

# St. Philip Information and News (SPIN)

December 13, 2023



## Worship News

### Upcoming Services

**Sunday, December 17**—Advent Cantata in worship; Journey to Bethlehem in Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, December 24**—Christmas Eve services at 9am, 3pm, and 5pm

### Christmas Eve Worship Schedule

This year on **Christmas Eve (Dec. 24, 2023)** we will have three worship services here at St. Philip. Because Christmas Eve is on a Sunday, our first service will be at **9am**. The service at **3pm** will be more family-oriented and involve the children dressing up as we tell the Christmas story. Our last service at **5pm** will be more traditional, with choir, bells, and instrumentalists providing the music. We will livestream the 9am and 5pm services. Come worship with us as we celebrate our Savior's birth!

### Christmas Poinsettias

Orders are being taken for poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary on Christmas Eve.

**Cost is \$20 each.** Go to <https://stphilip-co.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2048275> and fill out the form; or contact Angela in the church office.

## Church News

### Staff Christmas Gift

The Christmas season is full of rich traditions and one of our traditions is giving our hardworking staff gifts during the Christmas Season. If you are so inclined, those who wish to give may give online or send gifts directly to the church. For online giving, go to [www.stphilip-co.org](http://www.stphilip-co.org). Click on the 'Giving' tab and use the Staff Christmas Gift line. You may have already received a letter from the personnel committee with more details, but for those of you who prefer to mail gifts, please make checks payable to 'St Philip Lutheran Church' and indicate on the memo line 'Staff Christmas Gift'.

### Adult Faith Formation Class

There is no adult faith formation class this Sunday due to the Journey to Bethlehem event. Adults are welcome to join this great experience in the Fellowship Hall.

### Advent Devotions

**"Encountering God: Living in the present; anticipating the future."**

To prepare our hearts for the celebration of the birth of our Savior, we participate in the season of Advent with devotions. Join Pastor Brad and Deacon Korra in our weekly series of Advent video devotions along with the advent study from ELCA World Hunger. The videos can be found on St. Philip's website, and a few printed copies of the study are available in the narthex.

### Support Habitat for Humanity and St. Philip Youth

Did you know that our youth are participating in Habitat's 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Gingerbread House Build fundraiser? Our middle school and high school youth (along with the lead-

ership of Ms. Melinda) decorated an amazing gingerbread church and scenery! You can view this beautiful creation in the narthex and then vote for it to win first place. To vote, go to <https://secure.qgiv.com/event/gingerbreadbuild2023/> or you can scan the QR code which will be next to the gingerbread house in the narthex. ***Voting ends December 19.*** There is no restriction on who can vote, so share this with friends and neighbors who can support building affordable housing and hope for all. Each “vote” is a donation to Habitat, with just a minimum cost of only one dollar and the ability to donate as much as you want. There are no limits to the number of times you can vote, so do so as much as you can! Thank you for building homes and hope in our community.

### **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! The youth will be doing Christmas gift wrapping on **Wednesday December 13, and Sunday December 17.** You can drop off your gifts anytime between December 10-17 to be wrapped. If you want to pick up the same day you can bring them before church on one of the Sundays and they will be wrapped during church and ready for you to pick up after church. Or you can drop them off at the church office and they will be wrapped and ready for you to pick up on the 17<sup>th</sup>. The youth are asking for freewill donations to go towards their summer 2024 trip. We will be attending the ELCA youth gathering in New Orleans in July 2024! If you have any questions please contact Melinda, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries, at the church office.

### **Kansas Day Coffee Cart on January 28, 2024**

Were you born in Kansas, went to school in Kansas or ever lived there? For the past several years we Sunflowers have brought the coffee cart treats for church. This next year our Sunday is January 28. (Kansas became the 34th state on January 29, 1861.) We got the idea from the Wisconsin people and now we challenge other states to sign up. (Iowa? Nebraska? Missouri?) Kansas people, let Louanne Isernhagen know if you can help, at 303-736-8655 or email at [gisernhagen@gmail.com](mailto:gisernhagen@gmail.com). Go 'Cats! Rock Chalk Jayhawk!

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

This Sunday, prayer shawls will be available in the narthex to pick up and take to folks you would like to share the love of God with. Thanks to Ana Tolentino and Linda Tegeder for their dedication to knitting them. If you would like to join them for knitting and fellowship, they meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday each month from 1-3pm in the Fire-side Room.

