

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

May 2021

May Events

8:30 and 10:00 am
In-Person Worship
Services Beginning
May 2

Sherry Akins Memorial
Scholarship Application
Due Date May 15

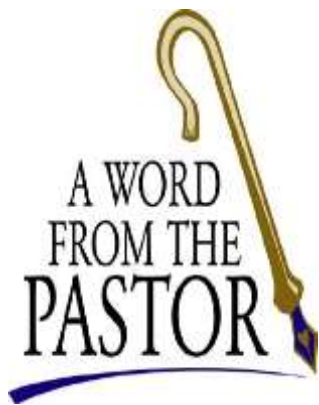
High School Graduation
Recognition
Sunday, May 23
10:00 am worship

Last Day of Preschool
T/TH – May 27
M/W/F – May 28

WELCA Cruise Sign-up
Deadline May 31

¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Romans 8:14-17



Many of us know several families who have been blessed through adoption. When children are adopted they are chosen to be part of this family. They fully belonged to their family and to their community. Adopted children are full-fledged sons or daughters of their parents.

The apostle Paul uses the Roman concept of adoption to describe our relationship to God. Adoption in the Roman culture was total and complete. The adoptee was a full child and heir. No distinction was made after the adoption was finalized. Paul uses that analogy for us so that we can understand we are completely and totally God's sons and daughters.

Community is the same way. Not only are we completely daughters and sons of God belonging to God, but we also belong to each other as children of God and siblings of Christ. Community is where we belong as adopted sons and daughters of God!

It is the God, Holy Spirit who bears witness that we are children of God. The Spirit gives life and comes to live inside us. The Spirit gives energy, like a wind that carries us along. The Spirit brings refreshment, like a new breath within us so that our spiritual lungs are bursting with the fresh air of God. We are motivated, dynamic, filled with enthusiasm.

In our new life in Christ we are no longer in slavery to trying to keep the law. Because of Christ's finished work we are credited with his righteousness. As Paul puts it, “even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of

righteousness”—that is, because of the righteousness of Christ.

The life-giving Spirit gives us freedom. In fact, life in the Spirit is getting better all the time because we are gradually being transformed to become more and more like Christ.

The Spirit of God is the great encourager, constantly whispering words of affirmation into our consciousness. The Spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God—and that means we are heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ.

Earlier in the amazing chapter of Romans 8 we learn that there is “no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus” (8:1). We have been set free from the law of sin and death by the law of the Spirit of life (8:2). The righteous requirement of the law has already been fully met, through Christ, so that we can walk by the Spirit (8:4). The Spirit instills a new attitude deep in our spirit. We learn, through the life and death and resurrection of Jesus and in the outpouring of new life in the Spirit, that God loves us even more than we can imagine. And God has poured his love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Thanks be to God!

*Your Servant in Christ,
Pastor Geier*

Thank You

Norma and I would like to say a big thank you to our St. Philip's family for all our anniversary wishes. Our trip down memory lane of 50 years here at St. Philip's, is heartwarming and wonderful. We feel humble and blessed. To God be the glory.

Norm and Lenora Holtorf



Our heartfelt thanks to our St. Philip's family for the many prayers, cards, and words of sympathy for Paul's skiing accident and hip replacement and the recent death of his sister Audrey. Just knowing that so many people care went a long way in keeping us on a steady path.

Paul and Karen Swanstrom

Preschool Chatter

For the most part, spring has finally sprung. The month of April was full of wild and crazy times as we learned about the wild west, bees, Eric Carle stories, and rain/rainbows. We did lots of games where we acted out our themes like being horses or cactus, relay races to deliver nectar, and Brown Bear, Brown Bear stretching game. We also enjoyed some color theme days: yellow and black, blue, and a class favorite of rainbow colors. So fun to see how many different colors they could wear!

Our staff was excited to have a district wide training in April with a lot of other preschool providers and some kindergarten teachers from the district. We are always working on improving our program and being sure we are doing our best to prepare children for kindergarten. This training was a great step toward that goal. In mid-April we were very thankful for the excellent turn-out we had for parents attending conferences. It is an important time when we can share each child's progress. It's a great partnership that we have with our families and we appreciate them taking the time to meet with us!

It is hard to believe we only have one month left of school. As we have said before, this school year was like no other. We have been blessed to be able to serve 49 families and give children the opportunity to learn and grow in a safe and fun learning environment. Thank you all for your continued support and prayers during this past year!

