

LENT 2025: *Coming to Our Senses*

Wednesday Evenings in Lent:

March 12, 19, 26, April 2 and 9

Lenten Soup Suppers

5:30–6:30 p.m.

Lenten Soup Suppers begin on Wednesday, March 12, 2025. Soup will be served between 5:30-6:30 p.m. Note, we have mac & cheese on the weekly menu. There will be a free will offering for the supper.

Midweek Lenten Worship Service

Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m.

We will once again use the Holden Evening Prayer for the Wednesday evening Lenten worship services.

Praying in Color through Lent

You are invited to participate in the meditative practice of Praying in Color throughout this Lenten season. Materials are available in Fellowship Hall. Questions? Contact Pastor Valerie Strand Patterson at vstrand@spdcl.org.

Daily Devotional

Our pastoral team has chosen for our Lenten devotion a work co-written by our own Pastor Makayla Dahleen called, *Coming to Our Senses: Returning to God*. It comprises a series of daily scripture readings and prayers that will help us awaken our senses to God's presence. These booklets will be available at the hospitality desk, or can be [downloaded as a PDF file from our website](#).

Easter Worship Assistants

You are invited to sign up either individually or as a pair for a particular date and service at spdcl.org/register under Communion Server.

Thursday, April 17 (Maundy Thursday)

Saturday, April 19 (Communion and Candlelighters)

Sunday, April 20 (Easter—at all services)

The Conversation

Tuesday, March 11 at 1 p.m.

"The Conversation" provides members of the congregation with an opportunity for community, care and connection. Join us for coffee and conversation. This month the guest speaker is Amanda Berger, who will share more information about SPD's new Publishing Imprint, *Scroll & Chariot*. We meet in Fellowship Hall. No registration needed.

Easter Food Baskets

We hope to provide Easter Food Baskets and support the many Community Bridge* food programs in the Phillips neighborhood. \$50 is a suggested amount; however, a gift of *any size* is greatly appreciated. You may give a gift online, indicating *Food Basket* as the designated fund. Watch for more information about how to register to help with the food basket assembly and distribution. Give online at: spdcl.org/giving. We will be packing bags during the week of April 14. We will need volunteers with vehicles on Saturday, April 19 for deliveries. If you would like to help, please contact Renee Putnam at serve@spdcl.org.

**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) to enhance hospitality and community outreach in the Phillips West Neighborhood.*

Easter Flowers

Easter weekend, we will have a beautiful display of flowers, including Easter lilies, yellow mums, pink azaleas, calla lilies and pink and blue hydrangeas. You are invited to sponsor one or more in someone's memory or in their honor. You may pick up a plant of your choice to take home following the 11 a.m. Easter worship service.

Flowers are \$20 each, and they may be ordered using this form or online at spdcl.org/register. The deadline to order is **Sunday, April 6, 2025**.

If you use this form, please include your commemoration as well as your name and phone number. Sponsors and their commemorations will be listed in the Easter worship bulletin.

_____ Easter flowers \$20 each

Commemoration: **(Please print clearly)**

- In memory of
- In celebration of
- In honor of

Given by (list names as you want them to appear in the bulletin):

ADULT EDUCATION AND RETREATS

Abide Class

March 10, 17 and 24

Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

Abide is a weekly gathering designed to help you follow Jesus in your everyday life. Each month, we'll focus on one passage of scripture, exploring it through study, prayer, loving our neighbors, and storytelling. Leaders: Amanda Berger, Renee Putnam, and Jen Galley. Registration is not needed.

March Theme: Do You See?

Bible Study: Jesus Anointed by a Sinful Woman (Luke 7:36–50)

We'll explore how God meets us in our longing and leads us toward deeper connection and transformation.

Registration Link: spdlc.org/register

Faith & Life with Thomas Wagner

Thursday, March 27 at 7 p.m.

The 2024-2025 Faith & Life lecture series continues with a presentation by Thomas Wagner, Faith & Resilience: Finding Hope in Challenging Times. The presentation is free and open to the public. This event will also be livestreamed at faithandlife.org/livestream.

How to Know a Person Class

Monday, April 7 and 14

6:30 p.m.

In this 2-week class, we'll explore, and practice skills highlighted in the book, *How to Know a Person* by David Brooks.

The class will be led by Pastor Westermeyer and Jen Galley.

"There is one skill that lies at the heart of any healthy person, family, school, community organization, or society: the ability to see someone else deeply and make them feel seen – to accurately know another person, to let them feel valued, heard, and understood." – David Brooks

David Brooks will be the guest speaker for Faith & Life on Thursday, April 24, 2025 at 7 p.m.

