

St. Philip Information and News (SPIN)

December 20, 2017

Church News

Upcoming Services-December

Sunday, December 24 we will have one morning service for the 4th Sunday in Advent at 9:30am. Then we will proceed with our regular Christmas Eve services at 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, and 9pm.

Monday, December 25 we will have our Christmas Day service at 10am.

The church office will be closed December 25, 26, and January 1.

Altar Flowers

Poinsettias purchased and dedicated by members of the congregation will grace the sanctuary this weekend.

The 2018 sign-up sheet is available now! If you are interested in donating flowers, please contact the church office. The cost is \$25 and needs to be pre-paid. You are welcome to take the flowers home after the second service on Sunday. Please return the vase to church when finished.

Conflict: A Good Thing!

Have you ever had an issue with a neighbor, coworker, family member, friend, or fellow church member? Come meet the Conflict Transformation Team as they present a six-week introductory course. Learn about the role of the team. Learn how to approach, work through, and overcome conflict. **Classes start January 7 and run through February 11.** They take place during the Sunday education hour (9:30-10:30am) in MC-4/5.

Inquirer's Class/New Member Class

We invite those interested to attend our next **Inquirer's/New Member Classes, January 7-February 14, 2018.** The first three weeks will be for those who want to learn more about the Lutheran church and its teachings. The second three weeks are for those who want to learn more about St. Philip Lutheran Church and how you might get involved in its ministries. Pastor Nathan will be teaching this class on Sunday mornings from 9:30 – 10:30am in the Fireside Room. Please RSVP to the church office at 303.979.4491 if you are planning to attend.

End of Year Giving Opportunities

If you would like to make a special year-end gift to St. Philip Lutheran Church, here are two options that can improve your tax situation as well as benefit the ministry of our congregation.

Donate Stocks or Mutual Funds

Contributing securities to St. Philip Lutheran Church offers valuable financial and tax benefits:

- Donors may deduct the entire value of the securities as a charitable donation
- Donors avoid paying capital gains tax on any increased value of the securities.

If you are interested in making an end-of-year gift to St. Philip via stocks or mutual funds, it is important that you not sell the securities first. Please contact Linda Good-nough at the church office (303.979.4491) for more information.

Charitable IRA Rollover

Many donors have discovered the benefits of making a gift using their Individual Retirement Account (IRA). If you are 70½ or older, you may be interested in this way to make a significant gift while lowering the income and taxes from your IRA withdrawals. Benefits of an IRA charitable rollover:

- Donors avoid taxes on transfers of up to \$100,000 from your IRA to St. Philip
- Donors satisfy their required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year
- The gift reduces the donor's taxable income, even if they do not itemize deductions
- A charitable IRA rollover is not subject to the 50% deduction limits on charitable gifts
- You make a real difference in the ministries of St. Philip!

ELCA Good Gifts

Do you know a child who would be thrilled to learn that a chick or other barnyard animal is being given in his/her name to a needy family? Or adults who would appreciate that you are honoring them by contributing a water filter or health care to someone halfway across the globe? If you are wanting to help others who have so very little both in the US and around the world, check out the Good Gifts catalog on the table in the narthex. Pick up an ornament to include with your gift. You can find out how to give in the Good Gifts catalog or online at ELCA.org/goodgifts.

Job Opportunity

White Sulphur Springs, a ministry of Officers' Christian Fellowship, is looking for a Youth Programs Coordinator. The deadline for application is January 15, 2018. Go to for more information. If you are interested in this opportunity, contact the WSS Center Director Paul Robyn, director@whitesulphursprings.org, or the WSS Office Manager, Susanne Hartkop, office@whitesulphursprings.org or [814-623-5583](tel:814-623-5583), for further information and an application.

Chrismons

This will be our final installment of our series on Chrismons. I hope you have enjoyed learning a little bit about this Lutheran Christmas tradition.