## **Children, Youth & Family Ministries**

### **Journey to Bethlehem**

All are invited to join us for an interactive Journey To Bethlehem on **Sunday December 17 after worship from 10:15 – 11:30am in the Fellowship Hall.** Journey with your family to find the newborn King! Encounter Roman Soldiers, the Magi following a bright star, shepherds on the hillside, angels with glorious news, the tax collector and census taker. Enter the busy village of Bethlehem and shop at the marketplace. Talk with the innkeeper who tells you there is NO ROOM at the inn. And just maybe you will find the tiny baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger!

### **Youth & Young Adult Christmas Party**

Everyone is invited to our youth and young adult Christmas party **Wednesday, December 20 from 6-8pm** at St. Philip. We'll have catered dinner from Chipotle, Christmas games, fellowship and fun! Bring a FUN \$5 gift for a gift exchange. **RSVP by December 15.** Text: 720-984-4106 or Email: [msvenkerud@stphilip-co.org](mailto:msevenkerud@stphilip-co.org).

## **Volunteer Opportunities/Donations/Service**

### **Dipes and Wipes**

This **Saturday, December 16, from 9:30-11:30am** is our Diaper Ministry, in partnership with Love INC. To participate as a prayer partner or with child care, please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4DA9A62FA7F5C25-46809144-dipes>  
To find out more about this ministry, contact Deacon Korra.

### **Opportunity to Assist a Venezuelan Family in Denver**

Migrants from Venezuela continue to arrive in Denver almost daily. The Rocky Mountain Synod AMMPARO team recently received a message from the Lutheran Church in Venezuela requesting assistance for a Venezuelan family that recently arrived in Denver and is currently staying at one of the city-sponsored hotel shelters. The Villarroel-Brito family fled Venezuela when they feared for their safety and then spent three months making their way to the southern border. This family of five includes a mom, dad, two teenagers and a 3 year-old who will celebrate his 4th birthday in December! They have no other family living in the US. The mom's father is a Lutheran pastor in Venezuela!

We are forming a team of congregations and individuals who would like to accompany this family as they apply for asylum and settle into their new life in Colorado. There are multiple ways to help including exploring housing options, companionship and practicing English, transportation, finding work, providing groceries and other basic necessities, and financial assistance - especially to cover housing and legal costs. If you would like to join the team or have ideas to share with the team, please contact Carolyn Swenson from St. Paul-Denver at [cjswenson57@gmail.com](mailto:cjswenson57@gmail.com). Thank you in advance for your compassion, prayers and support!

### **Give Habitat for Humanity a Hand this Winter**

If working on a new construction site is not the right thing for you this winter, there are indoor opportunities to give a hand. Habitat ReStores - our local store is just down Wadsworth from St. Philip. Address is 7890 W. Quincy (between Walmart and Costco.) It's a fun volunteer opportunity to do with friends!

Follow the instructions below to get signed up:

Go to the Main website: [habitatmetrodenver.org](http://habitatmetrodenver.org)

Click on "Volunteer"

Click on "Sign Up to Volunteer"

Click on "Create Account"

NOTE: When completing "Affiliations" indicate that you are a Group Volunteer and when asked if you are a member of a Holy Hammers congregation select St. Philip Lutheran Church from the drop down menu. Please contact Rich Allee at [eel-la.t.r@gmail.com](mailto:eel-la.t.r@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

### **Sharing with Sheridan Food Pantry**

Last week our fabulous volunteers worked hard to provide an abundance of produce and other food to **213 families**. For the coming week we can use:

- Pasta sauce
- Jelly
- Personal care items (soap, toothpaste, shampoo, etc.)

### **We continue to be overstocked with egg cartons and have no additional storage.**

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.

### **Thank You for Your Generosity!**

Your donations of coats for Lutheran Family Services, toys and gift cards for Family Promise have been overwhelming. Your gifts are expressing God's unconditional love and presence to those who are often without hope. Thank you for proclaiming that our God is a God of abundance!

## **Bible Studies**

### **Pub Theology**

Pub Theology is not your traditional Bible study, it is a gathering of people who drink beer and talk about life and faith. It is a place to get to know others and have good conversation. There are different brews and there are different views, so come join the conversation and hang out with us. We will be meeting at Locavore Beer Works (5950 S Platte Canyon Rd, Littleton), on the left side of the brewery **Mondays at 6:35pm**. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Brad.

