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# LIFE @ ST. PHILIP'S

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## DATES OF NOTE:

September 6 and 13 - GFM

September 10 - Church BBQ  
Picnic and Reception of New  
Members

September 12, 19, and 26 -  
Bible Study

September 21 - 50+

September 30 - Messy Church



## From the Pastor

The fun part of my job is taking youth to confirmation camp every August: campfires and silly songs; craft projects, games, and sharing our favourite Bible stories during morning sessions.

The much harder part of the job is stepping back and wrestling with some big-picture questions: why do parents struggle to get their children to church? What case can I make for Christianity at a time when kids have so many appealing alternatives? Why should young people commit themselves to spiritual things when their wider community views such commitments as quaint, obsolete, and even regressive?

The youth ask me questions like: None of my friends go to church, why should I? Why should I pray to God when I have no proof? If Jesus is so important, why doesn't anyone talk about him outside of church? My own daughter once asked me what God is for, after a fervent prayer of hers went unanswered. Likewise, my son, coming straight from a history class on World War II, asked me why the God of history is nonexistent in the story.

I don't have answers to these questions, but I want to keep wrestling with them and weighing the answers that matter to me. In confirmation programme we try to offer the youth reasons to pursue God in the context of a confusing world and an imperfect church. We remind them that the ground of Christianity is love. When our children need it (and they will), there is a love available

*(...continued on next page)*

that nothing else on earth will ever explain, diminish, or destroy. It's a love that overcomes every barrier of suspicion and hatred we humans construct. It cleanses, blesses, and challenges us. It's a love worth living and dying for.

I encourage and invite you to take a look this fall and nurture your faith. Start with attending St. Philip's Fall BBQ on **Sunday, September 10** and welcome our new members, and then, get involved in one or more of the many fall programs we offer.

*See you in church,  
Pastor Tuula*

### From Janelle Lightbourne, Intern



The past year seemed to fly by, and it is hard to believe that my internship has come to an end. Some of my goals for the year were deepening my sense of call and pastoral identity and learning about community programs and how churches can meet tangible needs in the community. I am happy to say that I was able to learn about these areas and much more. My internship provided me with a wide range of learning experiences and opportunities including teaching confirmation class, leading youth and young adult retreats, working with the Good Food Market and Neighborhood Table programs, leading music at Messy Church, co-leading a lunch and learn on Allyship for Black History Month, preaching and leading worship, pastoral care and visits, singing in the choir, weekly lunches with the Cover Girls, co-leading Bible study, building a garden box at the Willowridge Toronto Community Housing complex, attending CLAY and serving a meal at Evangel Hall Mission. I was also able to gain much wisdom from my meetings with Pastor Tuula and the Internship Committee.

These experiences would not have been possible without all of the time and energy you pour into these ministries and your community. You all have helped make this year a rich experience of learning, stretching and growth. Thank you so much for welcoming me into your community and guiding me as I move closer to pastoral ministry. I will always remember my time here with you and will keep praying for you and your valuable work. I will be sure to keep you posted on where God leads me next!

*With love and appreciation, Janelle Lightbourne, Pastoral Intern  
519.852.6772; [sja.lightbourne@gmail.com](mailto:sja.lightbourne@gmail.com)*

## Council Corner

Welcome back and greetings to our new members.

### Thankful ...

- to have 11 new members join St. Philip's.
- for the wonderful work and dedication Janelle provided the congregation over her time here as an intern.
- for Jenelle and all the volunteers who willingly gave of their time and gifts to the Good Food Market and Neighbourhood Table. The food security programs continue to thrive under the vibrant leadership of Eunice and Raija.
- for Sarah Pascoe in representing Eastern Synod at the National Convention. See page 11.

### Council activity

- As indicated in our most recent Council Meeting minutes, we have begun conversations on how to best use our building in forwarding our mission and vision. These early conversations are intended to clarify what is working, what is not and what might be possible. We plan to invite the congregation into these conversations through a variety of engagement activities including a series of 'Agape Meal' style conversations in the fall.