Jerusalem Cross: The Jerusalem cross is a heraldic cross and Christian cross variant consisting of a large cross potent surrounded by four smaller Greek crosses, one in each quadrant. A cross potent, also known as a crutch cross, is a form of heraldic cross with crossbars or "crutches" at the four ends. The large cross in the center stands for Christ, while the four smaller crosses represent the four Gospels and the spread of the Word to all four corners of the earth. Another suggestion is that the five crosses represent the five wounds of Christ on the cross.



Three Circles: The three circles, also known as the Borromean Rings, represent the Holy Trinity. The word trinity comes from the Latin noun trinitas mean-



ing “three are one.” The trinity represents the belief that God is one Being made up of three distinct Persons who exist in co-equal, co-eternal communion as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Crown: The crown represents the fact that Jesus is our King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He wore a crown of thorns, but we represent his place as Lord of all with a crown fit for a king. A King’s Crown is the symbol of royal power and authority. It symbolizes Jesus as King of the Jews, in fulfillment of prophetic expectation, as well as the exalted Christ as King of Kings.



Church Needs

Last Week to Donate

This is the final week of the Giving Tree to benefit LOLA's Rescue. **To all who have taken an ornament, thank you!** You can bring your donation to the church any time, and place it under the tree or in the green bins that are underneath the Family Promise table in the narthex. Checks and cash donations should be dropped off in the church office. The Giving Tree will be up in the narthex until **December 23**, so you still have time to take an ornament, and fill a wish. After December 23, please bring all donations to the bins next to the church office.

Family Promise

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help with Family Promise so far this week. We are not finished! Our guests will be with us until Sunday, December 24, and we are still in need of drivers and overnight hosts for Friday and Saturday. Don't forget to pick up a laundry bag as well when the week is over. Contact Rick Richardson at 720.467.8607 if you are interested in helping.

Double Your Impact to ELCA World Hunger

Thanks to generous friends of ELCA World Hunger, your donation made between now and the end of December will be matched - up to \$165,000. Act now and your gift will go twice as far! Donations can be made by checks payable to ELCA World Hunger or online at ELCA.org/hunger/donate. Thank you for your generosity.

Sharing with Sheridan Food Pantry – December Donations

For December we are asking for 16 oz. cans of peas and corn and personal items such as toothpaste, bar soap, small hand creams, and shampoo. Please place these items in the bins by the office. Thank you!

Church Families in Need – Take Them A Meal

If you know of a member who may appreciate having meals brought to them, please call Karen Rossi at 720.935.3021(cell).

St. Philip Early Learning Center

Registration Starts Now!

We are currently registering for the **2018 - 2019** school year. Church members of St.

Philip are invited to register before the general community for our upcoming school year. Our school year will begin **August 27, 2018 and end on May 17, 2019.**

Registration forms (two pages) should be received no later than **January 19, 2018** and need to include the non-refundable registration fee. Registration for the community begins, **January 24, 2018**, and spaces can fill up quickly. Registration forms can be found in the Narthex.

Events

Theater and Theology

Our next play, *Zoey's Perfect Wedding*, is a wildly funny fiasco where one bride's expectations of her perfect day are destroyed. The play is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 30, 2018 at 6:30pm** in the Space Theater. Please sign up in the narthex by **Sunday, January 7, 2018**. Tickets are \$35 each. Contact Nancy Oelz at nancyoelz@gmail.com or 720.231.5189 for questions.

Ken Caryl Concert Series

Thank you to all who supported our concert series in its second season by attending our concerts, making donations of time, food, and money, and spreading the word to the community. The response to each of our concerts this season just kept getting better and better, and we are looking forward to the 2018 season ... with a new piano in the sanctuary! We hope you will save the date for the events we already have slated for 2018:

Singin' n Swingin' - Saturday, May 12 @ 7:30 pm

Rags to Rock - Saturday, August 18 @ 7:30 pm

Harvest Hoedown - Sunday, November 4 @ 2:30 pm

And stay tuned for more info and possibly a few more events. If you have comments, suggestions, or special requests, please do not hesitate to contact us via the website - <http://www.stphilip-co.org/concerts/>.

