

**THE**



**EPISTLE**

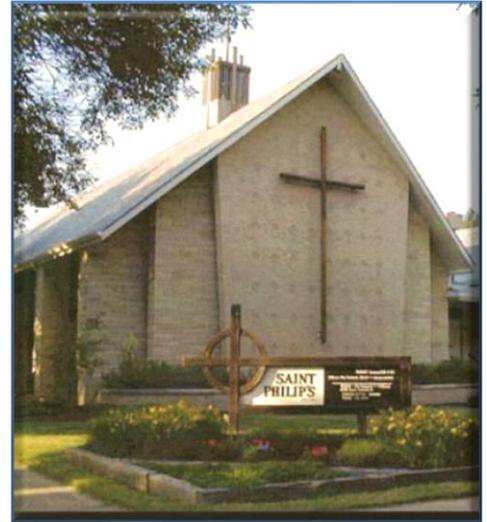
St. Philip's Episcopal Church

342 East Wood Street

Palatine, Illinois 60067-5357

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[www.stphilipspalatine.org](http://www.stphilipspalatine.org)



**September 2020**

**Fr. Jim Stanley, Rector**



What's your favorite thing to drink? Lots of us can't start our day without a warm cup of coffee. Tea is a favorite of many. I sure enjoy a diet soda with regularity. Other popular beverages include juices, smoothies and flavored seltzers, but I noticed something a few days ago.

I noticed that the more I drink of any beverage, the thirstier I get. Have you found that to be true? It doesn't change the fact that soda is delicious, coffee is energizing and veggie juice is healthy. All that is true; but drink mostly that stuff, and you feel thirstier than when you first poured a glass of whatever.

The thing is, most of us never wake up saying, "What I could really go for is a tall glass of ice water." Cut the grass on a hot day and it might be an ice cold beer you crave. I have a lunch that's a bit high on salt, and nothing compares with a cold soda. Who doesn't want to wake up to the smell, taste and feel of a warm cup of coffee? However, after whatever drink we enjoy, we still thirst.



Nothing ultimately satisfies like water, but how many of us go for water first? Maybe you do, if you've made it a habit. If you have, God bless you. May I learn to do likewise. It's just that water's rarely anyone's "go-to". I even had a teenager once say to me, "Water's boring." We chuckle when kids say stuff like that but they're not entirely wrong. Water IS boring. A whole industry has grown around flavoring water so that it's less boring.

In the end, it's only water -- plain, pure, boring water -- that slakes our thirst.

All those other drinks are fine things in moderation. That's the operative word, isn't it? I'm an American. We don't do moderation very well. If one or two cups of coffee gets our day started, then surely eight or nine help keep our day going! If a diet soda completes a delicious lunch, then wouldn't drinking more soda at other meals and in-between be better? It's just how most of us seem to be wired.

Now replace all those delicious beverages with activities, entertainments, hobbies and distractions. Just like a cup of coffee, there's nothing wrong with fishing or golfing or reading. Goodness knows, these are good things. God gives them to us to enjoy life. I think God wants us to have fun, to have hobbies, to enjoy a glass of wine. However, no matter how good a certain beverage -- or activity -- may be, they will be ultimately unsatisfying.

The only thing that satisfies most fully, most completely, in the beverage department is water. The only thing that satisfies most fully in life...is Jesus. He offers us Himself as "the water of life". So drink deeply, dear friend. The more of Him we take in, the more enjoyable and holy all the other things in life become.

"If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." John 4:10.

## Mission Statement



SEEK...a deeper knowledge of Jesus Christ  
SHARE...the love and compassion of Christ  
SERVE...others with open hearts  
SHINE...with Christ's light, illuminating our world.



