

SPD New Member Orientation

Monday, Nov. 2 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. We will plan to receive new members on Sunday, Nov. 8 at the 9:30 a.m. service. You may register online at spdcl.org/register or by contacting Cindy Carlson at ccarlson@spdcl.org.

Free Bikes 4 Kidz Drop-Off at SPD

Saturday, Oct. 3, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

Mark your calendar! St. Philip the Deacon will be a drop site for *Free Bikes 4 Kidz*!

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.

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, Oct. 4 at 2:30 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. If you would like to help, contact Pastor Valerie Strand Patterson at vstrand@spdcl.org or 763-475-7126.

Fall Habitat for Humanity Build

Monday, Oct. 19–Friday, Oct. 23

You are invited to join us as we use our gifts to make a difference in our community by participating in our Fall Habitat for Humanity Build. No experience necessary. 12-15 volunteers needed each day of the build. Volunteers must be 16 years old or older.

Dates: Monday, Oct. 19–Friday, Oct. 23
Time: 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
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.

Spirit Bead Workshops

Spirit Bead workshops invite you to create beautiful artwork as a spiritual practice and an expression of your faith.

Tuesday, Oct. 6 from 3–7 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 3 from 3–7 p.m.

Faith & Baseball: Life after the Twins

Thursday, October 22 at 7 p.m.

The Faith & Life Lecture Series exists to create welcoming and accessible public forums for members of the Twin Cities community to hear nationally known speakers reflect on how Christian faith is related to different dimensions of everyday life. The talks are always free public events.

Cordel Leonard "Corey" Koskie is a Canadian former professional baseball third baseman, who played in Major League Baseball for the Minnesota Twins, Toronto Blue Jays, and Milwaukee Brewers.

Fall Festival/Trunk-or-Treat

Saturday, Oct. 24 from 10 - 11:30 a.m.

A family Fall Festival which will include Trunk-or-Treat. Families can come to SPD and enjoy Trunk-or-Treat in the parking lot out of people's cars. In addition, there will be food, bounce houses and games for the whole family! There is no cost; however, for planning purposes please register at spdcl.org/register by **Thursday, Oct. 22**. Questions? Contact Jana Blomberg at jblomberg@spdcl.org.

Trunks Needed for Trunk-or-Treat

Individuals are invited to set up their trunk to help hand out candy to the kiddos. Please register your car at spdcl.org/register.

A Day Away for Moms of Young Children

Saturday, Nov. 7, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

The Blessing House in Victoria

Enjoy an opportunity to enjoy fellowship and create connections with other women who have young children (birth–Pre-K). The guest presenter will be Merri Guggisberg, a Parent Coach and Family Connection Advocate, who will join us in conversation with moms on the topic "Grounded in Jesus' Love." Register at spdcl.org/register. The cost is \$50 per person. Questions, contact Kathy Hagedorn at khagedorn@spdcl.org

Worship Assistants

As we begin a new program year, adults and youth are invited to register to serve as worship assistants at one of the four weekend worship services. You may register at spdcl.org/serve. Opportunities include:

- **Processional Leaders (9:30 a.m. service)**
You may register as an individual, couple or family.
- **Reading the Gospel** (adults)
- **Reading the Lesson** (children and youth)
- **Serving Communion** (adults and youth)

Water from a Deep Well, Part 1: The Early Church **Mondays, Oct. 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 6:30–7:45 p.m.**

Understanding the history of the church and how people have been shaped as disciples of Jesus over the centuries is a well spring for our lives with God today. Amanda Berger will facilitate this multi-part series as we explore the deep legacy of faith and Christian practice that is ours as followers of Jesus. Part one will focus on the early church during the Roman era and through the foundations of Christian monasticism in the 4th century. Based on the book *Water from a Deep Well* by Dr. Gerald L. Sittser. Childcare is available. Register at spdlc.org/register.

Men's Ministry—Parables: Stories that Still Speak **Monday, Oct. 5, 12 and 19 at 6:30–7 :30 p.m.**

Some of Jesus' most memorable teachings came through stories. Join Rev. Wayne Peterson on Monday evenings in October as we explore some of Jesus' most famous parables, discover what they meant then, and consider what they have to say to our lives today. No previous Bible study experience necessary—just come as you are. Childcare is available. Register at spdlc.org/register.

Pathfinders—Walking Together in Your 20s and 30s

Pathfinders is a group of young adults experiencing life together. We worship, serve and enjoy fellowship together, twice a month. To receive updates and reminders, join the **Pathfinders** group at the spdlc.org/explore/groups (under Fellowship). Questions, contact Olsen Pancoast at opancoast@spdlc.org.

