


St. Philip's Life

A Christmas Prayer



I said a Christmas prayer for you
and asked the Lord above
to fill your heart and bless your soul
with the precious gift of love.

I asked Him for sincere love,
the kind that's meant to stay.
Just like the generous love
you give to those you touch each day.

I prayed for love from family.
And from every cherished friend.
Then I asked the Lord to give you
His love that knows no end. 

Amen.

Merry Christmas!

Volume 28, Issue #12
DECEMBER 2023

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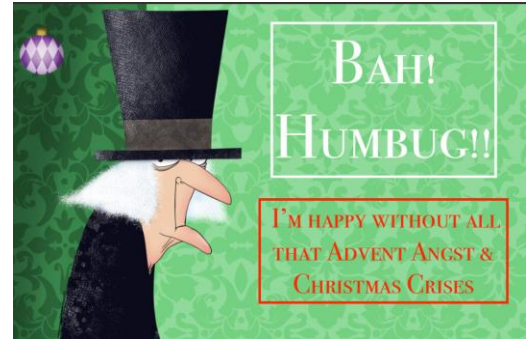
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FROM FATHER TED



“Bah! Humbug!! I’m happy without all that Advent Angst & Christmas Crises!”

Like Scrooge, are you tired of the stress in the lead up to Christmas and all the crises that people seem to create for the season? This year we have war in the Holy Land and Ukraine, as well as the usual stressors. No peace on earth, no peace in Jerusalem. No peace at home. My email and phone are constantly blowing up with a barrage of ads for “must have” Christmas gifts that nobody wants and will soon be stuffed in a closet or dust bin. Corporations seek a princely profit, while those in turmoil seek a Prince of Peace. Humbug!



But not all is “Humbug!” The pain and suffering for Israelis, Palestinians, and Ukrainians is all too real. The homeless, poor, marginalized and forgotten in America know all too well that their situation is real. Their lives are not a Hallmark movie in which all adversity is solved in 90 minutes. Every conflict doesn’t end as enemies drink eggnog, sing Silent Night and join together in a group hug. Peace is hard.

“Let there be Peace on Earth and Let it Begin with Me.” This children’s song, written in 1955, holds a key to replacing the Humbug of our lives. Most of us know the tune and we can learn the words. To find peace and to bring peace into the world, we must first let truth and peace begin in our own lives. This isn’t something new. The church recognized this long ago and offers the season of Advent as a way for us to let peace begin with us. The season of Christmas, Christ’s Mass, crowns Jesus as the Prince of Peace in our hearts and lives. We invite you to participate fully in this season of expectation in which we await the coming of Jesus and peace in our hearts.

This season, at St. Philip’s Church, there are many opportunities to find peace

- The Four Sundays of Advent have child and adult classes focused on Hope, Peace, Joy, & Love as well as the celebration of the Holy Eucharist
- Quiet & simple Holy Eucharist on Wednesdays at 5:30pm with anointing for healing
- Dcn Peterson leads an Advent program with an In-Person Session on Tuesdays at 6pm & a Zoom Session on Thursdays at 6pm. Same content during both sessions. See detailed article in this newsletter
- Dec 8 - Fun as a Church Family at Diamond Grove Adventures at 6pm
- Caroling opportunities to bring cheer to older members and our neighbors
- Blue Christmas Service on Wednesday, Dec 20, at 6pm for those for whom this season is difficult. This service of Light, Prayers & Music is open to all in our community.
- Dec 28 - Serving dinner at Watered Gardens at 6pm
- Dec 24 - 10am Advent IV Eucharist, 5pm Family Service, 10:30pm Concert, 11pm Midnight Mass

FROM DEACON CAROL



Advent – The Season Where We Begin Again!

Advent is one of my favorite seasons of the church year! Advent (from the Latin *Adventus* which means “coming”) actually is the start of our church/liturgical year. It begins on the Sunday closest to November 30th (St. Andrew’s Day).

Advent is a wonderful season with lots of sensory cues pointing to our church’s rich history and traditions. The liturgical colors change from green to purple (a solemn color) or blue (the color associated with Mary). We light the candles of the Advent wreath – a visual symbol marking the progression of the season. We celebrate the feast day of St. Nicholas (Dec. 6), which affords families an opportunity to talk with children about the Santa Clause tradition. And, during worship, we hear special hymns, carols and canticles that remind us of our English/Anglican roots.

Notice also that the scripture readings for Advent focus on three Biblical figures that play an important role in preparation of Christ’s coming: the prophet Isaiah, John the Baptist, and Mary the mother of Jesus. Listen to them as they speak to us of hope, of a world where there is justice for the poor and meek, where violence is no more, where former enemies live in peace, and where children are safe and secure. Advent is a time when these three voices invite us to prepare our hearts and lives for the coming of the Lord.

During Advent we prepare for, anticipate, and celebrate the light of Christ coming into the world with the birth of Jesus! But let us not forget, it is also a time for us to look with hopeful eyes and open hearts for Christ’s second coming.

This Advent, I pray you take time aside from your ordinary routines and Christmas preparations and fully live into the Season of Advent filled with the expectation of Christ doing something “new.”

See information in another article about our Advent program starting soon! Please consider joining us. O Come, O Come Emmanuel!!

Advent Blessings to You All,

Dcn. Carol E. Peterson

(Reference: Welcome to the Church Year by Dcn. Vicki K. Black)

FROM OUR ORGANIST - CALEB



Happy New Year!

This year, Advent marks a return of a Festival of Lessons and Carols. The festival, known and loved by many, has its modern roots at King's College, Cambridge where it has been celebrated every year since 1919. The service, however can be traced an order established by E.W. Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury, for use in the wooden shed, which then served as his cathedral in Truro, at 10 pm on Christmas Eve 1880.



