



Children's Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 4 at 10 a.m.—[Sign up at spdlc.org/register](https://spdlc.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 spdlc.org/register by **April 2**. Questions, contact Trish Arndt at tarndt@spdlc.org.

Holy Week Worship Assistants

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

- Thursday, April 2 (Maundy Thursday) - filled
- Saturday, April 4 (Communion and Candlelighters)
- Sunday, April 5 (Easter—at all services)

Easter Food Baskets

We hope to provide Easter Food Baskets and support the many 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: spdlc.org/egiving. We will be packing bags during the week of March 30. We will need volunteers with vehicles on Saturday, April 4 for deliveries. If you would like to help, please contact Renee Putnam at serve@spdlc.org.

ADULT EDUCATION & ACTIVITIES

Bible Study: Book of Acts

Mondays, April 6–May 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Join us for an engaging 7-week journey through the Book of Acts, the continuation of Luke's Gospel. Luke's first volume describes all that Jesus "began to do and teach" during his earthly ministry. In Acts, we'll explore how Jesus continues to do and teach through his followers, empowered and led by the Holy Spirit to join God's mission in the world.

Each session will include thoughtful teaching, meaningful group discussion, and recommended reading to enrich your study throughout the week. Register at spdlc.org/register.

SPD New Member Orientation

Saturday, April 11 at 9:30 a.m.

If you would like to learn more about this faith community and our mission and ministry, join us for our next new member class. You may register at spdlc.org/register. The class is an hour, with childcare available. If you have questions, contact Pastor Tim Westermeyer at twestermeyer@spdlc.org or Cindy Carlson at ccarlson@spdlc.org. We will receive new members on Sunday, April 26 at the 9:30 a.m. service.

Estate Planning with the SPD Foundation

Tuesday, April 14 at 1 p.m. or 6:30 p.m.

The workshop will be offered at two different times on Tuesday, April 14. This will be an opportunity to learn more about Estate Planning.

The event will be led by three experts in Estate Planning, each of whom is also deeply committed to the Lutheran tradition. The goal of these sessions is to help attendees more fully understand the fundamentals of estate planning, how to most efficiently gift assets, and the benefits of establishing charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts. They will also be able to respond to questions you may have about estate planning. The sessions will be identical, there is no cost to attend, and everyone is welcome.

FAITH & LIFE SERIES

Faith & Science: Allies, Not Enemies

Thursday, April 16 at 7 p.m.

Our speaker will be Francis Collins, an American physician-scientist who discovered the genes associated with a number of diseases and led the Human Genome Project. He served as director of the National Institutes of Health from 2009 to 2021. Learn more at faithandlife.org. All Faith & Life presentations are free and open to the public.

MUSIC AT SPD

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. The concert is free and open to the public.

Sunday, April 19 at 3 p.m.

MPLS (imPulse) presents "Sing Me a Story."

Holy Grounds

Monday mornings, 9:45–10:45 a.m.

This class will be very practical and hands-on as participants experience a time for slowing down, devotional prayer and study, a new daily practice, and faithful conversation. It all begins with coffee and fellowship. Registration is not required, drop in as you can make it. Questions: contact Amanda Berger at aberger@spdlc.org.

The 7 Principles for Making Marriage Work(shop) Friday, April 24 –Saturday, April 25

The Seven Principles Couples Program 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. All materials will be provided. The format includes lectures and private couple exercises. Participants will NOT share their personal problems in front of others.

We will meet from 6:30–8:30 p.m. on Friday April 24 and gather again on Saturday from 8:30 a.m.–1 p.m. Snacks, coffee, and lunch will be provided. workshop is for couples. You must attend with your partner. Register at spdlc.org/register.

Minnesota Twins vs. Toronto Blue Jays Thursday, April 30, Depart SPD at 5:15 p.m.

Join us to watch the Minnesota Twins take on the Toronto Blue Jays at Target Field. Our seats are in the Legends Landing. The cost is \$47 per person, for your game ticket, all-inclusive ballpark fare (in the Legends Landing—which includes hotdogs, burgers, chicken tenders, popcorn, chips, soda, water, juice, and milk) and transportation.

All-Congregation Band Sunday, May 31 at 9:30 a.m.

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

Saturday, May 30 (2–3:30 p.m.)

Play for Worship:

Sunday, May 31 (Worship at 9:30 a.m.—Call time at 9 a.m.)

CONNECTED AT 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](http://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.

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](http://spdlc.org/contact), or call the church if you need assistance at 763-475-7100.

Supporting Our Service Members

We would like to prayerfully support your family and friends serving in the armed forces, especially at this time. If you would like someone to be included, please let us know.

Please email the following information to Pastor Valerie at vstrand@spdlc.org.

Name

Branch of service

Your relationship to the person

YOGA OPPORTUNITIES

Embodied Prayer: Yoga @ SPD Thursdays at 9 a.m. in the CFL

For more information, contact Amanda Berger at 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.

