

2019
SAINT PHILIP
MONTHLY SPIRIT NEWSLETTER

JANUARY



Making Sense of Scripture

Wednesdays 10:30am - 12pm
January 2 - February 27, 2019 on select Wednesdays (see below)

Instructor: Rev. Dr. Johan Bergh

Required Book: *Making Sense of Scripture*, Rev. Dr. David Lose,
\$14 can be purchased at St. Philip Bookstore in Family Life Center (check or cash, payable St. Philip) starting Nov. 25 or online: Augsburgfortress.com

7 Sessions in Parish Hall Meeting Room, on Church Campus

WEDNESDAYS

January 2, Session 1: "What is the Bible?"

January 9, Session 2: "Is the Bible True?"

January 16, Session 3: "Is the Bible the Word of God?"

January 23: NO CLASS

January 30: Session 4: "Where did the Bible Come From?"

February 6, Session 5: "How Can I Read the Bible With Greater Understanding?"

February 13, Session 6: "Is There a 'Center' to Scripture?"

February 20: NO CLASS

February 27: "What Kind of Authority Does the Bible Hold?"





Making Sense of it All

We like to think we are people who get to know Jesus by tracking him in Scripture. But I wonder. I wonder how much we have spent time in Scripture since somebody somewhere a long time ago taught us about it.

Back in the early 2000's when we in the ELCA were engaging the subject of whether to ordain gay persons and we had so much contention over it all I was of the camp that said the real issue is how differently we approached Scripture. We in the church simply don't realize how differently we understand and use Scripture. And when somebody comes to different conclusions about issues based on their use of Scripture the ones on the other side of an issue are often accused of not "believing in the Bible" (of course, note please, we *don't* "believe" in the Bible. We believe in Jesus Christ. Related: we take the Bible very seriously, but not literally. But for many "believing in the Bible" means you have to take the Bible on in a certain way and if you don't, well, then, you are not a Christian).

Let's make sense of Scripture, both for our own following of Jesus and for the way we interact and relate to others, both in churches and not in churches, who have a different way of reading the Bible.

Check out "Making Sense of Scripture," a class I am starting Jan. 2. Find the class Info on the front page of this newsletter or at www.stphiliplc.com.

How about making 2019 the year of the Bible for you?

Pastor Johan

December Presidents Message

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Spirit of the Risen Christ, be with us today and always.

Be our Light, our Guide and our Comforter.

Be our Strength our Courage, and our Sanctifier.

Mary this new year be a time of deep spiritual growth for us.

A time of welcoming your graces and gifts.

A time for forgiving freely and unconditionally

A time for growing in virtue and goodness

GOD’S LOVE, PEACE, HOPE & JOY

To you for the year ahead

“HAPPY NEW YEAR, 2019”

I have volunteered, participated and am involved in many areas of St Philip Lutheran Church, since joining in 1999. If you would like to talk to me about how you can become involved, please, let’s talk. I am also here to listen. I look forward to serving as your Council President in 2019.

**Joann Maynard
Council President**



ON THE CALENDAR

CHURCH NEWS / INFO / & HAPPENINGS



“LOVE IN A GLOVEBOX”

Bags filled with food and personal hygiene products to distribute to the homeless or anyone in need.

Please see the list of items needed to fill the bags on the information table in the Family Life Center

Announcing Higher Education Scholarship Grant Applications Available Now!

**St. Philip Endowment Fund Grants offer scholarships.
Application deadline is May 1st.
See Info Table in Family Life Center.**

***Have a Heart or Idea for a Project or Organization that could be funded by a
St. Philip Endowment Fund Grant?***

Endowment Fund Grant application deadline is May 1st. Pick up an application today along with more information on the info table in the Family Life Center .



Need more info?

Call Church Office.



ON THE CALENDAR

CHURCH NEWS / INFO / & HAPPENINGS

“Making Elder Care Facility Choices”

Seminar and Brunch, January 20, 11:15am – 12:30pm, Family Life Center (FLC)

Speaker: Wendy Miller, C.S.A, Elder Care Services, Inc.

Public Welcome. Free. Registration Required: Sign up at FLC Info Table or Call Church Office.

Sponsored by St. Philip Endowment Fund Ministry Team

Speaker: Dr. Harris

Lake Hills School

Howey in the Hills

Sunday January 20

11:00am Family Life Center

An eco-tip from the Green Team

Florida’s 2019 Arbor Day is January 18. “As trees grow, they help stop climate change by removing carbon dioxide from the air, storing carbon in the trees and soil, and releasing oxygen into the atmosphere. Trees provide many benefits to us, every day. They offer cooling shade, block cold winter winds, attract birds and wildlife, purify our air, prevent soil erosion, clean our water, and add grace and beauty to our homes and communities.” (Arbor Day Foundation) Let’s plant trees!



Thank you to everyone that supported the Women of the ELCA at their Thankoffering Sunday. \$378.00 was sent to W-ELCA to be used for their ministries.