Thurs., Oct. 8 at 7 p.m. LTD Brewing
Tues. Oct. 20 at 7 p.m. Spirit Beads with Pastor Valerie

The Conversation—Mike Henry **Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 1 p.m.**

Whether you're retired, semi-retired, or just have the afternoon off, please join us for The Conversation. We will plan to meet in Fellowship Hall—use the west parking lot. No registration. Mike Henry will be back at SPD with music and movie clips to reminisce about the Halloween of your youth.

Funeral Planning at SPD **Monday, Oct. 26 at 6:30 p.m.**

If you would like to do some advanced planning for your end-of-life wishes, we invite you to this workshop. We will talk about what goes into planning a funeral at SPD. Register for the class at spdlc.org/register.

Men's Ministry—Pumpkins & Generations **Thursday, Oct. 29 at 6–7:30 p.m.**

Men, you are invited to bring your son, daughter, grandchild, nephew, niece, or another young person in your life for an evening of pumpkin carving, laughter, food, and fun. We'll provide the food and carving tools—you bring your pumpkin and the creativity! It's a great opportunity to spend time together, have some fun, and make some memories. Register at spdlc.org.

UPCOMING CONCERTS AT SPD

Herald Music Series—The Modern Hymn Project **Sunday, September 27 at 3 p.m.**

Charles Lazarus and his band present The Modern Hymn Project, a collection of modern jazzy takes on traditional hymns and spiritual music for all seasons. These arrangements by former Prince keyboardist Tommy Barbarella will journey through musical styles ranging from spirituals and contemplative prayer songs to the grooves of New Orleans, the cool jazz era of Miles Davis and vibrant dance rhythms of Latin America. **No tickets needed**, there will be free-will offering.

Cantus Chorus—Simple Gifts **Sunday, Oct. 18 at 2 p.m.**

In Simple Gifts, Cantus weaves together personal stories of gratitude along with beloved tunes including "How Can I Keep From Singing" and "Lift Every Voice and Sing", timeless classics from Jean Sibelius and Jennifer Higdon, and contemporary gems by Bobby McFerrin and Sydney Guillaume. **Tickets for the concert are available at cantussings.org.**

MPLS (impulse)—"We Hold These Truths" **Sunday, Oct. 25 at 3 p.m.**

MPLS (imPulse) celebrates and recognizes the power and significance of music and politics as we present our Fall 2026 performance "*We Hold These Truths*." Our featured repertoire is Paul Winchester's *An American Mass*. It is not a piece about policy or platform—it is about our shared humanity and our relationship with one another and the United States. Our mission with this project is to usher in more opportunities for people to build connections and learn from one another. Pay-what-you-can tickets required. Tickets available in advance or at the door. **Ticket information at mplsimpulse.org.**

National Lutheran Choir—To Remember Is To Begin **Friday, Oct. 30 at 7:30 p.m.**

This opening program centers on memory as sacred practice, featuring Leonard Bernstein's Chichester Psalms, blending Biblical Hebrew text with Christian choral traditions. Through music of Jewish and Christian traditions, the choir holds space for grief, resilience, and shared humanity. In a world where forgetting can perpetuate harm, this concert insists on remembrance as the first act of reconciliation. **Tickets for the concert are available at nlc.com.**

Herald Music Series—The Roe Family Singers **Sunday, Nov. 18 at 3 p.m.**

Bonfire Music Group recording artists the Roe Family Singers are a Hard-Core Old-Time band from Minneapolis, MN. Led by wife & husband Kim and Quillan Roe, the band marries old-time sounds from barn-dances, fiddle pulls, and county fairs with a punk rock delivery. The Roe Family Singers mix original music and contemporary takes on old-time and traditional tunes into one roiling & rollicking river of fresh yet familiar American music. Every performance raises a ruckus. **No tickets needed.** There will be a free-will offering.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Youth Ministry on Wednesday Nights

Beginning on Wednesday, Sept. 16

- 5:15 p.m. SPD Singers
- 5:30 p.m. Pizza and Play
- 6:30 p.m. 6th–8th Grade Confirmation
- 7:30 p.m. Koin (Senior High Youth Group)

Note: 9th Grade Confirmation will resume on Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Register at spdlc.org/register. For more information contact Charlie Olson at colson@spdlc.org or 763-475-7129 or Olsen Pancoast at opancoast@spdlc.org.

Sponsor Youth Pizza & Play

We are offering a free pizza meal to all youth attending our Wednesday night offerings: Grade 5 Gathering, Confirmation and Koin. If you would like to help support this ministry, you can contribute at spdlc.org/register.

