

St. Philip Information and News (SPIN)

August 19, 2020

Church News

St. Philip Journey

Just as the Apostle Philip was on a journey to spread the Good News to the Ethiopian Eunuch and the world, we too are on this same journey. You may not have stepped foot in the church since the beginning of the year due to COVID-19 and you may not feel as connected as you were because you have not been at church. Let's get you updated! Pastor Brad has written a newsletter to let you know what is going on at St. Philip. Go to page 4 to read the updates on St. Philip.

New Procedures For Entering the Building

So many changes these days; so many things unfamiliar and new. We appreciate your patience and flexibility as we navigate life during this pandemic.

St. Philip has returned to regular office hours: Monday-Thursday 8am-5pm and Friday 8am-noon. As a part of our commitment to safety, we have implemented new procedures for entering the church building. Please enter through the North doors at the end of the courtyard **ONLY**. Someone will greet you at the welcome station and take your temperature. You will be asked to sign in before entering the building further. Masks are required.

If you are stopping by to drop something off, you can do so just inside the North doors. Bins for Sharing with Sheridan, Soles for Souls, eyeglasses, etc. are located right at the entrance. We also have a basket for envelopes of any kind.

And remember, if you have any symptoms at all - fever, dry cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, diminished sense of taste and smell - please stay home.

The staff thanks you for your understanding. Next week we will have preschool children in our building once again, and we want to maintain the highest standard of cleanliness and responsibility possible.

Outdoor In-Person Worship

Outdoor worship continues this weekend, **August 22 & 23!** Both the Saturday evening worship service at 5:30pm and the Sunday morning worship service at 9:00am will be held in person and online! Saturday, August 22 we will have a baptism, and Sunday, August 23 we will do a blessing for students and teachers.

You may choose to sit in your lawn chairs in the courtyard, or you may stay in your cars. **All people worshipping outside of their car are asked to wear a mask at all times.**

Please go to <https://www.stphilip-co.org/worship-bulletins/> to download the worship bulletin.

Holy Communion will be part of these worship services. We have individually packaged communion wafers and grape juice cups, which will be distributed as you arrive and consumed during the Holy Communion portion of the service. If you need gluten-free wafers, we invite you to bring gluten-free crackers or bread.

Worship at Home

If you have access to a computer and the internet, you can worship with St. Philip at home! Go to **www.stphilip-co.org/worship-at-home/** and you will find information

about livestreaming our services as well as videos of our worship services. If you go to www.stphilip-co.org/worship-archives you will find videos of past worship services.

St. Philip Early Learning Center Postponing Consignment Sale

We have made the tough decision to postpone our 29th Annual Fall Sale. We are planning for April of 2021, but will communicate exact dates to the community as soon as we have the Spring dates set.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and as we are in the process of planning the safe return of our preschool students, we feel it would be irresponsible of us to host our annual community fundraiser. Our top priority right now is the safety and health of our staff, students and families. We apologize for any inconvenience, but we want to be sure and do our part to help keep our community safe.

We hope you will join us in the Spring! If you've already signed up for the Fall Sale, and if you've already begun to enter your items into MyCM... not to worry... your items will still be there for the Spring. No work will be lost!

Thank you for understanding, and we will communicate as soon as we have the Spring 2021 dates set. We appreciate your continued support of this community and our sale... we couldn't do this without you! Stay healthy and safe... we'll see you in the Spring!

Volunteer Opportunities/Donations

Volunteering at Sharing with Sheridan

Looking for something rewarding to get you out of the house and help others? With some of our volunteers returning to school, Sharing with Sheridan food pantry is looking for help on **Thursdays any time from 11am until 6pm**. It takes many people to provide food for 150 families! Please contact Carole Kessler at ckess911@aol.com or 720.341.7333 if you can assist.

Sharing with Sheridan Food Pantry

We served **124 families** last week Thursday, and we anticipate similar numbers this week. Here is the list of needed items:

- **Egg cartons**
- Canned vegetables
- Pasta sauce
- Meal soups (chili, ravioli, beef stew)
- Canned beans (refried, pork and beans, black beans)
- Plastic newspaper bags
- Plastic grocery bags
- Medium-sized cardboard boxes

For those who wish to drop off donations directly at the food pantry, please take them to the east door of the Sheridan Recreation Center on Thursdays only between 11:30am and 1:00pm. You can also bring items to church anytime. If the church is not open, just leave them in the bin by the door at the end of the courtyard; someone is

checking on a regular basis. If you are unable to drop off at either location, contact Jan Philpy at gjphilpy@gmail.com and she can arrange for someone to pick up your donation at your home.