The festival usually has nine lessons followed by carol responses. We will be hosting our lessons and carols service during the Third Sunday of Advent's 10:00 mass service as part of the liturgy of the word.

The service will include some of your favorite seasonal carols, as well as some new interpretations. In addition, it will also feature many carol arrangements written specifically for our church. The choir has been working diligently to prepare this music and they hope to see you there!

This year also has December 24th serving as both the Fourth Sunday of Advent, and for Christmas Eve. The choir has planned some fantastic music for you. The early children's service will include some of your favorite carols, in a more relaxed atmosphere. The later service will begin with a prelude of instrumental music and congregational carols. It will include brass, woodwinds, stringed instruments, choral and congregation favorites.



NEWS BRIEFS

NEWS FROM WOSP – WOMENS OF ST. PHILIP'S

WOSP is the local St. Philip's group of the National Episcopal Church Women, ECW. The ECW champions women's rights and the Christian Foundation of God and Family. We are a ministry of the Episcopal Church. **All women in St. Philip's are members of WOSP and all are invited and welcome to attend meetings and participate in planning events and outreach projects.**

FALL FESTIVAL – IT WAS A GREAT EVENT!

Thank you for everyone who assisted with the success of the November 11th Bazaar. It was such a wonderful day! People came and visited and seemed to have a wonderful time. The success is due to all the wonderful donations of soups, chili, desserts and baked goods. The Bazaar netted around \$2700. Thanks to all of you. These funds will be utilized with needed projects at St. Philip's and outreach projects.

An added note: If you have any activities that you are planning at church, please check the supply pantry. I have to admit that I of such little faith didn't think the plumbing would be completed on time therefore I was a little over zealous buying plates, napkins, cups, water etc. There should be enough to supply St. Philips for many future projects! 🙏

Thanks again St. Philips church family!



ANGEL TREE

The Christmas tree is up in the Parish Hall. There are 21 names attached to the limbs on this tree. These names are for children in one of the local elementary schools. Please take one of the names from the tree and purchase gift/s and wrap it by December 17th so they can be delivered to the school.

****PLEASE NOTE: THERE IS A SHEET TO SIGN WITH YOUR NAME AND THE NUMBER OF THE CHILD THAT YOU ARE TAKING. WHEN YOU RETURN THE GIFT PLEASE MARK THE SHEET SO WE KNOW WHO STILL MAY NEED A GIFT. THANK YOU! Keri Rae and Teresa Petty



BLANKET BRIGADE

On Sunday, November 5th, blankets were seen draped over many of the pews. Fr. Ted blessed the donations of over 40 blankets that were then distributed to those who need help staying warm as cold weather has arrived.



MITTENS AND HAT DRIVE

December 3rd is the last day to donate hats and mittens that are being collected to be given to those who need help staying warm on these upcoming cold days.



ST PHILIP'S FUN NIGHT – DECEMBER 8th

Please join us for a new all-parish Christmas outing this year at Diamond Grove Adventures on Friday, December 8, 2023. This fun night is a gift from Phil and Sue Metz. Phil and Sue will be in the office to identify members and family for admission from about 5PM to 7PM. Diamond Grove is located approximately 2 miles north of Diamond on Highway 59. Look for the 30-foot Christmas Tree on the west side of the highway. They are open from 5-9 PM.

Ride the train through this Christmas wonderland. It is big enough for people of all ages and is handicap accessible. There are fire pits to keep everyone warm, and an indoor area as well. Hot chocolate, coffee, and decorate your own cookie is included. Santa will be in attendance. There are miniature horses wandering around, and other live animals as well. Whittler's Burgers out of Carthage is available to purchase.

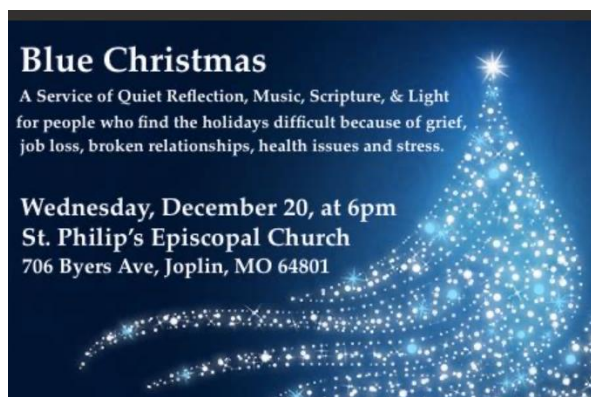
Some members may wish to meet at the church to caravan to the amusement park. Please make your own arrangements.

Diamond Grove Adventures is located at 3760 MO-59, Diamond, MO. Phone 417-526-9030

Bingo nights will return in January.

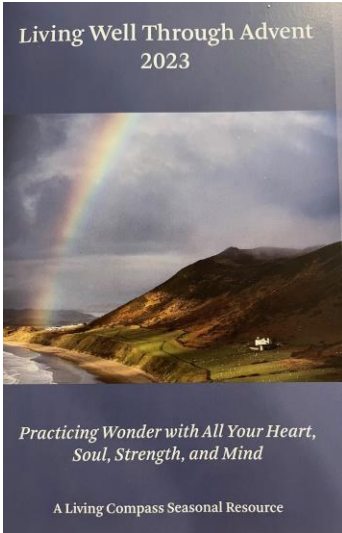
BLUE CHRISTMAS 2023 – DECEMBER 20TH

St. Philip's Episcopal Church will host a Blue Christmas Service on Wednesday, December 20, at 6:00pm. Many people find the holidays to be difficult due to grief, job loss, broken relationships, health issues and stress. The Blue Christmas Service uses music, scripture, quiet reflection, hope and light to help people find some peace during the holidays. This service may be a good opportunity to invite a friend who could benefit from it and from your company at the service.



