



# Partners in the Gospel

## Alpha Class

Register at [spdcl.org/register](https://spdcl.org/register)

**Sunday mornings at 10:45–11:45 a.m.**

**Sept. 28–Nov. 9**

Alpha is a series of group conversations exploring the basics of the Christian faith. Everyone is welcome.

- Connect with new people
- Watch a video about a question of faith
- Share your thoughts and hear from others

## Blessing of the Animals

**Sunday, Sept. 28 at 2 p.m.**

Please join us for this annual liturgy where we ask God's blessings upon our animal family members. Bring your pet to receive a special blessing for their health and well-being.

## CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

### 2025–2026 Registration

Check out our registration page at [spdcl.org/register](https://spdcl.org/register).

- **Childcare Center**  
For children who are 6 weeks old through 3 years old  
Childcare is available during Sunday morning worship services.
- **Sunday School and Sunday Friends (9:30 a.m. only)**  
Sundays at 9:30 and 10:45 a.m.
- **Grade 5 Gathering** (5th graders—twice a month)  
*First gathering is this week—Sept. 17*  
Wednesdays, 6–7:30 p.m.
- **Confirmation** (6–8th grade, 9th grade)  
Wednesdays, 6:30–7:30 p.m.
- **Koin** (9–12th grade) Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.

## JOIN A CHOIR—Children and Adults

Adults and children as young as Kindergarten are welcome to sing in choir—regardless of experience! Registration for all choirs may be found at [spdcl.org/register](https://spdcl.org/register).

**Sanctuary Choir** (adults)

Wednesdays at 7–8:30 p.m.

**Dynamic Deacons** (K–2nd grade)

Tuesdays at 5–5:30 p.m.

**Chancel Choir** (3rd–5th grade)

Tuesdays at 5:35–6:05 p.m.

**SPD Singers** (6th–12th grade)

Wednesdays at 5:15–5:55 p.m.

## The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work

**Saturday, Sept. 27, 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m.**

The Seven Principles Couples Program is a one day workshop. It is a marriage enrichment and pre-marital prep workshop for couples based on the scientific research published in the book *The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work* by Dr. John Gottman, with Nan Silver. No need to read the book before attending.

Seven Principles Couples Program format includes lectures and private couple exercises. Participants will NOT share their personal problems in front of others. Register at [spdcl.org/register](https://spdcl.org/register).

## SPD New Member Orientation

**Monday, Oct. 7 at 6:30 p.m.**

If you are interested in membership at St. Philip the Deacon, you are invited to attend this informational class to learn more about this faith community, our mission and ministry.

Childcare is available during the class. We will plan to receive new members on Sunday, Aug. 24 at the 9:30 a.m. service. You may register online at [spdcl.org/register](https://spdcl.org/register) or by contacting Cindy Carlson at [ccarlson@spdcl.org](mailto:ccarlson@spdcl.org).

## Processional Worship Assistants

If you would like to serve as a worship assistants to carry in either the cross or a candle at the 9:30 a.m. worship service please contact Trish Arndt at [tarndt@spdcl.org](mailto:tarndt@spdcl.org) or 763-475-7119. We invite families, individuals, youth and children to serve in this ministry. All are welcome.

## Hospitality Ministry: Herald Music Series Host

If you would like to serve as a SPD host for the upcoming Herald Music Series contact Cindy Carlson at [ccarlson@spdcl.org](mailto:ccarlson@spdcl.org). Visit [heraldmusic.com](https://heraldmusic.com) for more information about the concert series. The expectation would be for hosts to be available at least an hour prior the concert to help with greeting, directions, and assist with ushering. Hosts should be able to serve at least three of the concerts during the 2025–2026 Series.

## Hospitality Ministry: Wednesday Night Hosts 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Wednesday evenings are busy at SPD with youth and choir programs starting back up this fall. If you would like to serve as a welcoming presence on Wednesday evenings—at either of the Hospitality Desks, please contact [serve@spdcl.org](mailto:serve@spdcl.org). If you have questions, call Renee Putnam at 763-475-7162.