**Epistle Staff:**

Editor: Jill Hill

Assistant Editor: Karen Cappello

**Staff:**

All serve as proofreaders and publication critics

**Additional functions:**

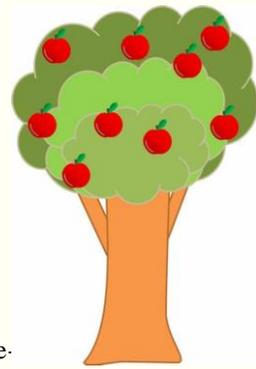
Karen Cappello: reporter, caption editor, distribution assistant, time-

Diane Dugovic: subscription intake and distribution assistant

Lisa Gillette: volunteer schedules, reporter

Jessica Hill-Jones: distribution assistant

Jack Notzen: columnist, photographer, reporter

**Columnists and their Columns**

Janie Jessen: "Health, Medical and Nutrition Information"

Karen Cappello: "Highlights of the Vestry Meeting"

Marg Duer, Dolores Kampert, and Ginger Knowles:  
"Parish Profiles" and "Newcomer News"

Bob Purcell: "Know Your Church"



02 - Katie Swichtenberg  
 09 - Ken Jessen  
 12 - Jenna Gillette  
 18 - Gary Morrill  
 20 - Chuck Davis  
 28 - Matthew Wiggen

# Happy Anniversary



02 - Gary and Peggy Morrill  
 05 - Larry and Judy Brod (60th Anniversary)  
 06 - Bob and Linda Purcell  
 08 - Rob Myers and Jeannie Woo  
 11 - Lou and Nancy Holian  
 16 - Rich and Diane Knowles  
 23 - Ginger Knowles and Mike Livingston  
 29 - Steve and Lisa Gillette  
       (30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)  
 29 - Lamar Jones and Jessica Hill-Jones



# SEPTEMBER Volunteer Schedules:

Service: 10:00 a.m.

Please find a substitute if you are unable to serve.

	Altar Guild	Acolytes	Greeters	Readers	Chalice Bearers	Nursery
September 6 10:00 a.m.	Liz Huth-Taylor Linda Purcell	none	Jeff Cappello, Andy Obara, Aubrey Hercules	Christine Wood (Reader) Lisa Gillette (Voice)	Bob Purcell	Julie Swichtenberg
September 13 10:00 a.m.	Judy Zawacke Karen Cappello	none	Julie Swichtenberg Jon Swichtenberg	Peggy Morrill (Reader) Grace Horner (Voice)	Ginger Knowles	Lisa Gillette
September 20 10:00 a.m.	Bonnie Wiggen	none	Peggy Morrill Gary Morrill	DJ & Marv Hill (Reader) Christine Wood (Voice)	Alison Hill	Jessica Hill-Jones
September 27 10:00 a.m.	Nancy Holian Kathy Svendson	none	Bonnie Wiggen Andy Kistner	Karen Cappello (Reader) Lisa Gillette (Voice)	Marvin Hill	Julie Swichtenberg



Counters: Steve Gillette  
Aubrey Hercules

\* Volunteer schedules are subject to change.  
+ There are also services on Tuesdays at 9:30 a. m.





by Andy Kistner

Dear St. Philip's Family,

The reopening committee is making progress with opening our church building. We are taking a slow, careful approach to ensure everyone's safety.

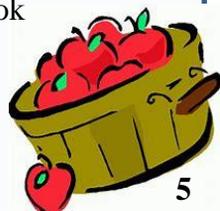
Our first step was to bring Morning and Evening Prayer into your home starting in April via Zoom. We expanded our offering in mid-June to bring you Sunday Eucharist services. The survey you completed in late June revealed you are enjoying these services and plan to wait until Gov. Pritzker's Phase 5 to return for in-church services.

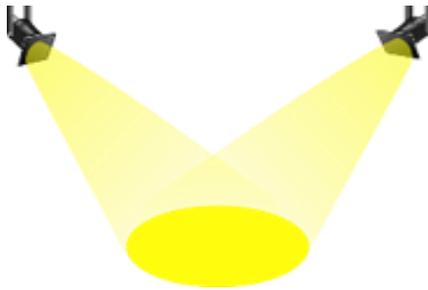
Our second step is to have a very small pilot group of people who will attend Sunday 10am services in person. This group has been selected by the Reopening Committee and is limited to parishioners who **do not** have access to the internet. This group has not been able to enjoy Morning Prayer, Eucharist Service, eblasts, newsletters, or the Epistle. We believe you'll agree that we've made the right decision.