### Help needed

- Our Afghan family will be arriving soon and we are in desperate need of accommodation for them. If any of you have contacts, ideas, possibilities, please forward to Pastor Tuula or Emily Wuschnakowski ([emwusch1@gmail.com](mailto:emwusch1@gmail.com)).
- We also need someone to coordinate a schedule and coordinate a group of volunteers to take the garbage to the road on Friday mornings. If you are available and interested, please contact Sam Marcuson. ([jmarcuson7@rogers.com](mailto:jmarcuson7@rogers.com))

We look forward to working with you on our ambitious agenda. If you are eager to become more deeply engaged in the wonderful work of St. Philip's, please contact Marcia at [marcia-powers-dunlop@rogers.com](mailto:marcia-powers-dunlop@rogers.com) or myself at [jerry.hogeveen@gmail.com](mailto:jerry.hogeveen@gmail.com).

We appreciate your prayers and your continuing contributions of time, talents, and possessions.

*Jerry Hogeveen, Council Chair*

## Finance Update

As summer draws to a close and we move towards fall please find below a financial update for the period of January to July 31, 2023.

In April I reported a net loss of \$8,276, unfortunately, the loss has since grown to \$20,564 as of the end of July.



With seven months (or 58%) of the year complete our spending is on budget with expenses of \$153,793 (58%) against income of \$133,229 or 51% of our approved budget of \$264,000. As noted in the last report with the reopening of the church for worship our expenses continue to track upward however, unfortunately our income to date is slightly lower than last year at this time.

As a result, at the end of July, we are currently running a deficit just over \$20,000 which is approximately \$12,000 further in the red than this time last year.

Some year-to-date financial numbers:

	2022 (Jn 31)	2021 (Jn 31)
Income	\$133,229	\$136,785
Expense	\$153,793	\$144,816
Net Income (Loss)	(\$20,564)	(\$8,031)
Benevolence	\$14,452	\$13,570

As we move into fall, please consider continuing to make your weekly donation.

Find the how-to details here: [stphilipstoronto.com/donate-now/](http://stphilipstoronto.com/donate-now/)

*Gary Wuschnakowski*

## Property Update

- General church maintenance including ceiling repairs, minor plumbing repairs, furnace filter changes, and thermostat repairs. Thanks to Perry and Andrew Taylor and Rod Erlandson for their help.



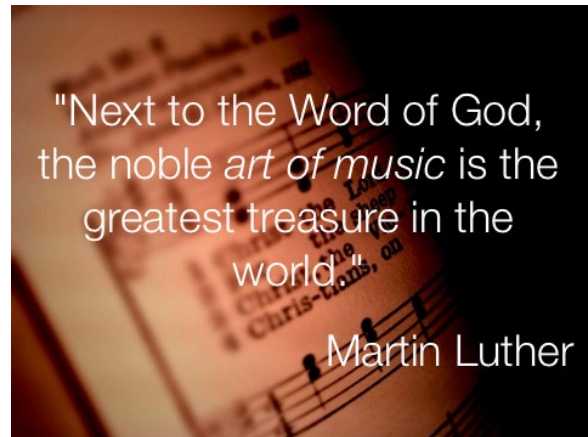
- Garden maintenance. Thanks to Sam and Judy Marcuson and John Brownlie for their dedication to keeping our gardens looking beautiful.
- We still have an ongoing honeybee problem. You may have noticed some holes in the ceiling of our Sanctuary. Most of the hive has been preserved and removed with a little more to do. You may also have noticed a smoky smell. There have been several applications to “smoke them out.” More applications may be required. Work will be done on the outside on the soffit and drainpipe to close the bee access point. As well the roof will also be repaired to ensure there are no other access points as well as to repair two major cracks in the roof itself.
- Our Fellowship Hall is currently being rented to a summer children’s sports camp, Jack of Sports, until 1<sup>st</sup> September. Thanks to the Cover Girls for giving up their space for the past two weeks.
- The Fellowship Hall will also be rented to the 90<sup>th</sup> Pathfinders on Tuesday evenings until June 2024 and to the African Violet Society on Friday evenings until June 2024.
- The property committee is also assessing other rental queries.

*Herb Feller*

## Search for Music Director: Update

We love music at St Philip’s. Honouring our rich Lutheran heritage of music and its importance in our worship, our Music Director Search Team has been at work over the summer months interviewing and auditioning candidates to fill the role of Music Director at St Philip’s.

