



Partners in the Gospel

Leaving a Legacy for St. Philip the Deacon

Does your estate plan include a legacy gift to St. Philip the Deacon? If so, please let us know by completing a Letter of Intent so we can thank you and add you to the rolls of Rejoicing Partners, our honorary legacy giving society. Learn more—and find a downloadable Letter of Intent at spdcl.org/legacy.

Thanksgiving Food Baskets

Share your blessings by helping provide food baskets to 400 families in the Phillips West neighborhood of Minneapolis. The distribution of holiday food baskets is a ministry in partnership with Messiah Lutheran Church, our sister congregation. Donations to purchase food may be given by check or online. Note *Messiah Thanksgiving Basket* on your check. A gift of \$50 will purchase food for two families however, any amount is greatly appreciated. Checks may be placed in the offering plate in the lobby or given to the church office. You may also give a gift at spdcl.org/egiving and use the "Food Basket" tile.

A SPD family will match your contribution dollar for dollar, up to \$25,000, with the hope of providing holiday food baskets, and supporting the Community Bridge* programs.

In addition, you can sign up to help pack and distribute Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner baskets through Community Bridge at communitybridgempls.org/volunteer.

**Community Bridge (CB) began as a partnership of Lutheran Social Service of MN (LSS) and Messiah Lutheran Church at the Center for Changing Lives (CFCL or the Center) to enhance hospitality and community outreach in the Phillips West Neighborhood.*

West Suburban Grief Coalition Memorial Service Thursday, Nov. 21 at 6 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2060 6th Ave N. (County Rd 6), Long Lake, Minn.

You do not need to be a participant of the Grief Coalition to attend this meaningful candlelight worship service that brings comfort, hope and healing to all that have suffered a significant loss. Each grieving family will be given a memorial candle for their loved one that can be taken home following the service.

There is a dinner served following the memorial service. If you wish to attend, the cost is \$15 per person. Reservations are required for the dinner but not the memorial service. Contact Lisa Perry at ljsewardperry@gmail.com or 612-220-8071 to make reservations.

C.S. Lewis: An Introduction

Nov. 11, 18 and 25 at 6:30 p.m.

[Register online](#)

On Thursday, Nov. 21, the Faith & Life Series will host Michael Ward, one of the foremost C.S. Lewis scholars and experts. For the two weeks before that event, and the week following it, gather with Pastor Tim Westermeyer to learn more about the life and legacy of one of the 20th century's most important Christian authors and thinkers.

Faith & Life Lecture Series

Faith & Philosophy: A Legacy from C.S. Lewis

Thursday, Nov. 21 at 7 p.m.

The presenter is Michael Ward, a leading expert on C.S. Lewis. All Faith & Life presentations are free and open to the public. Learn more at faithandlife.org.

Herald Music Series—Monroe Crossing Band Sunday, Nov. 10 at 3 p.m.

Monroe Crossing performs an electrifying blend of classic bluegrass, bluegrass gospel, original bluegrass and some surprising selections outside the bluegrass genre. They are favorites among bluegrass connoisseurs and non-bluegrass audiences alike. No tickets, there will be a free will offering.

Worship Assistance Opportunities:

Communion Server

You may sign up either individually or as a pair for a particular date and service at spdcl.org/register under Worship Assistants. In addition, communion is served each week on Saturday evening and at the 10:45 a.m. services.

Sunday, Nov. 24

Christ the King Weekend

Wednesday, Nov. 27

Thanksgiving Eve

Thanksgiving Worship and Pie Fellowship Wednesday, Nov. 27 at 7 p.m.

Let us give thanks for all our blessings! Join us for our traditional Thanksgiving Eve service. Worship begins at 7 p.m. and will be followed by our traditional pumpkin pie fellowship. All are welcome!

Stay Connected—Especially Snow Birds

Help us keep our contact information up to date,

please let us know using our [online Update Contact Information form](#) or you may also contact our membership coordinator, Nancy Bixby, with any changes at 763-475-7166 or nbixby@spdcl.org.

EVENTS, CLASSES AND GATHERINGS

Augsburg Centennial Singers

Sunday, Nov. 3 at 3 p.m.

A 43-voice male chorus whose concert will include familiar hymns, songs of praise, gospel selections and patriotic music. The concert is free and open to the public. Free will offering.

