

# The Philippian

The Monthly Newsletter of St. Philip's Lutheran Church of Hastings, Minnesota

**Come and Worship...Come and Serve...Come and Learn...Come as you are**  
*...Philip said to him, "Come and see" John 1:46*

November 2021



Let Us Give Thanks

## NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

### November Sundays

Adult Spiritual Growth Forum  
and Book Study

### November 7

Daylight Savings Time

### November 1-21

Operation Christmas Child

### November 20

Bake and Soup Sale

### November 21

Deadline for Early Bird  
Discount for ELCA Youth  
Gathering 2022

### November 21

Stewardship Sunday

### November 21

Community Ecumenical  
Thanksgiving Worship Service

### November 29

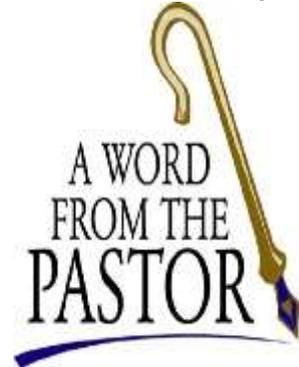
Deadline to Order Poinsettias

Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:23-25

*From the Epistle reading for November 14*

What do we spend most of our time doing? For many of us it is in investing our time in whatever occupation



we are called to do. Once that 40 to 70 hours is spent, we then try to take care of the mundane tasks of life such as paying the bills, raking the leaves, homework, folding the laundry, preparing meals and then cleaning up after them. Eventually we get to sleep, although it seems that

that too often gets short changed. Hopefully we are able to find time to spend with those we love, family and friends.

In the midst of our busy lives, it is easy to let our faith life become a smaller and smaller sliver of our ever more crowded pie of time. It seems that there are more and more things calling for our time and commitment and we feel stretched beyond our limits. Deadlines at work, sports tournaments, worthwhile community organizations, and let us not forget clean-up days at the church!

However, instead of thinking of our lives as a pie with different slices representing, work, school, home, leisure, and church, with each trying to crowd in on the others, let's take a different look. What if your life were not so much like a pie but was more like a wheel with different spokes representing the many facets of our lives? If that were the case, then the most important part of the wheel would be the hub, for the hub is what holds the spokes in proper alignment.

For Christians, our hub is Jesus Christ. It is Jesus who is with us whether we are at work or school or home, or even worship! When we start each day remembering our baptisms, that we are called and claimed and empowered by God, we are able to keep everything in perspective. It is our faith that affects all the many aspects of life.

I believe that this is what the author of Hebrews was writing about when he exhorted the Church to "hold

fast to the confession of our hope without wavering for he who has promised is faithful." The confession of our faith is Jesus Christ our Lord, crucified and resurrected. The confession of our faith is forgiveness and eternal life through God's grace and the gift of faith. Your life may be hectic or even spinning out of control, but that does not change the reality that you are loved, you are forgiven and your salvation is certain. The one who made that promise is faithful.

*Your Servant in Christ,*

*Pastor Geier*

**GIVING AND EXPENSE UPDATE**

September 2021

Actual	Budget	2020 Actual
<b><u>General and Miscellaneous Income YTD</u></b>		
\$384,152.76	\$371,049.75	\$369,345.39
<b><u>Capital Fund YTD</u></b>		
\$118,782.82	\$127,500.02	\$126,864.29
<b><u>Operational Expenses YTD</u></b>		
\$447,954.90	\$471,190.40	\$476,749.98
<b><u>Over / (Short)</u></b>		
\$54,980.68	\$27,359.37	(\$19,459.70)



Set your clocks back on Saturday, November 6 before bed and enjoy an extra hour of sleep Sunday morning!

**SECRET SANTA SHOP**

December 10 and 11 is the Secret Santa Shop again to benefit the children connected to Hastings Family Service. Because of COVID in 2020 further donations of material items will not be needed. But gift cards in the amount of \$5.00-10.00 to local businesses could be used. Drop off your donated gift cards in the lock box outside of the office by December 8. To volunteer for set up on Friday, December 10 or work the actual shopping and clean up on Saturday, December 11 go to the Sign Up Genius link on the church website [www.splchastings.org](http://www.splchastings.org). Questions? call Vicki Pavlish 612-889-1175.