SIGN UP NOW FOR OUR COMING ADVENT PROGRAM

DEACON CAROL



Advent is the perfect time of the church year to reflect on our priorities - how we spend our time/what is important to us - as we anticipate the celebration of the birth of Christ as well as Christ's second coming. This year we will be offering a program by Living Compass called *Living Well Through Advent 2023: Practicing Wonder with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind*. This four-session program will be offered in-person on Tuesday evenings starting November 28 and will also be offered on-line via ZOOM on Thursdays starting November 30.

So how do we practice wonder? The Rev. Dr. Scott Stoner, founder of Living Compass says, "Wonder invites us to pay attention to the Sacred that is present in every moment. To practice wonder is to be curious and open to the movement of the Spirit. It is an essential practice this time of the year when culture puts many demands on us, wanting us to complicate our lives by doing more, buying more, eating more, etc."

During our weekly gatherings we will engage in discussion and reflection and also explore a variety of spiritual practices such as centering prayer, the daily examine, and meditative practices. Caring for our souls deserves to be a top priority, unfortunately this can get lost in the busyness of the holidays. Our hope is that by taking some intentional time for your spiritual growth this Advent you will find a practice to help you live a more holy, focused life in the midst of all that we experience during the month before Christmas.

I encourage you to consider taking four evenings this Advent to focus on your spiritual health. In-person sessions will be on Tuesdays: Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Dec. 12, and Dec. 19 and on-line/Zoom sessions will be Nov. 30, Dec. 7, Dec. 14 and Dec. 21. All sessions will be from 6-7pm. You will find sign-up sheets for both the Zoom and in-person versions in the parish hall. You may also just e-mail or text me: cepeter13@icloud.com or 417-291-7847. Be sure to pick up the Advent booklet we will be using as our guide; they are in the parish hall on the sign-up table. I can also send you a pdf version if you prefer.

Let's go on an Advent journey together and embrace the season by praying and reflecting together as we await the coming of our Lord.

Questions? Contact Dcn. Carol Peterson

Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe." John 4:48.



November 28th – the Advent Program began

CHRISTMAS CAROLING – DECEMBER 10TH AND DECEMBER 17TH

Please come join the fun one or both days as members gather to spread Christmas joy with song.

Sunday, December 10th members will gather at the church at 12:50 to caravan to College View Manor. We have several members who live at College View Manor. We will sing for the residents at 1:30PM in their activity room. We will return to church to carol in the St. Philip's neighborhood. We will have cookies and cocoa and invite our neighbors to join us.

Sunday, December 17th, we will meet at the church at 2:30. We will caravan from the church to carol at some of our most senior members' homes.

Everyone can sing Christmas carols – please join the fun!



CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE – DECEMBER 17TH



Following the service on Sunday, December 17th, the annual cookie tin sale will be held. Bring your favorite delicious holiday treats to include in the sale. Purchase a tin and fill it with a variety of other's favorites.

ST. ANN'S ALTAR GUILD – SATURDAY, DECMEBER 23RD – 9AM

Parishioners are invited to assist ST. ANN'S ALTAR GUILD decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas!

Please join us for work and fellowship!

A salad luncheon will follow as soon as decorating is completed.

POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS



POINSETTIA DEDICATION FORM

As usual, we will be taking donations for poinsettias, \$10 for each plant. Monetary donations are preferred, as the altar guild has made arrangements with a local vendor for specific delivery. If you would like to remember or honor a loved one with a poinsettia, please make your donation by **December 21 at 10:30 AM**. Checks should be made payable to St. Philip's; please put "Altar Guild poinsettias" in the memo line. Print this page and include the sheet with your offering or put it in the secretary's mailbox. Thank you!

I am making a donation for poinsettias
in memory of

in honor of _____

In case we need to contact you to verify some information, please give us YOUR NAME and phone number. _____ # _____

CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve falls on Sunday, December 24. We have 3 services scheduled for that day, as it is also the fourth Sunday of Advent. The Services are:

December 24 - Sunday

- 10am - Advent IV - Holy Eucharist and Sunday School
- 5 pm - Family Service of Christ Mass
- 10:30pm - Christmas Music Program
- 11pm - Midnight Christ Mass

December 25 - Monday

- 10am Christ Mass - Feast of the Incarnation

December 27 - Wednesday

- No service or activities this evening

SUNDAY ADULT FORUM– HEALTHY CHURCHES

The Sunday adult forum is discussing what makes a healthy church. The subject is very timely as we soon begin the search process for a new rector. We want to ensure we are working well together and striving for common goals. Please join the Sunday Adult Forums at 9AM before Sunday services. Everyone is welcome.



CRAGIN TRUST PROVIDES SUPPORT

Trustees for the Joy Spiva Cragin trust have generously provided \$1000 toward the cost of our recent foundation work on our Parish House. That vital work ensures that the 60-year-old Parish House can continue to be a safe site for ministry for another 60 years. Our Parish House serves our church and our community. The kitchen serves as a staging ground for outreach to the homeless and poor: meals we serve at Watered Gardens, collection site for blankets and warm clothing, backpacks and school supplies for kindergartners, Christmas gifts for children, and other outreach activities. It also provides space for youth development with our Sunday School and Scouting program. It further supports our ministries by providing a site for fellowship activities, adult education, use by community groups, and a place for fundraising for outreach and church support.