Conversation with Pastor Makalya

Tuesday, Nov. 12 at 1 p.m.

Whether you're retired, semi-retired, or just have the afternoon off, please join us for The Conversation. We will plan to meet in Fellowship Hall—use the west parking lot. No registration.

SPD Shopping Event at Art2Heart

Tuesday, Nov. 12 at 3–7 p.m.

An SPD shopping event at Art2Heart (95 Hamel Road, Hamel), in which 20% of the evening's proceeds will benefit the SPD Holiday Food Basket ministry.

An Evening with the *Looney Lutherans*

Friday, Nov. 15 at 6 p.m.

Join us for an evening of fun, food, and fellowship as we welcome the *Looney Lutherans* to SPD. We will begin the evening with dinner (think hot dish and Jello) prior to the program. The program featuring the *Looney Lutherans* is a trio of wacky gals who use music, comedy and some help from the audience to share their age-old wisdom for living a long, happy life *the Lutheran way*. The cost is \$20 per person, for dinner and the show. Register online at spd.org/register.

Free Bikes 4 Kidz (FB4K) Volunteer Opportunity

Saturday, Nov. 16 at 9 a.m.–Noon

Free Bikes 4 Kidz! is a non-profit organization geared toward helping all kids ride into a happier, healthier childhood by providing bikes to those most in need. The public donates gently used bikes, FB4K organizes thousands of volunteers to clean and refurbish them, and then gives them away to kids in need. For more information, check out FB4Kmn.org.

Be a part of the group from SPD to help to clean and refurbish donated bikes. No experience needed. We will plan to meet at the FB4K site (previous location of Dick's Sporting Goods).

Register at spd.org/register. Questions, contact serve@spd.org.

SPD Young Adults Together

Upcoming opportunities to meet and connect with other young adults from St. Philip the Deacon. All gatherings are at 7 p.m., unless noted.

Thursday, Nov. 7	Luce Line Brewing
Thursday, Nov. 21	Utepils Brewing
Thursday, Dec. 5	LTD Brewing

Encounter: Christmas Tea at Nicollet Island Inn

Thursday, Dec. 5 from 12:30–3:15 p.m.

Join us for a Christmas Tea at Nicollet Island Inn in Minneapolis. The cost is \$75 per person, which includes the tea, motorcoach transportation, service fees and taxes. Register online at spd.org/register or contact Cindy Carlson at 763-475-7115 or ccarlson@spd.org.

Beer & Hymns—Christmas Edition

Monday, Dec. 16 at 6:30–8 p.m.

Luce Line Brewing

Join us for an evening of music and fellowship as we sing the hymns of Advent and Christmas! Everyone is welcome, whether you like to sing, or just hum along. No registration needed. Questions? Contact Cindy Carlson at ccarlson@spd.org or 763-475-7115.

Spirit Bead Workshops

Spirit Bead workshops invite you to create beautiful artwork as a spiritual practice and an expression of your faith.

Tuesday, Nov. 5 from 3–7 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 3 from 3–7 p.m.

YOGA OPPORTUNITIES

YogaFaith

For more information, contact Amanda Berger at aberger@spd.org, or by phone at 763-475-7139.

YogaFaith Vinyasa

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. [on Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 190 431 409, Passcode: Dwnndog

Thursday at 9 a.m. in the CFL

Chair Yoga

Mondays and Thursdays

11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

We meet in the CFL. Enter at Door E on the east side.

Energize your body and mind with Chair Yoga! Chair Yoga is a program for folks with limited flexibility or anyone who needs to take it easy on their joints. Payment is by free will donation. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a water bottle. Questions contact Kathy Hagedorn at 763-475-7138.

All Is Calm: Advent Yoga with Harp

Thursday, Dec. 19 at 11:30 a.m. (Chair Yoga)

Friday, Dec. 20 at 7 p.m. (Mat Yoga)—[Register online](#)

Join us for this popular, gentle yoga practice that helps you find stillness and peace during the advent season. All is Calm Advent Yoga features harpist Rachel Brandwein. This slow and meditative yoga practice unites breath, scripture, prayer and movement to help us reconnect to our bodies and find God's peace and presence. Suggested donation is \$20 with proceeds going to Christmas ministries. [Register online](#) to reserve your spot for the Friday, Dec. 20 mat class, and pay at the door. No registration required for the chair class on Thursday, Dec. 19 at 11:30 a.m.—just drop in!

