

Dear Partners in Faith,

We begin our program year in September and are already looking to Advent activities and the swirl of events and worship that starts in the fall. There will be three adult education opportunities as well as Sunday School for the children.



This year we have an added challenge around finances. The economy has taken its toll on St. Philip's Church and on our Early Childhood Center. Simply put, we are spending more than we take in. So, we are economizing where we can. We are re-using curriculum and music and we are not buying things. We are putting off some needed maintenance. We are trying to be good stewards of the gifts we have. In the meantime, we continue our faithful giving to places beyond our own doors. We support our denomination and we give to Feed My People and Joint Neighborhood Ministries and Lydia's House and St. John's UCC food pantry on North Grand to name a few. We send our folks out to work for Habitat for Humanity and our youth Mission Trip.

As we find ways to meet our financial challenge, we cannot lose sight of our reason for being. We are a witness for Christ in the world. We cannot spend all our money on ourselves. If you have an idea of a way to raise money, let me know. In the meantime, take up the shield of faith and carry on. We are the church. We will find a faithful way. God is with us on our journey.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Sue



I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt thanks for the cards and prayers you have been kind enough to send my way.

The year 2009 has been very challenging for me physically, and, for my loving wife, Sharon, mentally and emotionally.

Please keep the prayers coming.

Sincerely,

John P. "Jack" Jackman

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Greetings in Christ Jesus,

Thank you for all those wonderful Christmas items. We put some out at our adult table at our cookies with Santa, and the rest will go in our clothing room. We truly appreciate your donation. May God bless and keep you always.

(signed) Johnnie (St. John's UCC – N. Grand)

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PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Delba Engelhardt, Walt Miller, Jack Jackman who is having more chemo therapy done, and Paul Shrout who is having more knee surgery this month.

PUT ON THE SHIELD OF FAITH WITH BIBLE STUDY

1. Monday Morning - 9 a.m. in September we will begin a 14 week series based on the book God, Man and Archie Bunker. We will listen to tapes of the broadcast and engage in discussion on topics ranging from "Edith the Good" to "Archie and the Bible." The class is open to all. Join us for the whole series or week by week as possible.
2. Bob Leber will lead an in depth study of Paul's letter to the Romans. Watch for time and dates.

3. In partnership with Prince of Peace UCC we will offer a DVD based series called "Living the Questions." This series is aimed at young adults so we will offer a children's program at the same time. We will probably meet on Friday evenings and begin with a light dinner. Again, watch for details.

LYDIA'S HOUSE

Once again St. Philip's provided a wonderful community meal for the residents at Lydia's House. Our meals serve approximately forty women and children who meet twice a month to share a meal and receive support. The rest of the time they cook their own meals in their own apartments. Since money is scarce, these meals, provided by St. Philip's and other churches, are a real blessing. Our food is always praised for its volume, assortment, and taste.

Thanks to the following St. Philip's ladies who prepared and shared: Barbara Barnes, Mary Lou Farrow, Frances Kalbfleish, Pat Siewing, Joyce Brand, Kathy Shelton, Nancy Krenning, Judy Hickman, Merle Schuette, Alice Hillyard, Joan Schumacher, Joy Lopez, Lois Decker, Shirley Nottelmann, JoAnn Leber, Hilda Leonard, and Ardelle Dischinger. You're wonderful!

ST. LOUIS ASSOCIATION WOMEN

The fall gathering will be held at St. Johns UCC, Manchester, on Wednesday, September 30. It will include the story of Shannondale as told by Jeff Fulk, manager of the facility, a time to meet new friends and renew old friendships and lunch provided by St. Johns. All of this for \$10.00 !!!! Sign up on the bulletin board by September 13th. Car pooling will be available.

MANNA MARCH

Feed My People's annual Manna March will be September 27th at Jefferson Barracks Park starting at 1:00 p.m. Consider sponsoring a walker or being one your self. It's an easy walk in beautiful surroundings and the money goes to a very good cause.

JNM TRIVIA NIGHT

Save the date – October 10th – for a great evening of fun at St. John's UCC, Mehlville, at a trivia night to benefit Joint Neighborhood Ministry. See the bulletin board for details.

VBS

Thank you again volunteers, boys and girls for another successful Vacation Bible School. We are looking forward to next year's "Galactic Blast !"

50+ GROUP



On September 19th, we plan to meet at church at 10:30 a.m. to package rice and beans for St. John's N. Grand and Joint Neighborhood Ministries. At 12 noon we will go to Concord Grill for lunch.

Please sign up so we can give Concord Grill the number of people coming for lunch. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. Thank you.

Janet Remmers and Virginia Hladnick

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

On Tuesday, September 15th, Women's Fellowship will have lunch at the Dough Depot in Kimmswick. They will meet at church 11 a.m. to carpool.



The sign-up sheet will be posted, as reservations are required. The hostesses are Jan Freese and Alice Hillyard.