Joy Spiva Cragin was a long-time member of St. Philip's Church and an active force for good in the Joplin Community. She was active in the Altar Guild and a vital member of the parish. Her support for the Arts, Community Development, and Education has had a lasting impact in Joplin and Jasper County. Her legacy continues through the work of her foundation and the trustees who oversee the work. If you know any of Joy's family, please tell them how much you appreciate the gift received for our work.

FUNDING FOR 2024 BUDGET

PLEDGES! Fundraising for our St. Philip's 2024 Budget is in full swing. Maria Dermott put together a great pair of fundraising letters and members of the parish began returning their pledge cards immediately. Thank you to those who have already returned your pledges and everyone who will commit to a pledge. This is very helpful in creating a vital budget for 2024.

IRA RMD? One of my friends always asks me to remind members that there are some alternate ways to pay your pledge. For members with Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA), and whose age requires them to take the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), you may direct your IRA custodian to make payments of all or a portion of your RMD directly to St. Philip's Church. *This action may provide extra tax incentives for you, but check with your own CPA or tax professional before making this decision.*

STOCK DONATIONS? Another alternate way to give is to donate stocks that have appreciated significantly. One of our members did this recently with a stock that was at an all-time high. If she had sold it, she would have had to pay capital gains tax on it. She tells me that by donating it directly to St. Philip's Church, she will get the tax write-off for the full value of the stock but not have to pay the capital gains tax. *This may provide extra tax incentives for you, but check with your own CPA or tax professional before making this decision.*

THE CURTIS FAMILY THANKS YOU

The Naomi & Anthony Curtis family thanks their friends at St. Philip's Church who donated to help them with living expenses and medical bills. Naomi is one of our precious childcare workers at church. Her husband, Anthony, had a significant stroke on October 25, 2023 and will not be able to work for some time as he recovers. The stroke affected his heart, kidneys and movement. They are very grateful for the help they have been given. If you missed the opportunity to donate, and would like to do so, make a check payable to St. Philip's Discretionary Fund and put AC in the memo line. Fr. Estes will be sure it gets to them. Your tax-deductible donation to the discretionary fund will be credited to your church donation record.



MINISTRY MOMENTS



In the past few weeks Calvin Cassady, Chris Smiley and Phil Metz have shared their ministry moments. Calvin shared what being part of the youth education program has meant to him. Chris shared the joy he feels when he donates the toiletries from the hotels he stays at and gives them to those in need. Below is the ministry moment shared by our Sr. Warden, Phil Metz:

"I have had the privilege of wearing lots of hats at St. Philip's over the years, LEM, Lay Reader, Acolyte, and Vestry Member, just to name a few. However, the ministry that has a special place in my heart is Senior Warden, also known as the Rector's Warden. I have had the honor of being asked to serve as the Rector's Warden by 3 Rectors. The first being Fr. Bill during the time Sue and I attended St. John's down in Neosho. As Senior Warden you serve as a sort of a sounding board for the Rector. It is a safe place for them to discuss their concerns and aspirations for the parish, and it allows me to spend time with them that otherwise I would not. On the few occasions that my opinion is contrary to theirs they know that I am not speaking with malice or ill will, but simply expressing my opinion based upon what I observe going on in the parish, or from my own personal experiences. I'm just giving them a different point of view to consider. As Senior Warden I have the honor of being able to establish a special relationship with the Rector, and learn about their spiritual paths that brought them to where they are today. This has aided me as I continue down my own spiritual path. Those relationships are some of the most meaningful in my life.

In order to have the privilege of being Senior Warden I had to first be elected by you, my fellow parishioners, to the Vestry. I thank you for the honor of your entrusting me with, and 6 of my fellow parishioners, to this leadership role. The Vestry is charged with looking out for the overall health of the parish. We are the "Big Picture" committee. Just to name a few of our responsibilities, we manage pledge drive, prepare the budget, and try to stick to that budget. We support the Junior Warden, also known as the People's Warden, as he oversees our physical plant, and next year the vestry will have the final vote on who to call as our next Rector. It is important to have individuals on the vestry with varying points of view. It helps us look at issues from as many angles as possible. In January Blake Webster and I will have our 3-year terms expire and you will be electing 2 new members to replace us. It is an exciting position, and 2024 will be a very important one as we look towards the future of St. Philip's as we call our new Rector. I wish I had another year on my term, but maybe God is telling me to take a year off and take care of myself. Please take time and pray about if you feel called to serve in this ministry and if the answer is "Yes" please stop by the office and fill out the paperwork necessary for you to run. If you have any questions about serving on the vestry, please ask me or any other vestry member about what it entails. To be eligible you must be over 18, have attended St. Philip's for at least 6 months, and contribute financially to its wellbeing. If after prayerful consideration you don't feel you are ready to serve in this capacity there are so many other opportunities to serve. Shortly we will be looking for parishioners to volunteer for the search committee.

Every Sunday there are more opportunities to serve. It takes a lot of volunteers to put on the church service and you are invited to become involved. Every Sunday there are opportunities to become involved with the altar guild, usher, Sunday School teacher, and host the coffee hour, just to name a few.

And of course, there is the most important role off all, and that is for each of us to do our part to support St. Philip's ministry financially with our tithes. Thank you to all you that have done so in the past. Last week you should have received your pledge cards for 2024. In addition to our usual expenses, we will have the added expenses involved in the search for the new Rector. Please give your tithe some prayerful thought before you fill out your pledge cards.

Let me close by saying that no matter how much time, effort, and financial resources you put into God's ministry it will come back to you 10-fold. This is one thing I know for certain, and experienced by the love you have shown me this last year. Thank you for that!"