Blessings to you all,
Becky and Lorelei
 Preschool Co-Directors

- AMONG OUR OWN -

Congratulations to...

Joel and Rosa Geier on the birth of their son **Lambeau Allen Geier** (grandson of **Pastor and Amy Geier**) born March 20.



Levi Evans (son of Jeannie Evans) who has been accepted into the Navy and is leaving May 20. He is entering into the submarine electronic computer field.

Cayden Hedeem, Parker Perseke, Payton Perseke and Tor Ronning on their first communion



Steve and Cindy Mollick on their 45th wedding anniversary May 1.

Jacob and Stephanie Lodewegen on their 10th wedding anniversary on May 7.

Dan and Debbe Kjellsen on their 25th wedding anniversary May 11.

Wayne and Beth Fahlstrom on their 40th wedding anniversary May 23.

Jason and Rachel Moritz on their 10th wedding anniversary on May 28.

Sympathies...

Paul Swanstrom and family as they mourn the death of his sister Audrey Barr.

Lois Twedt and family as they mourn the death of her mother Doris Wigand.

GIVING AND EXPENSE UPDATE

	Actual 03/21 YTD	Budget 03/21 YTD	Actual 03/20 YTD
General and Misc. Funds YTD			
Income	\$120,911	\$123,000	\$145,201
Expenses	\$144,344	\$135,862	\$145,975
Over (short)	(\$23,422)	(\$12,862)	(\$774)
Capital Fund	\$40,744	\$42,500	\$46,641

NOTES OF ENCOURAGEMENT GET TOGETHER



On Thursday, May 6 at 9:30 am, WELCA members are inviting you to join them in the old sanctuary to get together and write notes of encouragement to the families of St. Philip's. Stationary, stamps, etc. will be provided!



Since You Asked. . .

What is a "lectionary"? Why are there different ones? Which one do we use?

A lectionary is a list of Scripture readings appointed for worship on a given Sunday or even every day. For the last four years we have been using the Narrative Lectionary.

The Narrative Lectionary has a four-year cycle that starts every September with lessons from Genesis and follows a linear storyline of God and God's people through other Old Testament texts. Then in the Advent season this lectionary uses lessons from a single Gospel through Easter and then finishes with passages from Acts and one of the Epistles until Pentecost Sunday. This allowed me to have a variety of "preaching series" during the summer months. One characteristic of this lectionary is that there is only one lesson (often longer) read each Sunday.

When I came to serve St. Philip's I advocated trying the Narrative lectionary for a full four-year cycle so that we could hear the linear storyline of the Old Testament and each Gospel. We have now completed one four-year cycle.

This year, on May 30, Trinity Sunday, we will again start using the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL). As the name indicates this is a "Common" lectionary that is used in many denominations including, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, and Roman Catholic congregations.

The RCL has a 3-year cycle that starts with the first Sunday of Advent. In the RCL, there are assigned lessons from the Old Testament, psalms, epistles and a Gospel. Unlike the Narrative Lectionary, we will be reading a passage from the Gospel (along with another lesson) each week.

In the RCL, each year focuses on one of the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, or Luke) with the Gospel of John sprinkled in throughout each year. We will start using the RCL mid-year with Cycle B with Mark, and on November 28 (Advent 1) begin Cycle C with Luke.

Thanks for asking!

IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

Get ready for Knights of North Castle, our VBS program this summer July 19-22! Registration is open for kids who are preschool age through completed fifth grade. Registration forms are available at the Welcome Center. If you're interested in volunteering, call Sarah Bennett at (651) 437-6541 or email her at sarahb@splchastings.org.



SUMMER FUN!

Copies of our full summer schedule is available at the "Info" bulletin board outside the old sanctuary. Events include a high school bonfire night on June 11 and Wednesday activities all throughout June, July and August! We are starting with a family Bubbles and Slice Part on June 2 from 6:00-7:00 pm!



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RECOGNITION

We are having our high school graduation recognition ceremony during the 10:00 am worship service on Sunday, May 23. Come join us in celebrating this wonderful accomplishment by our graduates!



BERT GODERSTAND MEMORIAL SERVICE

A Memorial Service to honor the life of Bert Goderstad will be held at the church on July 17 at 2 pm. Details will follow closer to the date.



WELCA CRUISE OUTING

AHOY! Sign up for the WELCA boat cruise on the kiosk and remit your \$30.00 payment to WELCA - A.S.A.P.



