

St. Philip Lutheran Church
8850 Davona Drive
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St. Philip Scroll – Time Dated Material
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August Scroll 2009

Stephen Ministry

“I never promised you a rose garden.” So often people tend to think that once they become a Christian, they will be free of the cares of the world, that trouble and hardships will no longer come their way. God never promised freedom from life’s difficulties, but He has given us His promise that He will be present with us as we go through them. In Joshua 1:5 He says, “I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.” One of the ways God is with us is in the people He places in our lives to care for us and be with us through our suffering, people who will listen and love us, support and encourage us—people like Stephen Ministers. These are the roses God does give us. If you or someone you know would appreciate this presence of God in your life, with their permission, please speak with one of our acting Stephen Leaders. Vonnie Carlson at 925-846-5231, Pat Rustin at 925-828-4818 or Barbara Silzer at 925-964-9630.

Worship Committee

In the Worship survey which was recently conducted by the Worship Committee, several people commented that while our Favorite Hymn Service, which was favorite hymn in place of sung liturgy, isn’t part of our regular monthly rotation, it was a favorite service of theirs. We usually use this service about once a quarter and the next time we will use it is August 30 at both services. It’s been a long time since we gave our members a chance to suggest their favorite hymns, so we’re going to give you this opportunity the first four Sundays of August. Beginning August 2nd, on the table in the Narthex, you will find index cards to list your favorites, hymnals to assist you in doing so, and a box in which to put your list. If it is a hymn not found in our hymnal, please list it anyway and we’ll do our best to locate the music. We look forward to having a “new” set of favorite hymns to add to our “old” favorites!

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

Thrivent Fraternal Board Meetings

Saturday August 8th @ 9:00 a.m.

Saturday October 10th, @ 9:00 a.m.

For more information on these meetings please contact Gayle Wilson @ 510-405-8100 or toll - free @ 800-972-2880

An email letter to the congregation of St. Philip from Pastor Travis Guse

July 23rd, 2009

*The congregation at
St. Philip Lutheran Church
Dublin, CA*

Dear Brothers & Sisters In Christ,

It is with great joy and much conviction that I write to you all today to let you know that I accept the Call to serve as your new pastor! My family and I are truly excited to partner with all of you in the work of the Kingdom there at St. Philip. It will be an exciting journey for all of us as together we discover the Lord's purposes for us as a congregation in the months and years to come.

I would ask that you keep my family and I in your prayers as we now make preparations to move up to Dublin and know that you will be in ours as well. And together, let us pray that God's Spirit even now would start working in the hearts and minds of those that we will touch as a ministry with the light of Christ's love. God's richest blessings and we look forward to starting our ministry there with you all soon!

In His Peace,

Pastor Travis & Family

Wanted to check in and let you know how the big "C" is going.

I have had two Chemo treatments. The first I suffered only tiredness (plus my hair began to fall out). I immediately went to have it shaved to 1/8th inch.....surprisingly I look pretty good with no hair according to all who see me - have a nice shaped head and my eyes pop out to distract from my non-existing hair.

My second treatment caused no additional bad side effects (I am being truly blessed) except pretty bad fatigue which lasted about eleven days. The last few days have been almost normal.

Tomorrow I get the third blast of Chemo so if you have any spare time, say a prayer that things go as well as the last ones.

My Oncologist has the personality of a door knob, but I'm getting him to laugh and joke so that's fun. Have worn my wig only three times. Truth is I rather enjoy being bald....cool, hair never gets wind blown or messed up, doesn't need cutting or drying. Saves me a lot of time getting ready to go out which Bill appreciates.

Thanks for the cards, calls and prayers. They are appreciated and working to help get me through this "brick" that has been thrown at me. Keep them coming.