KICK-OFF SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH



We will begin our new Fall Sunday School Program with annual Kick-off on Sunday, September 13th. After church and Sunday School, there will be games, prizes, food, and lots of fun. Plan to stay and have a good time.

If you would like to help by donating food items, that would be great. Our menu is chili dogs, with all the trimmings, (or hot dog and a bowl of chili), chips, cakes, brownies.

Please check the bulletin board for a sign-up sheet for items to donate. Listed here are the items needed: chili, hot dogs, buns, chips, relish, catsup, mustard, sauerkraut, chopped onions, oyster crackers, grated cheddar cheese, soda, ice, cake and brownies.

Thanks to all of you. We are looking forward to a FUN day for all of us.

Learning Ministry Team

Allison, Brigitte, Cindy, Andrea, and Virginia

CAMP MO-VAL

During part of the week of September 13th, the 50+ Mo-Val Group will be staying for a few days to enjoy fellowship, Bible Study, crafts, bingo, vesper service and maybe some entertainment. Carlton and Marilyn Norton are the sponsors and directors.

We want to extend to any of you who would like to come to stay a day or 2 and stay overnight, or just come for the day - please feel welcome. It is a relaxing fun time to enjoy the outdoors and to meet new friends.

I am waiting to find out the exact days. I know Sunday evening p.m., September 13th, begins with dinner and make the bulletin

board for the dining hall. The length of time is through Thursday, September 17th. However, the length of time may be shortened thru Wednesday, September 16th.

If you are interested, please call Virginia or Shirley.

FOOD PANTRY DISTRESS



The cupboards are nearly bare at the food pantries. So Women's Fellowship will be collecting all kinds of canned food during the month of September. A donation box will be by the front door. Thanks for helping to feed the hungry.

ALZHEIMER'S MEMORY WALK

Bob and Linda Kammerer will again be participating in the Alzheimer's Memory Walk, in memory of Bob's mom, who had Alzheimer's. The walk will be in Forest Park on September 12, 2009. Our team name is **Team Miles**, and our grandson, Miles, will be walking with us. If you would like to donate to this worthy cause and help find a cure for this terrible disease, please see Bob or Linda before or after church. Cash or checks made out to Alzheimer's Association will be accepted. Thank you for any help you can give.

FINANCE UPDATE TO CONGREGATION

At the beginning of August our treasurer reported that we had begun the month of July with a general fund surplus of \$6,325. A significant deficit in July used this entire amount. The general fund for August began with a deficit of \$28.

An update after the first three weeks in August indicates we are projecting a close to break even month financially for the month of August. While good news as compared to July, we are anticipating another difficult month in September. The

contribution from the congregation has been pretty close to pledges; however, the economic downturn has taken a toll on our Day Care enrollment. Day Care monthly contributions to the church budget are just a little over one half of the normal amount (\$2,000 instead of \$3,500). The Day Care board has taken action but they are not expecting a full rebound in the near-term.

St. Philip's has pursued a number of initiatives this year to reduce our expenses and additional steps are being considered to further cut back, but we need to be as proactive as possible.

Everyone's support can significantly help:

As you are able –

- If you have fallen behind in your regular giving during the summer months, please catch up as much as possible.
- Help to finish August strong by fulfilling your regular contributions.
- Please consider making a monthly contribution in our "St. Philip's Sunday" envelope. So far this year, nearly \$4,500 has been received. This has helped significantly to cope with our financial situation and it can make a huge difference going forward if everyone continues to support it.

Finance Ministry

COMING EVENTS

Sept. 1	Continuity Fund Mtg. 7 pm
Sept. 2	DC Parent Night 6 pm
Sept. 3	Yoga Class 6:30 pm
Sept. 6	Communion Sunday
Sept. 7	Office Closed – Labor Day
Sept. 8	Council Mtg. 7 pm
Sept. 9	Free Lunch – noon
	Choir Practice 7 pm
Sept. 10	Yoga Class 6:30 p.m.



Sept. 13	Birthday Sunday Sunday School Kick-Off Day
Sept. 14	Bible Study 9 am
Sept. 15	Women's Fellowship – Dough Depot for lunch 11 a.m. Bell Choir 7 pm
Sept. 16	Outreach Team Mtg. 10 a.m. Choir Practice 7 pm MPR – Dancers 6 pm
Sept. 17	Yoga Class 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 18	MPR – Girl Scout Mtg. 6 pm
Sept. 19	50+ Group – Service Project/ Lunch at Concord Grill 10:30 a.m.
Sept. 21	Bible Study 9 a.m. Crier articles due
Sept. 22	Bell Choir 7 p.m.
Sept. 23	Choir Practice 7 pm MPR Dancers 6 pm
Sept. 24	Yoga Class 6:30 p.m. MPR Quilters 7 p.m.
Sept. 25	MPR – Zig Zag Dancers 7 p.m.
Sept. 26	MPR - Zig Zag Dancers 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. 2 p.m – 4:30 p.m.
Sept. 27	Spiritual Life Team Mtg. after worship Youth – Manna March
Sept. 28	Bible Study 9 a.m.
Sept. 29	Bell Choir 7 p.m.
Sept. 30	Choir Practice 7 p.m. MPR Dancers 6 p.m.