The cruise will happen on Thursday, July 8, 2021. You will meet at church to

carpool at 10:15 am. The cruise will be from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm. Lunch includes a sandwich, potato salad, fruit, and cookie. Drinks will be available to purchase. If you have any specific requests or dietary concerns for lunch, please indicate on the sign-up sheet.

Please join us for this wonderful outing to re-connect with all your friends. Let's try to get your reservation in by May 31.

Questions? Contact Marita Legreid. Sign up on the kiosk or let her know by the end of the month. Let Marita know if you are willing to drive for our carpool.



MAY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Beginning Sunday May 2, 2021 and throughout the month of May, St. Philip's will offer two identical in-person worship services at 8:30 and 10:00 am. Services will continue to be conducted following the CDC and MDH guidelines for worship with social distancing and the wearing of masks. Recorded services will continue to be offered as well.

Attendance and safety guidelines will be monitored closely. If attendance trends and safety measures indicate it, the schedule of in-person services may change. Please read the newsletter and watch for notifications. It is our prayer that all have a meaningful safe worship experience.

The Worship and Music Ministry Team

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS



May 2	Acts 15:1-18 Council at Jerusalem
May 9	Galatians 1:13-17; 2:11-21 Living by Faith
May 16	Galatians 3:1-9, 23-29 One in Christ
May 23	Fruits of the Spirit Acts 2:1-4; Galatians 4:1-7 [5:16-26]
May 30	Isaiah 6:1-8 The Holy Trinity

CHURCH DIRECTORY

The printed church directory, where you can find members addresses and phone numbers, is available to you in the narthex behind the welcome center in the Lucite



brochure holder. It is printed as supply demands and is as up to date as the information is provided. So...if you change your mailing address, drop a landline and are now using your cell phone as your main number or have a new address or change your email address please let the office know so that we can have the most current information for you. Feel free to take a copy home for your convenience.

Another option is our Online Photo Church Directory. This directory has member's photos, addresses, phone numbers and emails, as shared. It is a good app for your phone or on your laptop to have access to your church family. To sign up go to www.instantdirectory.com and create a log-in. There are instructions on the SPLC website at www.splchastings.org under the "About Us" tab at the top of the page. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

ROBERT BOXRUD ST. PHILIP'S FOUNDING PASTOR REMEMBERED

St. Philip's founding pastor, Robert Boxrud, passed away Thursday, Mar. 18, in Lemmon, S.D., at the age of 92. He is survived by his wife Jean and three children, Mark, Lee Ann, and Dan, along with their families. A full obituary of Pastor Boxrud can be found on the internet. Cards of sympathy may be sent to Jean Boxrud, 502 11th Avenue North, Hettinger, ND 58639.



Pastor Robert Boxrud, his wife Jean and four children moved to Hastings in the spring of 1967 to provide ministry to the newly established St. Philip's Lutheran Church. St. Philip's was a product of an American Lutheran Church mission program, which is now the ELCA.

Pastor Boxrud had started one other Lutheran church before coming to Hastings. Frank Mossman, an ordained pastor who knew Pastor Boxrud was now working at Hastings' State Hospital. He alerted Pastor Boxrud about St. Philip's and encouraged his interest.

A parsonage had been built on Honeysuckle Lane for St. Philip's new pastor along with a modest start-up building at 15th and Pleasant.

Pastor Boxrud was given a parish worker who would walk the neighborhoods of what was becoming the newer part of Hastings at the time, spreading the word about the new church and encouraging people to visit it. Pastor Boxrud did the same. Some ALC Lutherans who were members at Our Saviors became interested in returning to a Lutheran church of their tradition. Even with a lot of recruiting there were less than 20 households who became charter members of St. Philip's in May of 1967.

Pastor Boxrud was a natural for new growth. The city was growing as was its school district, which became a healthy pool of prospects for the new St. Philip's. Pastor Bob aligned quickly with the other churches in Hastings befriending many of the pastors and priests which launched Hastings into an active ecumenical spirit between its houses of worship. Regina Hospital nuns became Pastor Bob's friends along with Father Dunn and St. Philip's soon had its first altar paraments from their efforts.

Hallmarks of Pastor Boxrud's less than five-year ministry with St. Philip's was his ability to get his faith - diverse congregation to be in conversation with each other after Sunday morning worship. After the one-service time, a Sunday school would convene, and adults who chose to, would gather on the folding chairs of the sanctuary and discuss the day's sermon. One person designated as leader would get the discussion going and from there, conversation would begin with Pastor Boxrud giving interpretation of his message to those who needed more understanding.