### **Monday Women's Bible Study**

Meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of each month at church from 9 to 11am in the Fireside Room. All women are invited to join us. Contact Julia Cooley at 303-903-9651 or [jhcool519@gmail.com](mailto:jhcool519@gmail.com) for more information.

### **Tuesday Night Bible Study**

Tuesday evenings at 7pm, St. Philip Men's Fellowship will begin sponsoring a **Family Bible Study for all confirmed members of St. Philip**. This study will take a close examination of the Book of Isaiah, the most significant prophetic book of the Bible. Please come and join us in this exciting look at the book that contains the very basis for our faith. Our study is held every Tuesday evening at the Selander home. (6338 S. Harlan Way Littleton) If you have any questions please call Paul at 303-241-0321 or Laurie at 303-518-1457.

### **Wednesday Men's Bible Study**

We will meet at 9:30am on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at church in the Youth Room. We will be watching a DVD series on Biblical Archaeology. All men are welcome to attend. Led by Glenn Isernhagen.

**Wednesday Morning Women's Bible Study**

**2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at church, 9:30 to 11:00am**

Come and discover the "Seamless" thread connecting the Bible. Author Angie Smith shows us how the Bible is connected, from Genesis to Revelation, as one beautiful seamless thread. The book is available online or at Mardel's. Contact Chris Youngren at 303-973-3096 or ctyoungren@gmail.com for more information.

**Wednesday Night Women's Bible Study**

Are you wanting to spend time with other ladies and understand how the Bible relates to your life today? Join Deacon Korra on **Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm in the chapel** to explore, "The Good and Beautiful Bible Study; Experiencing stories from the Bible and what it means for our lives today."



**Preparing for Worship - December 17, 2023  
Advent Cantata**

**Luke 1; Luke 2:1-7; Luke 3; Matthew 1**

**Worship Servants for Sunday, December 17, 2023**

<b>Worship Servants for Sunday, December 17, 2023</b>	
<b>Advent Cantata</b>	
<b>Music by Sanctuary Choir, Ringing Brass, St. Philip Instrumentalists</b>	
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Sandi Stevermer
<b>Lector</b>	Juley Allee
<b>Acolyte</b>	Liam Person
<b>Communion Servant</b>	Lynn Mossbrucker, TBD
<b>Sacrament Servants</b>	Suzanne Peterson, Beth Clough
<b>Greeters</b>	Matt & Jamie Pollett
<b>Ushers</b>	Marc Roswech, Greg Luer
<b>Key Keeper</b>	<b>Week beginning Dec. 17: Chris White</b>

## **Financial Statistics**

**As of the end of November 2023:**

All SPLC Ministries:	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Difference
Income*	843,614	917,200	(73,586)
Expenses	961,865	958,616	-3,249
	(118,251)	(41,416)	(76,835)

Early Learning Ctr/ SPELC Only:	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Difference
Income*	306,506	361,037	(54,531)
Expenses	372,994	363,054	(9,940)
	(66,488)	(2,017)	(64,471)

Without SPELC:	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Difference
Income	537,108	556,163	(19,055)
Expenses	588,871	595,562	6,691
	(51,763)	(39,399)	(12,364)

\*without misclassified  
2022 SPELC Income

### **Contributions**

<i>(General Fund)</i>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
YTD Actual	476,653	473,375
YTD Budgeted	504,163	
	(27,510)	

