

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*

July 2023

Upcoming Events

Vacation Bible School

July 17-20
9 am – 12 pm

Worship at the River

Sunday, July 23
at 9 am

Lutheran Night at the Twins

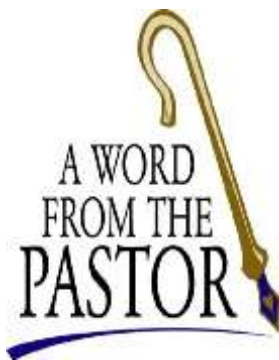
Tuesday, August 15
Deadline to Get Tickets
Sunday, July 23

Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday, August 24
Sign up Now to
Donate and Volunteer

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do.

Romans 7:15-19 lesson for July 9



Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome is a remarkable epistle that addresses the very core of what it means to be a Christian. It is amazing to read this book and see how applicable Paul's words are to Christians today, almost 2,000 years after they were written.

This is especially true if you take the time to read and wrestle with chapter seven. "**For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.**" This is the bondage to sin with which [Martin Luther](#) struggled, and with which every other Christian who takes sin seriously grapples with on a daily basis. Only the person who has truly tried to resist sin understands its full strength. The problem with the law is that it shows what is right but provides no power to do it. As Lutheran Christians, we take the power of sin very seriously. We know the damage it does to our relationship with God and our relationships with our neighbors. We also know that sin is more powerful than we are and that we are helpless to overcome it.

No one wants to sin, but the truth of the matter is that Paul's words are our words. The fact that we don't want to do evil shows that we agree that the law is good, even though we are unable to keep it. After realizing what God's righteousness requires and realizing he cannot fulfill them, Paul cries out, "Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?" (*verse 24*)

If our lesson for July 9 ended with verse 24, it would be pretty depressing. People would (rightly) say, "Who

would want to be a part of such a religion?" If all you heard was how strong the power of sin is over our lives, and how we are not strong enough to battle its destructive power, who could help but despair?

However, that is not where this lesson or Christianity for that matter leaves us. The apostle goes on to boldly proclaim, "**Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!**"

IT'S JESUS!!! The Good News of the Gospel is that although we are hopeless when we rely on ourselves, we are filled with eternal hope (and power) when we trust in Jesus. Christ has the power to do what we cannot. Sin is more powerful than we are, but Christ is more powerful than sin. We continue to struggle on our journey against the powers of sin, death and the devil, but it is Christ's Spirit within us that will indeed grant the final victory. Thanks be to God!

Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Geier

– AMONG OUR OWN –

Congratulations to...

All those celebrating their wedding anniversary in July. Listed below are couples reaching a special anniversary...

George and Darla Kimmes on their 50th wedding anniversary on July 7

Paul and Carol Hellen on their 40th wedding anniversary on July 9

Robert and Rosemarie Zietlow on their 30th wedding anniversary on July 17

Thomas and Abby Mattimiro on their 1st wedding anniversary on July 23

Al and Patty Todnem on their 59th wedding anniversary on July 25

Sympathies to...

Earl Stockman and family as they mourn the death of his brother Ron

Family and Friends of Norma Mossman as they mourn her death

Marcia VanVleet and family as they mourn the death of Rod VanVleet on June 16. Notes to Marcia can be sent to 19406 Melody Fair Place, Lutz, FL 33558

THANK YOU

Dear Friends,

For those of us who have had the opportunity to work the St. Philip's Garage & Plant Sale we know the real value is not necessarily the amount raised but instead the relationships nurtured. This year, after 3 years removed because of covid and illness I returned as a shopper. The time spent with you Saturday morning was the best therapy my medical team couldn't provide! Thank you for the hugs, conversation and encouragement. It was total joy to be immersed in your love!

I feel blessed to be getting up every morning and know that prayer has played a huge role in my treatment. I continue to receive chemotherapy to slow the growth of those wicked cancer cells, so far, its making a difference! St. Philip's has played a huge role in my family's life; I thank you daily for your continued love and support.

You are loved by many, especially me.

Lynn Lucas

THANK YOU! We are so grateful for everyone who drove us to appointments, provided food and gift cards, sent cards and have continued to pray for us over the last several months. We are forever thankful for your love and support.

John and Ellen Diischer

SAVE THE DATE INVITATION

Chris and Nikki Glade are inviting St. Philip's members to their Wedding Open House on Saturday, September 9, 2023 at 1141 Zweber Lane, Hastings. Yard games, card games, s'mores and more.