Pastor Boxrud influenced the faith lives of many people. St. Philip's was made up of many families from other faiths but their connection with Pastor Boxrud upon discovering him through other people or through their work would "Come and See", just as people do today, and often become leaders in their own right.

Pastor Boxrud aimed his congregation to the outside world. From the seeds of faith he planted, the congregation has continually had members serving on the school board, the city council and city commissions. The harvest of his ministry remains alive today. For those who knew him, his words and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit continues to provide daily direction and inspiration.

LUTHERAN NIGHT AT THE TWINS

Monday, July 26, at 7:10 pm

This is a fun night when many Lutherans from around the state gather to watch the game in beautiful Target Field. Twins will be playing the Detroit Tigers. Tickets will be \$29 each. More information will follow. Tuck some cash away for this fun night out.



(Transportation is on your own). Questions? Contact Glenda Schnirring.

SHERRY AKINS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Attention High School Seniors of St. Philip's! Applications are now being accepted for the Sherry Akins Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship represents a donation from the employees of Innovative Surfaces, the custom countertop company that Bruce and Sherry Akins started and owned for many years. We would like to present this scholarship to a student that is pursuing a 2-year degree in the trades. Skilled laborers, in many different trades, are a necessary component of the workforce and should be proud of their contributions to their field! Whether you're pursuing a career as an electrician, a nursing assistant, an IT specialist, a mechanic, or a number of other skilled trades, this scholarship can help you pursue your dreams.

To request an application form, please e-mail Tracy Pavelka at tmpav2170@yahoo.com. Please fill it out completely and return via e-mail to Tracy by May 15. A scholarship committee will review all completed applications and determine a winner based upon application content. The 1-time scholarship in the amount of \$500.00 will be sent directly to the recipient. Don't miss this opportunity to contribute to your own college fund, but to also honor a member of St. Philip's who gave so much to our congregation.

MARY FISCHER SCHOLARSHIP

Applications are now being taken for the 2021 Mary Fischer Scholarship. This \$2,000 scholarship is awarded annually to a female member of the congregation pursuing an undergraduate degree. This scholarship was funded in most part by the Fischer Family in honor of Mary Fischer. The scholarship is open to a St. Philip's female taking undergraduate courses in the 2021-22 at a 4-year institution.

If you are interested in applying you can find applications online at www.spchastings.org or pick up a copy on the welcome center at church. Please fill it out and return an electronic version via email to Lista Klocow in the office at listak@spchastings.org or return to her via mail or dropped off at the office in an envelope to maintain the confidentiality. All applications will be coded, and anonymity will be insured for the work of the Award Committee. The deadline is June 30.

BIBLE DAY AT SUNDAY WORSHIP

The April 11 Sunday worship included the presentation of Bibles for 3rd grade children. The WELCA (Women's Group) of St. Philip's provides the funding for Bibles each year. They are given to children in 3rd grade and a "young children's" Bible is given to three year olds.



Sarah Bennett, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries, announces the presentation of the Bibles.

Parents and the children receiving a Bible are invited forward for a blessing and the placing of the Bible from the parent to the child



Rachel and Jason Moritz with Luke, and son Logan having just received his Bible

Peyton Perske proudly holds his Bible. Peyton was supported with parents and both grandparents present at the worship service



MAUNDY THURSDAY WITH FIRST COMMUNIONS

Four young people, Cayden Hedeem, Parker Perseke, Peyton Perseke and Tor Ronning, received their First Communion from Pastor Geier during the Holy Week observance of Maundy Thursday. The families of the recipients gathered at the altar for the laying on the hands during the receiving of First Communion. Parker and Peyton received their First Communion during the virtual service recording and Cayden and Tor received their First Communion at the in-person evening worship.



Tor Ronning stands in front of the banner he created before receiving his First Communion at the service which followed



Cayden Hedeem is pictured in the front row with family members in attendance at the First Communion worship service

Parker and Peyton Perseke were joined by their family as they received First Communion



GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE

Through the reading of Scripture by Pastor Geier and the singing of hymns selected for the Tenebrae service, the story of Jesus' final hours, are observed in solemn darkness and eventual silence. The altar begins the service with lighted candles which are gradually darkened two at a time.

AN "IN-PERSON" EASTER SERVICE DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC

Precautions of high order were put into place for members of the congregation who sought an in-person observance of Easter at St. Philip's in 2021.