Sheridan Idol Results

Thank you so much for your contribution to the *Sheridan Idol Contest* supporting the Sharing with Sheridan Food Pantry. By an overwhelming number of voting donations Andrew Graham and his lovely, talented daughter, Caroline, were crowned the 2020 Sheridan Idols.

Regardless of the *Sheridan Idol Contest* results, your assistance raising funds to ensure food security for families in south metro Denver is magnanimous. More than **\$18,000** were raised for Sharing with Sheridan Food Pantry and will support this all-volunteer organization's efforts to feed an increasing number of families every week.

Sheridan Celebrates Drive-In Concert

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, September 26** and plan to attend the Sheridan Celebrates Drive-In Concert from 7-9:30pm. Hear much more from the 2020 Sheridan Idols. They will be joined by Soul Sacrifice Santana Tribute Band. Park in your vehicle and hear the exciting sounds through your car radio while staying safely socially distant. \$10 per vehicle ticket is required and can be purchased online at <https://SheridanCelebrates.TicketSpice.com/drive-in-concert>.

Love INC Volunteer Opportunities

We are looking for volunteers to serve our clients!

- **Connection Center Callers:** We're working virtually and training is provided. The needs of neighbors calling in are increasingly difficult and we want to build up this vital level of support.
- **Drivers:** We have many dedicated drivers, but many are, understandably, not willing to drive individuals during the pandemic. If you are interested and able to help fill this gap, please reach out!

Renewed Treasures Warm Clothing Drive

Gather warm winter items in good/clean condition and bring them to Love INC's Warm Clothing Drive Drop-Off Day on **Saturday, September 26 from 10am-5pm**. Drop off is next door to Renewed Treasures (6532 S. Broadway, Littleton). Items needed are jackets, coats, hats, gloves, and boots for men, women, and children.

Preparing for Worship - August 22 & 23
First Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6
Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8
Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:13-20



St. Philip *Journey*

PASTOR BRAD'S | UPDATES
AUGUST 19, 2020

LET'S GET YOU UPDATED! Things you may not know...

You may not have stepped foot in the church since the beginning of the year and you may not feel as connected as you were because you have not been at church. Let's get you updated!

Pastor Brad has moved offices! Can you guess where his new office is located? In the "Senior Pastor" office? NO! Pastor Brad has moved his office to the old Sunday School office/resource room. Where is that? When you come in the North entrance by the church office, the church office is on the right and Pastor Brad's new office is on the left. The Fireside Room is on that side and then there are double doors to go down the hall to Janet's office, youth room, music room and ministry center rooms. There are another set of double doors, directly next to the double doors to the hall. That is now an entrance to Pastor Brad's Office!

The installation service for Pastor Brad was on August 8th. Pastor Brad has now been installed as our Senior Pastor. As the Strategic Planning Team (read an update on this team below) works on the structure and staffing structure of our church, we have asked Pastor Randy to stay on part time through the end of the year. Pastor Randy will be preaching, teaching adult education classes, leading our governing documents team and work with our Sharing with Sheridan Food Pantry. Pastor Brad is working hard with all of our ministries as we come back from Summer and come back together.

ST. PHILIP EARLY LEARNING CENTER

The St. Philip Early Learning Center is starting in person on Monday, August 24th. Blair, our ELC director has been working hard to ensure we are following all health department requirements and day care requirements during this pandemic. Enrollment numbers are slightly down, understandably, but there are still over 100 kids who will be attending school at our Early Learning Center this Fall. All of the teachers and staff are now back preparing their classrooms for school to start on the 24th. We, as a church, will be doing everything we can to ensure the safety of these kids. Please see the section on Visiting the Church.

RALLY DAY

As a church we mark the time where ministries, Bible studies, small groups and events start back up after the summer. For the past couple of years, we have renamed this day to "Gather Together Sunday" and moved it to the weekend before Jefferson County starts school, in August. It made sense for us to start when the schools start to help families get into the routine of the school year with making church part of this routine.

This year, due to COVID-19, virtual learning for some and not being able to gather together as we did, we have decided to go back to Rally Day and start our ministries after Labor Day. On Sunday, September 13th, we will bless our ministries, our leaders and our teachers as they begin meeting in person or virtually. I am encouraging our leaders to continue their ministries for the sake of learning, gathering (in person or virtually) and supporting one another on our journey.

Strategic Planning Update

At St. Philip Lutheran Church, we intentionally build relationships through Christ to grow and serve.

The Strategic Planning Team has continued to meet to continue its work on the strategic plan for St. Philip. Once Pastor Brad was called as our Senior Pastor, this team was able to quickly get to work to finalize our strategic plan. The team is currently working on a new structure for the ministries of St. Philip, a new staffing structure for our church and putting the recommended strategic plan into documents to be shared with the church council and congregation.

