

Prayer Requests

Healing and Comfort

Shirley Nuechterlein
Gene Heuton
Dennis Nuechterlein
Luanne Schmidt
Miquela Omosowon

Blessings/Guidance

Yohannes Ghebru
St. Stephanus Staff
Paul & Kristin Humber

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY, December 24

9:30 A.M. Traditional Worship
4:00 P.M. Service of Carols & Lessons
10:00 P.M. Candlelight Worship w/Communion

MONDAY, December 25

Office Closed

9:30 A.M. Christmas Day Worship w/ Communion

TUESDAY, December 26

WEDNESDAY, December 27

THURSDAY, December 28

FRIDAY, December 29

1:30 P.M. Feeding Frogtown @ St. Paul City School

SATURDAY, December 30

SUNDAY, December 31

9:30 A.M. 1st Sunday of Christmas Worship w/
Communion
6:00 P.M. New Year's Eve Worship w/Communion

Upcoming Birthdays, Feasts & Commemoration

December 24: Ron Brubak, Wendy Curtis, Erica Moore

December 25:

December 26: *St. Stephen, Martyr*

December 27: Candace Anderson, *St. John, Apostle & Evangelist*

December 28: *The Holy Innocents, Martyrs*

December 29: Melissa Karger, Jeremiah Willard, *David*

December 30: Mary Bisping, Sydney Sistad

CELEBRATING



December contact persons: Lynne Heuton & Connie Peterson

Dan Baker, Clarence & Yoshiko Benson, Kyle & Cassandra Corey, Eugene & Lynne Heuton, Joan Johnson, Keith Rennerfeldt, Dan & Sharon Savard, Dale Trapp

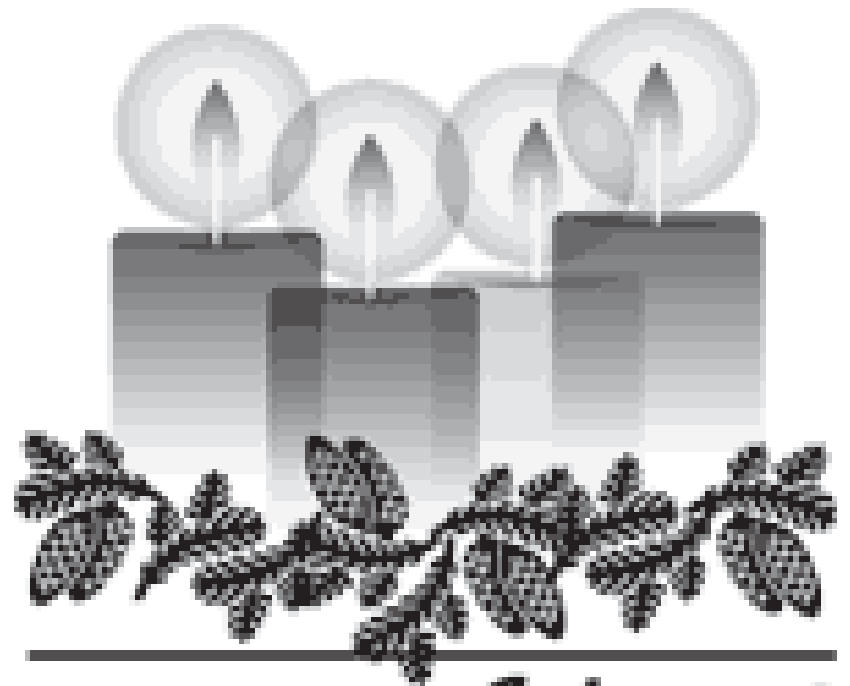
St. Stephanus Lutheran Church
Preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ for 125 Years

C • O • N • N • E • C • T • I • N • G



with Jesus Christ and Each Other

Dec. 24, 2017



FOURTH SUNDAY OF *Advent*

Welcome Visitors

Please sign the attendance register. If you desire a call from the pastor or are interested in membership, please note that on the attendance register.

Our Mission Statement:

To proclaim the gospel through word and sacrament to our membership, our communities and our world.

Our Vision:

Connecting people with Jesus Christ and each other through worship, learning and service.

Connecting Groups & Youth:

Much more than a Bible Study... come and find true Biblical Relationships. For more info, contact: Megan Huff meghuff@gmail.com

About Communion:

Non-alcoholic wine is offered in the center of the communion trays. It is distinctly lighter than the surrounding wine. Children who have not received instruction are invited to the rail to receive a blessing. Visitors are welcomed to the rail if you join us in confessing that the Lord gives not only bread and wine, but His very Body and Blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our union with Him and one another. Our Lord invites to this table those who (1) trust his words, (2) repent of all sins and (3) set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He has forgiven and loves us.