### **ELCA World Hunger**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
YTD Actual	\$4,069	\$3,936

# Calendar of Events

## December 13-24, 2023

<b>Wednesday, December 13</b> 9:30a – Men's Bible Study (YR) 9:30a – Women's Bible Study (MC-1) 11:45a – SPELC Christmas Program (Sanc., FH) 6:00p – Confirmation (FH) 6:00p – High School Youth Group (YR) 6:00p – Men's Pizza Night (MC-4/5) 6:00p – Women's Bible Study (Chapel) 7:00p – Choir Rehearsal (Sanc.)	<b>Tuesday, December 19</b> 5:30a – Sanders Fitness 9:00a – Grateful Threads (FH-2) 10:00a – SPLC Staff Meetings (MC-1) 5:30p – Camp Gladiator 7:00p – Bell Rehearsal (Sanc.) 7:00p – Boy Scouts (FH) 7:00p – Littleton Gem & Mineral (MC-3) 7:00p – Tues. Night Bible Study (offsite)
<b>Thursday, December 14</b> 5:30a – Sanders Fitness 7:30a – Men's Breakfast (offsite) 11:45a – SPELC Christmas Program (Sanc., FH) 5:30p – Camp Gladiator 7:30p – Prayer Team (Zoom)	<b>Wednesday, December 20</b> 6:00p – Youth & Young Adult Christmas Party (FH, kitchen) 7:00p – Choir Rehearsal (Sanc.)
<b>Friday, December 15</b> <i>Church office open 8am—noon</i> 5:30a – Sanders Fitness 8:30a – Altaira Flute Ensemble (YR) 7:00p – Littleton Gem & Mineral (FH)	<b>Thursday, December 21</b> 5:30a – Sanders Fitness 7:30a – Men's Breakfast (offsite) 5:30p – Camp Gladiator 6:15p – Pack 47 Webelos Den (MC-4/5) 7:30p – Prayer Team (Zoom)
<b>Saturday, December 16</b> 9:00a – Cantata Rehearsal (Sanc.) 9:00a – Journey to Bethlehem Set Up (FH) 9:30a – Pipes and Wipes (MC-3, MC-4/5, FS, YR) 10:30a – Al-Anon (MC-3) 5:00p – Piano Recital (Sanc.)	<b>Friday, December 22</b> <i>Church office open 8am—noon</i> 5:30a – Sanders Fitness 8:30a – Altaira Flute Ensemble (YR)
<b>Sunday, December 17</b> <b>9:00a – Worship; Advent Cantata</b> 10:15a – Journey to Bethlehem (FH) 10:30a – Adult Faith Formation (MC-4/5, MC-3)	<b>Saturday, December 23</b> 10:30a – Al-Anon (MC-3)
<b>Monday, December 18</b> 5:30a – Sanders Fitness 9:00a – Women's Bible Study (FS) 5:30p – Piano Recital (Sanc.) 6:35p – Pub Theology (offsite)	<b>Sunday, December 24-Christmas Eve</b> <b>9:00a – Worship</b> <b>3:00p – Worship</b> <b>5:00p – Worship</b>



# Our Prayer List

## Members

**Flo Figge, Marc Roswech, Dianne Jack, Wauneta Rogge, Jillian Stevens,  
Sandra Fishko, Carolyn Endecott, Tom Booth, Carolyn Smith,  
Phyllis Kemp, Bob Wagner**

## Family Members

**Family & friends of Fred Bratteson** (Marilyn Belford's brother-in-law)  
**Den** (Anne Henning's uncle)  
**Jennie Valentine** (Dorie & Mike Werner's daughter-in-law)  
**Helen & Todd Roswech** (Marc Roswech's mother & brother)  
**Missey Dore** (Jane Clausen's cousin)  
**Dianne Votaw** (Sandi Stevermer's sister)  
**Lenny Ermold** (Joanne Ermold's nephew)  
**Clarissa Lee** (Sharon Peters' niece)

**Jenn Moorehead** (Renate Muthart's grand-daughter)  
**Kevin Gilliland** (Harriet Truman's son-in-law)  
**Ryan Ermold** (Joanne Ermold's son)  
**Jenna Ermold** (Joanne Ermold's daughter)  
**Ron Ermold** (Joanne Ermold's husband)  
**Tim Booth** (Tom Booth's brother)  
**Lauren Person** (Mary Flatley's daughter)  
**Bruce Johnson** (Anne Krause's uncle)  
**Betty Wicklund** (Janet Shibly's aunt)  
**Dr. Thomas Flatley** (Tom Flatley's father)

## Friends

**Jon** (Leonard)  
**Josie Wallingford** (Rhodes)  
**Bob** (Henning)  
**Mary Streetch** (Leonard)

**Family & friends of John McNitt** (Former Member)  
**Matt Wolbert** (Silco)  
**Mark** (Anderson)  
**Conrad & family** (Anderson)

**Prayers of remembrance and love for all our homebound members.**

**Prayers of strength, hope, and tranquility for caregivers and healthcare workers.**

**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 contact Angela Seep at  
aseep@stphilip-co.org or 303.979.4491.***

***Prayer requests will run for two weeks unless otherwise requested.***

