

St. Philip Invitation

LIVE LIKE THAT - LOVE, FEED, SERVE AUGUST 2024



Dear St. Philipians,

With heartfelt gratitude for our years of shared ministry, I am writing to inform you that I am resigning my call as Associate Pastor of St. Philip. I have accepted a position as a Chaplain Resident at Prisma Health Richland Hospital in Columbia, South Carolina. My spouse, Luke, has accepted a call as pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Gilbert, South Carolina. We will make our home in Lexington, South Carolina.

Serving as a pastor of St. Philip has been a great honor, joy, and responsibility these past five years. Thank you for the gift of calling me to be your pastor. Thank you for the beautiful ways that together we have loved, fed, and served like Christ. Thank you for the many ways that you have loved me and my family. It has been my privilege to journey with each of you through life's joys and challenges, constantly reminding one another of the grace upon grace in our midst.

While my family and I are excited for this new chapter in our lives, saying goodbye will not be easy. In the midst of our grief, I am grateful for the wonderful relationships we have built together that make the goodbyes so difficult.

Pastor David will continue to serve as pastor of St. Philip and I give thanks for the ministry we have shared together. I trust that the Spirit will continue to guide and support this community of faith into the future. I encourage you to continue building community together, to keep seeking where God is calling you to use your gifts in that mission. Even in the midst of change and transition, we are God's beloved children. God does not abandon us, but rather loves us and accompanies us through the peaks and the valleys. That is my prayer for you, that you will continue to know and trust the abundant love and grace of God and extend that to one another.

My final Sunday at St. Philip will be August 11, 2024. I am grateful for our five years of ministry together and look forward to spending the remainder of my time with you preparing for the next phase of ministry at St. Philip. May God bless our time together and the futures to which God calls us. Thanks be to God for each of you and the faithful love of God that connects us all.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Laura

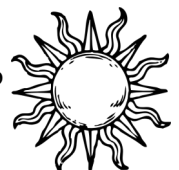


Solar Power Coming to St. Philip

At our recent congregational meeting on July 14, members of St. Philip voted to proceed with the installation of solar panels on the church. Timelines are not yet known but the intention is to have installation completed in this calendar year (2024).

We are excited both to care for God's creation in moving to the use of renewable energy and to be good stewards of financial resources reducing costs for the use of electricity.

Please continue to direct questions and comments to Church Council, Pastor David, or the St. Philip Solar Team (Dan Radmacher, Rod Dillman, Dave Whetzel)



DAY OF SERVICE

Our Day of Service will be held on **Tuesday, August 27th** beginning at 9:30 am at Melrose Towers. There are several ways you can be involved!

Making breakfast casseroles! Casseroles will be needed for the breakfast. You may bring them warm on Tuesday morning, or leave them in the church refrigerator earlier and label them with warming instructions.

Donating cleaning supplies and toiletries! Each resident that attends will receive a bag with cleaning supplies and toiletries. These are items the residents cannot purchase with food stamps. The most requested items are toilet paper, laundry detergent, dish soap, deodorant, bath soap, shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrushes. Please help us with donations to fill bags for the residents. **You can stay to help fill bags after the church service on Sunday, August 25th.**

Breakfast set-up and serving! We need volunteers on **Tuesday, August 27th around 8:30 am** to help us get the food set-up and serve. Please meet at Melrose Towers.

If you have questions please contact Pastor David (pastordavid@stphilliplutheran.net) Linda Duncan Rhodes (LRhodes511@aol.com) or Donna Wright (dfwrightj@gmail.com).



Scott Buchanan – Member
 Betty Hammond –Member
 Bev Horvath—Member
 Sara Aubitz - Member
 Hannah Chabot - Bev Horvath’s granddaughter
 Margaret Mitchell—Member



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Bruce Johnson	August 2
Ruth Farmer	August 5
Doug Hiller	August 5
Jessica Staley	August 8
Karen Barnett	August 12
Carol Dillman	August 17
Philip Bolster	August 23
Donna Spradlin	August 23
Brian Johnston	August 25
Keith Schult Jr.	August 27
Cindy Fielder	August 28
Mona Ferguson	August 29
Bill Hughes	August 30
Nathan Radmacher	August 30
Chloe Wilson	August 30
Sybille Nelson	August 31
Mike Parker	August 31

**Roanoke Valley Youth
 23rd Annual Golf Tournament**

**Saturday, September 28th
 at Blue Hills Golf Club**



**NEW THIS YEAR: Lunch at Blue Hills at 12:30pm with
 Shotgun start at 1:30pm**

Register by Sept. 20th - \$360 per team/\$90 per golfer

Support youth ministry in the Roanoke Valley! .

