



Summer Organ Concert Series Wednesdays in July

- July 15 at 12:15 p.m. Sam Backman
Holy Cross Catholic Church
Minneapolis, MN
- July 22 at 7 p.m. Tigran Buniatyan
Christ Church of the Ascension
Mountain View Lutheran Church
Phoenix, AZ
- July 29 at 7 p.m. Celina Kobetitsch
St Philip the Deacon Lutheran Church
Plymouth, MN

Lutheran Summer Music Festival Choir Concert Tuesday, July 14 at 7 p.m.

The Lutheran Summer Music Festival Choir, led by Dr. Shannon Gravelle and comprised of 100 young voices from across the country, presents a special performance, sharing the ensemble's power, artistry, and spirit in a vibrant community setting. A reflective evening prayer service that extends the spirit of the music into worship will immediately follow the performance. All are invited to this free and special event.

The Conversation Tuesday, July 14 at 1 p.m.

The Conversation provides members of the congregation with an opportunity for community and connection. Our guest speaker in July will be former Northwest Orient Airlines flight attendant, Dennis Louis. He was one of the first men hired by the airline. No registration is needed. We will meet in Fellowship Hall, parking in the west parking lot (Door A).

Pacem in Terris Silent Prayer Retreat in Isanti, MN Friday–Sunday, Oct. 9–11

Pacem in Terris Retreat Center is a place for you to step away from stress of everyday life and reconnect with God in silence and solitude. Join us for this refreshing weekend away. Each participant will stay in their own hermitage (cabin) which has everything you need. Pacem in Terris is located 45 minutes from SPD. **Registration and a non-refundable deposit is due by Aug. 7**, with the balance due by Sept. 30, 2026. Questions, contact Jen Galley at jjgalley@spdlic.org.

Disaster Response Continues

You've likely seen the news that two powerful earthquakes struck Venezuela. Entire communities have been shaken to the ground. More than 1,700 lives have been confirmed lost so far, thousands more are injured, and countless families are now without shelter, safety or access to necessities.

Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) collaborates with synods, congregations, Lutheran ministries and other faith-based partners to accompany communities impacted by earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, wild fires, severe storms, and tornadoes. Since these natural disasters require a long-term response, Lutheran Disaster Response 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 this, and other disasters, whenever and wherever they strike. Donate at [ELCA.org/LDR](https://elca.org/LDR). Gifts may also be designated to help in a specific area—for instance, earthquakes, wild fires, severe storms, tornadoes, and flood response or to provide assistance internationally.

Dwelling in the Word: Psalms Wednesday, July 22 at 10 a.m.

Dwelling in the Word is a welcoming, discussion-based gathering where we engage Scripture in community. Together, we'll read and reflect on a Psalm, allowing space for conversation and prayer. You're welcome to attend as many sessions as your schedule allows. No prior preparation or experience is required. Register at spdlic.org/register.

The Art of Neighboring

In order to be present for our family, friends, and neighbors we must not ignore the importance of making room for quiet time with God. Take time to rest and be still this summer.

- Pray for your family.
- As you step out to nurture relationships in your community, ask for patience, protection and provision.
- Pray for balance and boundaries with your time.
- Pray for your neighbors (by name if possible).

For more ideas about find community and connection in your own front yard, you might enjoy the book, *The Turquoise Table* by Kristin Schell.

Habitat for Humanity Summer Build

Monday, Aug. 10–Thursday, Aug. 14

You are invited to join us as we use our gifts to make a difference in our community by participating in our 10th Annual Habitat for Humanity Summer Build.

Dates: Monday, Aug. 10–Thursday, Aug. 14

Time: 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

8:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. (Wed.)

Location: Minnetonka Mills

Build Type: New build, single-family home

You may register at spdcl.org/register. Questions? Contact Pastor Mark Schmid at 763-475-7127 or mschmid@spdcl.org.

Back to School Supplies

Each year just before school begins, both Interfaith Outreach (in the local community) and Messiah Lutheran (in the Phillips neighborhood) distribute school supplies to children in need. You are invited to help by donating school supplies.

Messiah Lutheran—Phillips neighborhood

Loose-leaf paper and spiral notebooks

Composition Notebooks

Crayola Crayons (24 pack),

Colored Pencils (12 pack)

Washable Markers (10 classic colors broad or fine tip)

Pocket folders

Highlighters

1" - 3-ring binders

Watercolors (8 count)

Glue Sticks - washable

Ball Point Pens

#2 Pencils (Ticonderoga brand, sharpened)

Large pink erasers

Dry erase markers and erasers

Scissors (5" blunt tip)

Tissue Boxes (full size box)

Disinfectant Wipes (full size box)

Please drop off school supplies for the students in Fellowship Hall by **Sunday, Aug. 9.**

Interfaith Outreach—Wayzata/Plymouth area schools

Through Interfaith Outreach there is the option to assemble grade specific kits. The link to the IOCP Back to School Shopping page is <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/BTS24#/> Please follow Interfaith's instructions included on their sign-up for details on drop off.

Socks and Underwear Donation

We will be collecting the following items for the clients of IOCP through Aug. 10. There will be a donation box in Fellowship Hall. With the beginning of a new school year, these donations will help children get off to a good start.

All items need to be NEW!