## First Grade Bibles

### Sunday, Sept. 28 at the 9:30 a.m. worship service

All first graders will receive their very own *Adventure Bible* as a gift from the St. Philip the Deacon faith community. This is part of our promise at their baptism *to place into their hands the Holy Scriptures*. Following the presentation, these students and their parents/guardians will then attend a special Bible workshop to learn more about their new Bibles! Families should register their first grader at [spdcl.org/register](http://spdcl.org/register).

## Mental Health Connect

### Tuesday, Sept. 30 at 6–8 p.m.

Bethlehem Lutheran, 4100 Lyndale Ave S, Minneapolis

**Screenagers Elementary Edition.** This event is a film and panel discussion offering practical strategies for families navigating technology use and supporting kids' emotional well-being in today's digital world.

This film edition is geared toward young people ages Kindergarten through 7th grade and their parents, caring adults, and supporting community. The topic include:

- Healthy Screen Time Habits: Research-based solutions for managing screen use
- Navigating Digital Challenges: Social media, video gaming, and early exposure concerns

This event includes dinner and is free of charge, but please register at [mhconnect.org](http://mhconnect.org).

This event is offered by Mental Health Connect, Merri K Guggisberg-Parent Coach, and Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Questions? Contact Merri Guggisberg, [merri@mhconnect.org](mailto:merri@mhconnect.org).

## Pathfinders—Walking Together in Your 20s and 30s

Pathfinders is a group of young adults experiencing the transitional 3rd and 4th decades of life. We worship, serve and enjoy fellowship together. Join the Pathfinder "group" at [spdcl.org](http://spdcl.org).

Sept. 25 Pig Ate My Pizza & Nouvelle Brewing  
Oct. 5 Fall Festival event

## The Six Needs of Mourning

### Tuesdays, Sept. 30, Oct. 7, 14, 21 and 28

6:30–7:30 p.m.

*Register at [spdcl.org/register](http://spdcl.org/register)*

The death of someone loved changes our lives forever. How can we journey through the grief we feel inside in a healing and meaningful way? The journey requires mourning—expressing our thoughts and feelings in a variety of ways. Dr. Alan Wolfelt identifies six basic human needs around mourning, which we will explore together. These sessions are more about learning and less about support, but we will be tender with each other's experience of loss. Led by Pastor Valerie Strand Patterson, [vstrand@spdcl.org](mailto:vstrand@spdcl.org) or 763-475-7126.

## Encounter: Southern Minnesota Church Tour

### Wednesday, Oct. 8 from 8:30 a.m.–4:15 p.m.

Join us as we visit several churches in Southern Minnesota to learn about their varied history, traditions and architectural style. Our tour will include churches in the Welch and Red Wing area. The cost of the tour is \$55 per person, and includes lunch. Register at [spdcl.org/register](http://spdcl.org/register). If you have questions, contact Cindy Carlson at [ccarlson@spdcl.org](mailto:ccarlson@spdcl.org).

## Habitat for Humanity—Extended Build

### Oct. 21, 22, and 23

This summer several of our build dates were cancelled due to weather and poor air quality. We were able to schedule additional dates at the same location for later this fall.

Dates: Oct. 21, 22 and 23

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (Wed.)

Location: 9034 Park Ave S., Bloomington

Build Type: New Build, Single-family home

Please sign up for your volunteer day and complete our online waiver at: [tchabitat.volunteerhub.com](http://tchabitat.volunteerhub.com). Questions? Contact Pastor Mark Schmid at 763-475-7127 or [mschmid@spdcl.org](mailto:mschmid@spdcl.org)

## A Day Away for Moms with Young Children

### Saturday, Nov. 8, 9:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

This women's retreat will be held at The Blessing House in Victoria and is designed for moms with young children. We will explore some of the rewards and challenges of this season of your life, and what it looks like to build community to support and encourage each other. The cost is \$50, which includes a continental breakfast, lunch and retreat materials. Transportation is on your own. Questions? Contact Kathy Hagedorn at [khagedorn@spdcl.org](mailto:khagedorn@spdcl.org). Register at [spdcl.org/register](http://spdcl.org/register).