Hugs to you all,

Joyce Sliney

Choir

Already the stores are filled with “Back to School” specials, reminding us that we are nearing the end of summer and those “Specials” will soon be needed. Our choir has been on break for the summer but it will soon be time for “Back to Choir” preparations. Our first rehearsal will be on Thursday, September 10 at 7:30 in the sanctuary. We welcome back all of our current members but we also welcome new members to our choir. You need not be a trained singer, but if you have a love of music and singing and wish to couple that with your love for the Lord, we’ll be delighted to have you join us. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings from 7:30-9:00 p.m. and we usually sing each Sunday at either the 8:30 or 11:00 service with one Sunday a month off so you can sit with your family. You will soon discover that choir is more than just a group of people who get together on Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings to make music. We are a “family” within our church family, with a fellowship and closeness that is edifying, uplifting, and meaningful. We hope you’ll give some thought to joining us this year. If you have any questions, please speak with Mark or Barbara Silzer at 925-964-9630 or any of our choir members. As has become our tradition, we will “kick off” the 2009-2010 choir season with a potluck supper for choir members and their families on Thursday evening, September 10, at 6:00 p.m. in 10 A&B, prior to the first rehearsal. Plan to bring a main dish, salad, or dessert and let Mark or Barbara know if you are coming. “I will sing and make music to the Lord.” Psalm 27:6

The Prayer Chain Needs You!

Each week there is a notation in the church bulletin, “For prayer chain requests or to join the prayer chain call.....” But have you wondered “what is a prayer chain?” or “why would I request a prayer for the prayer chain?”. Simply stated, a prayer chain is a network of individuals who will receive a prayer request for a concern or a thanksgiving, forward the request to the next available person in the network and then immediately pray for that request. The prayer chain is a spiritual system which communicates and takes prayerful action on the needs of the congregation. The work of the prayer chain is done behind the scenes. All that is asked of you is to take the time to pray as soon as you receive the request. How and where you pray is up to you. You can be notified of a request by phone or by e-mail, the choice is yours. E-mail works well for those who work full time, travel, or for those who have left our congregation but still would like to remain in prayerful contact. Why ask for a prayer through the prayer chain when we have a prayer sheet in the Sunday bulletin? There may be times you need a prayer to be offered and you cannot wait until Sunday morning. Or perhaps your need does not fit neatly into one of the prayer list categories. You may also want to ask for more specific requests than can be typed onto the prayer sheet. Finally, your request may be of a very personal nature that you would not really like to “be announced” and/or kept confidential. The prayer chain will honor your request for confidentiality. James 5:16 states: “Pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.” God’s power is infinitely greater than ours. Our most powerful resource is communion with God through prayer. Won’t you join our prayer chain? Your link will add to our strength. If you need a prayer, please call and let us ease your heart and mind as we add our strength and prayers to yours. For prayer chain requests or to join the prayer chain, please call, Becky Broderick 925-830-0168 ribroder@gmail.com

Susie's Corner

Women's Retreat September 25-26

The ladies of St. Philip are invited to attend a district wide Women's Retreat at Mt. Cross in Felton, CA on September 25-26. Christian author and speaker, Mimi Moseley, will be there leading sessions. It is a time to take a step back from the distractions of every day life and be encouraged, built up, and renewed. Cost (including lodging Friday night, meals on Saturday, and the program) is \$110. Financial assistance is available. Contact Susie through the church office to sign up or get more information.

Book Club

The Book Club's next selection is "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett. The story takes place in Jackson, Mississippi, in 1962, where there are lines that are not crossed. With the civil rights movement exploding all around them, three women start a movement of their own, forever changing a town and the way women--black and white, mothers and daughters--view one another.

Pick up a copy and start reading today! We will be meeting to discuss it on August 12th at 7:00 at the Rustin's house (9544 Belle Meade Dr., San Ramon)

Rally Day August 30th

It's almost time for Sunday School to get started again! Sunday, August 30th will be the first day of Fall Sunday School at St. Philip. Over the summer we've been hard at work making some changes to our Sunday School program and this fall it should be better than ever! All children are invited to be here on August 30th at 9:45 to register for Sunday School, meet their teacher, and have a special treat!

Come to the first Spark meeting on October 7th!

Spark is the new women's group at St. Philip. SPARK (St. Philip's Abundantly Redeemed by the King) is a chance for women to come together once a month and grow closer to the Lord as we build relationships with each other. We will be discussing a different topic every month, so if you miss a month you can always jump back in with out being behind!