It is our expectation that in September we will introduce a new Music Director to you. We hope to soon make a recommendation to the Council and to the Worship & Music Committee for their approval.



*Karen Adolph*

## Camp Kintail

The camp ran from **August 26 - September 1**. Pictured below are Sabine George and Pastor Tuula with the campers from SPLC.



## Wedding

On **Thursday, July 20** Meranda Phannenhour wed Cristobal Blanche in a lovely ceremony presided by Pastor Tuula.



## Messy Church



### Messy Church returns this fall!

After a summer break, we're excited to announce that the Messy Church program will be returning in September!

Messy Church began at St Philip's back in January as a 5-month pilot program. The planning team evaluated the program after the initial pilot and decided to continue for the upcoming year. Thank you to all of the attendees and volunteers who have supported this program and made it a success.

Messy Church is a series of monthly fun learning experiences that are creative, active, faith-based, intergenerational, and accessible to all. The program is intended for all ages, and everyone is welcome!

Each month focuses on one theme and Bible story, with activities and a worship celebration, suitable for every stage of the faith journey. There is a great variety of activities, so there's something for everyone, from arts & crafts, to games, to science experiments. We share a delicious family-friendly meal and fellowship together. It's fun, casual, and sometimes a little "messy"!

We gather at 4 pm on the last Saturday of the month. Mark your calendars for **Sept. 30, Oct. 28, and Nov. 25.**

We would love to see you on **Saturday, Sept. 30 @ 4 pm.** To let us know you're coming, or if you're interested in volunteering, please send us an email at [stphilipsmessychurch@gmail.com](mailto:stphilipsmessychurch@gmail.com).

*Dawn Pascoe*

## 50+

We trust you had a good summer and are doing well!

We are gearing up to start our 50+ fall Program and trust you can join us whenever possible!



When: **Thursday, September 21 @ 9:20 am** (for carpooling purposes)

Tour: Tom Thomson Exhibit, McMichael's Canadian Art Collection, 10365 Islington Ave. , Kleinburg

Cost: \$19/person

Lunch: Café at venue

Register: By using the sign-up sheet in the narthex or call the church office at 416.622.5577. Please note this event is limited to **15 participants**.

Our second event will be an Oktoberfest Luncheon at the church on **Thursday, October 19 @ 12:30 pm**. Please bring a small side dish to help with the meal and \$10 annual registration fee to help with our expenses. More info later.

Please note that newcomers are always welcome to join us at any time and we're sure you will always find...

**Good Food, Fun, and Fellowship!**

*Doris Pascoe  
Donna Schwantes*



The Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth (CLAY) Gathering took place in Waterloo on **August 10 - 13**. It was a privilege to lead a team of 5 youth (Marleah Roche and Liam Stewart from St. Philip's, Katie Kleiner from Redeemer Toronto, Sarah Wettlaufer and Kira Chemerys from Nith Valley Shared Ministry) and experience this gathering with them! They were given opportunities to figure out how they will live their faith and what faith looks like for them and their generation. As a team, we discussed refugees, racism, climate change, social justice, and seeing the humanity in all people.

The youth made many new friends from across Canada, engaged in worship, attended workshops, and heard from our keynote speakers, Rev. Aneeta Saroop and Rev. Nathan Fong. The theme was Ashes and Embers and the speakers shared stories of when their lives felt like vibrant fires with lots of new opportunities and activity. They shared ember-like experiences of opportunities coming to an end. They also vulnerably shared other harder moments of racism and family conflict when their lives felt like ashes. They always brought it back to the truth that God is with us in all of these stages and experiences.



## Good Food Market



This summer I have had the privilege of working with a dedicated team of staff and volunteers at St Philip's to help with the coordination of two amazing community-based programs, the Neighbourhood Table and the Good Food Market.

The Good Food Market ran once a week at the Toronto Community Housing building located at 44 Willowridge Road. It aims to improve access to high quality food by alleviating the burdens associated with high grocery costs. Thanks to the funding the market receives, we were able to allocate thousands of dollars during the summer toward lowering the cost of fruits and vegetables as well as facilitating other activities to further engage the community.

