St. Stephanus Lutheran Church

Preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ for 130 Years



November 29, 2020 First Sunday in Advent

Although we won't have weekly services at church for the foreseeable future, there will still be a stream of regular Sunday worship available on Sunday morning! Please visit our website www.saintstephanus.org for more details. Here is a direct link to the "Sermons & Worship" links: http://www.saintstephanus.org/sermons-2020

Happy New Year! Well, at least Happy New Church Year! Today is the first Sunday in Advent, marking the beginning of the season of waiting. To begin this season, what could be more Lutheran and show the theme of Advent better than Luther's hymn "Savior of the Nations, Come"? Ambrose of Milan (340-397), the father of Laton hymnody, wrote the plain-chant "Veni redemptor gentium". Martin Luther later translated the text into German, setting the words to the tune "Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland", a plainsong melody as arranged by Johann Walter.

Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748), a German organist and composer and cousin of J.S. Bach, wrote a series of three chorales on this tune, which can be heard here: https://youtu.be/LrA5-EAP80

We just passed Thanksgiving, and I personally would like to give thanks to those who have been willing to give of their time and talents and sung for the weekly hymn recordings this past year: John Schonebaum, Jim Radtke, Lois Thur, and Jackie Spiess. ~The Organ Bench~

Thank you to the Men's club for the donation to this year's Advent wreath . ~Clarice Anderson~



Just a reminder all monies received by 12/31/2020 will be included on your 2020 statement. Any contributions received after this date will be put on your 2021 statement. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dale Trapp or Lynne Heuton.

CA Presents "It's a Wonderful Life" Radio Play

Ring in the Advent and Christmas season with Concordia Academy's Radio Play production of "It's A Wonderful Life." Performance, November 29 at 2:00 P.M. The performance will be available via a live online audio stream, with a very limited number of live studio audience seats also available for performance. Tickets for the live online audio stream are available for a free-will donation in any amount. Tickets for limited, in-person, studio audience reserved seats are \$20 for adults and \$15 for senior citizens and students. Go to www.concordiaacademy.com/wonderful for tickets and information.

A Month of Thanksgiving!

During this year when there is so much to be anxious about, so much heavy that is weighing on us all. We want to encourage each other to intentionally focus our hearts on gratitude this season. To help with this we're sharing daily scripture verses via text and on our website through Thanksgiving day. To receive the text messages sign-up by texting "@sslcword" to 81010. They are also linked on our homepage at saintstephanus.org

Coloring - it's not just for kids!

Coloring can be a great tool for mindfulness, and meditation. Our Sunday School kids are each coloring a page that when combined will be posters of the Beatitudes. If you'd like to join us email youth@saintstephanus.org to receive your own tile image to add to the posters!

A Series of Thanks! During this month of Thanksgiving we want to share a few thanks for the people who have been a blessing to us during this pandemic season. Check back next week for more!

- Thank you to our Sunday School Team, and Small Group and Bible Study leaders for the ways they have worked to keep us connected and in God's word this season. Thank you Jim Radtke, Lynn Thompson, Sheila Schlechte, Marty Langemo, Danielle Critchley Pastor Thompson, and Megan Hoffman.
- Thank you to our Parish Planning Council, Board of Lay Ministry, and our Re-opening committee who have continued to meet regularly, weigh hard decisions, seek God's direction and continue to lead through this season.
- Thank you to those who bring beauty to our space. To Dale Trapp for his work on Simon's Garden, and to Bruce and Clarice Anderson for keeping our altar flowers updated and looking great!

Prayer Requests

Healing and Comfort

Blessings/Guidance

Concordia University Paul & Kristin Humber

Week Ahead

SUNDAY, November 29

Online services at www.saintstephanus.org

MONDAY, November 30

TUESDAY, December 1

WEDNESDAY, December 2

THURSDAY, December 3

FRIDAY, December 4

SATURDAY, December 5

SUNDAY, December 6

Online services at www.saintstephanus.org

Nov. 15-22 Contributions

General - \$4,327.00 20x5 - \$5.00 Missions - \$10.00 Concordia Academy - \$10.00

> Total - \$4,352.00 (\$6,717.00 needed weekly)



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Upcoming Birthdays, Feasts & Commemoration

Nov. 29: Jill Katzenmaier, Reba Peterson, Noah

> Nov. 30: Philip Preuss Dec. 1: Ruth Ann Willard

> > Dec. 2: Dec. 3:

Dec. 4: John of Damascus, Theologian & Hymnwriter

Dec. 5: Cherie Fleischhacker Dec. 6: Nicholas of Myra, Pastor

December contact person: Lynne Heuton

Erin Baker, Al Benson, Clarence & Yoshiko Benson, Michelle Connolly, Lynne Heuton, Allison Johnson, Jeff Johnson, Admasu Mekonen & Diribe Desissa, Connie Petersen, Steve Sohn

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.



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Clarice Anderson saintstephanus@comcast.net

WORSHIP LEADERS: Bruce Anderson Amy Gundermann

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT:

Wayne Warnest Admasu Mekonen

OFFICE HOURS:

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

Bible readings are located at www.saintstephaus.org under the "WORSHIP" tab.

> Worship Service Stream at www.saintstephanus.org

Click the logo for **Online Giving:**