Youth Reader/Acolyte Training

Sunday, Nov. 10 at 11:45 a.m.

Kids in grades 3 and higher are encouraged to serve in worship through reading and/or lighting the candles. Join us for one of the two upcoming trainings about this. Sign up online at spdlc.org/register.

Youth: The Sleep Out 2024

Saturday, Nov. 9 starting at 5 p.m. through Sunday, Nov. 10 at 11 a.m.

Middle School and High School youth plan to join The Sleep Out 2024, in support of the Interfaith Outreach Sleep Out campaign. You will hear more about housing instability, its impact on individuals and families in our community and how Interfaith addresses their needs and how you can support this campaign.

- Register at spdlc.org/register
- Adult volunteers are needed (must pass a background check if staying overnight)
- \$20 per youth, scholarships are available.

Kids Movie Night

Friday, Nov. 15 at 6–8 p.m.

Kids are invited to bring a pillow and blanket and watch a movie on the big screen at church! Pajamas are welcome but not required. Pizza will be served and then we will watch a movie on the big screen. Kids younger than kindergarten will be in the Childcare Center. Cost is \$5/child, which covers pizza, drink, and dessert. Register at spdlc.org/register.

Preparing for Advent

Saturday, November 30 at 9–11 a.m.

Join us as we decorate and prepare the Sanctuary for the Advent season. There are trees to fluff and light, garland and wreaths to be hung in place. All supplies are provided, we need your helping hands. Come and help us prepare for Advent. Questions, please contact Pastor Valerie at vstrand@spdlc.org or Cindy Carlson at ccarlson@spdlc.org.

Christmas Connections

Saturday, December 7 at 9–11 a.m.

All (young and older, singles and families) are invited to gather with us as we connect with each other and with the true meaning of Christmas. We will begin our time around the table with coffee and breakfast treats. Throughout the morning, we will prepare our hearts for Christmas with meaningful activities, conversation, a craft, learning, and traditions. Come, listen, relax, enjoy, and calm your heart as we near the blessed Christmas holiday. Questions contact Trish Arndt at tarndt@spdlc.org.

Interfaith Outreach Food Pantry Needs

The food shelf is a valuable resource to families in our local community. Hunger in the suburbs is not always visible, but it is no less real. The Interfaith Outreach Food Shelf serves over 250 households per week and 44% of the people served are children. The food shelf is a safety net and supplemental resource for families and seniors who live on low and fixed incomes. The full list of food shelf donation needs can be found at iocup.org/outreach-services/food-shelf.

Winter Jackets

We are collecting warm, gently used winter jackets of all sizes (children and adult), as well as children's snow pants. There is a particular need for jackets for teens, as well as men's and women's larger size coats (XL and XXL). **Coats can be used, but should be clean and in good condition.** Please drop them off in Fellowship Hall.

3,000 Acts of Kindness Volunteer Opportunity Monday, Dec. 9 at 7:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

This is a wonderful opportunity to provide a day of hope and dignity to individuals in the Twin Cities who are experiencing homelessness. There is more information about the 3,000 Acts of Kindness mission, at coatedinlove.org.

Volunteer to serve at the event, and take the bus from SPD. To help with driving and parking downtown we have arranged a bus for the morning session. We plan to leave SPD by bus at 7:30 a.m. and return at 1 p.m. There is no cost involved, but registration is required at spdlc.org/register.

Christmas Care 2024

Our Christmas Care ministries will serve a number of shelters, both in Plymouth and Minneapolis. They include Smith Lodge, Mission Lodge, Hart House, Mission Heights (new this year), Our Saviour's Housing, Home Free Shelter, Home Free Community Program and Anishinabe Wakiagun.

We will also have a children's book drive, and provide Thanksgiving and Christmas Food baskets at Messiah Lutheran Church. The shopping lists and instructions for each of the shelters will be available in person and online in early November. Questions, please contact Pastor Valerie Strand Patterson at vstrand@spdlc.org or 763-475-7126.

Lutheran Disaster Response

Since these natural disasters require a long-term response, Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) and our partners support communities on the long road to recovery with disaster case management, construction management and emotional and spiritual care. 100% of Gifts given to Lutheran Disaster Response are used to equip them to respond to disaster. Donate at ELCA.org/LDR.