# Preschool Chatter

October was a busy month and beautiful month. Summer/fall weather was a continued blessing which enabled us to get outside and enjoy the season a little longer! We learned about fall harvest, community helpers, opposites, and enjoyed some Halloween fun. Our preschool days were filled with observing the changing season outside, games, learning about people in our community, and of course fun art projects.

Our Halloween theme is super heroes! Each child dresses in black and orange and then at school will be given a special T-shirt cape to wear that has the first letter of their name taped on the back. The day will be filled with games, craft, orange cheese ball snack, special Halloween video, and some trick or treating around the church.

In the month of November, we will be excited to teach about what it means to be thankful and counting our blessings. As a staff we know that each and every one of the families we serve is truly a blessing and we are grateful for them all!

We hope you have a blessed Thanksgiving season!

*Becky Kaphing and Lorelei Rein  
Preschool Co-Directors*

## - AMONG OUR OWN -

### **Congratulations to...**

**Ethan and Lydia Cummings** on their 5<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on November 26

### **Sympathies to...**

**Farid Saed and family** as they mourn the death of his brother Dr. Amir

**Katy Lindberg and family** as they mourn the death of her Granma Jeanne Austin

## DAILY DEVOTION BOOK AVAILABLE

*Christ in Our Home*, a quarterly devotional resource that encourages readers to live out their faith daily, is available to anyone in the congregation. They come out quarterly, free of charge. Each reflective reading is accompanied by a daily scripture reference and prayer for the day that follows the Revised Common Lectionary. They are located on the welcome center, in large print and pocket sized.

## SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

<b>November 7</b> All Saints Sunday	Isaiah 25:6-9 Revelation 21:1-61 John 11:32-44
<b>November 14</b>	Daniel 12:1-3 Hebrews 10:11-25 Mark 13:1-8
<b>November 21</b>	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 Revelation 1:4b-8 John 18:33-37
<b>November 28</b> First Sunday of Advent	Jeremiah 33:14-16 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21:25-36

## “OPENING THE BIBLE”

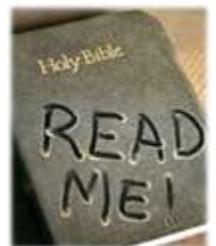


On Saturday, October 30, third and some fourth graders and their parents are invited to participate in a morning of fun that will introduce the Bible and help them to learn

why and how to read Scripture. We will gather at 9:30 am and should finish before lunch time.

On Sunday, October 31 the children will be awarded Bibles during worship. Our WELCA at St. Philip's has generously provided these Bibles that we pray will continue to nurture them throughout their lives. This event serves as the formal beginning of our confirmation program and is a way for families and the whole church to celebrate together!

During our time together, we will also go over our confirmation program and how St. Philip's Lutheran Church seeks to nurture our children and their parents on their faith journeys.



We will be practicing safe distancing between households and wearing our masks. Please call the church office if you have a child in the third grade (or an older child who has not yet received a Bible) to let us know your family will be participating!

**VETERAN'S DAY** - At the worship service on Sunday, November 14 we will give thanks for our veterans.

## ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH EVENTS

Sundays at 10:30 am in the Learning Room

**On Sunday, November 7**, the Adult Spiritual Growth topic will be our new columbarium. After the 9:30 am worship service, the congregation is invited to attend a small presentation by the columbarium team followed by questions and a discussion. Come and learn more about this end-of-life option. Also, a new brochure will be unveiled that day to replace the old sell sheets. Presale pricing will end in December. A \$100 per unit increase will take effect on January 1.



**For a Cosmic Adventure Through Science and Faith** starting on Sunday, November 14, our Adult Spiritual Growth ministry team will be hosting four sessions of an online course created by Luther Seminary that focuses on the relationship between faith and science. We will be meeting **November 14 and 21** and then take a break over Thanksgiving weekend and resume meeting **December 5 and 12**. Come join us for an entertaining and enriching time!