RECTOR SEARCH PROCESS UPDATE

St. Philip's Vestry is looking for candidates to serve on the Search Committee for our next permanent rector. You may nominate yourself by completing and submitting an application. You may nominate someone else by encouraging them to complete and submit an application to serve on this team. It is expected that anyone willing to serve will complete their own application. Applications are now being accepted until 11:30AM on Sunday, December 17. The Vestry will select the members of this team of 5 to 7.

Fr. Estes has created A Rector Search Page on our website. This page will be a one stop place to find current information about our Rector Search. It includes a button about the Process, Search Committee Application, and a Timeline. It will be updated as new information develops. You can find this page on our website stphilipsjoplin.com or by clicking this link: [Rector Search Page](#)

- A link to an online application to serve on the Search Committee will be sent out by November 15.



St. Philip's Episcopal Church

706 Byers Avenue, Joplin, Missouri 64801

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Rector Search

Search Process
per Diocese

Search Committee
Application

Parish Profile
coming soon

Rector Search Timeline

The timeline will be updated as new information becomes available. All dates are subject to change as the search pro

with XXXX will be replaced with dates when sufficient data is available to schedule the action.
Rector Search Page added to Website

VESTRY CANDIDATES NEEDED FOR 2024

St. Philip's Vestry is looking for candidates to stand for election to our Vestry. Application Packets are on the signup table and in the Church Office. Talk to any of our vestry members (Phil Metz, Blake Webster, Calvin Cassady, Judy Turner, Chris Smiley, Maria Dermott, Andrew Campbell) or Fr. Ted for more information. Elections for Vestry will be January 21 at the annual meeting.

VESTRY CANDIDATE – TAMMY MACY



"After giving some prayerful thought. I have decided to run for St. Philips nomination for vestry.

It will be two years ago on Palm Sunday 2024 that I felt the Holy Spirit lead me to see what was behind the red doors of St. Philip's Church. As I entered the church, I was greeted by two welcoming parishioners. Immediately I noticed the beautiful architecture, the wooden pews where so many in the past have sat and worshiped. The choir sounded heavenly to me. It reminded me of a wonderful familiar time. Back when I grew up and went to church. But what I have found to be a blessing, are the people of St. Philips. I feel we are truly a church that is welcoming, warm, friendly and I am so blessed to call St. Philips my church too. I want the very best in all things for St. Philips and to preserve the precious heritage and past and future that I see as a blessing from God.

May we continue on this path of loving kindness towards our fellow man as I pray for our Lord Jesus Christ to also lead others through the Red Doors."

*Thank you,
Tammy Macy*

ABOUT OUR YOUTH

On Sunday, November 12th, our youth led the congregation singing “This little light of mine.”



JOLLY GROVE CHRISTMAS



Be sure to read about the all-parish Christmas outing this year at Diamond Grove Adventures on Friday, December 8, 2023 on page 7 of this newsletter. Isn't it great to have some inter-generational events that everyone can join together? This is our St. Philip's family!



- **Watch the St Philip's website for more details on the search process timeline.**
 - Applications are available to be completed by those who would like to serve on the search committee.

- **Sanctuary Candles** burn in the sanctuary all week and are exchanged each Saturday by the altar guild. Because the candle does not burn completely, the glass cannot be recycled. If you would like to one or more of these partially burned candles, please let an altar guild member know.



- **Upcoming Events in Dec – See within this newsletter for additional details**
 - **Nov 28th and 30th** – 4-week Advent Program begins (6-7PM -Tuesday evening in person – Thursday evenings via Zoom)
 - **Dec 3rd** – last day to donate hats, mittens
 - **Dec 8th** – Intergenerational Fun - Family Fun night at Diamond Grove Adventures
 - **Dec 10th and 17th** – Caroling
 - **Dec 17th** – Cookie Sale - **Yummy!**
 - **Dec 17th** – Lessons and Carols (during service)
 - **Dec 21st** – Poinsettia dedication forms are due back to the office
 - **Dec 23rd** – St. Ann's work morning – **Come help decorate!**
 - **Dec 24th** –
 - **10AM** - service
 - **5:30PM** – Family Service
 - **10:30** – Music Program
 - **11PM** – Midnight Mass
 - **Dec 25th - 10AM** – Service



- **Annual Meeting – January 21st – mark your calendar!**

CELEBRATIONS!

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Jacy Beeler | 21 Sandra Craig |
| 3 Courtney Grover McFarland | 21 Gayle O'Hare |
| 4 Ruari Bacon | 21 Susie Hickman |
| 6 Cathy Lamp | 25 Bill Braun |
| 14 Luke Shagets | 27 Wil DePriest |
| 16 Rebecca DePriest | 27 Rebecca Williams |
| 16 Patty Davidson | 29 Marilyn Johnston |
| 17 Fr. Frank Sierra | 29 Connie LeMaster |
| 19 Beck Webster | 30 Sara Newman |
| 20 Bunny Smith | 31 Billy Braun |
| 21 Deborah Barlos | |



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 21 Phil and Gayle O'Hare
- 22 Michael and Alexandria DeGuerre
- 23 Calvin and Vicki Cassady
- 28 Joshua and Meredith McManis
- 29 Wayne and Kaie Stephenson
- 30 Eugene and Sandy Blackford



Altar Flowers

December 3rd

- The high altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Gayle Tuck in loving memory of Gerald
- The children's altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Katie and Andrew Bacon in celebration Ruari Bacon's birthday

December 10th

- The high altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Cindy Curchin & Marilyn Johnston in thanksgiving for the service of each member of St. Ann's Altar Guild.