HERALD MUSIC SERIES

The Herald Music Series is a community service of St. Philip the Deacon. The Series is a reflection and extension of St. Philip the Deacon's long commitment to outstanding music.

Cantus Vocal Ensemble

Sunday, April 13 at 3 p.m.

Tickets available at cantussings.org

SPD Sanctuary Choir, Meeting House Choir and Artaria String Quartet

Sunday, May 18 at 3 p.m.

This is a free concert, and open to the public.

All-Congregation Band

Do you play an instrument? Perhaps it has been some time since you've played? Well, dust off that old saxophone—we're seeking musicians of all ages to help lead worship in our first All-Congregation Band. There is no age limit, although a basic proficiency and ability to read music is expected. All musicians should supply their own instrument. All band and orchestra instruments are welcome. To make the experience accessible for all, there are only two required rehearsals: Register at spdlc.org/register. If you have any questions, please contact Samuel Grace, Director of Music Ministry at sgrace@spdlc.org or 763-475-7142.

Rehearsals

Wednesday, May 28 (7–8:30 p.m.)

Saturday, May 31 (10–11:30 a.m.)

Play for Worship:

Sunday, June 1 (Worship at 9:30 a.m.—Call time at 9 a.m.)

Cribbage, Cards and Chili

Sunday, March 23 at 3–5 p.m.

We had so much fun at our first gathering of *Cribbage, Cards and Chili* that we are offering it again in late March. At the first gathering, in addition to cribbage, there were games of Uno, SkyJo, bridge, and Battleship. You are welcome to bring a cribbage board, or game you would like to play. Questions, contact Cindy Carlson at ccarlson@spdlc.org.

Stay Connected @ SPD

Help us keep our contact information up to date.

Please let us know using our [online Update Contact Information form at spdlc.org/contact](https://spdlc.org/contact), or you may contact our membership coordinator, Nancy Bixby, with any changes at 763-475-7166 or nbixby@spdlc.org.

Prayer Requests

You can make a prayer request online by visiting our information request form at spdlc.org/contact. All requests will be held in prayer and kept in confidence. If you would like a pastor to call you please include your contact information.

Updated Church Directories

We've updated the SPD pictorial directory with new members and contact information changes, so be sure to stop by the hospitality desk in the atrium and pick one up!

Altar Flowers

You are invited to sponsor altar flowers throughout the year to beautify our sanctuary for worship. Cost is \$75 per bouquet. Your commemoration (for instance, to celebrate an occasion or remember a loved one) will be shared in the worship folder and on the livestream slideshow before worship at 9:30 a.m. [Sign up online to sponsor flowers](#), or call the church. During Lent we do have altar flowers in the sanctuary.

Children, Youth and Family Programs

Weekly Programs for Children and Youth

You are invited to join any of our children's and youth programs: Sunday School, Children's Choirs, the Childcare Center, Verse 5, Confirmation and High School ministry.

Sunday School

Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

Preschool (3 years–K)

Elementary School (1st–4th grade)

Childcare Center

Childcare is available during the Sunday morning worship services (8:15, 9:30 and 10:45 a.m.)

Children 6 weeks–2+ years old

Verse 5

Wednesday, March 5 and 26 at 6 p.m.

Meets twice a month on a Wednesday at 6–7:30 p.m. Verse 5 is a ministry program of faith and fellowship for 5th grade students. They gather twice a month throughout the school year. Questions, contact Trish Arndt at tarndt@spdpc.org.

Confirmation

Students in grades 6–8 meet on Wednesday evenings (6:30–7:30 p.m.) throughout the school year, as part of a three year Confirmation program. Learn more at spdpc.org/register. If you have questions, contact Charlie Olsen at colson@spdpc.org.

High School Ministry (Koin)

Meets weekly on Wednesdays, 7:30–8:30 p.m.

Our purpose is to build "Koinonia"—Christian fellowship.

Questions, contact Olsen Pancoast at opancoast@spdpc.org.

Baptism at SPD

We welcome baptisms of infants, older children and adults at St. Philip the Deacon. It is in the waters of baptism we are named and claimed as God's own. This sacrament is gladly offered for you and your family, regardless of membership status at SPD.

In preparation of a baptism, we have created a baptism video at spdpc.org/life-events. To schedule a baptism, please complete our [Baptism Information Form](#), which is available online at spdpc.org/life-events. If you have questions, please contact Nancy Bixby at nbixby@spdpc.org, or 763-475-7166.