GIVING AND EXPENSE UPDATE

GIVING AND EXPENSE UPDATE		
	2023	2022
May 2023 YTD Giving	\$272,975.94	\$292,396.82
May 2023 YTD Expenses	\$231,309.89	\$274,156.88
Net	\$ 41,666.05	\$ 18,239.94

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

July 2	Jeremiah 28:5-9 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:38-42
July 9	Zechariah 9:9-12 Romans 7:15-25a Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
July 16	Isaiah 55:10-13 Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
July 23	Isaiah 44:6-8 Romans 8:12-25 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
July 30	1 Kings 3:5-12 Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

PASTOR GEIER OBSERVES 30th ANNIVERSARY OF HIS ORDINATION

On Labor Day weekend of 2015, St. Philip's opened its doors to meet its newly called pastor, Gregory Geier.

On Sunday July 16, we will celebrate the 30th anniversary of Pastor Geier's ordination into the ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. A reception will take place in the narthex following worship.

Pastor Geier, a native of San Diego, California, completed his college education at Fresno State University and attended Luther Northwestern Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Other calls served by Pastor Geier include Bethany, Immanuel and Trinity Lutheran Churches, a three-point parish in Cashton, Wisconsin for ten years and St. John's Evangelical in Preston, Iowa for twelve years.

The St. Philip's congregation heartily joins with Pastor Geier in the joyous observance of the 30th anniversary of his ordination. Congratulations, Pastor Geier. You are our congregation's beloved Shepherd of the Faith, as you devote yourself in ministry to all St. Philip's members and our community.

COME JOIN US FOR



**9:00 AM SUNDAY, JULY 23 AT
THE ROTARY PAVILION!**

This year, St. Philip's Lutheran Church is again hosting the community worship service during Rivertown Days. This means that **WE WILL NOT BE HAVING WORSHIP AT ST. PHILIP'S ON THAT SUNDAY.**

We are also incorporating our Vacation Bible School celebration as part of our worship! Because this is a community service, we will be designating any loose offering to Hastings Family Service and United Way's Food 4 Kids. (Any envelope offerings will be handled as usual.)

So grab a lawn chair and some sunscreen and join your church family and community down by the river for an awesome worship experience!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS is coming up July 17-20 and we are so excited for our Food Truck party theme. Here are a few updates of things before we kick it off:

- * You still have time to register your students! We'd like to have everyone registered by July 10 so we can plan accordingly for snacks and supplies.
- * Has your work/vacation schedule opened up that week and you'd like to help? We'd love to have you. Even if you only can do a day or two we'd really appreciate the help. Email Becky at beckyk@splchastings.org.
- * We will have two volunteer meeting days. One on Saturday, July 15 from 9:30-11:30 am and one on Sunday, July 16 right after church. If you are volunteering, please try to attend one of these meetings. We will start with some basics of how the days will go, rules, practice the songs, and then move on to set up and decorating. Even if you can't stay the whole time come for what you can. If you can't make either one, please email Becky at beckyk@splchastings.org and she will make sure you get all the information
- * We are looking for people willing to help donate some snack and other supplies to help us out. If you are interested/able to help us out, please watch for the board that will be posted in the narthex to grab some truck cutouts that have the needed items on them. Please return items to the wagon outside the office by July 10.

Thank you for your support to this program that not only has children from our church attend but also our community! And prayers for everyone involved!

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

St. Philip's will be hosting a Red Cross blood drive Thursday, August 24 from noon till 6 pm. You can sign up online to save your spot at:

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive>.

If you are interested in volunteering to help with the event, please contact Katy Lindberg 651-437-5031.

SINCE YOU ASKED . . .

Why does Pastor Geier preach from the pulpit sometimes instead of in front of the altar?

For the first 17-18 years of my ordained ministry, I preached almost exclusively from the pulpit. At that time, my piety influenced my belief that when I was in the pulpit, it was a physical reminder that while speaking from that location, I was proclaiming God's Word to God's people. The pulpit was reserved for the reading of the Gospel lesson and for the sermon. (There was also a lectern where the other lessons were read as well as announcements, etc.)

At some point while serving St. John's in Preston, I decided to try preaching from the front of the chancel area and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. The message I received amounted to, "It makes your sermons seem less formal and more personable and applicable to us." I thought this was interesting since the content hadn't changed.

Over a month ago, I preached from the pulpit at St. Philip's and several people thanked me and commented that they preferred it when I preached from the pulpit. A few weeks later, I did it again and a few different people shared similar comments. Based on this feedback I decided to try to make it a point to preach at least once a month from the pulpit.

