



**WELCOME
PACKET**

Welcome to St. Philip Lutheran's



**We are excited to have you participate in this
Summer-long event!**

In an effort to keep in touch with families over the summer, we have created a fun and faith-filled project that will engage every member of your group! Do a few challenges or do a lot; each challenge is designed to encourage communication between generations, and every person in your family will have a role. Some challenges require deep thought and discussion, and some are just for laughs! Some are quick and some take more time. There are a lot of options here, so take your time and pick what seems best for you and your family! Read through this welcome packet, grab your challenge packet to see all the challenges, and start having fun! OH! And don't forget that the family that completes the most challenges wins a \$100 gift card!

If you have any questions, please contact Kai Thurow

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Index

Pg. 1.....	Cover
Pg. 2	Welcome/Intro.
Pg. 3-4.	Index
Pg. 5	Rules & Expectations
Pg. 6-11	Summer Race Challenges <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Faith Challenges (pg. 7)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Bible/hymnal Challenge○ Bible Baking Challenge○ Sermon Notes Challenge (Not just for Confirmation!)○ Bible Project Videos○ Christmas in July Challenge• Service Challenges (pg. 7)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Feed our Children○ Donate Clothes• Creation Challenges (pg. 8)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Zoo/Aquarium Scavenger Hunt & Devotions○ Hiking Challenge○ Rain Challenge○ Nature of the Cross• Crazy Challenges (pg. 8-9)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Gross Food Challenge○ Building Challenge○ Science Experiments Challenge○ Glow in the Dark Challenge• Learn Something New Challenges (pg. 9)<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Morse Code Challenge○ Language Challenge○ Books of the Bible Challenge

- Art Challenges (pg. 10)
 - Cross Art Challenge
 - Lord's Prayer Book Challenge
 - Music Challenge
- Vacation and Trip Challenges (pg. 10)
 - New Places Challenge
 - Old Places Challenge
 - That's My Pew!
- Reading challenge (pg. 11)
 - Devotion Challenge
 - Summer Reading Challenge

Rules & Expectations

- The first rule of **The Amazing Race of Grace** is to do each challenge as a family or group. You should expect:
 - ... to grow together in faith as you learn about each other.
 - ... to be more knowledgeable about the Bible at the end of the summer.
 - ... to be more confident in your prayer life and what it means to be a Christian.
- The second rule of **The Amazing Race of Grace** is to document everything! You should expect:
 - ... to take pictures (when appropriate) of the challenges. Make sure to send/give/show them to our faith community. Send them to Kai@st-philip.org to get credit towards completing a challenge!
 - ... to gather other documentation of completing the challenges.
 - ... to have a wonderful collection of memories of your summer!
- The third rule of **The Amazing Race of Grace** is to remember that this is supposed to be a cross-generational experience. You should expect:
 - ... to include each person in each challenge in which you participate. If you need to amend a challenge to do this, DO IT! It's okay!
 - ... to include grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, etc. when you safely can. Doing challenges virtually with one another is okay too! The more the merrier! Remember to include friends too if you want to!
 - ... to learn what each generation has to offer the other!
- The fourth rule of **The Amazing Race of Grace** is to have fun while living out your faith! You should expect:
 - ... to laugh, roll, climb, get messy, and all other manners of crazy.
 - ... to experience God's good creation in new ways.
 - ... to accept the fact that we are all a little silly in one way or another. Embrace it!

Summer Race Challenges

There's a challenge here for everyone! Complete these challenges over the summer, and participate in **The Amazing Race of Grace!**

Make sure you take pictures or videos of all the challenges you choose to complete. Please turn in your pictures and any other documentation you want to share with us to the church office! An easy way to do so is to email them to Kai@st-philip.org

These challenges are all intended to be free or low cost, and/or part of your normal summer activities. Some (not all) challenges have additional instructions in another packet called the **Challenge Packet**. If you haven't received a **Challenge Packet**, please let us know and we'll get you one.