December 17th

- The high altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Gayle and Phil O'Hare in celebration of our 60th wedding anniversary and Gayle's birthday.

December 24th

- The high altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Phil Metz in thanksgiving for all the support I've received from my fellow parishioners in 2023.

Flower Dedications

To honor, celebrate, or remember your loved one, we provide an opportunity to put flowers on the altar each Sunday. These are ordered by Maria Dermott and will be billed directly to you by The Wildflower.

You may also dedicate the sanctuary candle for \$10.

A flower chart is posted in the parish hall listing each Sunday. You can browse through and find your special day. Just put your name and notation there. We will take care of the rest.

Donated flowers are gifts to the church. Typically, the children's altar flowers are relocated to St. James chapel for mid-week services. If you have a request for who should receive your donated high altar flowers, please note the chart. If there is no written request, they will be donated to someone who can enjoy the blooms.



To put a name on the PRAYER CHAIN.... Please call Nancy Messick on her cell phone. We will pray for each of the names on the list. Names are kept confidential. The PRAYER CHAIN IS different from the announced prayer list (see below).

Pray for Members of our Military

Nick Grady, Travis Hutchinson, Adam Lewis, Josh Linn, Joel Nowlin, John Perriman, Zach Sutton

Pray for our Joe, our President; Mike, our Governor; Ryan, our Mayor

Pray for: 75th Military Police Companies United States Army Reserve, The Joplin National Guard Armory, and their family members as well as Past and Present Veterans

Pray for First Responders, Fire Fighters, EMS, Health Workers

Pray for those who are sick (announced) ***

Hailey Burge, Jim Collins, Anthony Curtis, Matt Fick, Jeff Green, Bethanie Knoll, Samantha Larson, Matthew Law, Sarah and Piper Mareth, Phil Metz, Sharon Newman, Linda Salzer, Lois Shilkett, Andrea White, Kathy Yeaman, Clara, Peyton, Susan

Pray for those who are in Elder Care or Assisted Living

Nancy Jennings

***** PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU HAVE SOMEONE TO ADD OR REMOVE FROM THE LIST. Help us keep the list up-to-date.**



DECEMBER 2023 – St. Philip’s Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov 26	Nov 27	Nov 28	Nov 29	Nov 30	Dec 1	Dec 2
Proper 29 9:00 AM Adult Forum 10:00AM Sunday School 10:00AM HE – Rite II		6:30PM Choir Practice 6-7PM In person Advent Program	5:30 PM HE w/unction	6-7 PM Zoom Advent Program		9AM - NOON Garden and Garden Work morning
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Advent 1 9:00 AM Adult Forum 10:00 AM HE – Rite II Hats, Scarves and Gloves due		6:30PM Choir Practice 6-7PM In person Advent Program	5:30 PM HE w/unction	6-7 PM Zoom Advent Program	6:00 PM Diamond Grove Adventures 	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Advent 2 9:00 AM Adult Forum 10:00AM Sunday School 10:00AM HE – Rite II After Service Outreach Meeting 12:50PM Meet at church for Christmas Caroling at College View Manor Followed by cookies at church and caroling in the St. Philip’s neighborhood Pledge Cards Due		6:30PM Choir Practice 6-7PM In person Advent Program	5:30 PM HE w/unction	6-7 PM Zoom Advent Program		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Advent 3 9:00 AM Adult Forum 10:00AM Sunday School 10:00AM HE – Rite II After Church: Cookie Sale 11:30AM Vestry 2:30PM Meet for Christmas Caroling for members at home		6:30PM Choir Practice 6-7PM In person Advent Program	6:00PM Blue Christmas Service Newsletter Deadline	6-7 PM Zoom Advent Program		St Ann’s Workday 9AM
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Advent 4 9:00 AM Adult Forum 10:00AM Sunday School 10:00AM HE – Rite II 5:00PM Family Service 10:30PM Christmas Music Program 11:00 Midnight Mass 	CHRISTMAS 10:00AM Christmas Service  Parish office closed		No Service	6PM Serving dinner at Watered Gardens		

Schedules for Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Camera Streamers, Acolytes, Counters, Altar Guild, Ushers

Please mark your calendar for the days you are to serve; If you have a conflict, please arrange to change with someone and then let the parish secretary know.

December 3 Advent 1	December 10 Advent 2	December 17 Advent 3	December 24 Advent 4	December 31 1st Sunday after Christmas
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Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Camera Streamers – GAYLE TUCK, Coordinator

10AM – Nancy Messick EM – Gayle Tuck Camera – John Messick	10AM – Mark Kiger EM – Michael DeGuerre Camera – John Messick	10AM – Jane Hoover EM – Alex Curchin Camera – John Messick	10AM – EM – Gayle Tuck Camera – John Messick 5:30PM – Harvey Hutchinson EM – Michael DeGuerre 11PM – Pam Volkl EM – Sharrock Dermott	10AM –John Moback EM – Gayle Tuck Camera – John Messick
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Wednesday Service – 5:30PM

Wed, Dec 6 HE w/unction – TBD – Judy Turner	Wed, Dec 13 HE w/unction – Harvey Hutchinson	Wed, Dec 20 HE w/unction - Judy Turner	Wed, Dec 27 HE w/unction – Harvey Hutchinson	Wed, Jan 3 HE w/unction – TBC
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Counters – Parish Secretary, Coordinator

If any count team needs a replacement, feel free to contact Gay Currence or Judy Turner. They cannot count together -- only separately with another individual. Their numbers can be found in the Parish Directory or call the church office.