Gerri Wolter



CHURCH WOMEN UNITED 2019 Human Rights Day

THE TIME IS N  W
"Unite to Serve"

January 18
9:30 Fellowship
10:00 Service

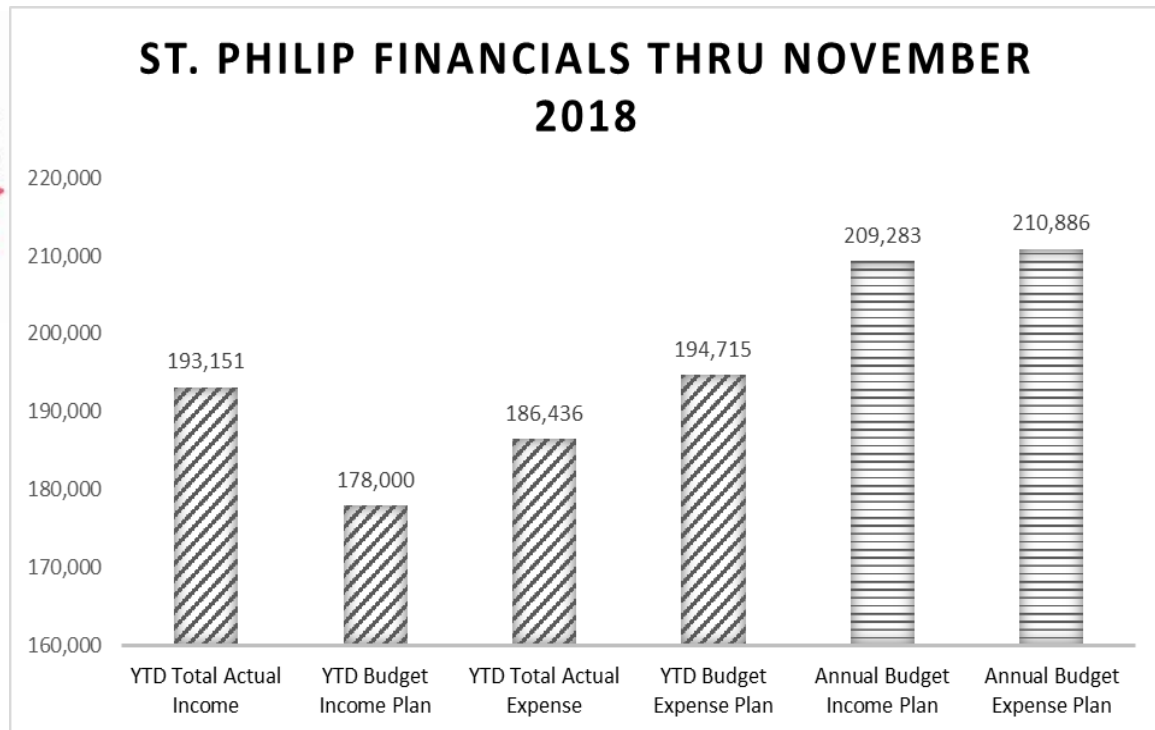
St. Stephen AME Church
302 Church Street
Leesburg, FL 34748

CAC– Cleaning Supplies and Individually wrapped Cookies

Thank you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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**Please give to support and further the mission of God
through
St. Philip Lutheran Church!**

Important Note

Weekly income needed to meet 2018 Mission Budget Plan and our financial goals to support our vital ministry is \$4,025. For the month of November our average weekly income was \$4,340.72.

**The Mission Basket offering
in November was \$ 379.77**

These gifts support the following ministries:

- Lutheran Counseling Services
- Lake Kids Ministry
- Lake Cares Food Bank
- Gamboa Union Ministries-
Debbie Ward, Missionary
- Agape Ministries



Offerings will be received again
January 13, 2018.



Happy Anniversary



Lloyd & Lois Oelke 1/7
Dr. Johan & Janet Bergh 1/12

Glenn Krekling 1/3
Georgia Luoma 1/8
Lorraine Raymond 1/11
Charlotte Keller 1/12
Marilyn Kreitzinger 1/12
Dorothy Koster 1/13
Harry Bowman 1/15
Arthur Spurling 1/17
Jean Burch 1/18
David Skipp 1/18
Janice Ambrose 1/19
Keith Kelley 1/20
Joan Taylor 1/20
David Hemsath 1/30

Remember . . .

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR**



**Saint Philip Lutheran Church
1050 Boyd Drive
Mount Dora, FL 32757**

(352) 383-5402

E-mail: office@stphiliplc.com * Website: <http://www.stphiliplc.com>

A congregation of the Florida Bahamas Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America (ELCA)

Pastor: **Rev. Dr. Johan A.A. Bergh**
Acting Property Manager: **Don Martin**

Office Manager: **Janice Storey**
Custodian: **Don Sansone**

2018 Congregation Council

President: **Richard Guckenberger**

Secretary: **Janet Fisher**

Congregational Council: **Sherry Mohr, Marcia Funk, Ada Arthur, Lois Hanson, Sharon Lesner, Don Martin, Charles (Skip) Thorson**

President Elect: **Joann Maynard**

Treasurer: **Sandra Guckenberger**

2018 Spiritual Life Ministry Team: (Elders) **Dave Skipp, Marilyn Kreitzinger**

Event Planning Coordinator: **Sherry Mohr**

Visitation Ministry Coordinators: **Marsha Wood**—Hospital, **Glenn Krekling**—Long Term Care

For Current Visitation Ministers Roster: contact the Church Office

Lutheran Counseling Services—Mount Dora 407-644-4692