Underwear for children (kids sizes toddler and up)

Socks—all sizes and varieties

Sports bras, underwear and bras (women's and teen sizes)

Lutheran World Relief—Fabric Kits

LWR Kits are specifically designed to help people coping with poverty, disaster, conflict and more. Sewing is a valuable skill that can help men and women earn reliable income. Lutheran World Relief Fabric Kits provide fabric and thread for vocational training programs teaching sewing and for newly trained tailors to launch sewing business. On **Thursday, July 16 at 2 p.m.**, you are invited to help cut fabric and assemble the LWR Fabric Kits. (Please contact Pastor Valerie at vstrand@spdcl.org if you would like to do this.) In the meantime, we are collecting the following items:

- **Spools of matching or neutral-colored, general purpose thread 250–300 yards each**
- **Cotton or cotton-blend fabric** (no knits)
*Fabric should **NOT** have religious symbols, messages, US flags, patriotic or military symbols or camouflage.*

Each piece should be **at least as large** as the following dimensions. We will cut the fabric to the appropriate size.

60" wide fabric 2.25 yards

44" wide fabric 3 yards

36" wide fabric 4 yards

We welcome financial support to assist with shipping of the LWR Kits. Checks may be made payable to SPD, with LWR Kits in the memo line, or [online at spdcl.org/egiving.to.the.Angel.Fund](http://online.at.spdcl.org/egiving.to.the.Angel.Fund), noting LWR Kits.

End-of-Summer Lawn Bowling

Wednesday, Aug. 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Brookview Golf Course, Golden Valley

Are you looking for an opportunity to connect with others in our faith community? Enjoy a summer evening of lawn bowling. It's easy and it's loads of fun! No experience is necessary, and all equipment will be provided. This event is for all adults, singles or couples. \$10 per person, register at spdcl.org/register.

YOGA OPPORTUNITIES

Embodied Prayer: Yoga @ SPD

Thursdays at 9 a.m. in the CFL

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

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.

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

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Family Wednesday Night Light

Wednesday, July 15 and Aug. 19

5:30–7 p.m.

Gather around the campfire for food, fellowship and fun in the church backyard. There will be games and activities for the whole family, ending with a vespers service at 6:30 p.m. Youth are invited to stick around after 7 p.m. with Charlie and Olsen for more activities. Questions? Contact Pastor Makayla at mdahleen@spdcl.org.

Play and Pray at Parker's Lake Playground

Sunday, July 19 at 4–5 p.m.

Throughout the summer and fall, families with young children are invited to Parker's Lake on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Children can play on the playground equipment, or you can stroll along the lake. There will be a time to share prayer requests and praise reports. No registration needed. Questions, contact Pastor Makayla at mdahleen@spdcl.org.

Kids Camping with Trish

Tuesday, Aug. 4–Wednesday, Aug 5

Kids who have completed grades 2–5

Baker Park, here we come! We'll do all things camping, including learning to set up your tent, campfire fun and cooking our food over it, outdoor games, fun in the lake, devotions, firefly watching and a 6-mile bike ride around the scenic park loop. Register by July 30 at spdcl.org/register. Cost is \$35 per child.

Children's Summer Music Camp

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

Join us for the 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 spdcl.org/register.

Youth Serve 'n' Sun Days

9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Middle School and High School Students are invited to join us for *Serve 'n' Sun!* Each day will look different but our main focus is all about service, learning, and community building. We will do various service projects as well as a fun activities around the Twin Cities! Register at spdcl.org/register for the day(s) that work for your schedule. Questions contact Charlie Olson at colson@spdcl.org or Olsen Pancoast at opancoast@spdcl.org.

July 23

Bunker Beach

Aug. 4

Escape Room

CONNECTED AT SPD

Help us keep our contact information up to date.

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

Prayer Requests

You can make a prayer request online by visiting our information request form at spdcl.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](#), or call the church if you need assistance at 763-475-7100.

Childcare Center

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

Growing Families

Have you recently found out you are expecting? Or are you adopting a child into your family? 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@spdcl.org or 763-475-7138.

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

New Online Giving Platform

SPD members can check out our new online giving page at st-philip-the-deacon.churchcenter.com/giving. If you had a recurring giving set up in our old system, **you will need to reset your giving in the new system. As of June 26 our previous platform is no longer available.** Moe Hagestuen is available to help you with this transition. You may contact her at mhagestuen@spdcl.org.

SERVING OTHERS

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.**

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!**

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@spdlc.org or 763-475-7115, if you would like to be **added to the on-call list** to help with funeral receptions.

Memorial Center Blood Drive

Wednesday, Aug. 19 from 11 a.m.–5 p.m.

Appointment Link: https://www.mbcherohub.club/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/77410

During the summer months, between Memorial Day and Labor Day, there is generally a spike in severe injuries and trauma, which causes an increased need for blood. This puts a strain on the blood supply for area hospitals. Click the link above to reserve your spot to donate blood. Save a life!

Gardening @ SPD

Flower Watering

We need help watering flowers at church throughout the growing season. If you can help this spring and summer please contact Tom and Jackie Reinke at tomrreinke@gmail.com to schedule a time. Instructions are provided.

SPD Gardening

Would you like to tend to the gardens around our church building? We are hoping for a team of several people who will work together to keep them beautiful. Contact Pastor Valerie at vstrand@spdlc.org.

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. 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 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 during the summer are being held at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, 301 County Road 19, Excelsior, MN 55331.

All individuals are welcome, and no registration is needed. There is a brochure with more information available at the Hospitality Desk.