The committee is proceeding with the sanitizing of the building. We will open our doors to the small, pilot group of parishioners on Sunday, August 23. The committee will learn from this group on how we can further perfect our new procedures to welcome more parishioners and groups back to our church.

Please contact me or Ginger if you have any questions, concerns or comments. We look forward to seeing you all in person soon!

Andy





# Fellowship

by Dolores Kampert

The following article reviews the background and reasons for fellowship. I hope you enjoy learning the biblical history and why fellowship is needed for our spiritual growth. I think that being quarantined has, in a way, showed us the need for fellowship. Surely, we are anxious to return to sharing with our church family. God willing, it will happen soon.

### **What is Christian fellowship and why is fellowship so important?**

The early Christians clearly emphasized the importance of fellowship. [Acts 2:42](#) notes, "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." In the early church, "day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people" ([Acts 2:46-47](#)). But why is Christian fellowship important?

The New Testament word for "fellowship," *koinonia*, expresses the idea of being together for mutual benefit. [Hebrews 10:24-25](#) shares this idea, saying, "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." Two reasons fellowship with other believers is important are because it helps express love to one another and it encourages good works.



## Ministry Spotlight of the Month: Fellowship

A third important reason for Christian fellowship is its impact on unbelievers. Jesus told His disciples, "By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" ([John 13:35](#)). The love Christians have for one another can influence others toward faith in Jesus Christ.

Still another important reason for Christian fellowship is the ability to pray together. Early believers were committed to prayer, both individually and in groups. In [James 5:14-16](#), elders were called together to pray for the sick as well as for those who had sinned. This required being together.

Christian fellowship is also important for church decision-making. In both [Acts 6](#) and [Acts 15](#), the early church gathered together to make important decisions about the future direction of the church. These required community, prayer, and close discussion.

Christian fellowship is required for baptism. A new Christian cannot baptize himself or herself because it is not a public profession of faith. Christians gather together to celebrate a person's baptism and serve as witnesses of the person's commitment to a new life in Jesus Christ.

Christian fellowship is required for communion, or the Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper doesn't quite work the same for an online church. This ancient practice requires time together with other believers to remember the blood and body of Christ.

Though many believers today do not recognize the importance of fellowship or local church involvement, Christian fellowship is essential to spiritual growth. Many aspects of our spiritual lives depend on being together with other believers to encourage, teach, serve, and share life together.

<https://www.compellingtruth.org/Christian-fellowship.html>





# September 2020

A decorative header for the month of September 2020, featuring a blue sky with sun rays, yellow daisies, and a pink border.

**SUNDAY**

**MONDAY**

**TUESDAY**

**WEDNESDAY**

**THURSDAY**

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**



**1**  
8:00 a. m. Qi Gong & Tai Chi  
9:30 a.m.  
Morning Prayer  
(via Zoom)

**2**



**4**



**5**

**6**  
10:00 a.m.  
Rite I Eucharist  
Service  
(via Zoom)

**7**  
 **LABOR DAY**  
Office closed

**8**  
8:00 a. m. Qi Gong & Tai Chi  
9:30 a.m.  
Morning Prayer  
(via Zoom)

**9**



**10**



**11**



**12**

**13**  
10:00 a.m.  
Rite II Eucharist  
Service  
(via Zoom)

**14**

**15**  
8:00 a. m. Qi Gong & Tai Chi  
9:30 a.m.  
Morning Prayer  
(via Zoom)

**16**



**17**



**18**



**19**

**20**  
10:00 a.m.  
Rite II Eucharist  
Service  
(via Zoom)  
11:30 a.m.  
Vestry Meeting  
(via zoom)

**21**

**22**  
8:00 a. m. Qi Gong & Tai Chi  
9:30 a.m.  
Morning Prayer  
(via Zoom)

**23**



**24**



**25**



**26**

**27**  
10:00 a.m.  
Rite II Eucharist  
Service  
(via Zoom)

**28**

**29**  
8:00 a. m. Qi Gong & Tai Chi  
9:30 a.m.  
Morning Prayer  
(via Zoom)

**30**