**BOOK STUDY** - A five-week book study will be led by Cindy Toppin Sunday nights at 6:30 pm beginning Sunday, November 7 and ending on December 5,

The book selection is *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis - it is a short book and an easy read. The book is an imaginary correspondence between a Senior Tempter called Screwtape, and a junior devil, Wormwood. C.S. Lewis gives us penetrating insights into how the unseen powers of evil work to ensnare us and destroy those who seek to follow Christ.

C.S. Lewis is a renowned theologian from England. For Lewis, it is not so much that we must be delivered from demons that possess and control us; it is that we are constantly and quietly influenced by them.

If you are interested in participating, please call Cindy Toppin at 437-7753 and let her know if you prefer Zoom or an in-person book group. This will be decided based on participant interest.



On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, The Harbor Church at 11125 Point Douglas Drive South, will be hosting our community ecumenical worship service at 4:00 pm, (plenty of time after the Vikings/Packers game!) Area pastors will be participating to provide leadership. We will be receiving an offering that will be given to Hastings Family Service to support this ministry that serves our neighbors in need.

We are hoping to reignite a tradition of worshipping together to show the world that our commitment to Jesus goes well beyond whatever flavor we have listed on our church road sign. We gather to give thanks to the God who has blessed us with every good blessing and has provided everything that we call our own. See you there!

## WHAT ARE YOU THANKFUL FOR?

Thanksgiving is just around the corner, but St. Philip's families like to practice gratitude all year round! Next time you're at church, check out our "What Are You Thankful For?" bulletin board outside the fellowship hall and consider adding something of your own!

## CHRISTMAS PAGEANT 2021



The Christmas pageant will be here soon! This year, we are working on putting together a program that allows kids and families to record scenes from home and perform in person. It's going to be so much fun, so keep your eyes open for more details to come!

## AUGSBURG CENTENNIAL SINGERS CONCERT

It's official! The Augsburg Centennial Singers are moving forward with their sole concert of the fall season. Al Todnem of St. Philip's is a member of this choir. Mark your calendars for November 14 at 3:00 pm at First Lutheran Church, 1555 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Columbia Heights.

The sanctuary at First Lutheran can seat 600, including the balcony, so there is plenty of room to spread out. Invite your friends and family! Doors open at 2:30 pm. At this time, masks are still required for all events at First Lutheran.

This will also be Paul Christensen's final concert as director so we are looking for a big turnout. We hope you can fit this into your schedule.

## THE ETERNAL IMPACT OF A SIMPLE GIFT

A small shoebox can have a big impact. What goes into the box is fun but what comes out of it is eternal. Be a part of changing children's lives all over the world in Jesus's name through the power of a simple gift and Operation Christmas Child. Now is the time to start packing shoeboxes that will bring joy to hurting children all over the world and tell them about the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ. Stop by the table in the narthex starting October 31 for more information and to pick up your shoeboxes. Bring your filled shoeboxes to St. Philips no later than Sunday, November 21st. Together, let's bring Good News and great joy to many children around the world!



*Declare His glory among the nations! Psalm 96:3*



**A reminder that we are wearing face masks inside our church facility.**

**THANKS FOR CARING & WEARING!**

## WE NEED YOUR IDEAS!



Most of you know that St. Philip's Lutheran Church is a generous community of faith that

supports God's work within and beyond our congregation. We invest at least 10% of our regular offerings in ministries outside St. Philip's including the ELCA, Green Lake Lutheran Ministries, Lutheran Social Services, and Young Life. In addition, at our annual meeting we vote on two ministries beyond ourselves to receive 10% of our capital campaign offerings and miscellaneous offerings. One of these ministries is to serve Hastings area residents and the other is to cast a wider circle of ministry.

Previous local ministries on the ballot included Lewis House, Hastings United Way "Food4Kids", and Hastings Family Service. Ministries beyond Hastings have included the Matrix Emergency Shelter in Dakota County, ELCA Domestic & International Response, and mission congregations of the St. Paul Area Synod.

If YOU have an idea you would like to be included on the ballot at our next annual meeting, please let the pastor, church office or a council member know. The council will then decide on three local ministries and three broader ministries to be on the ballot at our December council meeting. The council has decided that three options in each category is a good number of possibilities.