Pre-registration of attendees, an onsite check-in stop, additional seating in the narthex, along with a four-person usher team made certain each worshipper was protected to the fullest extent possible. One hundred thirty-two people attended the one 9:30 am service with masks and social distancing being practiced.



An Easter floral display, done by Vonnie Olson, was provided in the front door planter



The altar was adorned to represent the beauty of Easter



Katy Lindberg and Michelle Carlson did a check-in of all in attendance



Jay and Becky Raimann along with Pam and Kent Hoffman assisted with seating by section



Deborah Dreher was one of the four ushers



Doug and Danna Schultz seen outside where all the visiting happened



Pastor Geier giving an Easter greeting to Bruce Arndtson





Early arrivals with children could do cleverly planned Easter arts and crafts



Katie Thomas helps her son and daughter find Easter eggs in the grass



Thank you to all who donated candy to fill the many Easter eggs that were hid



Galen Willis helps young grandson Elijah discover his first Easter egg



Alex and Aleaha Zuzek enjoying conversation with Abby Schultz



Al Todnem, along with Laura and Kurt Zabel getting re-acquainted



Lisa Bergert and Robyn Tank enjoying some catch-up talk



Steve Wolverton and Dave Tank expressing Easter wishes

STAYING CONNECTED WHILE WE'RE APART

Hello. We are Linda and Wesley Ask. We have been members of the St. Philip's family since February 4, 2018, and have been worshipping at St. Philip's since late 2015, after much shopping around to find a parish that felt "right."



From the first time we worshiped at St. Philip's, we both felt "at home," welcomed, and saw the endless variety of activities and engaged parishioners that seemed to be a family of its own. Pastor Greg's knowledge of the Bible and inspiring presentation of the sermons, provides us with a deeper understanding of Scripture and a great appreciation of God's eternal and unconditional love for us. After hearing and seeing children and adults share their experiences during their time at St. Philip's, and the support many have received through one another, and through God's grace, we are certain we made the right choice by becoming members.

Linda grew up in the Hastings area with her parents, one older brother and three younger sisters. She was surrounded by many aunts, uncles and her grandparents. As a family, she would often spend the summer months boating at Lake Byllesby, camping with aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends, or spending time at the cabin and lake side in Wisconsin during the summer months. Her father established his own business in the 1960's and she quickly learned how to assist her mom with the bookwork, phone calls, paying bills, or shift gears and put on a pair of jeans to work alongside her Dad and brother when needed. She later worked for the airlines, before working for the State of Minnesota, Department of Human Service, where she continues to work from home since the Pandemic.

I grew up on my great-grandfather's farm near Osage in northern Iowa with my parents and two sisters. After two years in college and four years in the Air Force, I worked for the US Department of Agriculture and then the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), retiring after 34+ years of Federal service. I met Linda while working for a brief period in FAA airport security at the Minneapolis Airport. Being Norwegian and from Iowa, it took me a while to figure out that she was the one I should be with for the rest of my life. So ten years later on May 30, 1997, I married the love of my

life, Linda at First Lutheran Church in St. Ansgar, Iowa, my boyhood home church. I worked in Princeton, Minnesota and maintained a home in Zimmerman, Minnesota until I retired from the FAA in 2002. We sold our Zimmerman home and finally lived full time together in Miesville in the home Linda has owned all of her adult life.

We busied ourselves with extensive remodeling to our home and many yard and garden projects. I describe my outdoor work as "trying to provide the appropriate canvas" for Linda's creative artistic talents in the garden. Linda grew up with the love of gardening while spending time with her mom and grandparents in her childhood years, while it has been a learning experience for me.

After being retired three years, I went to work on the grounds keeping crew at Bellwood Oaks Golf Course and this spring, am starting my sixteenth season working there.

Our marriage resulted in a blended family of four daughters, two sons and spouses. As time has passed, thirteen grandchildren were added. We enjoy participating in the grandchildren's activities; baking, baseball, biking, choir, dance performances, gardening, girls track meets, gymnastics, orchestra, riding lessons, skiing, girls softball, snowmobiling, Sunday School musical programs, trips to Barnes and Noble for more books and lunch and volleyball games.