The bottom line is that I am called to preach the Word of God to God's people. That proclaimed Word is Law and Gospel that accuses, condemns, frees and forgives the listener. The sermon is to nurture and equip you in your discipleship journey whether it is preached from in front of the altar or from the pulpit.

For some, hearing the sermon from the pulpit gives it an extra air of authority than hearing it from the same place where I share church announcements and helps them listen with greater reverence. For others, hearing the sermon from in front of the altar makes God's Word more personal and applicable to them.

There is no absolute right or wrong answer to this issue. The best place for me to preach is the place that best equips you for the work of ministry in your daily lives. If you have a preference, let me know because I am here to serve you and want your worship experience to be the very best enriching and inspiring experience it can be.

THANKS FOR ASKING!

CHRISTIANS STEWARDSHIP IS A WAY OF LIFE

- Our standard of living should not determine our standard of giving; instead our standard of giving should determine our standard of living.
- The New Testament model of stewardship of money is based not on what you give but on what you keep.
- Life is meant to be given away; hoard it and you wither and die; pass it on and you blossom and flourish.
- It is not how much you give; it is how much you have left after giving.
- If giving isn't giving you joy and bringing you fulfillment, don't give.
- God doesn't need your money, but you need to honor God's claim on everything you are and have including your money.
- Owe no more than you absolutely have to owe.
- We are not fully devoted followers of Jesus until we learn to master our money.
- Show me your checkbook and I'll tell you what you worship.
- You are not giving to the church; you are giving to God's mission in the world.

You can't go wrong if you apply any of the above to your life!

LUTHERAN NIGHT AT THE TWINS

Lutheran Night at the Twins is always fun. There are



Lutherans everywhere, they sing, they throw the first pitch and as pictured Bishop Lull greets all in attendance. St. Philip's gets listed on the roster of congregations on site at Target Field. A sign-up is now on the kiosk. The Tuesday, August 15 game at 6:40 pm is the Twins vs. the Detroit Tigers. Ticket cost is \$37.

Location of seats, Section 126 (similar to other years) Transportation is on your own. Deadline is Sunday, July 23. Make Check Payable to Glenda Schnirring who receives the tickets and will give them to you in person.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

St. Philip's honored three of its 2023 graduates on June 4. Pictured below are Aaron Herber, Lindsay Mathison and Averi Nelson.



Bill grew up in Chatfield, Minnesota as the son of a carpenter/lumberyard owner. Thus his skills of being a handyman. Needless to say, he has always been busy around the house with home improvements. He graduated from the U of M with a degree in forestry. Bill started working at Warner Hardware store in the lumber department and stayed with the company in its many buy outs. Lastly working as a VMI (vendor managed inventory) operator before retiring in 2015. He is a big nature lover and does his best reflection/appreciation of God in the great outdoors. We both enjoy camping and have gotten a seasonal RV site by Nevis, Minnesota. You will find us up there as much of the summer as possible.

Vicki was raised in Clara City/Montevideo. The first time Bill went out there with me he claimed you could see a snowstorm coming two days ahead due to the flatness of west central Minnesota. I have always loved music and was involved in band, danceline and eventually handbells. As an RN I worked most of my years at Regina Hospital in Med/Surg (Medical and Surgical nursing, ER, and Surgery departments but also worked at United and Methodist Hospitals. I have been happily retired since 2015. These days I am into quilting, reading, and gardening.

Our three sons all live in the metro area. Jeremy lives in Apple Valley and is an environmental consultant. Justin is a mechanical engineer. His wife Bridget is an inventory manager. They live in Champlin along with our grandsons, Bennett and Henri, which most of you have met in church. Cottage Grove is home for Josh and Allie. He is in quality control and she is a RN.

KEEPING CONNECTED

Hi from the Pavlishes, Bill and Vicki. Our story began in 1971 with "mind if I bring a friend". Bill was at the University of Minnesota and I was at Fairview School of Nursing. My roommate knew Bill and that he had a car. As the Christmas shopping season approached, my roomie asked if he would take her and a "friend" to Rosedale Shopping Center. And the rest is history. We were married in 1974.



We moved to Hastings in 1980. In searching for a church we did visit St. Philip's several times but the old sanctuary didn't feel right even though Bert and Margaret Goderstad greeted us warmly each time. After the new sanctuary was built we decided to try it again and that time it felt right. We became members in 2014. You will find Bill lurking around the church doing maintenance and grounds keeping as well as the garage sale driver with the horse trailer. Vicki loves playing handbells, working the garage sale, being the Secret Santa Workshop liaison, and involvement with Do Days. The warmth of the St. Philip's family has made us more involved in service to the church than we have ever previously been.