ALSO, if you feel strongly about one of the ministries, you will have an opportunity to speak at the annual meeting and share why you think it deserves our support.

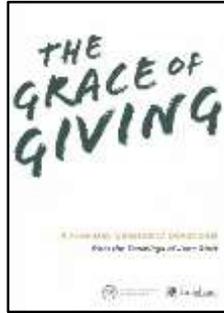
## IT IS TIME TO ORDER POINSETTIAS for

decorating the sanctuary at Christmas time. The deadline is Monday, November 29. Sign up on the kiosk or call the office (651-437-6541) to order one in memory or in honor of loved ones. Choose a white, pink or red poinsettia. The cost will be \$16.00.



## WATCH FOR STEWARDSHIP MAILING

All St. Philip's households will soon receive the annual stewardship mailing which contains a gift booklet, a pictorial brochure, a message from Pastor Geier, and a pledge card and self-addressed envelope.



Sunday, November 21, is Stewardship Sunday at which time pledge cards are brought to the worship service. Mailing one's card in is also acceptable with a deadline of mid-December.

Please return the pledge card with whatever prayerful choice has been made for your household. The Stewardship Ministry Team thanks you.

## BAKE AND SOUP SALE TIME IS HERE

St. Philip's 18th Soup and Bake Sale  
November 20 at 9 am-12:30 pm

This year's event will take on a slightly different look from past years, but we will still wow the crowds with our gourmet talents. We **MUST** follow CDC guidelines. Lefse making will not be a unified effort at the church, but individuals who wish to make lefse at home are encouraged to contribute to the bake sale.



There will be two soups this year - vegetable beef and turkey wild rice (gluten free). The soup at \$8 per quart will be available for take-out **ONLY** and there will not be accompaniments sold with it.

Baked goods and canned goods may be brought to church on Friday, November 19, 12 noon-7 pm or before 8:30 am on Saturday, November 20. The sale tables will be spread throughout the Fellowship Hall so social distancing can be observed. **MASKS MUST BE WORN BY WORKERS AND SHOPPERS.**

Make a special effort to package baked goods carefully and attractively by wrapping in clear plastic and label important things such as gluten-free, nuts, or any other allergies people might have.

As always, many workers, both male and female, are needed to make this another big success. Sign-up sheets will be available in the Narthex beginning on October 31. This is an important aspect of "Living Generously."

Proceeds go toward St. Philip's Lutheran Church Bible story books for 3-year-olds, Bibles for 3rd graders, a scholarship for a high school girl in Tanzania, Lutheran Social Service, and youth mission projects.

St. Philip's Lutheran Church has been approved for a \$250 grant from the Thrivent Action Team Project. This seed money will be used for purchasing food supplies for soup making.



If you are in high school (or will be next year), it's time to sign up for the ELCA Youth Gathering!

The Gathering is an amazing opportunity to get together with THOUSANDS of ELCA peers for worship, service, and fun! You won't want to miss this event - it's something you'll talk about for years!

If you missed the Youth Gathering information meetings in October, please email Sarah Bennett at [sarahb@splchastings.org](mailto:sarahb@splchastings.org) for a handout with everything you need to know.

Sign up forms for youth and adult leaders are available on the Welcome Center. When you've filled them out, please put them in the Faith Formation mailbox outside the office or give them to Sarah, along with a \$150 deposit.

The deadline for the early bird discount ends on November 21, so get your registration forms turned in soon! And of course, let Sarah Bennett know if you have any questions.

## CONFIRMATION 2021

September 26, was Confirmation Day at St. Philip's with twelve students having completed the study and experiential assignments expected of them. Over 220 worshippers were in attendance which included many extended family members of the students.