Besides gardening and work, we do play. We enjoy biking, dancing, golfing, biking, skiing and going for walks. We both love to travel and I found the best travel planner in Linda. Outside of the United States, we have traveled to Costa Rica, Victoria British Columbia and twice traveled to multiple countries in Europe. Between Rick Steves' travel books and Linda's planning, our European trips couldn't have been better. Two Euro-Rail travel passes, two back packs and two pairs of good walking shoes, equipped us for the month long adventures in Europe. We are eager to plan additional trips to Europe and other places when the world is not so affected by the Pandemic.

This past year has been a challenge with the pandemic. We've missed the in-person worship services at St. Philip's a great deal. I have missed going to the YMCA for exercise classes and playing pickle ball this winter. Linda misses time spent with family the most. It has been stressful this past year not being able to care and visit her mom as often as we would have liked to due to the pandemic. When we are together, we don't really feel isolated; we can entertain ourselves quite nicely here at home.



We are Tom and Cheryl Bullington, members of St. Philip's since 2003! Tom is a realtor with InMotion Realty here in Hastings, and

Cheryl works at Wells Fargo Bank. We just celebrated our 30th wedding anniversary! We have two grown sons – Jake works for an advertising agency and lives in Des Moines with his girlfriend Cristina, and Christopher is pursuing independent study in programming and environmental science.

We have been involved with many ministries at SPLC over the years, including several stints on Council, being greeters, lectors and occasionally attempting to usher (hey, it's harder than it looks), teaching church school and running the sno-cone machine at VBS, acting in some pretty outrageous Lenten dramas (anybody remember the time Tom got tied up or the time Cheryl threw a baby doll across the altar?) and all the Confirmation projects and fundraising that comes with raising kids. Most important have been the friendships we made here with other young parents at Family Fun events and Camp House – and now that most of us are emptying the nests, those relationships have come to mean even more.

The part of St. Philip's which initially attracted us was the focus on service. We were both born and raised good Lutherans and met at St. Olaf College, but this was the first church we found as adults that really modeled being the hands and feet of Jesus. It all started the time Glenda trapped Cheryl in the hallway and convinced her that the first Grand Garage Sale needed her – and what wonderful memories came from those crazy weeks with no air conditioning! After that, we found ourselves saying yes to more opportunities to serve. We are surrounded here by so many great examples of how to live your faith and make a difference.

We have both branched out and try to carry that SPLC spirit into the community – Cheryl is a member of the Hastings Rotary Club and is usually pestering many of you to support our fundraisers (hey, just let her know if you need tickets to Rivertown Live! coming this September). Tom created the community website HastingsHappenings.com many years back, and tries hard to make it a platform to support local businesses

and nonprofit events. He also helps the Hastings Chamber and the Hastings Prescott Area Arts Council work to make Hastings a vibrant place to live. We are so appreciative of this congregation for setting us on this path of service and developing all the skills we never knew we would need!

The pandemic has certainly pointed out the critical need for a caring community. We have been thrilled with how quickly Pastor Geier and staff pivoted to providing virtual worship and devotions and some incredible music. And so thankful for a lay leadership that had to make hard decisions this past year. Cheryl currently serves on the Finance team and it has been such a boost to see the faithful giving of our congregation during tough times – together we truly are doing amazing work.

One bright spot to this quarantine was reconnecting via Zoom with some old St. Philip's friends who have moved away and some nearby we just never see often enough. And the best part of worshipping via YouTube is being able to pause the sermon and fact-check the pastor...oh, just kidding. But we are anxious to get back to our favorite pew in the far corner with Gerri Lundby and be the awkward last people to receive Communion at second service, while Noreen kindly plays one extra refrain! Even though we have had to eat our donut holes all alone these past months, we hold you all close in our hearts and draw strength from the fact that our mission has never faltered. Until we meet again, we will continue to go in peace and serve the Lord!

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Hello St. Philip's family,

Our faith journey as a family started in December 1991. Paul and Sue along with my sister Amy and I joined St. Philip's church after moving to a hobby farm in Hampton. Our family moved from Richfield to Hampton to raise and breed Labradors and enjoy horses.



In June of 1999 Steve and I were married at St. Philip's. We have two children Dominick and Makayla. Our kids have always had St. Philip's as their church home and have been active in many activities such as

Sunday school, choir, musicals, VBS (as participates and volunteers) and confirmation. Steve enjoys his job as a St. Paul fire captain/paramedic which he has been at for thirteen years. Some of you may recognize me from around church as for the last seven years I've been a teacher and now co-director of St. Philip's Preschool. I can't tell you how excited I was when I got the call to teach here. I'd been a preschool teacher for 17 years prior to coming here but being able to come and teach in the church I grew up in was a true blessing! Both of our jobs had a lot of learning and new policies to make things as safe as possible during the pandemic. While it was stressful at times, we were thankful to have our jobs and still continue to serve our community.