Colorado Lutheran Lobby Day

Join advocates and community leaders on **Thursday, February 15, 2018** for a morning of learning and action! Discover the history of advocacy in the Lutheran tradition, get the latest updates on our work at the state capitol, and be at the forefront of building relationships with your elected officials. Lobbying 101 training will be offered, and a hot breakfast will be served. Registration fee scholarships are available. Go to www.lam-co.org for more details.

Preparing for Worship - December 23 & 24
First Reading: II Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27
Gospel: Luke 1:26-38
Christmas Eve
First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7
Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14
Gospel: Luke 2:1-20
Christmas Day
First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10
Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-12
Gospel: John 1:1-14

Worship Servants

Saturday, December 23

Pianist – Becky Miller
Cantor – Grace Miller
Altar Guild – Suzanne Peterson
Usher – Joanne Ermold
A/V – Jerry Jantz

Sunday, December 24, 9:30am

Assisting Minister – Mike Graff
Lector – Chris Youngren
Acolytes – Aaron Graff, Casey Graff
Communion Deacons – Karen Otto, Barb Donaho
Altar Guild – JoAnn Breitbart, Nancy Schell
Ushers – Bob Delong, Barb Delong, Bob Kidder
A/V – Steve Rower

Sunday, December 24, 3pm

Assisting Minister – Anne Klingman
Acolytes – Anna Carlson, Vicky Cerny
Communion Deacons – Amy Rahne, Teresa Cline
Altar Guild – Betty Welch
Ushers – Brian Lamb, Gaylen Rapp, Al Herzl, Will Herzl
A/V – Chuck Rogge

Sunday, December 24, 5pm

Assisting Minister – Bill Shepard
Lector – Jonathan Anderson
Acolytes – Caroline Casson, Erin Finnerty
Communion Deacons – TBD
Altar Guild – Carole Kessler
Ushers – Tom Silco, Chris White, Marc Roswech, Andy Osborne
A/V – Steve Rower

Sunday, December 24, 7pm

Assisting Minister – Jill Luer
Lector – Karen Morin
Acolytes – Abby Husted, Kameron Barthels
Communion Deacons – LeRae Schnickel, Karen Otto
Altar Guild – Lisa Edington
Ushers – Jerry Mydlach, Tim Young, Trevor Young
A/V – John Wall

Sunday, December 24, 9pm

Assisting Minister – Mike Graff
Lector – TBD
Acolytes – Roni Pixley, Miranda Bleau
Communion Deacons – Renate Muthart, Lisa Edington
Altar Guild – Victoria Edington
Ushers – Chuck Rogge & Family
A/V – Jerry Jantz

Monday, December 25, 10am

Assisting Minister – Bill Shepard
Lector – Jonathan Anderson
Acolytes – Reece Gerlach, Mason Lawrence
Communion Deacons – LeRae Schnickel
Altar Guild – TBD
Ushers – Bill Colbenson, Mike McNamara
A/V – John Wall

Financial Statistics—November

Save The Date-2018	
2nd Saturday of each month – work at Food Bank of the Rockies	
May 12	Ken Caryl Concerts <i>Singin' and Swingin'</i>-7:30pm
August 18	Ken Caryl Concerts <i>Rags to Rock</i>-7:30pm
August 20	7th Annual Golf Tournament
October 5 & 6	SPELC Consignment Sale
November 4	Ken Caryl Concerts <i>Harvest Hoedown</i>-2:30pm

Calendar of Events This Week (December 20 - 31, 2017)