*Back Row: Pastor Geier, Ty Mares, Zachary Lindberg, Brody Anderson, Jared Hanson, Devin Hampl, Julia Ronning  
Front Row: Parker McGinnis, Roland Zietlow, Ellie King, Madelyn Chandler, Lauren Jenkins, Logan David, Sarah Bennett, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries*



*The confirmands are greeted by the congregation outside following the service. Each student wore a red stole they had created over their gown*



*Pastor Geier confers a prayer on each student declaring their confirmation in the Christian faith*



*Family members lay their hands on the confirmand as they are declared Confirmed*



*Espen Ronning congratulating Jared Hanson*



## KEEPING CONNECTED



Greetings from the Prestons. Our faith journey at St. Philip's started by chance/fate one Sunday morning about twenty-one or so years ago when Emily and our children Erin and Travis were running a bit late for church, (we used to go to SEAS.) Tim must have been out of town, most likely fishing. We knew a few families that attended St. Philip's and had heard their praises. Anyway as I was saying, we were running a bit late for church and were driving past this church that we had heard so much about and decided to check it out. It happened to be Pastor Ed's first sermon that day. His sermon spoke so much to me, Erin enjoyed children's time albeit from her seat, and Travis was most concerned with the doughnut holes after church. The next week Tim joined us and we have never looked back. With the help of our sponsors Paul and Karen Swanstrom we became members. Over the years we joyfully participated in many faith opportunities.

Erin and Travis both participated in Sunday School, Children's Choir, Musicals, Confirmation, Summer Camps, Mission trips, VBS (both as attendees and later as helpers), and helping at the Garage Sale. Travis' Eagle Scout project was even part of his St. Philip's journey. With the help of his Boy Scout Troop 23 and leaders, he refurbished the garage after it was moved to its current location.

Tim has enjoyed participating on numerous committees as well as being on council through the years. Does anyone remember the "Tim the Tool Man" skits with Tim and Dave Tank promoting the annual leaf-raking event?

Emily has kept busy with numerous activities as well. She has taught Sunday School, been a Lenten Mentor, VBS volunteer, served Italian and

Wednesday night dinners. She currently enjoys Bible Study opportunities and co-leads Samaritan's Purse's Operation Christmas Child (Shoe Box.)

We have been blessed with many friends within the St. Philip's family and are so grateful for that. As our children have become young adults, Tim and I continue to enjoy all things St. Philip's. We are most thankful for all of the love and prayers that have been, and continue to be, sent our way from a great congregation of people of faith. God's Blessings to you all.

Greetings from the organ and piano benches at our St. Philip's Lutheran Church. I am Noreen Swanson, serving as the organist for our church since I was a Hastings High School Junior. I was invited to provide musical accompaniment by Rev. Bob Boxrud, the first Pastor at St. Philip's and by Judy Law, the first musician employed here. I've been providing over 53 years of organ and piano accompaniment, solos and duets – fortunate to serve with each and every pastor presiding here throughout these many years.



Some of my fondest memories include my first Thanksgiving Service at "Seven". After receiving a call from pastor shortly before 7 am that morning asking if I was coming, my father and I made a hasty trip from Sibley Street to 15<sup>th</sup> and Pleasant (since I was planning to arrive at 6:30 pm!) Also "noteworthy" was a conversation held with Rev. Daniel Seidelmann when he broached the subject of my membership (after about seven years of providing music here) whether I was ever going to join this church, since I was still a member of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. That situation was quickly remedied and I was officially welcomed into the fold here!

I feel that one of my greatest joys and accomplishments here, and probably my greatest contribution to St. Philip's, was the origination of the musical ensemble we now know as Unity. I was just about to finish my senior year of high school and wanted our Easter Service in 1970 to be special. No official choir had been able to sustain in those early years so I was given the green light to find at least a

temporary solution. I contacted Frank Sofio to see if he would be willing to help. We checked with Gary Evenson and Sherry Akins to help provide guitar and vocal assistance, then calling upon Glenda Schnirring, Al Todnem, Vonnie Olson and Carole May to see if all were willing to sing a special song on Easter morning. We presented "Anthem Revelation" composed by John Denver as our first shared project and continued rehearsing weekly – sometimes in Frank's basement or my small piano studio until eventually we met at church with actual sound equipment donated by a fellow church member.

We've continued to meet nearly every week, providing once monthly Sunday worship leadership, about 40 Thanksgiving Morning Breakfast Services, as well as many Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday Services over the years until Covid really halted participation. Over these many years we have included other members – Brad Elliot's voice was added prior to his moving from Hastings. Dan Retka joined us when he became available to participate with his voice, bass guitar and percussion skills Rev. Bill Klavetter sang with us for nearly 2 years. Deborah Dreher was welcomed into our midst when she graciously agreed to join we "old timers" and our most recent addition is David Weisser, adding his harmonious support into our well-seasoned group.