Growing Families

Have you recently found out you are expecting? Or are you adopting a child into your family? Let us share your joy and walk beside you as a faith community. At St. Philip the Deacon, we want to support you and your family as it grows and develops. Let us know your big news! [Get in touch with us online](#) or Contact: Kathy Hagedorn, Early Childhood and Children's Ministry at khagedorn@spdpc.org or 763-475-7138.

First Communion Workshop

Monday, March 10 at 6 p.m.—Register at spdpc.org/register

This workshop gives an opportunity for children in grades 3–5 to learn about the significance of Holy Communion in our Christian life and how to partake in the sacrament. Those participating in this workshop will receive their first communion on Sunday, March 23 at the 10:45 a.m. worship service.

Children's Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 19 at 10 a.m. Register at spdpc.org/register

Held outside at SPD, lower (east) parking lot. Families are invited to come and hear the Easter story before heading outside to gather hidden eggs! There is no cost for the event, but for planning purposes, we ask you to register online at spdpc.org/register by **April 17**. Questions, contact Trish Arndt at tarndt@spdpc.org.

Help stuff the eggs for the Egg Hunt. All supplies to be provided and available for pickup this weekend and need to be returned to church by Thursday, April 10. This is an "at home" project.

Tuesday Story Time

Tuesdays at 5 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Knowing that many of our singers in the Dynamic Deacons (ages K–2nd grade) and Chancel Choir (3–5th grade) may have younger siblings, we have Story Time for these younger children while their older siblings are singing. But that doesn't mean you have to have a sibling in the choir to be eligible to come to Story Time—all preschoolers are welcome! No need to register. We meet in Room 101.

A Day for Dads with Young Children

Saturday, May 3, 9a.m.–4 p.m.

More information and registration will follow in the coming weeks, but for now, save the date.

Vacation Bible School (Kids age 3–4th grade)

June 9–12 from 8:45–11:30 a.m.

Join us for four days of adventure-filled learning! Our theme this year is "True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World." Each day will be filled with music, stories, experiments, learning, snacks, games, friends, laughter, and more! We will adventure through the "True North" thick forests, experience the stunning northern lights, and explore with curious woodland animals as we learn more about Jesus and his unending love for us! We will be both indoors and out. Cost is \$35 per student with a max of \$80 per family. Please register by May 16.

Summer Programs and Activities

Pick up the SPD Summer brochure with programs and activities for all ages. Registration is open at spdpc.org/register.

SERVING OTHERS

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. A list of the most needed items include:

Healthy snacks (granola bars, trail mix and dried fruit), **Baby food and formula, diapers, cooking oil, hearty soups, papers bags** (for packing food shelf goods), **paper towels, toilet paper, toiletries, and feminine hygiene products.**

Also can also help our neighbors celebrate special traditions.

Passover, March: Matzo bread

Easter, April: Ham, potatoes, Easter candies

Eid al-Adha, May: Dates

Collecting Used Eyeglasses

We are a collection site for used glasses! You can bring them to the church office entrance, Door B. You'll find a collection bucket on the coat rack inside the door. They will be recycled by the Lions Club International. They will be happy to receive **used hearing aids, too!**

Give Blood!

Memorial Blood Center is your community blood donation center. As a blood donor, you are a vital part of a team of individuals working together to save the lives of hospital patients in our area. That means the blood supply collected from our donors directly serves the needs of patients in our local community. An hour of your time can mean a lifetime to someone. [Sign up to donate blood today!](#)

3,000 Acts of Kindness: Virtual Coat Drive

The 3,000 Acts of Kindness event, which serves people experiencing homelessness in Minneapolis is sponsored by *Coated with Love*. At the December event, they ran out of coats by 1 p.m.—especially in the larger sizes (L–XXXL). In anticipation of this year's event they have set-up a method to donate coats through an Amazon Wishlist. This virtual coat drive is through March 14. The coats that are purchased, will be shipped and delivered directly to *Coated in Love*. [Amazon Gift List](#)

Used Crayon Collection Through April 13, 2025

You are invited to bring gently used crayons which will be recycled and given new life. In partnership with Minnetonka Girl Scout Troop #18993, we'll be collecting used crayons throughout the season of Lent. Check out the display and donation area in the lower-level entry. Thank you for sharing your gifts with our community!

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@spdcl.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@spdcl.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@spdcl.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 Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Hopkins. The address is 715 Minnetonka Mills Road, Hopkins, MN 55343.

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.