We are thankful for our many blessings in life.

2023 GARAGE & PLANT SALE MEASURED UP BIG TIME!

Just when one imagines, how can St. Philip's launch another "slam-bang" sale, it does. Truth be told, donations of goods were down in all areas except adult apparel, but a rich boost of **plant sales (\$3,354.50) AND straight out cash donations (\$1,365)**, by eight individuals, helped bring the total gross proceeds of the sale up to **\$20,119.91! (\$200 less than 2022).**

Lead Sale Coordinator, Deborah Dreher's guidance, inspiration, and astute organizing skills, were the "anchor-like" factors which gave confidence and stability to the entire event. Deborah's diligence resulted in an ambitious volunteer schedule filled, 25 department heads recruited, and 17 Scout Troop parents and members inspired to provide the energy and responsibility it took to meet the sale's goals.

Thanks are in order to more people than can be named. Special thanks to Pastor Geier, for his daily support and Office Manager Lista Klocow who made signs on demand.

In conclusion, this unique St. Philip's event of 18 times, cannot be underestimated in its place on St. Philip's annual calendar. The effort it takes to do the sale has now heightened. St. Philip's congregation is advancing in the average age of its members. Health issues and death impact the pool of those who can physically lend a hand. The sale's positive impression on all who attend is not measurable. The sale brings satisfaction to those finding just what their lives enjoy, gratitude to those whose needs are many, and a lift to those who yearn for personal contact of a quality not found just anywhere. Every June, St. Philip's Garage & Plant sale is a destination for hundreds of guests who see firsthand, God's hands at work for others.

Numbers of note:

- ◆ 120 households donated goods or plants
- ◆ 25 people served as department heads, they were: Sally Anderson, Chad and Natalie Carda, Mary Charlson, Susan Cruse, Darla Kimmes, Jan Kochendorfer, Jan Misegades, Vicki Pavlish, Marjorie Peterson, Emily Preston, Glenda Schnirring, Pat Schultz, Kathy Stockman, Carol Tobin, Al and Patty Todnem, Lance Twedt, Bernita Weber, David and Geneva Weisser, Arlene Wellemeyer. Auxiliary support: Bob Cruse, Bill Pavlish, Steve Wolverton
- ◆ 45 volunteers worked a portion of six days resulting in 1,700 volunteer hours
- ◆ Approximately 14,000 items handled at least times, results in 42,000 "touches"
- ◆ 92 volunteers worked on sale day
- ◆ 110 volunteers gave a portion of their time to the sale event over seven days
- ◆ 10 people provided lunch for 42 workers for four days plus sale day. They were: Deborah Dreher, Jeannie Evans, Pastor and Amy Geier, Pam Hoffman, Barb Jorenby, Gerri Lundby, Camille Nelson, Mary Rock, Lois Twedt, plus others who brought food favor items
- ◆ \$560 was raised in PEO's food tent which gave all proceeds to St. Philip's projector fund which has an outstanding balance. Thank you Beth Fahlstrom for guiding this.



Geri Holmseth and Sharon Moody worked many hours in a very full apparel room



Natalie Carda, Deb and Rick Carlson staging two hot items for sale day



Preparing for sale day is Arlene Wellemeyer (department head) with steady helper Judy Stark



Jewelry being cleaned by Bernita Weber



Romayne Garloff and Patty Todnem (department head in kitchen) polishing silver



Jan Misegades and Sue Cruse (department head) in adult apparel



Pastor Geier offering baked potatoes and trimmings to 45 volunteers on Tuesday during the work week



Geneva Weisser's Plant Sale offered beauty, big interest and \$3,354.50 in proceeds



Becky Raimann and Judy Werner help arrange children's books



Sale Coordinator, Deborah Dreher minutes before the Sale opens. She knows "St. Philip's is ready!"



They wrapped around the building, some with bins



Mom Mackenzie and baby Eleanor, leave with a special toy from "children's"



Lois Wroge and Sadie Reiners can't look around as they serve people with big orders



The Sale brings good friends together like Lynn Lucas and Raul Jackson



Darla Kimmes helps as customer make a choice



Scouts were a tremendous help with carry outs for our cashiers. Seventeen Boy Scout Troop members and parents helped. Diane Keller is seen as a cashier in the photo.