Rose Paul Gayle O’Hare	Gayle Tuck Gail Campbell	Ann Turney Miff Dikeman	Ramona Shields Judy Turner	Rose Paul Gayle O’Hare
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Acolytes – Rebecca Fick, Coordinator

Crucifer – TBD 1st Server – TBD 2nd Server – Bodhi Webster Gospel Book – Beck Webster	Crucifer – Brenner Kumbier 1st Server – Gaddie Stephenson 2nd Server – Grey Kumbier Gospel – TBD	Crucifer – Louisa Curchin 1st Server – TBD 2nd Server – Alex Curchin Gospel – TBD	5:30PM Family Crucifer – Lily Farmer Gospel – Leo Farmer	11PM 1st Server – Walt Webster Thurifer - George Webster Boat - Ben Webster	Crucifer – TBD 1st Server – TBD 2nd Server – TBD Gospel Book - TBD
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Altar Crew – Cindy Curchin/Marilyn Johnston, Co-Directress

Maria Dermott – chief Judy Turner Ann Turney Stacy Turney Carol Wiggans	Maria Dermott – chief Judy Turner Ann Turney Stacy Turney Carol Wiggans	Maria Dermott – chief Judy Turner Ann Turney Stacy Turney Carol Wiggans	Maria Dermott – chief Judy Turner Ann Turney Stacy Turney Carol Wiggans	Maria Dermott – chief Judy Turner Ann Turney Stacy Turney Carol Wiggans
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Ushers – Andrew Campbell, Coordinator

Wayne Stephenson Harvey Hutchinson Andy Campbell	Melissa Braun Blake Webster Phil O’Hare	Katie Bacon-Clark Jim Paul Andy Campbell	volunteers	Jim Paul Andy Campbell
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FINANCIALS

STEWARDSHIP - ST. PHILIP'S FINANCIAL INFORMATION

October 2023

Line #	OCTOBER	YTD
ORDINARY INCOME		
1 From Regular Support for Operations.....	\$ 15,700	\$ 157,410
2 Interest from Operating account.....	\$ 3	\$ 36
3 From Investments Used for Operations.....	\$ 48,596	\$ 77,295
4 Transfer from Endowment.....	\$ -	\$ -
5 Total Ordinary Income (add lines 1,2,3,4.....)	\$ 64,299	\$ 171,121
<small>*\$678 from kitchen & reception income</small>		
ORDINARY EXPENSES		
6 From Regular Monthly activities.....	\$ 70,487	\$ 272,429
7 Transferred to the Endowment Account (B/S item)	\$ -	\$ -
8 Less Investments Used for Operations.....	\$ -	\$ -
9 NET PLEDGED INCOME (LOSS) [line 5 less lines 6,7,8] ..	\$ (6,188)	\$ (37,010)

BUILDING OUR FUTURE: MOMENT BY MOMENT, ONE STEP AT A TIME STEWARDSHIP

Our fundraising theme for 2024 is Building Our Future: Moment by Moment, Step by Step. Our parish life is created by decisions and actions in the moment that build up our life in Christ. The past year has seen us take many steps following where Jesus leads us to grow, serve, give and attend. Each Sunday we hear different members share their Ministry Moment in which they describe how they follow where Christ leads. As we prepare for a new year of mission and ministry in 2024, please pray for God's guidance in how you will attend, grow, serve, and give in the coming year. Consider using this prayer as you consider how you will respond generously to God's call.

Abundant God, you made us in your image and breathed in us a spirit of generosity that is both gift and response. Move us, we pray, to give as we have received—abundantly, generously, and joyfully that our common ministry may ever bear witness to your unfailing grace. In the name of the Three in whom we are One, Amen.



LET'S STAY CONNECTED

St. Philip's Website - www.stphilipsjoplin.com

The church website contains links to the church calendar, live-streamed services, and our other social media sites. The site also contains some lovely pictures of the biblical mural and the stained-glass windows. A donation button was added recently to allow online donation to the church by credit card.



St. Philip's Episcopal Church

706 Byers Avenue, Joplin, Missouri 64801

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St. Philip's on YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/@stphilipsjoplin>

Live streams - <https://www.youtube.com/@stphilipsjoplin/streams>

Connect to the live stream - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBjRZSfuzB3UStCbTlxdTBQ/live>

Around a years' worth of recorded streams are kept on the site



Search



St. Philip's Episcopal Church Joplin, Missouri

@stphilipsjoplin 144 subscribers 70 videos

St. Philip's Episcopal Church - Our VISION is to continue to build our comm... >

St. Philip's on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/StPhilipsJoplin>

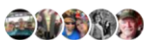
The church presence on Facebook. All Facebook users are encouraged to “like” the page if you haven’t already done so. Daily prayers, links to live streamed services and news from around the Episcopal Church, The Diocese of West Missouri and elsewhere.

You may be interested to know there is a discussion group called “Talk About St Philip’s” on Facebook too – the link is on the St. Philip’s Facebook page, and all the Facebook friends of St Philip’s are welcome to join.



St Philip's Episcopal Church - Joplin, Missouri

513 likes • 523 followers



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MINUTES OF THE VESTRY

Vestry Meeting Minutes

Sunday October 15th, 2023 12:04PM

Attendees: Phil Metz, Blake Webster, Maria Dermott, Andy Campbell, Judy Turner, Chris Smiley, Calvin Cassady

Others: Fr. Ted Estes, Kim Siers

Judy Turner led the invocation-devotion. Blake Webster will lead in November

Agenda – Andy Campbell moved to adopt the agenda with changes, Calvin Cassady seconded. All in favor, no abstentions.

Last month's Vestry minutes – Phil Metz moved to accept the Vestry minutes, Maria Dermott seconded. All in favor, no abstentions.

