

St. Philip Lutheran Church

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October 1, 2023

St. Philip Lutheran Church

GATHER • SERVE • CELEBRATE

Dear St. Philip Lutheran Church,

Throughout our lives, there are many things that influence who we are and what we believe. The great thing about the church is that we know it will have a positive influence on us, our family and our children. How has the church blessed you and made an impact on your life and faith?

Personally, I have already seen the impact church has had on my family and my kids. St. Philip is a place where my kids have grown up in the faith, have learned to talk to other adults who care about them, have formed community as they have made friends, and continue to learn about God, God's love and God's grace. This is one of the main reasons why we invite people to our church and encourage families to raise their children in the church.

Roseanna and I have separately found community in the church through small groups and Bible studies. The church has been a place of encouragement, support and love. This has been evident over the past eleven years we have been at St. Philip. We are truly grateful for this church and all of you. How have you built community at St. Philip and how have you been encouraged, supported and loved by people at St. Philip? This is the church and this is the work of the church. This is how God works in and through each and every one of us at St. Philip. These are the things that impact us and are a blessing to us.

Out of gratitude and faith, we respond. One way we respond is to serve and volunteer to be part of the work of the church, to have an impact on others and bless them through the ministries of the church. We also respond with hospitality because we want others to be blessed by the church and be impacted in such a positive way. Another way we respond is by supporting the church and its ministries through our financial giving to the church. In doing so, we are giving thanks and praising God for God's work in our lives through the church. We are also saying that we want to encourage and support the church in its continued work of teaching the gospel and making an impact on people's lives.

As you consider your financial contribution for 2024, we invite you to read the 2023 Stewardship Appeal brochure to learn the impact St. Philip is making on the lives of people in our church and in our community. When you give to St. Philip Lutheran Church, you are giving to God and you are helping St. Philip fulfill God's mission for us! **Your generosity makes an enormous difference. Thank you for your support of the ministry of St. Philip Lutheran Church.**

This year, we are offering the opportunity, in your giving, to only support St. Philip Lutheran Church. What this means is, if you check the second option on your Statement of Intent card, to make a direct gift to St. Philip Lutheran Church to support St. Philip and its ministries, then your contribution will not support the work of the Rocky Mountain Synod or the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). If you choose to check the first option, to give an undesignated gift to St. Philip and the ELCA, then the percentage approved by the congregation, in the budget, will go to support the Rocky Mountain Synod and the ELCA.

I therefore invite you to fill out a Statement of Intent card. This helps us as a church to determine our budget and plan for 2024. You can fill out a digital Statement of Intent card on our website at www.stphilip-co.org/stewardship or you can fill out the Statement of Intent card and bring it to church on **Stewardship Weekend, Saturday, October 14 and Sunday October 15**. We are inviting you to either have submitted your statement of intent card by that day or bring your Statement of Intent card to worship, to offer it up to God.

In gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Reverend Bradley Doty". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pastor Brad Doty
Senior Pastor