Sunday Services

Traditional Worship 8:00 AM
Education Hour 9:15 AM
Contemporary Worship 10:30 AM
Holy Communion at both services on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday of each month.
Eritrean Service 12 Noon



**St. Stephanus
Lutheran Church, LCMS**
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St Paul, MN 55104

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WEB: www.saintstephanus.org

EMAIL: saintstephanus@comcast.net

PASTOR: Pastor Andrew Thompson
pastor@saintstephanus.org
Phone: (612) 208-7388

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday to Friday 9 AM to 1 PM
Bulletin Deadline: 11 AM Wed.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
Clarice Anderson
saintstephanus@comcast.net

Central Lutheran School

775 Lexington Pkwy N
St Paul, MN 55104
PHONE: (651) 645-8649
EMAIL: school@clssp.org
WEB SITE: www.clssp.org

December 24 Worship Assistants

Preacher: Rev. Andrew Thompson
Acolytes: (9:30) Sebastian Caquelin & Micah Thompson
Caretaker: (9:30) Dan Savard
Video Ministry: Jeff Johnson
Communion Assistants: (9:30)
Elder: (9:30) Dan Savard
Greeters: (9:30) Dan Savard & Dale Trapp
Lector: (9:30) Sharon Savard
Music: (9:30) Organist: Bruce Anderson Cantor: John Schonebaum
Soundboard: (9:30) Leonard Miller
Ushers: (9:30) Steve Sohn, Trent Willard, Ron & Jan Brubak



Today's Altar flowers are given by:

Judy Brinkman & from the family of Ocie Peterson

Last Week's Contributions:

December 17 8:00 A.M. (75) 10:30 A.M. (106)

Current - \$ 12,788.00	CLS - \$76.00
Special Thanks - \$ 100.00	Advent - \$208.00
20x5 - \$5.00	Concordia - \$20.00
Missions- \$ 10.00	
Total - \$13,207.00 (\$6,500 needed weekly)	

December 31 Worship Assistants

Preacher: Rev. Andrew Thompson
Acolytes: (9:30) Genna Curtis & Addy Munoz
Caretaker: (9:30) Judy Brinkman
Video Ministry: Jeff Johnson
Communion Assistants: (9:30) Dan Savard, John Schonebaum, Russ Van Dassor
Elder: (9:30) Wayne Warnest
Greeters: (9:30) Judy Brinkman & Wayne Warnest
Lector: (9:30) Terianne Bender
Music: (9:30) Organ: Bruce Anderson Cantor: Katie Miller
Soundboard: (9:30) Leonard Miller
Ushers: (9:30) Bruce Karger, Reba Peterson, Steve Sohn, Dale Trapp

The LWML Winter Workshop of the St. Croix River Zone/ St. Paul Metro Zone is Saturday, January 20, 2018 “Being the People of God in our Broken Cities” Guest Speaker Pastor Mark Koschmann, M. Div., M.A. (Fiechter Chair in Christian Outreach and Instructor in Theology & Ministry at Concordia University St. Paul) St. Peter Lutheran Church ~ Afton, MN (880 Neal Avenue South) Registration & Light Breakfast at 9:00 am Workshop at 9:30 am. Free will offering.

Free adult tickets for Minneapolis Home & Landscape Expo at the Minneapolis convention center on Dec. 29-31. Please see Wayne Warnest.

Join me in celebrating that Yohannes Ghebru, a member of St. Stephanus and the Eritrean Church that meets here, has been accepted into a Seminary program and begins his education towards being a pastor in January. Yohannes will be in a program that allows him to do both the educational and practical training of being a pastor from a distance, so he will be here among us doing the work of God in this place as a Vicar at St. Stephanus under my supervision. He will work with us primarily in the Tigrinya speaking congregation, but also with us in the English speaking congregation, to share the light of Jesus Christ with our communities. We look forward to a time in January when we will officially welcome him as a Vicar and help you get to know him better. Please keep him in your prayers.

"³⁷Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” – Matthew 9:37-38

-Pastor Thompson

Bible Study: will meet in the Fireside Room.

This year the season of Advent is as short as it can possibly be, with the fourth Sunday of Advent falling the day before Christmas. This makes it more difficult to hold the sense of waiting, of anticipation of the Christmas celebration. But for this morning we are still in the mode of preparation. As the last of the Great "O" Antiphons states, "O Emmanuel, our king and our Lord, the anointed for the nations and their Savior: come and save us, O Lord our God."

Today's Hymn of the Day, "The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came", although a translation of a Basque carol (Birjina gaztett obat zegoen), has roots in a thirteenth century hymn "Angelus Ad Virginem" (tr: The angel came to the virgin). Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924), an Anglican priest and hymn writer best known for his text to "Onward, Christian Soldiers", translated and paraphrased the carol as originally published by French composer Charles Bordes in 1895, after becoming familiar with the carol having spent a winter in Basque lands as a boy. The melody has a stately yet angelic feel and seems a perfect match for the text about Mary and the angel Gabriel. Some of Baring-Gould's most striking poetry describes Gabriel's appearance to Mary, "With wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame". May we all have faith like Mary, who hearing the news of God's plan for her from Gabriel accepts the great offer, "I am the Lord's servant, may your word to me be fulfilled."

~From the organ bench~



Our Holiday schedule

- Dec. 24 9:30 Sunday Service
4:00 Carols & Lessons
10:00 Special Candlelight with Communion
- Dec. 25 9:30 with Communion
- Dec. 31 9:30 1st Sunday of Christmas with
Communion
6:30 New Year's Eve service with Communion