

St. Philip Information and News (SPIN)

December 15, 2021

The church office will have limited hours the week of December 27-31. Please call the office in advance if you need to come in for anything.



Worship News

Memory Tree

On **Sunday, December 19** we will have our Memory Tree service following the 9am worship service. Meet in the lobby by the church office. You may bring an ornament in memory of a loved one who has passed away; we also have ornaments available to use.

Celebrating Christmas Through the Centuries on the Organ

Our organist Bryan Chuan has chosen an array of music celebrating Christmas that highlights the versatility and evolution of the organ through the centuries.

December 19: Sacred music by Leo Sowerby (1895-1968)

Leo Sowerby is considered the "dean of American church music," having composed a vast array of organ solos and choir anthems in a modern yet accessible style. Here is a recording of Sowerby's most difficult organ work, known for its dazzling pedal-work: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4NKjyPvR3t4>.

Christmas Eve: Music for the young and giving thanks

The **1 and 3 pm** services will feature music for the youth and young at heart. Norberto Guinaldo is currently the organist at Garden Grove United Methodist Church in California, and he wrote settings of Spanish villancicos (carols) for organ. Here is a recording of an early villancico: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JthZskazxKo>.

The **5 and 7 pm** services will feature music by the two titans of early 20th century German organ music, Siegfried Karg-Elert (1877-1933) and Max Reger (1873-1916). These composers are known for their extremely complex writing, but they were also capable of writing shorter and lighter works suitable for services. Adestes Fideles from Cathedral Windows by Karg-Elert ingeniously hides the tune of "O Come All Ye Faithful" amid shepherds pipes, and Dankpsalm by Max Reger sets two hymns that recognize the omnipotence of God.

Christmas Eve Worship Schedule

This year on **Christmas Eve** we will have four worship services here at St. Philip. Services at **1pm and 3pm** will be more family-oriented and involve the children in attendance. Services at **5pm and 7pm** will be more traditional, with choir, bells, and instrumentalists providing the music. We will livestream the 3pm and 5pm services. A Zoom link will be posted closer to Christmas Eve. Come worship with us as we celebrate our Savior's birth!

Church News

2021 Contributions

If you are planning to mail a contribution to SPLC that you want to have counted toward your 2021 giving record, please take note of the following requirements: Per IRS rules it needs to either be postmarked no later than 12/31/21, or be received in our office by **Wednesday, December 29**. We will have limited office hours in the week between Christmas and New Year's.

Should you chose to make an online contribution, it is recommended that you enter it by **December 29** to allow for sufficient processing time before the new year.

Thank you for your generosity!

Gift Wrapping!

Do you have all your shopping done but are dreading the task of wrapping all those gifts? No worries! The Youth can get the job done for you! On **Sunday December 19** the youth will be wrapping gifts all for a goodwill donation to their summer ELCA Youth Gathering Trip! We have 10 students and 2 adults planning to go on the trip next July, and we would love your support. Bring your gifts on either of the Sundays listed (Drop them at the wrapping table before service) and the youth will wrap them during service and you can pick them up all BEAUTIFULLY wrapped at the end of service. If you have any questions please contact Melinda, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries, at the church office. (msvenkerud@stphilip-co.org)

From the Personnel Committee --Church Staff Christmas Gift Collection

We are continuing the tradition of celebrating and thanking our staff as we rejoice in the coming Christmas and the end of another year. If you would like to contribute to the staff Christmas gift, you may do so online at <http://www.stphilip-co.org> under the 'Giving' tab (Staff Christmas Gift). You may also send checks to the church (7531 S Kendall Blvd Littleton, CO 80128) or include them in the Sunday offering plate (note Staff Christmas Gift on the check). The gifts will be distributed to the staff in January. Thank you!

Christmas Blessings,

Heather Varnell

Personnel Committee Chairperson

Christmas Card Display

December is the time many people send Christmas and greeting cards to family and friends. This year at St. Philip we invite you to share your Christmas card or photo card with the congregation! We will be creating a Christmas Card Wall in the Narthex (area/lobby outside of the sanctuary) with the cards/pictures we receive from the congregation. We invite you to bring in your card/picture and put it on the wall or send it to the church office and we will put it up for you!

50th Anniversary Committee News

If you would like to purchase a St. Philip 5th Anniversary Christmas ornament, you may do so at the church office. The cost is \$10 and all proceeds will go to the 50th Anniversary Planning Committee.

The committee is still looking for addresses of people who you think would like to attend our 50th celebration. We will be sending out postcards, emails, texts, and messages on Facebook. Please help us reach out to people who helped us get to our 50th celebration on 5-22-22. You can send the information to the church office at office@stphilip-co.org.

Thank You

Thank you to all who helped make our most recent Ken Caryl Concert, "Holiday Hits", a success! Most especially those who donated cookies for the reception. Merry Christmas and blessings to all! - *Kristen Celusniak and the KC Concerts Team*

Bible Studies and Book Groups

Men's Wednesday Morning Bible Study

The Men's Wednesday morning Bible study meets the **2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month**. We will use "An Introduction to Luther's Small Catechism" taught by Dr. James Nestingen, professor emeritus of Church History at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN. All men are welcome to come and join us. Bring your Luther's Small Catechism if you have one.

Tuesday Night Bible Study Returns!

