up with each other, to play some games, to enjoy a devotion together, and to occasionally take a deep dive into various faith and life topics.

Youth Group (6-12) Fall 2022 Schedule

Oct. 9 – Youth Group (grades 6-12)	6:30-8pm
Oct. 23 – Youth Group (grades 6-12)	6:30-8pm
Oct. 29 – Trunk-or-Treat (all ages)	3:00-5pm
Nov. 6 – Youth Group (grades 6-12)	6:30-8pm
Nov. 20 – Youth Group (grades 6-12)	6:30-8pm
Dec. 4 – Youth Group (grades 6-12)	6:30-8pm
Dec. 11 – Interactive Christmas Theater & Dinner (congregational event for all ages)	4:30pm
Dec. 18 – Youth Group (grades 6-12)	6:30-8pm
Dec. 24 – Family Christmas Eve Worship Service	4:00pm
Dec. 24 – Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship Service	9:00pm

Worship

Our middle and high school youth are invited to be involved in every aspect of our worship services. They serve in volunteer roles, help lead the service, or participate in the pews or at home virtually.



Faith & Fellowship

Monthly Breakfast Group—

At iHop on Six Forks
or on Zoom.



Tuesday 10/18/22
at 9:30 am

Spread the word and invite a friend for
this casual time of fellowship and
conversation!

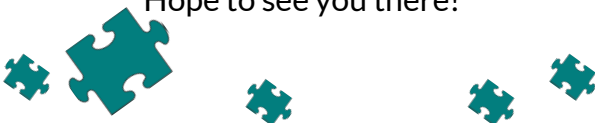
Contact Frank Bouknight for more
information. bouknightf@yahoo.com or

Puzzle Get Together

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month, beginning
on **October 18th** in the Music Room at 10 am
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!



Ladies Lunch

Will meet at 12:00 pm on
Thursday, October 6th at
Saints and Scholars..

Please contact Claire Muller to
RSVP for the reservation.

919-752-6541 or
clairegm855@gmail.com



Every 1st Thursday!

Fellowship Supper Group

This month we will go back to our usual
schedule of meeting on the 4th Tuesday of
the month at 6:30 pm. It is the same night as
the Pub Ministry gathering.

Watch for details about our next meal, on
September 25 @ 6:30 pm. We hope you can
join in the fun! Please [RSVP here](#) for
reservation purposes, but if you can't—no
worries come anyway!

For more information contact
Carol Rogers
parakayaker@gmail.com

Everyone is invited!!



Pub Ministry

The next time we'll get together will be 6:30 pm, October 25th watch
for more details.

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. We also provide
service to the church and community.

Everyone is welcome, we hope to see you there!

Questions? Contact Dave Wahlstrom @ dave00256@gmail.com

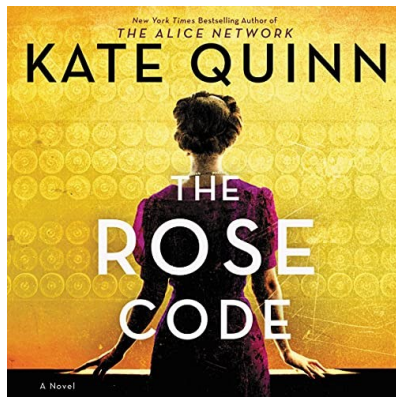
Adult Book Club

If you love to read and would like to discuss books please join us on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the church parlor at 10am.

Everyone is welcome!

Our next meeting will be on October 25th, we will be discussing *The Rose Code* by Kate Quinn.

The Rose Code is a historical fiction mystery novel by Kate Quinn, published in 2021.



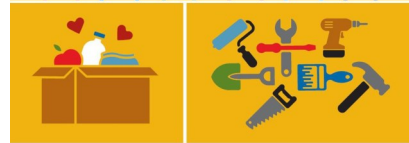
Set in England during and just after World War II, the novel follows the experiences of three women who participate in Bletchley Park's codebreaking operation, as well as their efforts after the war to uncover a traitor among their colleagues. Their stories highlight the social changes brought on by World War II, especially concerning gender dynamics.

For lovers of historical fiction, but also lovers of simply good books in general.

The book is available on Amazon or in the Wake County Public Library.

We hope to see you there, in the Parlor on October 25th at 10:00!

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday



Sept. 11, 2022

We joined ELCA in celebrating **God's Work. Our Hands.**

Gather together with one united worship service at 10 AM, followed by a light meal in Luther Hall.

We then embarked on several service projects, both onsite and offsite.



Blessing of Students and Teachers



We are planning a safe and fun time for our little ones to enjoy Halloween & could use some help!