For our first meeting we will be discussing our Love Languages. All of us communicate love in different ways (gifts, quality time, or words of affirmation, just to name a few) and the better we understand our own love language and the love languages of those close to us, the stronger our relationships can be. Be there to learn how you and those close to you communicate love and what that means for your relationships.

We will be meeting on Wednesday, October 7th at 7:00 pm at Sharon Collins' house (2448 Paddock Dr., San Ramon). Please sign up in the narthex if you are planning on coming.

Sunday School Teachers

We still have some openings available to teach Sunday School this coming fall! At St. Philip we are blessed to have some wonderful children and young people in our Sunday School program and it is a joy to work with them every week! As a Sunday School teacher you will receive plenty of training and support. If you would like to help but teaching isn't for you, we can still use you as an aide, a sub, a craft person, an attendance taker, or something else! Please speak with Christie Bru if you are interested.

From Pastor Schruhl

From Pastor Schruhl

“Behold, I am doing a new thing!!” (Isaiah 43:19)

This is my last newsletter article for the St. Philip Scroll. My wife, Kellie, and I have had a great experience at St. Philip. The thirteen months I have served as your Intentional Interim Pastor seemed to have passed quickly – as I have often said, “I’m here for a good time, not a long time.” It’s been a ‘good’ time.

There are several reasons why our District Office might recommend to a congregation that it enter into the Intentional Interim Ministry program. For St. Philip, the reason was that the congregation had enjoyed a long pastoral leadership under one pastor, Rev. Sergei Koberg -- Pastor Koberg was our founding pastor. Since he had served so faithfully and well for so many years, it was thought that it would be difficult for any other pastor to follow immediately after him. It was thought that an intentional period of transition would be very helpful to the congregation.

My primary purpose, or ‘Intention,’ as your Interim Pastor was to guide the congregation through a self study and evaluation and to prepare the congregation to receive a new pastor. In every area of my ministry here, the congregation has given me incredible support. -- A very conscientious committee worked on the self study, did a thorough job, and produced an accurate and truly helpful document. Concurrently, in this time of transition, our Trustees, refurbished the parsonage and oversaw a major remodeling of our church offices, kept up with all the necessary routine maintenance, and maintained the excellent ‘curb appeal’ of the entire property. Another special committee conducted a brief and very successful major fund raising campaign, gathering in excess of \$200,000 in cash and pledges. Through our Worship Committee several innovations were introduced to our worship services, e.g., Children’s Messages every service, some new language for the ‘Confession of Sins,’ offering both common cup and individual cups at all Communion services, etc. Our School Board not only maintained our school, but also searched for and found a new full-time principal, Mr. Fred Brauer – and although he has only been on the job for a few days, he is already moving forward with new plans for the continued success and growth of our school. Etc., etc., etc.!! Said another way, the congregation didn’t just stand still during the interim period, but moved forward with change and innovation. We should all be standing on our chairs shouting, “Yea Team!!”

We are now at another point of transition. The interim guy is leaving and the permanent pastor is on the way. Lately, many congregations in our church body have been experiencing lengthy pastoral vacancies – even very large and healthy congregations have been experiencing several years between pastors. Our Call Committee began its work in January and did a thorough job. The committee, with information gleaned from the self study, knew exactly the sort of pastoral leader we were seeking.

The committee began with a list of twenty-five potential candidates. They carefully evaluated all possibilities and chose the one individual who best fit our profile. We issued a Call to Rev. Travis Guse on July 12 and he has accepted our Call. He’ll be on site and be installed very soon.

St. Philip has a new principal and a new pastor!! St. Philip is beginning a new era. This is a time of anticipation and expectation, it is a time of excitement. Pray for your congregation, your new pastor and your new principal. A new chapter in St. Philip’s history is beginning. Our God is saying to us, “Behold, I am doing a new thing!!”

My work here is done. I’ll be moving on to a new assignment in September.

God bless St. Philip.