This happy customer and her son know they've found a bargain

New this year, parking lot attendants. Dan Strehlow and Bruce Arndtson are ready



2023 July

St. Philip's Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	Jun 30	1
9:30 AM Worship	Office Closed 6:30 PM Boy Scouts	4th OF JULY Office Closed		11:45 AM Meals on Wheels 1:00 PM Do Dops 1:30 PM Staff Meeting		7:00 AM Men's Bible Study
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9:30 AM Worship	Office Closed 6:30 PM Boy Scouts	4th OF JULY Office Closed		11:45 AM Meals on Wheels 1:00 PM Do Dops 1:30 PM Staff Meeting		8:00 AM Women's Bible Study
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:30 AM Worship	1:00 PM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 6:30 PM Finance Ministry	5:00 PM Fellowship Ministry 5:30 PM Prayer Team 6:30 PM Stewardship Ministry		7:00 PM Boy Scout Committee		Newsletter Deadline 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM SPECIFIC Grounds Clean-up 9:30 AM VBS Volunteers Meeting & Decorating
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:30 AM Worship / Warncke Baptism 10:30 AM VBS Volunteers Meeting & Decorating	9:00 AM Vacation Bible School 1:00 PM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Council 6:30 PM Boy Scouts	9:00 AM Vacation Bible School	9:00 AM Vacation Bible School	9:00 AM Vacation Bible School 11:45 AM Meals on Wheels 1:00 PM Do Dops		8:00 AM Women's Bible Study
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9:00 AM Worship @ the River	6:00 PM Adult Spiritual Growth 6:30 PM Boy Scouts					7:00 AM Men's Bible Study
30	31	Notes				
9:30 AM Worship	1:00 PM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Boy Scouts					

Worship Leaders July 2023

	July 2	July 9	July 16	July 23	July 30
	9:30	9:30	9:30	9:30	9:30
Worship Coordinator	Katy Lindberg Glenda Schriming	Bruce and Brenda Arndtson	Judy Hansen Deborah Dreher	Jay and Becky Raimann	Mary Rock Connie Ball
Greeter	Wayne & Beth Fahistrom Jon Faust	Jim & Denise Jacobs	Todd & Julie Sieben Family	The Wormley Family The Ronning Family	Marita Legreid
Usher	Steve Woiverton Kent Hoffman	Gary & Marge Evenson	Ron Toppin Jay Raimann	The Wormley Family The Ronning Family	Bruce & Brenda Arndtson
Lector		Katy Lindberg	Cindy Toppin	Geneva Weisser	Deborah Dreher
Communion Bread	Pastor Hoiium Marjorie Peterson	Pastor Geier Lori Best	Pastor Geier Becky Raimann		Pastor Geier Deborah Dreher
Communion Wine	Beth Fahistrom Barb Jorenby	Connie Ball Katy Lindberg	Patty Todnem Darlene Olson		Sadie Reiners Lois Wroge
Prayer Team	Geri Holmseth	Vonnice Olson	Jennie Thomas	Judy Werner	Barb Jorenby
Offering Counters	Judy Hansen Denny Kohn	Pam Hoffman Mary Rock	Deb Frandrup Deborah Dreher	Ron Toppin Bob Cruse	Judy Hansen Denny Kohn
Music Leader/ Cantor	Maria Gathje	Darlene Olson	Julia Ronning Unity	Kelsey Wormley	Jan Kochendorfer
Organist/ Musicians	Noreen Swanson	Noreen Swanson	Noreen Swanson Unity	Sam Willis	Noreen Swanson

Please check in with the worship coordinators on the Sunday you have a duty. They will answer any questions and let you know if there are any special circumstances that day.

If you are unable to fulfill your assigned spot, please contact others on the schedule and attempt to find your own substitute.

Please let Lista in the church office know of any changes to this schedule (651-437-6541)

ST. PHILIP'S STAFF

Gregory Geier, Pastor

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Noreen Swanson, Organist

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Ellen Diischer, Coordinator of Worship Planning

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Kelsey Wormley, Children's Choir Director

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Christine Rydel, Business Manager

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John Diischer, Sound Board Technician

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Rachel Moritz, Assistant Teacher

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Kari Vortherms, Assistant Teacher

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ST. PHILIP'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL

1401 West 15th Street, Hastings, Minnesota

651-437-6541

www.splchastings.org

Church Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Friday: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Sunday Worship Service:

In Person and Livestream Worship at 9:30 am

(Livestream link on www.splchastings.org,

YouTube and Facebook)

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