These will have instructions, ideas, and devotions in them to help your family complete various challenges. If you complete a challenge, mark it off on the list in this packet and don't forget to send a photo documenting it to Kai@st-philip.org. You can do a challenge more than once if you'd like, but with so many to choose from, you shouldn't need to!

Please note you may not receive full credit for completed challenges that are completed towards the challenge to receive a \$100 gift card.

If you have ideas for other challenges, let us know about them.

*** We know that these packets have many pages full of great stuff for you and your family to try out this summer. If printing these packets is difficult for you, we can arrange to print a copy for you at the church office. Just let us know! ***

Faith Challenges

- ➤. **Bible/Hymnal Challenge**- Grab an NRSV Bible and a Hymnal (if you need to borrow one from St. Philip, let us know). We encounter God's Word in the Bible, music, and prayer. This challenge will take you through different parts of the Bible and our Hymnal. You'll fill in the blanks in your **Challenge Packet**. Have fun learning together!
- ➤. **Bible Baking Challenge**- To complete this challenge, you must use the recipe in your **Challenge Packet** to find Bible verses in order to gather your ingredients and make your Scripture Cookies
- ➤. **Sermon Notes Challenge (Not Just for Confirmation!)** -We have some cool sermon/worship notes for your family to do when you attend worship visually. There are several different types, so you can choose one or do a different one at each worship service you watch. Look in your **Challenge Packet** for more info.
 - . **Bible Project Videos**: Check out The Bible Project videos as you read through the Bible as a family or just learn about different themes in the Bible. <https://bibleproject.com/> Share what you learned!
 - . **Christmas in July Challenge**: The Nativity scene. The tree decorated with ornaments and lights. Silent Night playing in the background... it's always good to celebrate the birth of our Savior! There are some ideas for you to help celebrate in your **Challenge Packet**

Service Challenges

- ➤. **Feed Our Children**- At North Raleigh Ministries they have a food pantry that helps provide food to children who depend on the free school lunches over the summer. Take a donation to NRM's food pantry!
- ➤. **Donate Clothes** - We all outgrow styles and sizes of clothing. Go through your drawers and closets to find items you no longer wear. Donate them to a charity like the North Raleigh Ministries Thrift Shoppes. (Toys are also good to donate!)

Creation Challenges

- ➤. Zoo/Aquarium Scavenger Hunt & Devotions - Lions, and tigers, and bears, OH MY! Plus stripes and spots, feathers and tails, fins and flippers, trunks, snouts and beaks! A zoo is a fantastic place to see the wonders of God's creation, especially since most of us would never be able to see the animals in a zoo in any other setting. Did you know that you can visit a zoo and aquariums virtually from home? Use the [Challenge Packet](#) to complete this challenge. Written devotions included.
- ➤. Hiking Challenge- Does your family like to hike? Then this challenge is for you! There are a lot of wonderful places to hike in our area. Some are easy and some are more of a challenge. If you spend a day hiking with your family, take along the Hiking Challenge Bible Study (found in your [Challenge Packet](#)) and find a nice quiet spot along the trail to have some family devotion time.
- ➤. Rain Challenge- Water is very important to the earth, as well as to our lives as Christians. On a rainy day, spend time playing outside with each other! Remind each other of the promises made at baptism and bless each other in the summer shower. Use mud to make the sign of the cross on each other. Feel the "downpour" of love!
- ➤. Nature of the Cross - Jesus' cross was made of wood. Where do you find wood? Out in God's creation! When you are out and about this summer, look around you at the world God created. See if you can find crosses (or things that resemble crosses) on the street, in the woods, at the beach, or anywhere that you happen to be! Make sure you take a picture and write down where it was that you saw the cross.