[Click here to sign up to volunteer for any of these :](#)

- ☺ Would you like to decorate your trunk with treats? There is plenty of room in the parking lot to set up at 2:30, so that all vehicles will be parked by 2:45.
- ☺ Would you like to greet and help direct traffic? The plan is to let the children and parents walk through the parking lot—staggering family units for distance.
- ☺ Treats need to be individually wrapped. Donations gladly accepted!
- ☺ Do you have ideas to share for this children's event? Contact [Kai Thurow](#)

*Thanks,
Everyone!*

Wow! We can't thank you enough for the support that you have shown to us since we arrived.

The items and gift cards we received as part of our welcome "pounding" were greatly appreciated. We are so excited to be here at St. Philip and look forward to growing and walking alongside all of you in the years to come.

With much love,
Kai, Lauren, Kaden, & Cameron

NORTH RALEIGH MINISTRIES

Food Drive for North Raleigh Ministries

By now, we hope that everyone has heard about and is actively planning to participate in the Food Drive for North Raleigh Ministries (NRM). The Men's Pub Ministry is committed to both our own social enrichment and to service projects that will help our greater community in faith.

On Monday, September 12, everyone should have received the announcement of this project by e-mail (see below). Beginning on September 18, you will see and hear more about our efforts in and around the church. Here is some background about NRM which you might also find interesting:

NRM is a non-profit, faith-based organization originally founded by 13 partner churches. Today, they have quite a few additional supporting churches who came on later and at various contribution levels. Supporting their food bank is just one of several ways we could support their ministries in the future. The men's group believes that this food drive is a worthy one-time activity, but that we might also seek to become a supporting church of NRM as part of a focused, impactful outreach strategy for the future.

The goal of NRM is to help those who walk through the door, but also to find out the root cause for what brings them and to give them the tools to help them from having to come back.

They have a staff of 70 employees, several of whom are certified social workers, supporting both their clients physical and spiritual needs. They operate two thrift stores (Harvest Plaza and Stony Brook) which generates income to support their \$2.2MM annual budget. Aside from food bank donations, they appreciate volunteers at the thrift stores and food pantry, they accept donations of gently used clothes and furniture (no appliances) at their Harvest Plaza location, and they also take financial contributions.

Their 4-step process is to 1) Nourish (food assistance), 2) Connect (guidance and prayer), 3) Equip (transition program, one-on-one),

and 4) Empower (journey program, group including review of their financials, budgeting, establishing a rainy-day fund). Past participants of their journey program have become presenters for future groups.

Most of the people they serve look just like us! Eighty percent do not qualify for government assistance (they are just above the income cut-off line). Some have recently lost a job and find themselves in transition. They may also help those we see on street corners, but all attempts are made to break generational poverty and dependence on a food bank for their regular groceries. In June, 2022, their food bank served 700 people (double the number served in June, 2021).

NRM coordinates other social services for their clients including a Dental Bus, a Financial University, Cooking, Parenting and Counseling.

We are all welcome to visit their facilities, the closest one being in Harvest Plaza on Strickland Road.

We'd like to thank everyone in advance for their prayerful support!

Jesus tells us "What you have done to the least of these. You have done to me also"
He also tells us to Love our Neighbor as ourselves.

In response to Jesus's words to us, The Men's Pub Ministry is sponsoring a campaign to support the North Raleigh Ministries Food Bank and the numerous services they provide Gods Children in need.

We are asking you to prayerfully consider all the many ways that you have been blessed. Then decide - how you can help God's children who need help, love, and support right now. The money that you share will be used to purchase the groceries and other items that North Raleigh Ministries currently needs. The campaign will run from September 18 through the end of October. Your Love Donations may be given in any of the following ways:

Cash, check or online ([through the church website](#)) to St. Philip Lutheran Church with NRM Food Bank on the memo/other Line.

Bring non-perishable groceries, personal care items, toddler diapers, etc. to church.

Continued....

At each service there will be a display of groceries and a box you can put your monetary gifts in.

We will report each week on how much was shared for the Food Bank. The monetary gifts will be used to purchase the items the Food Bank needs right now.

After deciding how you can help, we ask that you pass this appeal on to family and friends who may wish to help, and who would also like to share their blessings. Thank you for sharing of your blessing. The need is great. We have been blessed greatly.

The NRM website: northraleighministries.com

In Christ,
Men's Pub Ministry



Property Work Day—

Saturday, October 15th @ 8:30 am—> We request that members assist with this effort. We will be polishing pews and other woodwork, washing windows, trimming shrubs, pulling weeds and other needed tasks—readying the property for winter. Come on out—you'll feel good about working with your church family!. We need all hands on deck! Questions? Contact jerry Rimmer @ djrimmer@bellsouth.net



The first load of donated food was delivered to North Raleigh Ministries!



These are 2 of the staff at NRM...

Joshua Starling and Madison Anderson. We are grateful and so blessed to have partners like the folks at St. Philips. God is Good.