Dominick is currently a junior at Mankato State and plans to graduate in December with a major in exercise science and a minor in psychology. Makayla is currently a senior at Hastings High School and excited to graduate this spring. Her plan is to attend UWRF in the fall for psychology. The year of Covid has taught us all many new coping skills but also appreciated the extra time we could spend together. Campfires on Monday nights were a fun new addition to family time.

Paul and Sue still live on that same hobby farm. They are both long time members of the prayer team. Sue is the head trainer at Rio Gran training academy. Both Paul and Sue are also trainers at Rio. So, while they don't raise dogs anymore, they still enjoy working with them a few days a week. Little over a year ago I also joined the Rio team as an assistant teacher. This is pretty common with our family; we do lots of things together. Prior to Covid Sue, Makayla, and I volunteered at Vacation Bible School which my niece also attended. Our favorite thing to do together is vacation and spend time hanging out on the hobby farm. Paul and Sue enjoy spending time with their five grandchildren. They enjoy each of them in a special way and it's fun to have grandchildren ages 21, 17, 6, 3 and almost 2.

We as a family have been blessed to live close to each other and spend a lot of time together, including many Sunday mornings at St. Philip's.

Blessings from the Kaphing and Severson family
(written by Becky)



PENTECOST SUNDAY
MAY 23

COLUMBARIUM UPDATE

Now that spring has arrived, the east side of the church property will see much anticipated construction activity. The first step in the process is the concrete work, which is scheduled to begin in May. The next step will be the delivery of the 80-unit structure. A columbarium contains niches (compartments) to hold the ashes of a loved one. We have vendors in place for the columbarium, patio, landscaping, benches, as well as the concrete work. Presales started in December, which will help to offset some of the costs. A dedication will take place when all the work has been completed, probably sometime in September.

A table has been set up in the narthex with a rendering of our columbarium, a sample niche, sell sheets for the taking, and application folders for those who are interested in leasing a niche. 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 as an insert in this newsletter. For more information, feel free to call Gary McDougall at 651-216-7213 or Judy Hansen at 612-600-1209.

IN-HOME CARE IN MINNESOTA

Many aging adults are unaware of the available care options and programs that can help them maintain their independence and quality of life. A free resource was created that provides comprehensive information on topics like financial support and in-home care options that are available in their area. You can read more about their work here:

- <https://www.caring.com/senior-care/in-home-care/minnesota>
- <https://www.caring.com/senior-care/in-home-care/>

REGISTER FOR FALL PRESCHOOL

- * Open to All Preschoolers 3-5 Years Old
- * Non-denominational Christian Emphasis
- * Licensed Program
- * Call today to schedule a tour

Sessions offered 9 am-noon

- * Tuesday / Thursday
- * Monday / Wednesday / Friday
- * Monday through Friday

Questions? Call Becky or Lorelei at 651-437-6541

WORSHIP LEADERS MAY 2021

	May 2		May 9		May 16		May 23		May 30 Memorial Day Weekend	
	8:30	10:00	8:30	10:00	8:30	10:00	8:30	10:00	8:30	10:00
Worship Coordinator	Deborah Dreher & Glenda Schirring	Jay & Becky Raimann	Pam Hoffman & Darla Kimmes	Jay & Becky Raimann	Bob & Susan Cruse	Judy Hansen & Michelle Carlson	Connie Ball & Mary Rock	Kurt Oster & Camille Johnson-Oster	Deborah Dreher & Glenda Schirring	Judy Hansen & Katy Lindberg
Greeter/ Attendance Recorder	Deborah Dreher & Glenda Schirring	Bernita Weber	Pam Hoffman & Darla Kimmes	Jay & Becky Raimann	Geneva Weisser	Lisa Bergert	Connie Ball & Mary Rock	Cindy Topplin & Graduates	Deborah Dreher & Glenda Schirring	Judy Hansen & Katy Lindberg
Welcome Center										
Usher	Steve Wolventon	Michelle Carlson	Lois Wroge & Marla Legreid	Jennie Orr Thomas	Deborah Dreher & Katy Lindberg	Lance & Lois Twedt	Pam Hoffman & Darla Kimmes	Jay & Becky Raimann & Graduates	Jennie Orr Thomas	Michelle Carlson
Lector	Lori Best	Lance Twedt	Barb Joranby	Maria Gathje	Geneva Weisser	Lisa Bergert	Lois Wroge	Graduates	Lori Best	Darlene Olson
Communion Bread										
Communion Wine										
Acolyte										
Sound Board	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Offering Counters										
Prayer Chapel										
Music Leader/Cantor	Lori Best	Ryan Hummel	Al Todman	Becky Raimann	David Weisser	Maria Gathje	Nathan Griner	Nathan Griner	Lori Best	Raul Jackson