2024 END OF YEAR SPD GIVING GUIDELINES

Thank you for your faithful support of St. Philip the Deacon. Your generosity makes our mission and ministry possible. As the year concludes, please follow these helpful guidelines for your final 2024 contributions:

As the year concludes, please follow these helpful guidelines for your final 2024 contributions:

For a gift to be considered a 2024 contribution, there are five ways to deliver your gifts. All of these methods must be completed **before midnight on Dec. 31, 2024**. Offerings received after Dec. 31 will be recorded as 2024 offerings, regardless of which year's envelope is used.

You may:

1. Place your gift into the offering plates in the Narthex before/after worship services.
2. Deliver to the church office (Mon.–Thu. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fri. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.)
3. Place in the black mail drop-box outside of Door B (upper level parking lot/ west office door)
4. Give electronically at spdlic.org/egiving.
5. Send via U.S. Mail—must be postmarked on or before Dec. 31, 2024.

A few things to note about gifts of stock, IRA distributions and prepayment for 2025 giving:

1. All stock and IRA distributions/charitable gifts also follow the above guidelines.
2. If you wish to transfer stock to the church's Schwab account, **please let us know about your gift, as donor names are not disclosed by Schwab.**
3. When transferring assets to the SPD Schwab account from firms other than Schwab, **processing times typically vary from two to six weeks.** Assets must be transferred and deposited into our Schwab account by Dec. 31, 2024.
4. If you wish to prepay your 2024 contributions, **please make a notation on the envelope, and write in the check memo, "Prepayment for 2025"**. To receive credit on your 2024 year-end statement, 2025 prepayments must also be received by Dec. 31, 2024. If an electronic gift is desired to be recorded as a 2025 prepay, the gift must be initiated on or before Dec. 31, 2024. A call or email to the finance office is extremely helpful if an electronic 2025 prepayment gift has been initiated.

We are grateful to you for your part in helping us continue to Reach Out, Proclaim and Inspire. Remember: Your gifts make a difference. (*Ephesians 1:15-19*)

Questions? Contact Moe Hagestuen, Finance Administrator, finance@spdlic.org or 763-475-7124

CARE AND SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)

Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m.

There is an AA chapter that meets at St. Philip the Deacon in the CFL on Tuesday evenings. Park in the lower level parking lot, and use Door E. For questions, contact Mike Conley at 612-619-6448.

Caregivers Support Group

Wednesday afternoons at 1 p.m.

This is a weekly meeting of people who are currently the primary caregiver for another adult. In many cases, members are spouses or adult children of someone who is living with dementia or other long-term illness, though the group is not specifically aimed at any single care scenario. Members gather to take a break from their setting, share ideas and support one another. Contact Susan Path, Parish Nurse, for more information: spath@spdlic.org or 763-475-7168.

Thrive: Cancer Support Group

1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoons at 1 p.m.

Thrive is a support group for those who have been diagnosed with cancer. We will be addressing our fears and journey for hope. You will find support, emotionally and spiritually, in a confidential environment. The group **meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month from 1–2 p.m.** Contact Susan Path, Parish Nurse spath@spdlic.org or 763-475-7168 with questions or zoom link.

Sanctuary of Survivors (SOS)

1st and 3rd Thursday evenings at 7 p.m.

Sanctuary of Survivors is a faith-based support group for those who have lost a loved one by suicide. All emotions, all questions will be heard and honored by this group. All are welcome, wherever you are on your faith journey, including questioning or having a crisis of faith. Please contact Pastor Valerie Strand Patterson at vstrand@spdlic.org for information on how to join the group, including on Zoom.

Mental Health Connect

If you need help finding appropriate mental health care, there are resources available to help at Mental Health Connect. www.mhconnect.org. Call or text 612-642-1220.

West Suburban Grief Coalition

Thursday afternoons, 4–6 p.m.

The West Suburban Grief Coalition is an extension of 15 area churches to help provide caring support and education for persons who are grieving the death of a loved one.

The West Suburban Grief Coalition is meeting at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2060 County Road 6, Long Lake, MN 55356.

All individuals are welcome, and no registration is needed. There is a brochure with more information available at the hospitality desk. For more information about Grief Coalition, contact Harley Feldman at harleyfeldman@gmail.com.