The 2021/2022 session of Tuesday Night Bible Study will be studying the book *The Jewish Gospel of John: Discovering Jesus, King of all Israel*. The book is part of Jewish Studies for Christians by Dr. Eli Litzorkin-Eysenberg. This is a tremendous opportunity to examine the fourth Gospel, a verse-by-verse interpretation as if it was written for the first century people of Israel. Please join us for this fascinating study of our Gospel. We will meet at the Selander home Tuesday evenings, at 7:00pm. (6338 S. Harlan Way Littleton) The text is available from Amazon. Contact Paul Selander for details and any questions at 303.241.0321.

Monday Women's Bible Study meets at church from 10:00 to 11:30am on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month in the Fireside Room. For more information, contact Juli Cooley at 303.903.9651 or jhcool519@gmail.com; or Jan Philpy at 317.709.5044 or gjphilpy@gmail.com.

Wednesday Women's Bible Study meets at church from 9:30 to 11:00am on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month in MC-1. For more info, contact Chris Youngren at 303.973.3096 or ctyoungren@gmail.com; or Kathy Gillett at 303.359.7383.

St Philip Women's Book Group, "Hooked on Books," meets at church the 2nd Monday of the month at 9:30am. For more information, contact Sue Miller at 303.619.0661 or Beth Faerber at 303.953.9745.



Volunteer Opportunities/Donations

Sharing with Sheridan Food Pantry

Last week we served 114 families. We appreciate your support!

Items we need for next week:

- Masa flour
- Sugar
- Canned fruit
- Canned pasta/chili
- Pasta sauce

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.

Volunteering at Sharing with Sheridan

Looking for a volunteer opportunity? Sharing with Sheridan needs volunteers on Thursdays to help with distribution. You can come any time after 11am and it doesn't have to be every week. For more information, contact Chris Hancock at 303.358.9238 or c.hancock@comcast.net.



**Preparing for Worship - December 19, 2021
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

First Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel Reading: Luke 1:39-55



Worship Servants for Sunday, December 19, 2021

Assisting Minister	Jim Smith
Lector	Jim Smith
Communion Deacons	Sandi Stevermer, Linda Baker
Sacrament Servants	Sandi Stevermer, Lynn Mossbrucker
A-V Sound & Slides	John Wall
Coffee Cart	Carolyn Rapp & Chris Youngren
KeyKeeper	Week beginning 12/19: Chris White

Calendar of Events

(December 15-26, 2021)

<p>Wednesday, December 15 9:30a – Watercolor Group (MC-3) 11:30a – Advent Worship (Sanc.) 12:00p – Advent Potluck (MC-4/5) 6:00p – Confirmation (FH, Kitchen) 6:00p – Youth Group (YR)</p>	<p>Tuesday, December 21 5:30a – Camp Gladiator 10:00a – SPLC Staff Meeting (MC-3) 5:30p – Camp Gladiator 7:00p – Bell Rehearsal (Sanc.) 7:00p – Boy Scouts (FH)</p>
<p>Thursday, December 16 5:30a – Camp Gladiator 7:30a – Men’s Breakfast (offsite) 5:30p – Camp Gladiator 6:30p – Choir Rehearsal (Sanc.)</p>	<p>Wednesday, December 22 9:30a – Men’s Bible Study (YR) 9:30a – Watercolor Group (MC-3) 9:30a – Women’s Bible Study (MC-4/5)</p>
<p>Friday, December 17 <i>Church office open 8am-noon</i> 5:30a – Camp Gladiator 9:00a – Rocky Mountain Flute Ensemble 7:00p – Littleton Gem and Mineral Club (FH)</p>	<p>Thursday, December 23 5:30a – Camp Gladiator 7:30a – Men’s Breakfast (offsite) 5:00p – Columbine Townhouses III (MC-3) 5:30p – Camp Gladiator 6:30p – Choir Rehearsal (Sanc.)</p>
<p>Saturday, December 18 10:30a – Al-Anon (MC-4/5) 5:00p – Piano Recital (Sanc.)</p>	<p>Friday, December 24 Christmas Eve <i>Church office open 8am-noon</i> 1:00p – Christmas Eve Worship 3:00p – Christmas Eve Worship 5:00p – Christmas Eve Worship 7:00p – Christmas Eve Worship</p>
<p>Sunday, December 19 9:00a – Worship 9:00a – Youth Gift Wrapping 10:15a – Adult Education (MC-4/5) 10:15a – Sunday School (FH)</p>	<p>Saturday, December 25 Christmas Day 10:30a – Al-Anon (MC-4/5)</p>
<p>Monday, December 20 10:00am – Women’s Bible Study (FS)</p>	<p>Sunday, December 26 9:00a – Worship</p>

Our Prayer List

Members

Ed Belford, Paul Stortz, Jack Dice, Dianne Mydlach

Family Members

Sofie Cann (Sandi & Michael Stevermer's great -niece) **Caroline Carroll** (Harriet Truman's daughter)
Tina (Chris Youngren's daughter) **Fawn Kemp** (Larry Kemp's daughter)
Dr. Thomas Flatley (Tom Flatley's father) **Erika Kuenne** (Carl & Rita Kuenne's daughter)

Friends

Randy (Otto)
Emeli Bowers (Ermold)

Prayers for everyone affected by Covid; for those who lost loved ones, struggle with recovery, and live with the after effects. Prayers for all medical workers.

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.



St. Philip Lutheran Church



• 1972-2022 •

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

St. Philip Lutheran Church
7531 S. Kendall Blvd.
Littleton, CO 80128
303-979-4491
www.stphilip-co.org