

# The Crier

*St. Philip's United Church of Christ*

*314-843-5100*

*[www.stphilipsucc.com](http://www.stphilipsucc.com)*

*December 2018*

## *St. Philip's Mission Statement*

*St. Philip's United Church of Christ is a loving  
Christian community believing in  
Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit*

## *Vision Statement*

*We are called to the body of Jesus Christ with:  
Minds to study God's word, Mouths to proclaim the  
Gospel, Eyes to see the needs of others, Arms to  
welcome all, Hearts big enough to share God's love  
with all God's children.*



*God is Still Speaking*



An Advent wreath with Advent candles is a tradition that helps Christians focus attention on the coming of the Christ at Bethlehem and at the close of history. As Advent is the beginning of the liturgical year, this season also begins the retelling of the biblical stories of the life of Jesus on earth in physical form. This next year, scripture selections upon which worship will focus, will be chosen most often from the Gospel of Luke.

Here in the Northern hemisphere, this time of year is the darkest. Jesus is the Light of the World and thus brings God's hope. You may find that being in worship each Sunday and on Christmas Eve, brightens your celebration of Christmas - the coming of Jesus into the world.

The bible says:

“... Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

John 8:12 (ESV)

### Christmas Eve Worship Service

Monday, December 24 at 7:30 PM. Communion will be served. Also, we will sing 'Silent Night' and, at the same time, light individual candles. I am looking forward to celebrating Jesus' coming with you!

### Children's Christmas Program!

You have a part in the story! Arrive in time for the program to start at 5:00 PM. During the Children's Christmas Program, which will be performed by the children of the Logos Program on Wednesday, December 12 at 5:00 PM, the congregation will be asked to give a gift - which the children (as they portray the characters of the Christmas story) will come collect from the people in the congregation. You are invited to bring canned goods for the food pantry, and hold them with you until that moment in the program.

### In Case of Snow

If there is dangerous weather on Sunday morning, please turn on your television to Channel 2 or 11 and watch for St. Philip's United Church. If we decide to cancel - that is how we will announce it. Then, call anyone you know who might need this information.

Pastor Mike Krewson



## Pastor's Office Hours

Monday: 8:30 am - noon  
Tuesday: 8:30 am - noon  
Wednesday: 8:30 am - noon  
Thursday: 8:30 am - noon

Friday -  
Saturday - by appointment  
Sunday -



Bud Leonard

Ben Metz

Roger Decker

Debby Wodicker

Jack Eason

Dorothea Holdener

Paula Williams

Janet Remmers

Marilyn Milne

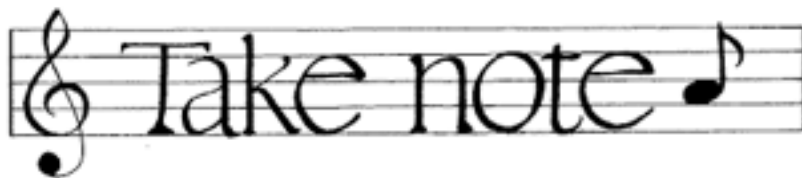
Tom and Pam Kelley

Harry Jennings

George Krewson

Rev. Doug Anders

Feel free to call Rev. Mike for an appointment.  
(618) 789-2203 cell and/or (314) 843-5100 office  
E-mail Address - [pastormike@stphilipsucc.com](mailto:pastormike@stphilipsucc.com)



**Choir Rehearsals are on  
Thursdays at 7pm**

The Choir always welcomes new members.  
There is no audition – anyone with a love for  
music and a desire to sing is invited to join.

### **Church Office Holiday Schedule**

The offices will be closed  
Tuesday, December 25 and  
Tuesday, January 1

The offices will be open normal  
hours on December 24 & 31

Please sign up on the  
bulletin board to be  
liturgist.

Thank you for giving it  
consideration

Tammy Knoll



# Hanging of the Greens

Celebrate with us as we start the Advent season. Bring your Christmas Spirit and Joy to this annual event as we decorate St. Philip's after the December 2 worship service. All ages are welcome to join in the fun.

Ornament  
Tradition  
December 2



In the past, members have brought an ornament to decorate our Christmas Tree in the sanctuary during the advent season. Continuing that tradition, if you are a new member, or have a new addition to your family or extended family, please bring an ornament to hang during the worship service on December 2nd.

## Women's Fellowship Christmas Lunch

Tuesday, December 11  
noon

Olive Garden on South Lindbergh

Women's Fellowship will hold their Christmas lunch at Olive Garden on South Lindbergh. Please signup by December 9.