<p>Wednesday, December 20 <i>Family Promise</i> 4:00p – Adult Discipleship Meeting (FR) 6:00p – Midweek Advent Service 7:00p – Confirmation 7:00p – Senior Youth Group</p>	<p>Tuesday, December 26 <i>Church office closed</i></p>
<p>Thursday, December 21 <i>Family Promise</i> 7:00a – Men’s Breakfast (IHoP Bowles Crossing) 6:30p – Choir Rehearsal (Choir room) 7:00p – Overeaters Anonymous (MC-3)</p>	<p>Wednesday, December 27 9:30a – Let’s Unwrap the Bible (FS) 9:30a – Fellowship in the Word (MC-1)</p>
<p>Friday, December 22 <i>Family Promise</i> (church office open 8am-noon) <i>No activities scheduled</i></p>	<p>Thursday, December 28 7:00a – Men’s Breakfast (IHoP Bowles Crossing) 6:30p – Choir Rehearsal (Choir room) 7:00p – Overeaters Anonymous (MC-3)</p>
<p>Saturday, December 23 <i>Family Promise</i> 9:00a – ACA/Serenity’s Child (MC-3) 10:30a – Al-Anon/Columbine AFG (MC-3) 5:30p – Worship</p>	<p>Friday, December 29 (church office open 8am-noon) <i>No activities scheduled</i></p>
<p>Sunday, December 24-Christmas Eve <i>Family Promise</i> 9:30a – Worship 3:00p – Christmas Eve Service 5:00p – Christmas Eve Service 7:00p – Christmas Eve Service 9:00p – Christmas Eve Service</p>	<p>Saturday, December 30 9:00a – ACA/Serenity’s Child (MC-3) 10:30a – Al-Anon/Columbine AFG (MC-3) 5:30p – Worship</p>
<p>Monday, December 25-Christmas Day <i>Church office closed</i> 10:00a – Worship</p>	<p>Sunday, December 31 8:00a – Worship 9:00a – Coffee Fellowship 10:45a – Worship</p>

Prepared and sent by Angela Seep, Parish Secretary
 St. Philip Lutheran Church
 7531 S. Kendall Blvd. Littleton, CO 80128-7060
 Office: 303.979.4491 Fax: 303.979.6396

Our Prayer List

Members:

Ann Hager, Norma Mayotte, Ray Peterson, Renate Muthart, Kay Mosier, Chuck Krieger, Nancy Bott, and Janet Wagner.

Family Members:

Don Drennan (Cliff & Kay Mosier's nephew)	Mark Overholser (Barb DeLong's brother)
Ron Carlson (Kirstine Rand's stepfather)	Richard Truman (Arne Truman's nephew)
Wendy McCabe (Aaron LaPoint's mother)	Scott Worman (Monica Auch's son)
Bob Ackermann (Karen Morin's brother-in-law)	Ryan Ermold (Joanne Ermold's son)
Rose Canales (Linda Baker's mother)	Jim Dawson (Dave Husted's uncle)
Sarah (Steve & Mary DeBoer's daughter)	Bill Orf (Howard & Nancy Hanson's son-in-law)
Fawn Kemp & her children (Larry Kemp's daughter & grandchildren)	Erika Kuenne (Carl & Rita Kuenne's daughter)

Friends:

Christie Possehl (Nelson)	Luke (DeBoer)
Eva Frachon (Roswech)	Keith Stechmesser (Philpy)
Family & friends of Laurie Howard (Miller)	Lore Schnell (Fritsch)
Ray (Otto)	Janet Arceneaux (Stevermer)
Chad (Miller)	Ryan Pfister (Belford)
Margie DeGiorgio	Emily Mulhollen (Celusniak)
Valentina Alexeeva (Fritsch)	Dr. Jill Pechacek (Roswech)

Prayers for our sister congregations, Abiding Hope and Christ Lutheran.

Prayers of love, support, and encouragement for JoHanna Buchholz and Aaron Silco, as they continue their seminary studies.

Prayers of support and love for our companion synods and friends in Madagascar, and our Madagascar missionary Kirsten Laderach.

Prayers of remembrance and love for all our homebound members.

Prayers for all servicemen and women deployed around the world, especially those with ties to St. Philip. Prayers for healing and comfort for those suffering with physical and mental injuries.

If you have a prayer concern, please call the church office at 303.979.4491, or send an email to Angela Seep at aseep@stphilip-co.org. Prayer requests will run for two weeks unless otherwise requested.