Crazy Challenges

- ➤. Gross Food Challenge- Sometimes we just need to have some messy, gross fun. Find the Gross Food Challenge in the [Challenge Packet](#), and be prepared to get dirty and eat some crazy things!
- ➤. Building Challenge- What can you make out of cardboard? Just about anything! Collect boxes, tubes, and large pieces made of cardboard and

make something unique with them. It could be a playhouse, a table and chair, or even a huge animal. Use your imagination!

- ➤. Science Experiments Challenge- Science and faith can and DO work together. Science is the "how," and faith is the "who and why." Use these science experiments, found in your [Challenge Packet](#) to help illustrate some Biblical truths. Remember, safety first!
- ➤. Glow in the Dark Challenge- Wouldn't you like to have a little after-dark fun with the whole family, instead of being inside watching a movie? "Glow" it up with a glow party! You can use glow in the dark items or glow sticks. You can be inside or outside! You can race, bowl, toss... all kinds of things! Check out this Pinterest page <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/686728643213725365/> or just type in "glow in the dark ideas" in Pinterest or Google! Have some fun!

Learn Something New Challenges

- ➤. Morse Code Challenge- Use the [Challenge Packet](#) to decode messages about the life of Noah.
- ➤. Language Challenge- Use the [Challenge Packet](#) to learn "Jesus Loves Me" in a new language! Check out the video first to hear it in Spanish, Indonesian, Samoan, Nigerian, and Korean! The translation to Spanish and Sign language are included, as well as links to videos online. Video tape yourself singing this song!
- ➤. Books of the Bible Challenge- Do you know the books of the Bible? Most of us probably don't! It's not absolutely necessary to memorize them, but it is a good tool to have, and it can be really fun to learn! Look up "Bible Book Bop" on YouTube for a fun song to sing to learn them! Create "flash cards" and play games matching and putting them in order. Do a relay race with them! Find other fun ways to learn, and let us know what you did!

Art Challenges

- ➤. Cross Art Challenge- A good way to remember Christ's sacrifice for us is to look at the cross. Don't have one in your home, or want more? Make one! Find an artistic way to make a cross. Need ideas? Check out <https://www.pinterest.com/lepperdchef/faith-art-projects/> for some inspiration. When we're able to meet in person again, bring your homemade crosses to display in the church building!
- ➤. Lord's Prayer Book Challenge- Here is a unique and "artsy" way to learn and pray the Lord's Prayer. Do the whole thing in pictures! Write each piece of the prayer on a different sheet of paper (about 9-12 sheets is good) and for each piece of the prayer, draw a picture to represent those words. Each person could do a whole prayer, or each person could take a few pieces, and put them back together in a group effort. Share your prayer book with each other and us!
- ➤. Music Challenge- Christian music is a beautiful way to share faith with your family. Listen to a Christian radio station, and wait for God to speak to you. Share your favorites with us!

Vacation & Trip Challenges

- ➤. New Places Challenge- Will you visit somewhere new this summer while social distancing? Take pictures and collect souvenirs to share your adventures with us back in Mount Holly.
- ➤. Old Places Challenge- Will you make a return visit to a special spot this summer? Take pictures and share with us why this place is important to you, and why you return!
- ➤. That's my pew! - If you are in a different town on a Sunday morning, consider attending church somewhere new and different (if you feel it's safe) OR join another congregation's virtual worship service! It could be at another ELCA church, or any other denomination. Take a picture of your (virtual) worship experience, and share what your favorite part of the worship was! Different worship styles can help you enrich your experience when you worship at home!

Reading Challenges

- ➤. Devotion Challenge- Does your family do a daily devotion together? Yes? That's awesome! Let us know what you are doing so we can share the information with everyone in our faith community. No? That's OK! It's always a good time to start. There are lots of great family devotions and Bible studies, for all ages and stages of life. Check out the [Challenge Packet](#) for resources and ideas.
- ➤. Summer Reading Challenge- Sometimes we don't read the Bible because we don't know where to start! Look in your [Challenge Packet](#) for two awesome ways to read the Bible!