The signup sheet can be found on the bulletin board.

Contact Lois Decker for more information.



## December Lunch Bunch



The December Lunch Bunch will be held at Sandy's house on Wednesday, December 12th starting at noon. See the bulletin board for more details and to sign up. All are welcome.

Back by popular demand will be a holiday rob your neighbor game. Please bring two "white elephant" type presents to share.

**Come and enjoy food and fellowship!**



I just wanted to thank everyone who stopped by the nursing home on Sunday to share in the celebration of my 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday. It was so good seeing everyone. Thank you also for the gifts and cards. I am truly blessed to have such wonderful, caring friends.

Dorothea Holdener

## Outreach Ministry Advent Project

This year our Advent Project will again benefit St. John's Community Service Ministry. In addition to collecting scarves, mittens and hats, we have "Adopted" four families this year. Each family will receive a Holiday Meal food package, and one gift for each family member. We are collecting items starting November 25. Items will be wrapped on December 16 and taken to St. John's on Monday, December 17.

- To contribute food items, take one or more ornaments off the tree in the Gathering Space and bring the item or items to church by December 15 (or earlier)
- To donate gift items, sign your name to the "Gift List for St. John's Families" posted near the tree in the Gathering Space. (The sooner the better)
- Bring scarves, mittens and hats, and help us to decorate the tree!

If you have questions, ask one of the Outreach Members: Sandy Stevenson, Shirley Oldani, Jeannine Navratil, or Barbara Barnes.

Thanks for your generosity!!!

## Book Club News

Our December selection

is : The Underground  
Girls of Kabul by Jenny



Nordberg. This award

winning book documents the treatment of girls in Afghanistan and the practice of "bacha posh", dressing and raising girls as if they were boys. Copies will be available after November 25, and you can sign out a copy in the church office. The discussion date has been set for January 13. If you enjoy lively discussion, consider joining book club. We meet after church and share a light pot luck lunch. For information, call Barbara Barnes at 314-843-4157.

## The Christmas Fund

Every year the United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance provides financial support for the veterans of the cross and emergency fund, one of the special mission funds provided by the United Church of Christ that cares for the active and retired clergy. Your gift to the Christmas Fund helps those who have faithfully served the United Church of Christ. Christmas Fund Offering envelopes will be available on Sunday, December 16. Thank you for your participation.



**LOGOS Christmas Program**  
**Wednesday, December 12**  
**5:00pm**

The LOGOS program would like to invite members of the congregation to join us for our Christmas Program on Wednesday, December 12. The play will begin at 5 PM followed by a craft and dinner. If you are able to join us, please sign up on the bulletin board.

We hope you will join us!

**St. Philip's Family**  
**Potluck**  
**Friday, December 7**  
**6:30pm**  
**Gathering Space**



Need to get in the holiday spirit? Join us on Friday, December 7th for a St. Philip's family potluck meal to kick off the holiday season. Be at church at 6:30 pm.

It will be an informal evening with food (whatever you bring is what we'll eat), good conversations and carol singing. Have a fun, relaxing evening before the hustle bustle of the holiday season starts.

Sign up on the bulletin board or call the church office so we'll know how many tables and chairs to set up.

The members of the Spiritual Life Ministry missed this event the last several years and decided to reinstitute it in a very informal way. We won't have the fanciness of past events (which we loved!) but we hope you'll be there to enjoy the evening with us.

**60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Video**

To order your complimentary copy of the 60th Anniversary video, see the signup sheet on the bulletin board, or email Carol O'Shea in the office at [admin@stphilipsucc.com](mailto:admin@stphilipsucc.com)

The deadline for ordering is  
December 24, 2018

Videos will be available in early January.

Reservations or Walk-ins Welcome

\$10 1 child  
\$18 2 children  
\$26 3 children

**BRUNCH** WITH  
**Blitzen**

Includes  
picture  
with Santa  
and  
Breakfast

**SATURDAY**  
**DECEMBER 8**  
**10:00 am - 12:00 pm**

Brunch\*Crafts\*Pictures  
Santa Claus





## Christmas Poinsettias

Back again this year are beautiful poinsettia plants in your choice of red, pink, white, or marble flowers.

The poinsettias will decorate the sanctuary on Sunday, December 23 and during the Christmas Eve service. You may take your plants home after the Christmas Eve service.

The cost is \$9.00 each plant.

Make check payable to 'Walter Knoll Florist'

Name \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Color</u>
_____	Red
_____	Pink
_____	White
_____	Marble

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

You can drop your order form and payment in the offering plate or give to Carol O'Shea in the church office **by Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>**.