Lutheran World Relief Quilting Group



On 10/30, we will bless the quilts that have been prayerfully created to be sent off to those in need.

The Quilters meet in the lower level of the education building. We are looking for willing hands who can use scissors, tie a knot and who enjoy a warm blanket—to help us on the 2nd, 4th & 5th Thursday mornings of the month at 10:00 am

Please consider becoming involved in this worthwhile endeavor. Contact Barbara Burdette for more information: bburd45955@aol.com

Help Spread Warmth this Winter

Let's support the community of Cedar Point by
helping to keep them warm!



**THE WINTER COAT COLLECTION HAS
OFFICIALLY BEGUN!**

What? We are collecting winter coats. Please be sure donated coats are gently used, clean, and functioning (zippers and buttons work). This year we will not be collecting other items.

If you are collecting through a larger organization (work, neighborhood, sport's team, school, troop, etc.), please consider sorting coats according to gender and size. That is really helpful!

When? We will be collecting coats throughout the month of September. You can bring them to GWOH Sunday on September 11th! The Green Bins will also be available outside of Kepley for drop offs.

Why? We hope to extend hospitality and the gift of warmth to our refugee neighbors at Cedar Point. Let's share the love of Christ!

Volunteer Opportunity: The coat sale is on Friday, October 14th from 5-7pm at Cedar Point. We will need someone to coordinate that evening and 3 ish volunteers to help with the sale (RHP people will be there as well) plus 3-4 to help with clean up (sorting coats to keep for next year, bagging up coats, bringing stuff back to St. P or to donate). Please let Stacey Bell know if you can help!

Questions? Reach out to Stacey Bell at raleighbells@gmail.com

Message from Stewardship

This year the Stewardship Committee's theme is **What Can I Bee Doing?** Yes, the theme focuses on a magnificent creation of God, the Bee and expands on St. Philip's mission statement - **Sharing the Love of Christ**. We wish to highlight all the ways that we selflessly Share the Love of Christ to make St. Philip, our community, and the world - a better place. With a desire to bring attention to our stewardship and generosity in supporting our annual ministry plan and at the same time enhancing each of our own personal giving plans, the Stewardship Committee has made a commitment to lift up to the congregation the value of time, talent, and resources to connect with others.

The Stewardship campaign kicked off on Sunday, September 25. On Sunday, October 2 we will release of our "Bee Form." We ask that everyone fill out a form listing out all the ways you use your time and talents to Share the Love of Christ here at St. Philip as well as within our community. On Sunday, October 16, the Stewardship Committee will hang all the responses in both the Narthex and in the hallway outside of Crossing to lift up all that we do. *Celebration Sunday* will be on October 23, again at both services, giving thanks for the pledges submitted and the many blessings received by St. Philip. Estimate of giving cards for the coming year, 2023, will be sent out in early October.

Thank you to all those who have found a way to continue giving to St. Philip throughout the pandemic and uncertainty that lies ahead. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and goes a long way towards Sharing the Love of Christ here at St. Philip and in our wonderful community.

We know you do not need us to remind you that the ongoing ministry of St. Philip depends to a great extent on regular financial support. We appreciate the many ways you continue that ministry and pray for you the strength you need to navigate through these difficult and tremulous times.

Your generosity and commitment to Christ's work at St. Philip is sincerely appreciated and essential to carrying out our mission to Share the Love of Christ.

Thank you for your continued support of St. Philip.



Message from Finance Committee

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

August income bounced back up from the previous month, helped to some degree by the giving on Sunday, July 31 that was accounted for in August. Nevertheless, the improvement is welcomed.

In August, total income was \$42,073 for the month, or \$5,635 under plan, while expenses were \$38,562, or \$6,842 under plan. On a year-to-date basis, total income was \$358,832, or \$24,580 under plan, while expenses were \$344,843 or \$40,413 under plan. Income exceeded expenses by \$13,989. We have some catching up to do in order to achieve our budgeted income amount by year end and to fund all of the budgeted reserves.

Thank you for your continued faithfulness and generosity!

Blessings,

Jim Beck, Finance Chair

Attention THRIVENT Members

Have you checked your Thrivent Choice Dollars lately? You can either go online to Thrivent.com or call 800-Thrivent and ask for Fraternal.

If you call, just tell them you want to designate your Choice Dollars to St Philip. Thank you for considering giving your Choice Dollars to your church.