## First Communion Preparation

### Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 6:30–8 p.m. [Register online](#)

Young people in grades 3, 4 and 5 who have not yet received their First Communion are invited to sign up for this special workshop, which teaches us about the importance of Holy Communion. The workshop is designed for both student and parent to attend together. Young people who attend the workshop will be invited to **receive their first communion on Sunday, Nov. 23 at the 10:45 a.m. service.**

## Funeral Reception Team

Please consider how you might help with this tremendously supportive ministry. The ways to help include: baking cookies or bars, or helping with either the set-up or serving of the reception. There are options to help during the week, as well as weekends. Contact Cindy Carlson at [ccarlson@spdcl.org](mailto:ccarlson@spdcl.org) or 763-475-7115, if you would like to be **added to the on-call list** to help with funeral receptions.

## CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

### Tuesday Storytime

**Tuesday at 5 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.**

Join us for Tuesday Storytime. (It has been intentionally planned to coincide with the rehearsal time for the children's choirs). While siblings are at choir, join us for a story and a time to play. We will meet in Room 101 on the lower level. Note: This program is open to all—you need not have a sibling in the choir to attend. No registration needed, come as you are able.

### Youth Ministry on Wednesday Nights:

5:15 p.m. SPD Singers

5:30 p.m. Pizza and Play

6:30 p.m. Confirmation (6–8th grade)

7:30 p.m. Koin (Senior High Youth Group)

Register at [spdlc.org/register](https://spdlc.org/register). For more information contact Charlie Olson at [colson@spdlc.org](mailto:colson@spdlc.org) or 763-475-7129 or Olsen Pancoast at [opancoast@spdlc.org](mailto:opancoast@spdlc.org).

### Reader and Acolyte Training

**Tuesday, Sept. 23 at 6:15 p.m.**

Kids in grades 3 and older are encouraged to serve in worship through reading and/or lighting the candles. Join us for the training session. Sign up online at [spdlc.org/register](https://spdlc.org/register) or contact Trish Arndt at [tarndt@spdlc.org](mailto:tarndt@spdlc.org) or 763-475-7119.

**Sunday Friends** is a ministry designed to teach our friends with special needs about the love of God geared to each specific child. Do you know someone who might benefit from joining our Sunday Friends program? Offered on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Contact Kathy Hagedorn [khagedorn@spdlc.org](mailto:khagedorn@spdlc.org) or 763-475-7138 for more information.

### Serving in Children, Youth and Family Ministry

- **Sunday School Small Group Leader**

A **special invitation to adults**—please consider serving as a small group leader in our Sunday School program. This is an wonderful opportunity to share God's love with the children in our faith community. You could serve on a weekly or rotating basis. If interested contact Norah Long, Elementary Sunday School at [nlong@spdlc.org](mailto:nlong@spdlc.org) or Kathy Hagedorn, Pre-school/Kindergarten at [khagedorn@spdlc.org](mailto:khagedorn@spdlc.org).

- **Sunday School Friends**

St. Philip the Deacon Lutheran Church Children's Ministry offers a buddy system to children with individual special needs. For more information about being a buddy, please contact Kathy Hagedorn at 763-475-7138 or [khagedorn@spdlc.org](mailto:khagedorn@spdlc.org).

- **Confirmation Ministry**

Adults and high school youth are invited to serve in the Confirmation Ministry (6–9th grade) on Wednesday evenings in a variety of roles, from helping with Pizza & Play, to serving as a small group leader. If you would like to serve in youth ministry, contact [serve@spdlc.org](mailto:serve@spdlc.org).

## Connect @ SPD –Especially Snowbirds

**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](mailto:nbixby@spdlc.org).

### Baptism at SPD

We welcome baptisms of infants, older children and adults at St. Philip the Deacon. This sacrament is gladly offered regardless of membership status at SPD. In preparation of a baptism, we have created a baptism video at [spdlc.org/life-events](https://spdlc.org/life-events). To schedule a baptism, please complete our [Baptism Information Form](https://spdlc.org/life-events), which is available online at [spdlc.org/life-events](https://spdlc.org/life-events). If you have questions, please contact Nancy Bixby at [nbixby@spdlc.org](mailto:nbixby@spdlc.org), or 763-475-7166.