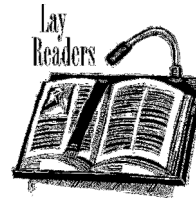
SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Gene Siewing
- 3 Danielle Knoll
- 4 Rob Wodicker
Joy Lopez
- 6 Lois Mohesky
- 7 Jack Eason
- 8 James Diedrich
Ryker Larsen
- 10 Leona Gottschlich
- 13 Tom Kelly
- 15 Sydney Siewing
- 16 Carl Meyer
- 20 Rob Kammerer
Carole Armistead
- 21 Cindy Lewis
- 21 George Brand
- 23 Tom Nottelmann
Tara Stevenson
- 25 Brandon Rohlfing
- 26 Susan Yung
Jackie Meeks
Oscar Wenk
- 27 Cathy Gutjahr
- 28 Kevin Nickel
Chris Fischer



LITURGISTS, USHERS, ACOLYTES AND CHILDREN'S TIME FOR SEPTEMBER

Liturgists



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|--------------|----------------------|
| September 6 | Phil or Rachel Ricks |
| September 13 | Andrea Moran |
| September 20 | Lois Decker |
| September 27 | Sandy Stevenson |

Welcoming Teams

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|---------------------|---|
| September 6 | Roger and Lois Decker, Sandy Stevenson and Jennifer Larsen |
| September 13 and 20 | Jackie Meeks, Merle Schuette, Alice Hillyard, and Elvira Rebienne |
| September 27 | |

Children's Time

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| September 6 | |
| September 13 | Andrea Moran |
| September 20 | Karen Moran |
| September 27 | |



Acolytes



- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| September 6 | - |
| September 13 | Scott Karcher |
| September 20 | Ashley Kulich |
| September 27 | Carley Nickel |

With most of the children being back at school – here are some articles about youngsters –

Love Children (Thanks to Bob Kammerer for these)

A four-year old child lived next door to an elderly gentleman who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there. When his mother asked him what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy just said, "Nothing, I just helped him cry."

Teacher Debbie Moon's first graders were discussing a picture of a family. One little boy in the picture had a different hair color than the other members. One of her students suggested that he was adopted. A little girl said, "I know all about adoption, I was adopted.." "What does it mean to be adopted?", asked another child. "It means," said the little girl, "that you grew in your mommy's heart instead of her tummy!"

On my way home one day, I stopped to watch a Little League baseball game that was being played in a park near my home. As I sat down behind the bench on the first-base line, I asked one of the boys what the score was. "We're behind 14 to nothing," he answered with a smile. "Really", I said. "I have to say you don't look very discouraged." "Discouraged?", the boy asked with a puzzled look on his face...."Why should we be discouraged? We haven't been up to bat yet."

Whenever I'm disappointed with my spot in life, I stop and think about little Jamie Scott. Jamie was trying out for a part in the school play. His mother told me that he'd set his heart on being in it, though she feared he would not be chosen. On the day the parts were awarded, I went with her to collect him after school. Jamie rushed up to her, eyes shining with pride and excitement. "Guess what, Mom," he shouted, and then said those words that will remain a lesson to me...."I've been chosen to clap and cheer."

An eye witness account from New York City, on a cold day in December, some year ago: A little boy, about 10-years-old, was standing before a shoe store on the roadway, barefooted, peering through the window, and shivering with cold. A lady approached the

young boy and said, "My, but you're in such deep thought staring in that window!" "I was asking God to give me a pair of shoes" was the boy's reply. The lady took him by the hand, went into the store, and asked the clerk to get half a dozen pairs of socks for the boy. She then asked if he could give her a basin of water and a towel. He quickly brought them to her. She took the little fellow to the back part of the store and, removing her gloves, knelt down, washed his little feet, and dried them with the towel. By this time the clerk had returned with the socks...placing a pair upon the boy's feet, she purchased him a pair of shoes. She tied up the remaining pairs of socks and gave them to him. She patted him on the head and said, "No doubt, you will be more comfortable now." As she turned to go, the astonished kid caught her by the hand, and looking up into her face, with tears in his eyes, asked her, "Are you God's wife?"

(Thanks to Merle Schuette for this")

A dog had followed his owner to school. His owner was a fourth grader at a public elementary school. However, when the bell rang, the dog sidled inside the building and made it all the way to the child's classroom before a teacher noticed and shooed him outside, closing the door behind him. The dog sat down, whimpered and stared at the closed doors. Then God appeared beside the dog, patted his head, and said,

"Don't feel bad fella' ...they won't let ME in either."