Unity has ventured out to many others churches – some in our own community for weddings, anniversary celebrations, funerals or other special occasions and we have ventured afar to other communities to provide special service music and participate in worship settings in more than just Minnesota. We've been blessed to share in community events and civic celebrations like our "Patriotic Medley" presented for the 1976 commemorative program held at the Majestic Ballroom in Cottage Grove and also joining the festivities at our state capital's 4<sup>th</sup> of July event. Singing with well over 700 participants was very moving. We've enjoyed several years of participation at the Roadside Park and the Levee events held during many summers and we can't forget those Candlelight Buffets. My favorite was the tribute to "White Christmas". We have been so blessed to provide music for so many during our years together.

My St. Philip's membership and tenure as organist have been and hopefully will continue to be a true blessing in my life!

We are the Langenfeld family. My husband Ken grew up in Hastings and I grew up in Red Wing. We met at Treasure Island while working in the valet department in January 1997, started dating in February 1997 and got married on September 9, 2000. We bought our first home in Hastings in November of 1999



and moved three years ago to our current home. We brought home our first boxer (Duke) in 2000 and ended up having three boxers over the years. When I was pregnant with our first daughter we started looking for a church for our kids to grow up in, and we found St. Philip's. St. Philip's was the first church we tried, and we never tried another one because of Pastor Ed. We were blessed with our first daughter, McKenzie, in January 2002. Megan joined the family in December of 2003. Both of the girls were baptized by Pastor Ed and have been very active in church between Sunday School, choir, musicals, chimes, confirmation and volunteering.

Ken is the Manager of the Pearle Vision in Hastings and has been there for almost 15 years. I am the Lead Litigation Assistant at Bennerotte & Associates in Eagan for the last 5½ years after my previous boss retired from Sieben Polk in Hastings.

We lost our last boxer in the summer of 2020 and decided to go with a smaller dog this time. Bodhi joined our family in January of 2021 and is a Teddy Bear (Bichon Shih Tzu). We are all in love with him (and I love that he doesn't shed!).

McKenzie is now a sophomore at Winona State majoring in Nursing, and Megan is a senior at Hastings High School. Both are so glad to be back in school, back enjoying soccer (Megan) and are enjoying time with friends. When McKenzie is home she works with her dad at Pearle Vision as an Optician. Megan works part time at King's Place in Miesville and loves working there.

St. Philip's has always felt like a second home to us...we love our church family!



## KEEPING THE CHURCH IN WORKING ORDER

Building and Grounds has nine members on its team and would welcome one or two more. People with knowledge about light plumbing, electrical, or small repairs become good additions to the team.

Steve

Wolverton is pictured 28 feet up as he changes bulbs in the 30 feet area of the sanctuary. A lift is rented for this task. Five additional men were on hand to unload the lift and support Steve's efforts. Five bulbs were replaced covering a time of almost three hours.



Dave Tank, is pictured on the high ladder which is used in the pew area of the sanctuary. Four men support the ladder while someone is changing the bulb. Serving on the Building and Grounds team are Steve Wolverton, Bill Pavlish, Wayne Fahlstrom, Paul Swanstrom, Al Todnem, Dan Strehlow, Dave Tank, Bruce Arndtson, and Glenda Schnirring as coordinator.



## ADULT EDUCATION STRETCHES THE MIND

Chuck Clanton completed two one-hour sessions on climate change and its impact on the environment and our health. Chuck's focus was on the perils of poor land practices in agriculture and other open spaces which add greatly to global land health.

Adult education has stimulating topics which begin at 10:30 am on Sundays in the Learning Room. Make an effort to attend.



## NEW MEALS ON WHEELS DRIVER IN TRAINING

Meals on Wheels caller, Mary Rock is seen with new member Dave Fry by Regina Hospital's front entrance. They are about to load the carriers for a route which Dave would be experiencing for the first time. Dave did the route with driver Glenda Schnirring to discover how it's done. A big thanks to Dave Fry for his willingness to participate in this important ministry.