Happy Birthday to our members who will be celebrating a birthday in December. We will sing on the 1st Sunday of each month....

*"Happy Birthday to You!,  
Happy Birthday to You!,  
Happy Birthday Everybody!,  
and God Bless you!"*



## December Birthdays

Gail Knoll	1
Alex Balzer	2
Linda Kotthoff	5
Nicholas Balzer	7
Kim Tangeman	7
Sarah Witte	9
Carla Moran	11
Robyn Mikusch	15
Zoe Azzara	18
Madeline Williamson	18
Chloe Armistead	24
Karen Nickel	26
Katie Eason	28
Scott Stevenson	30



## VENDOR NIGHT & SPAGHETTI DINNER RESULTS



Our total profit from our event and raffle was \$1012.00

Thank you to all volunteers, cake bakers, food preparers, Walter Knoll Florists for our tables, and the vendors for making this such a successful fundraiser.

Congratulations to Barbara Barnes on winning the afghan.

<b><u>October 2018 General Fund Summary</u></b>			
<b><u>Receipts</u></b>			
Weekly Offering		8,525.30	
Grocery Cards		138.12	
Early Childhood Center		8,500.00	
Vendor Fair deposit		160.00	
Recycle Income		111.71	
Hall Rental		<u>25.00</u>	
	Total		17,460.13
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>			
Spiritual Life Ministry		18.00	
Learning Ministry		191.61	
Financial Ministry		2,070.52	
Church Property Ministry		5,537.86	
Personnel		<u>10,779.53</u>	
	Total		<u>18,597.52</u>
	October Deficit		(1,137.39)
	Previous Balance		<u>22,567.77</u>
	Balance		21,430.38
			=====
<b><u>October Building Fund Summary</u></b>			
	Beginning Balance		6,203.25
	Building Fund Offering		579.51
	Capital Improvement Fund		(417.00)
	Loan Payments		<u>(461.25)</u>
	Ending Balance		5,904.51
			=====
<b><u>October Foundation Repair Fund</u></b>			
	Beginning Balance		642.00
	Foundation Repair Fund Offering		<u>242.50</u>
	Current Balance		884.50
			=====
Remaining balance of Foundation			
Repair Loan from Continuity Fund		\$	9,718





# DECEMBER CALENDAR

## Sunday, December 2

9:30a Worship followed by Hanging of the Greens

## Monday, December 3

7:00p Church Council, Conference Room

## Wednesday, December 5

4:30p - 6:30p LOGOS, MPR, Conference Room, Gathering Space

## Thursday, December 6

7:00p Choir Rehearsal

## Friday, December 7

6:30p St. Philip's Family Christmas Potluck Dinner, Gathering Space

## Saturday, December 8

10:00a - noon ECC Brunch with Blitzen

## Tuesday, December 11

noon Women's Fellowship Christmas Lunch

## Wednesday, December 12

noon Lunch Bunch @ Sandy's home

4:30p - 6:30p LOGOS, MPR, Conference Room, Gathering Space

## Thursday, December 13

6:30p - 7:30p Girl Scout Troop Meeting, MPR, Conference Room, Gathering Space

7:00p Choir Rehearsal

## Sunday, December 16

9:30a Worship

## Thursday, December 20

7:00p Choir Rehearsal

## Sunday, December 23

9:30a Worship

## Monday, December 24

7:30p Christmas Eve Evening Worship

## Tuesday, December 25

Christmas Day (Office Closed)

## Tuesday, January 1

New Year's Day (Office Closed)

# LOGOS Continues

The 4 parts of LOGOS: Recreation; Bible study; Music & Family dinner assist our school age children in growing faith and relationships with one another.

Join us for fun on Wednesday evenings

4:30-6:30 pm

(sign up if you plan to attend dinner or let office know)

We are busy preparing for our Christmas Program to be presented December 12th

Contact Andrea Tukin (andreatukin@gmail.com) or the church office (314-843-5100) if you would like to participate



## Schnucks Grocery Card

Did you know that when you use the 'My Schnucks Card'



associated with our church that St. Philip's will received up to a 3% rebate of every purchase?

*What an easy way to donate to St. Philip's!*

It's as **Easy as 1, 2, 3!**

1. Visit a Schnucks Service Counter and pick up a 'My Schnucks Card'
2. Register your card online at [escrip.com/schnucks](http://escrip.com/schnucks) or by calling a toll free number.
3. Show your card to the cashier **BEFORE** you begin checking out.

Thank you for your support!