Part of the work to determine the staffing structure of our church is determining what positions will be needed to accomplish our strategic plan. The goals and objectives (called Ministry Result Areas) of the strategic plan have been determined from the work that began in 2018. There were meetings with the congregation, the ministry leaders and the church council to determine the direction of our church.

This is an exciting time for St. Philip and the ministry we do now is pivotal. We will begin the work of our strategic plan during this pandemic, which is a time where people are desiring to be connected due to the feelings of loneliness and isolation. Mental health is a big concern right now and when we connect and gather together we are able to care and support one another.

The Church Council will be looking at some of the strategic planning team's work at their next council meeting and after that meeting we will begin to share the new ministry and staffing structure of the church. Thank you for your continued prayers for this team as they do amazing work for our church.

CORE VALUES

- *Worship*
- *Learn*
- *Welcome*
- *Serve*

Ministry Result Areas

- ◆ *Prepare Ourselves to Serve*
- ◆ *Strengthen Relationships with People We Know*
- ◆ *Develop Relationships with People We Don't Know*
- ◆ *Manage our Process*

Visiting the Church

Safety Precautions for the Sake of Our Staff and the Early Learning Center

COVID-19 has certainly changed many things in our world. We are now wearing masks, staying home more often, not going on big vacation trips, not going out to eat as much or at all, washing our hands much more often and are very cautious when we are out or with other people. This is a difficult time for many as masks can be an issue for breathing and many people in our congregation are in the high risk category.

St. Philip has taken steps to protect our staff and the children that will be attending our Early Learning Center. When you enter the church you will now need to sign in and have your temperature checked. The purpose of signing in is so that if someone who has visited St. Philip tests positive for COVID-19 we will be able to do tracing and let them know.

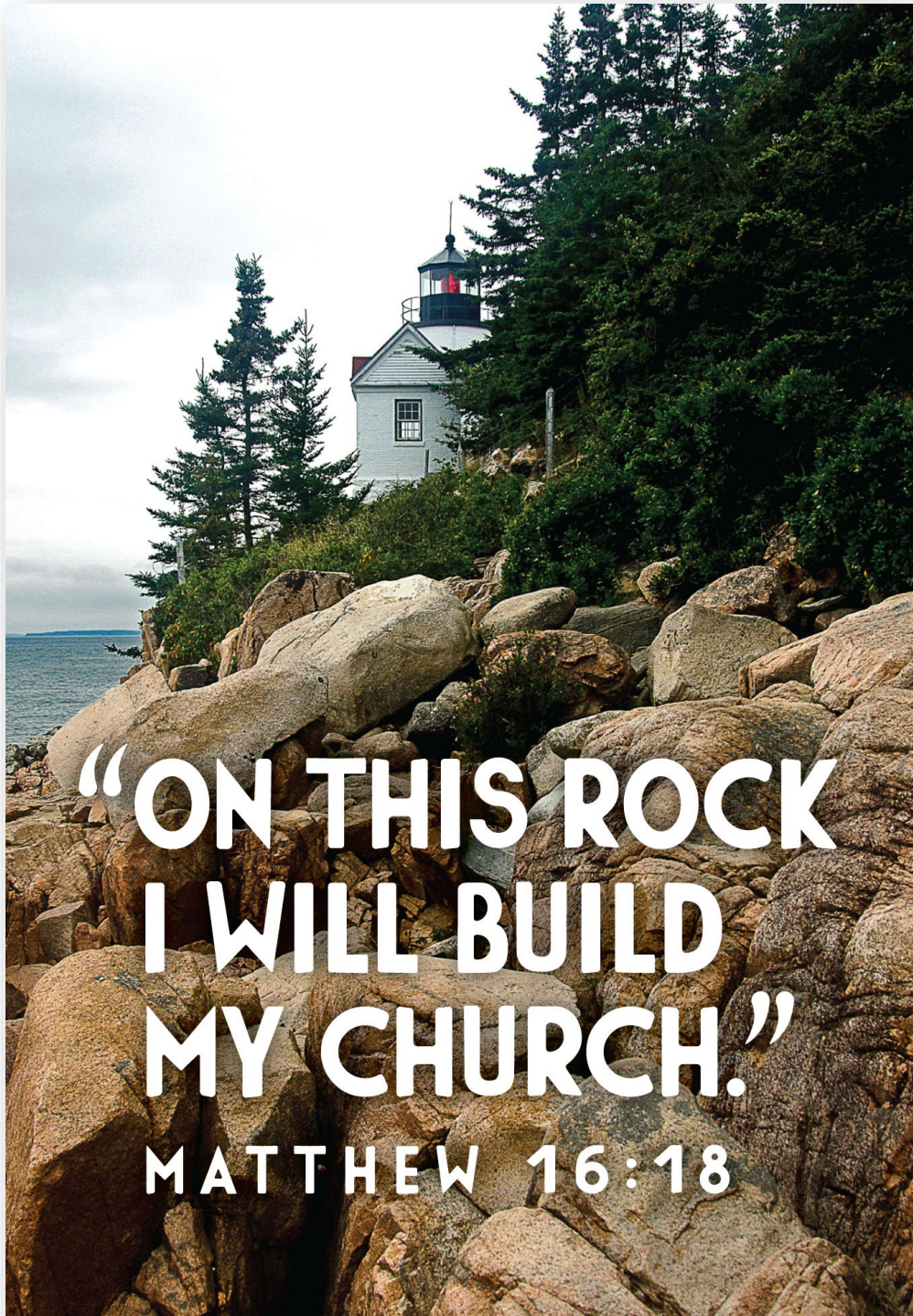
The Early Learning Center has changed many of its procedures, including checking temperatures of all students, teachers and staff, having the kids line up outside with their class at different entrances of the church, starting on a staggered schedule and not allowing most parents to enter the building. Therefore, we feel as if it is best procedure for us as a church to follow similar procedures for the safety of all.