The market offered recipe loot bags, children's activities, draws for grocery gift cards, as well as chef demonstrations and sampling. The ongoing heartfelt feedback from community members who took part in the market was an excellent reminder of the positive impact it had on the community. It was wonderful getting to know the residents at 44 Willowridge and I am so grateful to have been able to take part in the market with St. Philip's this summer.

Working with St. Philip's this summer has been such an exceptional experience for me as I've become exposed to different community engagement-based programs and have been introduced to people from all walks of life.

Seeing the value of these programs to people's lives first-hand has emphasized the need for their ongoing presence in the community and shines light on how important the work done by St. Philip's Lutheran Church really is.

I am eager to continue taking part in community-engagement based programming and hope to remain connected to the people I have had the pleasure of working with this summer. See more on Neighbourhood Table on next page.

*Jenelle Rock*



## Neighbourhood Table



The Neighbourhood Table is a food-focused program which ran four times this summer. Bringing together families from ACCT and Polycultural, participants explored the Burnhamthorpe Farm in a hands-on manner and were audience members to an interactive presentation by a beekeeper.



Adults got to learn and try out new recipes while children worked with a professional chef in the kitchen to prepare a meal for all the participants to enjoy.

Participants also took part in a guessing jar contest, children's activities, and got to take home freshly harvested produce from the farm. The excitement to be at the program was a widely held emotion among participants, which made helping to run it an even more special experience.

*Thanks so much, Jenelle Rock*

### Testimonial from Neighbourhood Table Program:

*"I had a wonderful time joining you all this year and continue to be so impressed with this program. You're doing a really wonderful thing here, Eunice, and I'm grateful to be a part of it."*

*Joshna Maharaj, Chef*

Testimonial from anonymous buyer at Good Food Market:

*"We appreciate all of you that are supporting in one way or the other to provide these cheap fruits and vegetables for our community to enable us to live a healthier life and be strong and to enable us to save because cost of grocery is very expensive. Thank you and God bless you all."*

## Yoga @ St. Philip's

Kundalini yoga will take place once a month during the cold winter months from 4:00 am - 7:00 am. Specifically on **Nov. 18, Dec. 16, Jan. 13, Feb. 17, Mar. 16**, and possibly **April 13**. Please contact the church office to be sure of the venue as if the weather is warm enough, it will not take place at the church. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the session with your own yoga mat. There will be a few mantras you will have to learn or yoga techniques depending on the yoga set. For example, "breath of fire" a basic understanding of chakras, etc.

The session is composed of 5 parts:

- Reading from 15<sup>th</sup> century poem composed by Guru Nanak consisting of 38 stanzas
- Kundalini yoga set
- Meditation/chanting
- A shared snack/small meal
- Singing upon closing

Contact the church office if you would like more information.



## Celebrating GRIT

On **Friday, June 23**, we celebrated the incredible work happening in the West Bank through GRIT - where hundreds of women, including women with disabilities, are securing their futures through technical education and training. GRIT staff and partners met in our Fellowship Hall and a good time was had by all. You will recognize our own Pauline Klemencic, President of the Board of Directors, CLWR, pictured below.



**Good Food Market: Sept. 6, 13 @ 3:00 pm**  
**Community Conversations Planning: Sept. 7 @ 1:00 pm**  
**Lakeshore African Violet Society: Friday, Sept. 8 @ 7:00 pm**  
**Zumba: Mondays @ 1:00 pm from Sept. 11**  
**Joyful Noise Bell Choir: Mondays @ 7:15 pm starting on Sept. 18**  
**Girl Guides: Tuesdays @ 6:30 pm**  
**Bible Study on Zoom: Tuesdays @ 7:00 pm on Sept. 12, 19, 26**

**Zoom Details:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87405980719?pwd=QmZzZ2M3bmdnSnY0MU9iWVE3bGFyZz09>  
 Meeting ID: 874 0598 0719; Passcode: 711781

**Cover Girls: Wednesdays @ 10:00 am**  
**Confirmation Class: Sept. 17 @ 11:30 am**  
**Messy Church: Saturday, Sept. 30 @ 4:00 pm**

**Life Passages**

*Mary Hanslep*  
*July 28, 1929 - June 26, 2023*

A funeral has held at St. Philip's on **Friday, June 30 @ 11:00 am** with a reception afterwards in the Fellowship Hall.