Giving			
	Actual	Plan	%
August 2022	\$ 42,073	\$ 47,708	88%
Year to Date	\$358,832	\$383,412	94%

August 2022 Financial Summary

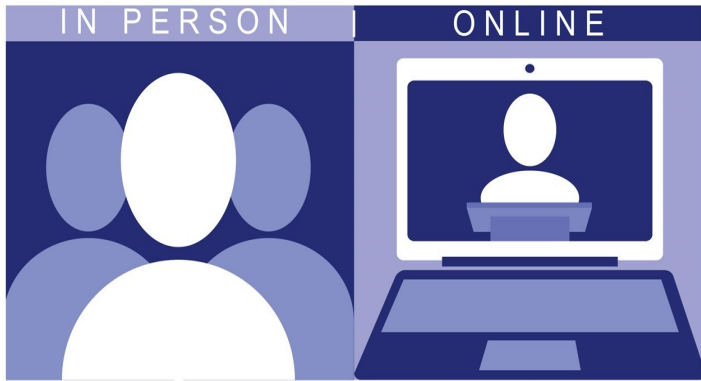
Category	Current Month Actual	Current Month Plan	%	YTD Actual	YTD Plan	%
Income						
General Fund	\$40,795	\$ 42,083	97%	\$342,556	\$336,667	102%
Other Income	\$ 1,279	\$ 5,624	23%	\$ 16,276	\$46,745	35%
Total Income	\$42,073	\$ 47,708	88%	\$358,832	\$383,412	94%
Expenses	\$ 38,562	\$ 45,404	85%	\$344,843	\$385,255	90%
Net Gain/(Loss)	\$ 3,511	\$ 2,303		\$ 13,989	\$ (1,843)	

The Annual Budgeted Revenue needed to meet expenses is \$575,993



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00 am Crossing Contemporary Worship 10:00 am Augsburg Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional 3:00 pm Restoration	3 2:00 pm Staff	4 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Stewardship	5 9:30 am Senior Adult Ministry Pastor's Bible Study 6:45 pm Pastor's Bible Study (GROW)	6 12:00 pm Ladies Lunch 6:30 pm Finance 6:30 pm NA 6:30 pm Crossing 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm Voices of Praise	7 10:00 am Al-Anon 7:00 pm AA	8 10:00 am Brown Bag Ministry 7:00 pm AA
9 Congregation Meeting 9:00 am Crossing Contemporary Worship 10:00 am Augsburg Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 3:00 pm Girl Scouts 3:00 pm Restoration 5:00 pm Handbells 6:30pm Youth Group 6:30 pm Council	10 2:00 pm Staff 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry 7:00 pm Property Team	11 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Preschool Board	12 10:30 am Pastor's Bible Study 6:45 pm Pastor's Bible Study (GROW)	13 10:00 am Quilting Group 10:00 am Puzzle Group 6:30 pm NA 6:30 pm Crossing 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Finance 7:00 pm Voices of Praise	14 10:00 am Al-Anon 7:00 pm AA	15 8:30 am Property & Columbarium Work Day 7:00 pm AA
16 9:00 am Crossing Contemporary Worship 10:00 am Augsburg Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 3:00 pm Girl Scouts 3:00 pm Restoration 4:00 pm Kingdom Kids 5:00 pm Handbells	17 2:00 pm Staff	18 9:30 am iHop Breakfast Group 10:00 am Puzzle Group 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	19 10:30 am Pastor's Bible Study 6:45 pm Pastor's Bible Study (GROW)	20 6:30 pm NA 6:30 pm Crossing 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 6:30 pm Finance 7:00 pm Voices of Praise	21 10:00 am Al-Anon 4:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm AA	22 10:00 am Brown Bag Ministry 7:00 pm AA
23 9:00 am Crossing Contemporary Worship 10:00 am Augsburg Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 3:00 pm Restoration 5:00 pm Handbells 6:30pm Youth Group	24 2:00 pm Staff 7:00 pm Worship & Music	25 10:00 am Book Club 6:30 pm Pub Ministry 6:30 pm Fellowship Dinner Group 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	26 10:30 am Pastor's Bible Study 6:45 pm Pastor's Bible Study (GROW)	27 10:00 am Quilting Group 6:30 pm NA 6:30 pm Crossing 7:00 pm Voices of Praise	28 10:00 am Al-Anon 7:00 pm AA	29 3:00 pm Trunk 'n Treat 7:30 pm AA
30 Reformation Sunday Council Elections 10:00 am United Worship Service 10:00 am Augsburg Sunday School 11:00 am Traditional Worship 3:00 pm Restoration 5:00 pm Handbells	31 2:00 pm Staff					

Worship With St. Philip



9:00 CROSSING CONTEMPORARY † 11:00 TRADITIONAL STYLE

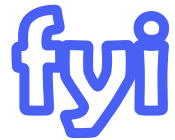
Rev. Tim Poston
Senior Pastor
Pastor@st-philip.org

Kai Thurow
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Ministries Coordinator
Kai@st-philip.org

Regan Wang
Organist/Pianist
chuhrare@gmail.com

919-846-2992
www.St-Philip.org

In person Office Hours:
Mon, Wed, & Fri
9:00 – 4:00
Tues & Thurs (Virtual)
9:00 – 4:00



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