Spring Chair Yoga Retreat

Thursday, May 7 at 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Join us at the MN Arboretum for a chair yoga practice on “Joy.” Take time for yourself to enjoy a chair yoga practice, a walk in the arboretum, box lunch, tram ride, and time with friends. Cost: \$60. Early Bird Cost \$50 by Thursday, April 16.

The retreat cost includes transportation, practice, box lunch, and tram ride.

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, Grade 5 Gathering, Confirmation and High School ministry.

Sunday School

Sunday mornings at 9:30 and 10:45 a.m.

Preschool 3 years–Pre K)

Elementary School (K–4th grade)

Childcare Center

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

Grade 5 Gathering

Wednesday, April 8 and 29 at 6 p.m.

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

5th and 8th Grade Bridging Night

Wednesday, April 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Parents, your 5th grader is moving into middle school, or your 8th grader is bridging into 9th grade. What's up next? Join us in Fellowship Hall to learn how to prepare for:

Middle school Confirmation (Begins in 6th grade)

9th grade Confirmation (Fall 2026)

Celebration of Passage (January 2027)

Affirmation of Baptism (January 2027)

High School Ministry/Koin at SPD

Questions?

High School Olsen Pancoast at opancoast@spdnc.org

Middle School Charlie Olson at colson@spdnc.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 spdnc.org/life-events. To schedule a baptism, please complete our [Baptism Information Form](#), which is available online at spdnc.org/life-events. If you have questions, please contact Nancy Bixby at nbixby@spdnc.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@spdnc.org or 763-475-7138.

SPD Summer Programs and Activities

For more summer programs, pick up a *SPD Summer brochure* at the Hospitality Desk. There are programs and activities for all ages. **Registration is open at spdnc.org/register**

Deacon Duffers

Gear up for the golf season. Beginner or pro, women or men, singles or couples, all are welcome! Each group will play nine holes every Tuesday beginning on May 5 and continuing until Aug. 11. The tee times are at Shamrock Gold Course in Corcoran. Space is limited, but we also welcome substitutes if you cannot commit to weekly play. If you are interested contact Connie Fust at conniefust@gmail.com or 612-747-2732.

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

June 8–11 from 8:45–11:30 a.m. daily

Kids from age 3 through 4th grade are invited to enjoy four days of adventure-filled learning! This year's theme is, *Rainforest Falls—Exploring the Nature of God*. Beneath a canopy of chattering birds, kids plunge into a lifelong adventure of discovering the nature of God. They'll explore what it means to be rooted in relationship with God, their creator, a safe place in life's storms. Each day will be filled with music, stories, experiments, learning, snacks, games, friends, laughter, and more! We will be both indoors and out. Cost is \$35 per student with a max of \$80 per family. Register at spdnc.org/register.

Adults and youth are also invited to [sign up to volunteer](#) as a helper or group leader! It's a fun way to participate, learn, and guide our kids in their faith journey.

Kids Adventure Week

July 20–23 from 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. daily

A jam-packed week of outrageous adventures. Each day will have a theme. We will do some things at church, and take a bus to other adventures. Each day will include a devotion, friendships, adventure, new experiences, and all-around fun!

Summer Fishing Retreat

June 25–29

Join SPD Outdoors for a time of faith, fellowship, fun and fishing at 10th annual Summer Fishing Retreat on Lake of the Woods. Registration is open, 10 of the 24 spots are filled. Questions, contact Pastor Mark Schmid at mschmid@spdnc.org.

Children's Summer Music Camp

Aug. 10–13 from 9 a.m.–12:30 p.m. daily

St. Philip the Deacon children's summer music camp, led by Celina Kobetitsch and Samuel Grace. Activities will include singing, games, musical guests and a field trip. The event will culminate with a talent show (family invited) on Thursday, August 13 prior to our closing lunch. Registration is open at spdnc.org/register.

SERVING OTHERS

Caring for Our Neighbors

If you would like to assist with efforts to help our neighbors, the following items may be dropped off at church, or funds for us to help purchase them:

- Gift cards (Cub, Aldi, Target, VISA, etc.)
- Hygiene products (diapers, pull-ups, Depends, feminine care products, shampoo, dental care products, etc.)
- Cleaning supplies (dish soap, laundry detergent, etc.)
- Financial support for rent assistance

Donations can be made at spdlc.org/giving. Please choose the "[Angel Fund](#)" and write "**Helping Neighbors**" in the notation.

Interfaith Outreach Food Pantry Needs

The food shelf is a valuable resource to families in our local community. 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.

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, April: Matzo bread
Easter, April: Ham, potatoes, Easter candies
Eid al-Fitr, May: Dates

Collecting Used Eyeglasses

You can bring used eyeglasses 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!**

Hospitality Ministry: Funeral Reception Team

The ways to help with this ministry include: baking cookies or bars, or helping with set-up or serving of the reception. There are options to help during the week, as well as weekends. Contact Cindy Carlson at c Carlson@spdlc.org if you would like to help with funeral receptions.

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!](#)

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.

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 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. 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 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 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 meetings are being held at Oak Knoll Lutheran Church, 600 Hopkins Crossroads, Minnetonka, MN 55305.

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.