**Readings for September**

**14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – September 3**  
 Jeremiah 15:15-21/Psalm 26:1-8  
 Romans 12:9-21/Matthew 16:21-28

**15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – September 10**  
 Ezekiel 33:7-11/Psalm 119:33-40  
 Romans 13:8-14/Matthew 18:15-20

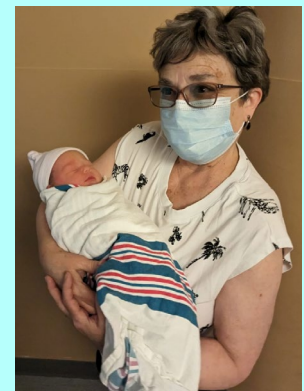
**16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – September 17**  
 Genesis 50:15-21/Psalm 103:1-13  
 Romans 14:1-12/Matthew 18:21-35

**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – September 24**  
 Jonah 3:10--:11/Psalm 145:1-8  
 Philippians 1:21-30/Matthew 20:1-16



**Baptism and Birth Announcement**

Isabel Cavalcante, daughter of Kathryn Erlandson and Rodrigo Cavalcante, and granddaughter of Bonnie and Rod Erlandson and Jocerice and Carlos Alberto Cavalcante, was baptized on **June 25**.



Margie McCutcheon is pictured above with her second grandchild: Clara Marie Hendry. She was born **June 29** at 7lbs. 3 oz. Congratulations to the proud parents, grandparents, and to big sister, Elise.

## National Convention



Congratulations to Pat Lovell for receiving ELCIC Leadership Award. You can read more about this leadership award at: [Award](#)

Pictured below are St. Philip's members Sarah Pascoe, Emily Walker, Pat Lovell, and Carmen Ramirez who all attended the ELCIC Assembly from **June 28 - July 2, 2023**, in Calgary, Alberta.



## Bible Study



### BIBLE STUDY

**TUESDAYS @ 7:00 PM  
ON ZOOM**

**starting**

**September 12, 2023**

Join Pastor Tuula as we discuss the parables from the Gospel of Matthew.

No experience necessary. All are welcome.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87405980719?pwd=QmZzZ2M3bmdnSnY0MU9iWVE3bGFyZz09>

Meeting ID: 874 0598 0719

Passcode: 711781



St. Philip's Lutheran Church  
61 West Deane Park Dr.  
Toronto, ON M9B 2S1  
[www.stphilipstoronto.com](http://www.stphilipstoronto.com)

Pastor Tuula Van Gaasbeek

Phone: 416.859.5588

[tvangaasbeek@bell.net](mailto:tvangaasbeek@bell.net)

Mark Kieswetter, Music Director  
Emeritus

Margaret Isaacs, Office  
Administrator

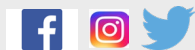
Phone: 416.622.5577

[stphilip@bellnet.ca](mailto:stphilip@bellnet.ca)

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Twitter: [@SPLCOnline](#)



## Welcome Back BBQ Picnic



Join us on **Sunday, September 10** to welcome new members and enjoy a BBQ picnic.

Please speak with Pastor Tuula to inquire how you can help out with this event. We need BBQ chefs and help with set-up/clean-up and the purchase of items.

### Next...

Please submit articles and high-res photos (minimum 2 MB) for the next issue of LIFE by **September 25** ... send good news to Margaret Isaacs: [stphilip@bellnet.ca](mailto:stphilip@bellnet.ca)



### About St. Philip's - Our Vision

Freed by the grace of Christ, we seek to connect with God, neighbour, and self.

**Vision Statement:** We are a diverse and inclusive Lutheran faith community freed by the grace of Christ to find God and self as we connect with our neighbours.

We practise hospitality of open hearts and open arms. We unite with partners to make a difference in our neighbourhood. We nurture community of Christ.

**Values Supporting the Vision:** Our Lutheran heritage of grace; our call to pray, worship, and learn as we grow in our Christian faith; our needs to gather and belong in Christian community; the call to love our neighbours as Christ loves us; the acceptance of all people as children of God; the opportunities to meet God everywhere.