### FAITH FORMATION DESIGNS EDUCATION EXPERIENCES IN A PANDEMIC



Carol Hellen, Katie Thomas and Sarah Bennett, St. Philip's Youth and Family coordinator, meet regularly to design a church school year around the issues caused by Covid 19. (missing is Becky Kaphing)

### ST. PHILIP'S WOMEN'S RETREAT PROVED ENRICHING



Jennie Thomas graciously put together a retreat agenda in very little time which proved to be very meaningful and appreciated for the thirteen women who participated. The retreat took place Saturday, October 16, from 9 am - 4:30 pm.

The group represented six decades of life spans and experiences which added to the event's richness. Jennie had designed the retreat around four Bible stories all of which featured women encountering Christ in real life situations.

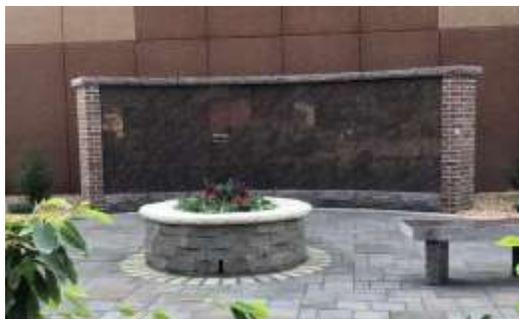


The practice of praying in different ways was explored plus using the beauty of the outdoors as a setting for added prayer stimulation.

The retreat was held at the Mount Olivet Retreat Center in Farmington which is an exquisite campus of lovely buildings, beautiful natural accent, along with a trail, indoor pool, hot tub and labyrinth.

It was a beautiful fall day and the conclusion was that we should have retreats and fellowship events like this more often! Anyone interested in planning such events, please talk to your WELCA leaders or the Adult Spiritual Growth Committee.

### COLUMBARIUM INFORMATION



A columbarium is a beautiful structure, containing niches (compartments) to hold the ashes of our loved ones. Information and application folders for those who are interested in leasing a niche are available at the welcome center. Let us know if you prefer to have the application US mailed to you. Please return application, along with payment, to the church office during business hours or via US Mail. The sell sheet is also included elsewhere in this newsletter. For more information, call Gary McDougall at 651-216-7213 or Judy Hansen at 612-600-1209.

### NEW MEMBER UPDATE

In the October newsletter our new members were introduced. We were missing the photo of Dave and Barb Fry so wanted to get it in this newsletter. Welcome Dave and Barb.



## ST. PHILIP'S STAFF

**Gregory Geier, Pastor**

[pastorgeier@splchastings.org](mailto:pastorgeier@splchastings.org)

**Noreen Swanson, Organist**

[swansonhastings@centurylink.net](mailto:swansonhastings@centurylink.net)

**Ellen Diischer, Music Director**

[ellend@splchastings.org](mailto:ellend@splchastings.org)

**Sarah Bennett, Director of Children,  
Youth and Family Ministries**

[sarahb@splchastings.org](mailto:sarahb@splchastings.org)

**Christine Rydel, Business Manager**

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**John Diischer, Sound Board Technician**

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**Lista Klocow, Office Manager**

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**Becky Kaphing, Preschool Co-Director**

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**Lorelei Rein, Preschool Co-Director**

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**Rachel Moritz, Assistant Teacher**

[preschool@splchastings.org](mailto:preschool@splchastings.org)

**Kari Vortherms, Assistant Teacher**

[preschool@splchastings.org](mailto:preschool@splchastings.org)

## ST. PHILIP'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL

1401 West 15th Street, Hastings, Minnesota

651-437-6541

[www.splchastings.org](http://www.splchastings.org)

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### Church Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Friday: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

### Sunday Worship Service:

Online Worship Posted on Facebook and

YouTube on Sundays at 8:30 am

“St. Philip's Lutheran Church Hastings MN”

In-Person Worship Sundays at 9:30 am

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
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Permit #148  
Hastings, MN 55033

St. Philip's Lutheran Church  
1401 West 15th Street  
Hastings, MN 55033  
\*\*Return Service Requested  
TIME DATED MATERIAL