When you come to the church, you will be stopped at the doors. The greeter will be on the opposite side of a table, six feet away. If you are just dropping something off, you will be able to do so right there at the table. If you are attending a meeting or going past the entry way for any reason you will have to sign in and have your temperature checked. Masks are required!

Reopening Task Force Update

We have a Reopening Task Force who is helping us to monitor the current situation of COVID-19 in our area and making the decisions of reopening. We are currently allowing worship to be held in person outside and indoors; however, priority is given to worshipping outdoors. This means we will worship outdoors for as long as we can and as long as the weather cooperates. Worship inside the sanctuary will be limited to 50 people and we will be requiring people to RSVP for indoor worship. Attendance is being taken, for the sake of tracing, at all of our worship services. We are currently working on determining the occupancy of all of our rooms and following current guidelines of how many people are allowed in any of our rooms for the sake of meetings and ministry activities. The preferred place to meet is still outside.

Outdoor worship has been going well. We have been averaging 15-20 people, in person, at our Saturday Evening Service and 60 people, in person, at our Sunday Morning Service. There are anywhere from 1-5 cars for worship in the parking lot, an average of 20 families on zoom and an average of 45 views of our services on YouTube. The livestream services are going well for people to attend worship live from home. The audio and video gets better every week as we work out all of the technology. We hope you will join us or continue to join us for one of these ways to worship. If you are unable to connect to Zoom, please contact us and we will be happy to help you connect! The church office number is 303-979-4491.



Our Prayer List

Members

Ben Husted, Pam Kubicek, Bill Shepard, Rob Murphy, Rob Carlson

Family Members

Eli (Janet Shibly's cousin's son)

Jim Gualco (Anne Henning's father)

Nathan & Stephanie Smith (Jim & Carolyn Smith's son and daughter-in-law)

The family of Virginia Shepard (Bill Shepard's mother)

The family of Jerry Zielenske (Sandi Stevermer's uncle)

Caroline Carroll (Harriet Truman's daughter)

Fawn Kemp (Larry Kemp's daughter)

Tina (Chris Youngren's daughter)

Lauren Person (Mary Person's daughter)

Dr. Thomas & Neva Flatley (Tom Flatley's father & mother)

Ryan Ermold (Joanne Ermold's son)

Erika Kuenne (Carl & Rita Kuenne's daughter)

Friends

Tom (Wells)

Tom Rafferty (Kemp)

Pat (Peaslee)

William and Janet Arceneux (Stevermer)

Gail Leach (Baker)

Michael Zoughbi (Mundt)

Danielle (Anderson)

Emeli Bowers (Ermold)

Kerry (Mundt)

Prayers for students, parents, and educators as they prepare to go back to school amid concerns about COVID-19.

Prayers for all those affected by COVID-19 as well as healthcare workers, researchers, and those in positions of leadership.

Prayers for the unemployed and the underemployed.

Prayers of support and encouragement for Aaron and Anna Silco as they begin their internships.

Prayers for the students supported through the Seeds of South Sudan.

Prayers of support and love for our companion synods and friends in Madagascar.

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.



“At St. Philip Lutheran Church we intentionally build relationships through Christ to grow and serve.”