Please, please consider putting together a team of golfers or inviting golfers you know to play. Please, please consider sponsoring a hole, asking your employer to sponsor a hole, or donating a prize to go to tournament participants. Email Pastor David (pastordavid@stphiliplutheran.net) for a registration forms or sponsorship information or register your team [Registration Form](#).

Thank you Pastor Laura and Godspeed

We are grateful for the ways God loves us, calls us, and connects us. This is true even when God's Spirit moves, calls, and connects in new ways. St. Philip will miss Pastor Laura and the Swanson family! AND we celebrate her time as our pastor and the countless ways we loved and fed and served together.

Mark calendars and plan to share stories and well wishes at a reception on Sunday, August 4 from 3-5pm at St. Philip as well as prayers for Godspeed as a part of worship on Pastor Laura's last Sunday, August 11 (We will have a cafe time after the worship service as well).

You are also invited to bring cards of well wishes to either of these planned gatherings (or feel free to mail well wishes to the church).

St. Philip will miss Pastor Laura!

Please also know that how we live out God's mission for us will change as Pastor Laura's call takes shape in South Carolina, have no doubt living out God's mission continues. We will have time for faithful conversation about what that might look like in the weeks and months ahead and as those conversations take shape keep hearing these words Pastor Laura shared with the congregation in her letter:

"I encourage you to continue building community together, to keep seeking where God is calling you to use your gifts in that mission. Even in the midst of change and transition, we are God's beloved children."

God's got you Pastor Laura and God's got us too.



BLOOD DRIVE THANK YOU

Another successful blood drive! We are so grateful for the volunteers and donors that make these events possible.

Every blood donation can help save up to 3 lives! Mark your calendars for our next drive, **October 7** from 12 noon to 6pm . It feels good to save a life!



ELIJAH'S BACKPACK

As school supplies are purchased and Fall approaches, Elijah's Backpack is gearing up again to serve students in Roanoke County who need food assistance. Every Thursday morning, packs of food are assembled at St. Philip and taken to schools for the students to take home in their backpacks. Your support and prayers for this ministry are invited as they love, feed, and serve these students.



SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, September 22nd - Witnessing Paws 10 year anniversary Celebration!



ROANOKE VALLEY LUTHERAN YOUTH



Fall 2024

September 15

Water Battle - St. Philip Lutheran - 4-6pm

September 28

Youth Golf Tournament - Blue Hills Golf Course

October 20

Lion's Share Service Project - St. Mark's - 4-6pm

November 17

Quiz Bowl - College Lutheran - 4-6pm

November 22-24

Lost and Found (7th-8th grade)

December 13

Lock-In - Christ Lutheran - 7pm-9am

St. Philip Lutheran Church
8115 Williamson Road
Roanoke, VA 24019

Change Service Requested

David C. Derrick, Pastor (pastordavid@stphiliplutheran.net)
Laura Swanson, Pastor (pastorlaura@stphiliplutheran.net)
Alice H. Lebow, Office Administrator (officeadmin@stphiliplutheran.net)
Judy Burnette, Director of Music Ministries (music@stphiliplutheran.net)

Church Council

Ellen Mehalic, Council President; Dan Radmacher, Council Vice-President;
Max Holland Treasurer; Dave Mellon, Financial Secretary; Karen Lowdon, Council Secretary;
Members: Mary Jo Sahn, Liz Leonard, Bruce Johnson,
Dedi Spradlin, Marty Frazier, Paul Economy

St. Philip Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Virginia Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
The Reverend Phyllis Milton, Bishop, Virginia Synod