Joe E. Schruhl

Interim Pastor

SCROLL/BULLETIN GUIDELINES

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 8:30-5:00 p.m. M-F

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS: 8:30-3:30 p.m. M-F

TO SUBMIT SCROLL/BULLETIN ARTICLES OR INFORMATION:

DEADLINES: **Scroll:** *the 15th of the preceding month by noon to the church office via hard copy or Email.*

Bulletin: *Noon Wednesday. Items requiring a full page should be in the office by noon on Tuesday.*

Items submitted after either deadline will be printed on avail space if any. All items are subject to adjustment in length and or language at the editor's discretion.

ST. PHILIP LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

CHURCH: 925-828-2117

SCHOOL: 925-829-3857

Worship:	8:30 & 11:00 am	Principal:	Fred Brauer
Sunday school:	9:45 am /starting 8/30/09	Preschool Director:	Sharon Collins
Adult Bible Class:	10:00 am	Office Manager:	Erika Hidley
Pastor:	Rev. Travis Guse	Secretary:	Linda Meyer
Secretary:	Terri Parnoff		
DCE:	Susie Wilkerson		
Music Director:	Barbara Silzer		

FAX (for both): 925-829-6672

Our School

Principal & M/S Math & Science:	Mr. Fred Brauer
Preschool:	Mrs. Sharon Collins, Mrs. Rachel Johnson, Mrs. Kelly Premo, Mrs. Wendy Tetzloff
Kindergarten:	Mrs. Jemma Choi
First Grade:	Mrs. Sally Larsen
Second/Third Grade:	Miss. Shannon Schneider
Fourth/Fifth Grade:	Mrs. Char Nale
Middle School (6,7,8)	Mrs. Dee Christopher
Physical Education:	Mrs. Linda Meyer
School Board Chairman	Bob Green

Those Who Serve -August, 2009

If you cannot serve on your scheduled day, please, trade or find a sub and notify the church office. Thanks!

Altar Guild	Aug	2	Anne Lorenz & Debbie Meier	
		9	Bette Stark & Carol Carallo	
		16	Karen Balch & Diane Yarbrough	
		23	Robin Rankin & Paula Costa	
		30	Lynn & Rebecca Guise & Michelle Podany	
			8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Communion Assistants	Aug	2	Walter Wickboldt & Rob Broderick	
		9		Dennis Struecker & Craig Blackburn
		16	Al Bru & Ron Doyle	
		23		Harry Turbeville & Marvin Matey
Acolytes	Aug	2	Walter Wickboldt & Bob Green	John Harri & Steve Christopher
		9	Nicole Costa	
		16	Mega Rankin	
		23	Ruby Boyle	Noah Phillips
Readers	Aug	2	Alex Bru	Justin Symmank
		9	Kim Halsey	Doretta Thomsen
		16	Jennifer Phillips	Joan Kumparak
		23	Craig Blackburn	Bev Symmank
		30	Becky Broderick	Bob Balch
Ushers	Aug	2	Rob Broderick	Dianne Griffiths
		9	Paul Rankin	Earl Stevens
		16	Lee Stark	Harry Turbeville
		23	Walter Wickboldt	Mike Kelley
		30	Bill Casper	Bob Balch Karen Balch
Greeters	Aug	2		Ray & Minta Bowers
		9	Ron & Carole Doyle	Harry & Vicki Turbeville
		16		Joan Kumparak
		23	Bill & Joyce Sliney	
Elders of the Service	Aug	2	Becky Broderick	Marvin Matey
		9	Aline Strachan	Sue Cooley
		16	Pam Roeber	Mike Kelley
		23	Ron Doyle	Doretta Thomsen
		30	Aline Strachan	Sue Cooley
Visitors' Table	Aug	2	Pat Rustin	Susie Stagnaro
		9		Minta Bowers
		16	Aline Strachan	Irene Alvarado
		23	Kim Struecker	Astra Gabriel
		30	Marilyn Casper	Ray Bowers
Childrens Message	Aug	2	Susie Wilkerson	Susie Wilkerson
		9		
		16		
		23		
		30		