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 Lisa in the church office know of any changes to this schedule (651-437-8541)

MAY 2021

St. Philip's Lutheran Church
1401 West 15th Street
Hastings, MN 55033

651-437-6541
www.spichestings.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 8:30 am In-Person Worship 8:30 am Online Worship 9:15 am In-Person Sunday School 9:15 am Zoom Social Hour 10:00 am In-Person Worship 11:00 am Communion via Zoom 6:30 pm Boy Scouts Mental fitness and Jesus' Teachings Forum	3 11:00 am Preschool Chapel 11:20 am Preschool Chapel 5:30 pm CMT 7:00 pm Faith Formation Ministry	4 11:00 am Preschool Chapel 11:20 am Preschool Chapel 2:30 pm Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Fellowship Community Ministry 8:00 pm Worship & Music Ministry	5 6:45 pm In-Person Confirmation	6 9:30 am Notes of Encouragement Get Together	7	8 7:00 am Men's Bible Study
9 8:30 am In-Person Worship 8:30 am Online Worship 9:15 am In-Person Sunday School 9:15 am Zoom Social Hour 10:00 am In-Person Worship 11:00 am Communion via Zoom	10 6:30 pm Finance Ministry	11 2:30 pm Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Prayer Team 6:00 pm Stewardship Ministry	12 5:30 pm Preschool Ministry 6:45 pm In-Person Confirmation	13 9:30 am Circle Bible Study 11:00 am Meals on Wheels 7:00 pm Boy Scout Committee Meeting	14 Synod Assembly	15 8:00 am Synod Assembly 8:00 am Women's Bible Study
16 8:30 am In-Person Worship 8:30 am Online Worship 9:15 am Zoom Social Hour 10:00 am In-Person Worship 11:00 am Communion via Zoom 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	17 11:00 am Preschool Chapel 11:20 am Preschool Chapel 6:00 pm Council	18 11:00 am Preschool Chapel 11:20 am Preschool Chapel 2:30 pm Staff Meeting	19	20	21	22 7:00 am Men's Bible Study
23 PENTECOST 8:30 am In-Person Worship 8:30 am Online Worship 9:15 am Zoom Social Hour 10:00 am In-Person Worship / High School Graduate Recognition 11:00 am Communion via Zoom 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	24 6:00 pm Adult Spiritual Growth	25 2:30 pm Staff Meeting	26	27 Last Day T/TH Preschool 11:00 am Meals on Wheels	28 Last Day M-W-F Preschool	29 8:00 am Women's Bible Study
30 TRINITY SUNDAY 8:30 am In-Person Worship 8:30 am Online Worship 9:15 am Zoom Social Hour 10:00 am In-Person Worship 11:00 am Communion via Zoom 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	31 MEMORIAL DAY Office Closed					

ST. PHILIP'S STAFF

Gregory Geier, Pastor

pastorgeier@splchastings.org

Noreen Swanson, Organist

swansonhastings@centurylink.net

Ellen Diischer, Music Director

ellend@splchastings.org

Nathan Griner

nathanq@splchastings.org

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

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Christine Rydel, Business Manager

christiner@splchastings.org

John Diischer, Sound Board Technician

johnd@splchastings.org

Becky Kaphing, Preschool Co-Director

preschool@splchastings.org

Lorelei Rein, Preschool Co-Director

preschool@splchastings.org

Lista Klocow, Office Manager

listak@splchastings.org

**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:

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 8:30 and
10:30 am

Social Hour via Zoom at 9:15 am

Communion via Zoom at 11:00 am

Sunday School in May:

* In Person Sundays at 9:15 am (ends May 9)

Confirmation in May:

In Person at 6:45 pm (ends May 12)

* Note NEW times

affix label here

TIME DATED MATERIAL

**Return Service Requested

St. Phillip's Lutheran Church
1401 West 15th Street
Hastings, MN 55033

Hastings, MN 55033

Permit #148

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