Treasurer's Report – September 2023 Notes & Changes Greater Than \$1,000

Balance Sheet:

1. Account #1110 SMB Checking Account down \$3,605.98 from August. Regular support for operations down \$1,352.
2. Account #1120 Stifel Investment down \$19,373.17 from August. There was a \$16,198.82 transfer to the SMB checking account in September. This was to cover 25% down payment on church foundation repairs.
- Account #1130 Stifel Endowment down \$31,411.26 from August.

Income Statement:

1. Account #4110 Pledge Payments down \$2,910.
2. Account #4115 Unpledged Donations up \$1,275.
3. Account #6010 Electric down \$2,438.04. There were two payments made in August and a payment made October 4.
4. Account #6110 Church Building Repairs & Main up \$15,322.94. This is due to church foundation payment.
4. Account #6140 Property Insurance down \$2,527.50.
5. Account #6100 Piano & Organ Repairs & Maintenance down \$1,229.
6. Account #6390 Miscellaneous Administrative up \$1,080 as consulting fee was paid for rector search assessment.
6. Account #6410 Rector Salary down \$5,791.67 and Account #6420 Rector Housing down \$1,000 as Father Ted did not have September paycheck.
6. Account #6510 Lay Employee Wages down \$4,193.79. There were three pay days in August and only one employee received two paychecks in September.
7. New for September is other income Account #5070 Insurance Proceeds. This account had \$4,473.11 in income in September. These are payments from Aflac for Father Ted's short term disability claim.
7. Account #5710 Income and Distributions down \$1,817.32 and Account #5720 Change Securities Value is down \$14,812.78.

Judy Turner moved to receive the financials; Andy Campbell seconded. All in favor, no abstentions

Calendar – Andy Campbell moved to accept the calendar with additions, Blake Webster, seconded. All in favor, no abstentions.

Jr. Warden Report – Foundation recovery Systems will take a little longer than first estimated. They are having to dig down further than was expected.

Sr. Warden Report – Jasper County Bar will have their continuing education here on Thursday, October 19th.

Deacon's Report – No report, Deacon Carol recovering from shoulder surgery

Rector's Report – See attached report

Suggestion Box – None

Old Business:

Holy Cow Assessment will be announced Oct 22nd. Will end on November 16th.

Memorial Gift: will be discussed next month

Diocesan Convention Update – We will have 2 lay delegates, 2 clergy delegates and 1 lay alternate going. Blake Webster moved to pay for 5 hotel rooms for convention, Maria Dermott seconded. All in favor, with three abstentions.

Stewardship: Maria Dermott is developing materials for the stewardship campaign.

The theme will be: Building Our Future: Moment by Moment

New Business:

Cub Scout Charter request: Vestry requested that the Scout Leaders address the Vestry at the November meeting.

People to call for alarm: currently Fr Ted and Kim who both live around 30 minutes away. Vestry will think of good candidates to be called. Kim can be on for the time for business hours.

Date for Annual Meeting: The date for the annual meeting will be January 21st with lunch provided beforehand. Andy moved that the vestry cater the annual meeting dinner with the cost up to \$600.00, Maria Dermott seconded. All in favor, no abstentions.

Mutual Ministry Review: Will be after the November Vestry meeting.

Parking Lot: There are a couple of sinking spots on the parking lot. Chris Smiley moved to give Andy the authority to spend up to \$1000 to get hot fill for fixing the issue, Blake Webster seconded. All in favor, no abstentions.

Action Items:

- Andy get materials and fill in holes in parking lot
- Fr. Ted & Kim work on Holy Cow roll out
- Fr. Ted book rooms for Diocesan Convention
- Maria follows up with Fridge/freezer donation gift
- Phil & Sharrock get finance committee together with Brad from Stifel
- Fr. Ted get with Phil O'Hare to schedule Scout Leaders to come to November Vestry meeting
- Maria will work on stewardship materials

Respectfully Submitted

Kim Siers

Parish Secretary

St. Philip's Episcopal Church 706 Byers – Joplin, MO 64801

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Email: saintphilips706@gmail.com

Web Site: www.stphilipsjoplin.com

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/stphilipsjoplin

Interim Rector - Fr. Ted Estes

Deacon – Carol Peterson

Parish Secretary – Kim Siers

Newsletter Editor - Jacquie McConnell

Vestry Members:

Sr. Warden – Phil Metz,

Jr. Warden – Andy Campbell

Blake Webster, Maria Dermott, Judy Turner, Calvin Cassady, Chris Smiley

OUR MISSION...

is to worship God, follow Christ, and love our neighbor.

OUR VISION...

is to continue to build our community of faith, according to Christ's teachings, where all truly belong and are encouraged and enabled to participate in our mission.

Sunday: 9:00AM Adult Forum 10:00AM HE Rite II (also live-streamed)

Wednesday: 5:30PM HE/with unction

Secretary's Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday - 8:00AM - 2:00PM Friday - 8:00AM - 11:00AM

HAVE A COMMENT? IDEA? SUGGESTION?

FEEL FREE REACH OUT TO ONE OF YOUR VESTRY MEMBERS

WE WILL REVIEW ANYTHING SUBMITTED IN THE NEXT VESTRY MEETING

Because we wish to protect the security and privacy of our members, we are not publishing phone numbers or email addresses of our Vestry members in this Newsletter. If you need a phone number or email and do not have a current telephone directory, call the office and we will happily supply you with the desired information.



PLEASE NOTE: We love pictures and videos, and we love sharing what we do. When attending any of our events or services, you agree to our using pictures of you and any children in your charge on social media and elsewhere. If you are not comfortable with this, please inform a member of staff **before** we start taking pictures or recording.