### SPD Hub

We transitioned to a new system for our church calendar and registrations, which is at [spdlc.org/hub](https://spdlc.org/hub). **There is an option to download an app to your phone, making all of this available at your fingertips.** To download the app, look for "Church Center" on your iPhone or Android app store.

### Altar Flowers

You are invited to sponsor altar flowers throughout the year (except during Lent) 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.

## YOGA OPPORTUNITIES

### Embodied Prayer: Yoga @ SPD

**Thursdays at 9 a.m.** in the CFL

For more information, contact Amanda Berger at [aberger@spdlc.org](mailto:aberger@spdlc.org), or by phone at 763-475-7139.

### Chair Yoga

**Mondays and Thursdays**

**11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.** in the CFL

Chair Yoga is a program for folks with limited flexibility or anyone who needs to take it easy on their joints. Questions: contact Kathy Hagedorn at 763-475-7138.

### Chair Yoga Autumn Retreat

**Thursday, Oct. 23 at 9 a.m.–3 p.m.**

**University of Minnesota Arboretum**

You are invited to join us for a Chair Yoga Autumn Retreat with a focus on "Grace." For more information, Contact: Kathy Hagedorn at [khagedorn@spdlc.org](mailto:khagedorn@spdlc.org) or 763-475-7138.



## SERVING AT SPD

### Interfaith Outreach Food Pantry / Resale Select

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 [iocp.org/outreach-services/food-shelf](http://iocp.org/outreach-services/food-shelf). The Interfaith Outreach Food Shelf is located on Hwy. 101 and County Road 6, and is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

**Fresh garden produce is greatly appreciated!**

### Interfaith Outreach Food Shelf

**Thursday, Sept. 18 at 4:30 p.m.**

Interfaith Outreach needs Food Shelf Shopper Assistants. You will receive training and work with the clients at the pantry at Interfaith Outreach. You can register directly at the [Interfaith Outreach volunteer website](http://InterfaithOutreach.org), where you can view details and choose the date/time to serve with the SPD group. If you have any questions about serving with IOCP and their registration system, please contact Renee Putnam at [serve@spdlc.org](mailto:serve@spdlc.org)

### Free Bikes 4 Kidz Drop Off at SPD

**Saturday, Oct. 4, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.**

**This is a one day event at SPD.**

*Free Bikes 4 Kidz MN* 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](http://FB4Kmn.org). **If you would like to help on the day of the event at SPD, contact Renee at [serve@spdlc.org](mailto:serve@spdlc.org).**

### 3,000 Acts of Kindness Donation Drive

Coated In Love hosts 3,000 Acts of Kindness, a one-day event in December providing a day of hope and dignity to 3,000 homeless individuals in the Twin Cities. In conjunction with the event, SPD will be collecting the following items through Oct. 26. Donations may be dropped off on the table in Fellowship Hall.

#### New or gently used:

- Winter coats (Adult **size large and up** and all kid sizes)
- Warm winter boots (Adult sizes 9 and up and all kid sizes)
- Sleeping bags/Blankets

#### New items:

- Long Underwear (all genders/sizes)
- Socks and underwear (all genders/sizes)
- Wash Cloths
- Feminine Products (small packages)
- Sardines, pouches of tuna, or other meat in packaging that is easy to open without utensils

Additionally, SPD will serve together as a group at the event on Monday, Dec. 8. **Register at [spdlc.org/register](http://spdlc.org/register).**

## 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 Matt Geurink at [mdgeurink@yahoo.com](mailto:mdgeurink@yahoo.com).

### 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@spdlc.org](mailto:spath@spdlc.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@spdlc.org](mailto:spath@spdlc.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@spdlc.org](mailto:vstrand@spdlc.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](http://www.mhconnect.org). Call or text 612-642-1220.

### West Suburban Grief Coalition

**Thursdays, 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.

*This fall the West Suburban Grief Coalition meetings will be held at St. Philip the Deacon Lutheran Church.*

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](mailto:harleyfeldman@gmail.com).