Virtual Bible Study for Parents

2nd and 4th Monday evenings at 8–8:45 p.m.

Gathering on a video call with other parents to dwell in God's word together (using the Gospel for the coming weekend). It's a low-key, come as you are, drop in time for Christian fellowship. Questions, contact Pastor Makayla Dahleen at mdahleen@spdlc.org.

Youth MEA Boundary Waters Retreat

Thursday, Oct. 15–Sunday, Oct. 18

High School and Middle School youth are invited to join us over MEA Weekend as we journey to the Wilderness Canoe Base. We'll have some time to slow down, explore the area around the Wilderness Canoe Base and spend some time growing close to God and each other. Register at spdlc.org/register. Questions, contact Olson Pancoast at opancoast@spdlc.org.

Beloved: A Day Retreat for High School Girls Friday, Nov. 6, 11 a.m.– 8 p.m.

A day retreat for young women in 9-12th grades led by Amanda Berger and Jen Galley. This retreat will invite young women to know their belovedness as daughters of God, as well as offer opportunities for creativity, prayer and connection with other young women. Register by November 1. Open to both SPD members and non-members—invite your friends!

First Communion Preparation

Saturday, Nov. 14 at 9–10:30 a.m.

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. 22 at the 9:30 a.m. service**. Register at spdlc.org/register. Questions, contact Pastor Makayla at mdahleen@spdlc.org.

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 designed for people with limited flexibility or anyone who needs to take it easy on their joints. Questions: contact Kathy Hagedorn at 763-475-7138.

Chair Yoga Retreat at the Landscape Arboretum

Thursday, Oct. 22 from 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Join us at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum for a chair yoga practice on "Reflection." 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 per person. Early Bird Cost \$50 by Thursday, Sept. 24.

Retreat includes transportation, practice, box lunch and tram ride. Questions: contact Kathy Hagedorn at 763-475-7138 or khagedorn@spdlc.org.

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](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.

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

Baptism at SPD

We welcome baptisms of infants, older children and adults at St. Philip the Deacon. 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 spdlc.org/life-events. To schedule a baptism, please complete our [Baptism Information Form](https://spdlc.org/contact), which is available online at spdlc.org/life-events. If you have questions, please contact Nancy Bixby at nbixby@spdlc.org, or 763-475-7166.

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.

Join the Livestream AV Team

Each Sunday, St. Philip the Deacon's Livestream Ministry helps bring worship to people who can't be with us in person, keeping them connected to our community of faith wherever they may be. We'd love to have you on the team!

Livestream volunteers help operate cameras for Sunday worship at 9:30 a.m., along with weddings and funerals as requested. No experience is necessary. We'll provide the training. It's a great behind-the-scenes ministry with a front-row seat to worship—and an important way to help St. Philip the Deacon extend Christ's welcome beyond our walls. To sign up or if you have questions, contact Pastor Mark Schmid at 763-475-7127 or mschmid@spdlc.org.

3000 Acts of Kindness Donation Drive

3000 Acts of Kindness is a one-day outreach event that ministers to those experiencing homelessness. We are collecting the following items to help supply the 3000 Acts of Kindness event. Drop off your donations at SPD through Oct. 25.

Winter Coats—new or gently used—heavy, big, and bulky are most requested. Adult size XL and up and all kids' sizes

Warm Winter Boots—new or gently used—Adult size 9 and up and all kids' sizes

Hats, gloves, and mittens

Sleeping Bags/Blankets—new or gently used

Long Underwear—**new** all genders/sizes

Socks and Underwear—**new** all genders/sizes

Washcloths—**new**

Sweatshirts/Hoodies—new or gently used all genders/sizes—the bigger the better

Packaged protein: Sardines, pouches of tuna, beef jerky, or other meat in packaging that is shelf stable and easy to open without utensils.

More information about *3000 Acts of Kindness* can be found at coatedinlove.org or click the [link](#) learn more and sign up to serve with SPD.

Feed My Starving Children

Saturday, Nov. 21 at 9:30–11:15 a.m.

It is National Family Volunteer Day! Let's serve together as a group with Feed My Starving Children in Chanhassen. In the packaging room we can help "turn the hunger into hope with your own two hands!" Families with kids ages 5 and up are invited or come by yourself and serve with your SPD family. We will meet at the Feed My Starving Children location—18732 Lake Dr. E, Chanhassen, MN.

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 fall are being held at **Messiah Church at 17805 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN 55447**. All individuals are welcome, and no registration is needed. There is a brochure with more information available at the Hospitality Desk.*