

St. Stephanus Lutheran Church

Preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ for 130 Years

C • O • N • N • E • C • T • I • N • G



with Jesus Christ and Each Other

April 25, 2021
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sir Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), an English priest served his adult life as vicar of Monkland, a small parish in Herefordshire, England. One of Baker's passions was the collection *Hymns Ancient & Modern*, an 1861 publication which jump-started the singing of English hymnody. One notable feature of this hymnal which varied from hymnals of the past was the printing of both text and tune for each hymn on the page so singers could see the tune they were singing, which greatly increased the participation in congregational singing. Prior to this publication most hymnals printed text only. One of Baker's hymns contributions to the second edition of this hymnal is a paraphrase of Psalm 23, "The King of Love my Shepherd Is." It is said that Baker spoke stanza three of this hymn as his last words before dying, "Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love He sought me and on His shoulder gently laid and home rejoicing brought me."

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) wanted to publish this hymn in a new hymnal, but was denied rights for the tune. Instead he set Baker's text to his own arrangement of an Irish tune, now known as ST. COLUMBIA, the tune we find in our hymnal today.

A setting of this tune can be heard here: <https://youtu.be/KoUaFiwFwPc>

As I began writing this article this week the organ lay strewn across the balcony in approximately 450 pieces as over a quarter of the pipes needed to be removed to perform maintenance. This October the organ will celebrate its quinquagenary. The pipe organ uses air to produce the sound - that air is held in chambers within the organ called wind chests. These wind chests use leather strips to seal the joints and hold the air in, additionally there are bellows that are made of leather, and over time the leather deteriorates, causing air leaks. So, over the past couple of weeks the process was underway to replace the leathers; the work was just completed this past Monday and the 450 pieces have become one glorious instrument again. Somebody had asked me if they'd notice any difference in the organ once the work was completed, and I had to honestly answer "probably not". However, being next to the organ daily, the lack of sound from air leaks is very evident. So thank you for funding this important maintenance as our organ prepares to celebrate the 50th anniversary of its dedication!

Other music in the service:

Prelude on "St. Columbia" - Healey Willan

"Our Paschal Lamb That Sets Us Free" - setting by Walter L. Pelz

~The Organ Bench~

We are open again for worship with a few restrictions at this time. A complete list can be found at: saintstephanus.org

Here are a few highlights for you to be aware of:

In person worship is **maxed at 50 people, and all in-person attendees** will need to register themselves, and their families **ahead of time** using this link: <https://bookapew.com/app/mn/sslc/>

- Masks and physical distancing will be required. Hand sanitizer will be located at multiple locations throughout the building.
- Arrows and signs will be used to maintain a single direction entrance and exit flow of the building.
- Bulletins will not be printed, please print your own and bring with you. If you are not able to print one please contact the office so that the Pastor can get one for you. Thank you. We hope to lift this at some point in the future, but for now it is staying.

Please remember to follow our procedures to come into the church (through the Lafond doors) and exit (through the door to Grotto unless the use of the lift is required). Again, we are asking for people **not** to stay in the Sanctuary after the service, but to have conversations outside, especially as the weather turns nice. Thank you.

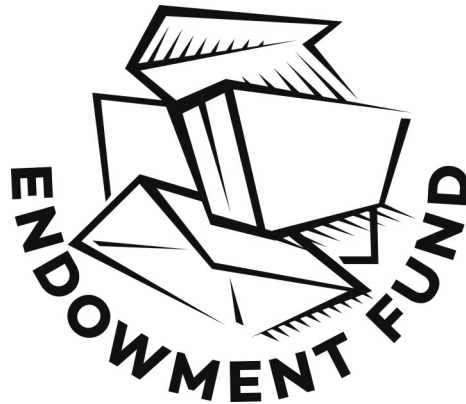


There will be a Voters Meeting on Sunday May 16th at 11:00 AM. This will be a Zoom meeting and the link will be sent out at a later date. We will discuss reports with a highlight on the kitchen roofing project and the endowment fund application process.



Please look at the new flower chart and let Clarice (office) know what date you would like to have flowers signed up in your name along with 1 or 2 bouquets. Due to COVID restrictions there is no pen for you to use.

Altar Flowers



Endowment Funds Available - Once again the St. Stephanus Endowment Fund has been blessed and we are able to accept applications for funds. Consideration will be given to all applications that "advance the mission of the Church". If you have questions about the endowment process and would like an application form please contact Lynne Heuton at lmheuton@gmail.com.

"For Such a Time as This"
Conversation with Pastor James & Janis McDaniels
& Pastor Andrew Thompson

Saturday, May 1st
10:30 A.M.

Young Esther becomes Queen of Persia when her racial and religious identity is not publicly known. As a plot to eradicate all Jews is about to be implemented, Esther's uncle pleads with her to go before the king "For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, ...And who knows but that you have come to royal position *for such a time as this?*"

Last summer we experienced great civil unrest after a multitude of wrongful deaths at the hands of those sworn to protect. Who else felt inadequate on how to respond, or how to become part of the conversation?

For what purpose does St. Stephanus exist in the Frogtown Neighborhood today? Who is our neighbor? According to data from MNCompass.org the Frogtown/Thomas Dale neighborhood is approximately 70% people of color (29% Black or African American, 32% Asian, 9.8% Hispanic or Latino) and 30% white.

Join us for a conversation on faith, race and the grace of God with Pastor James and Janis McDaniels, and Pastor Andrew Thompson with the opportunity to ask questions. Rev. McDaniels has spent his career as a black pastor within the LCMS. In 2019 he was honored with the Christus in Mundo (Christ in the World) award. Janis McDaniels is the former VP of Gospel Outreach of the LWML. Concordia University St. Paul is awarding an Honorary Doctorate to Rev. McDaniels and the Aeterna Moliri award to Janis McDaniels at the graduation service on April 30.

Registration is required to attend in person, which is limited to 50 people. To register go to <https://bookapew.com/app/mn/sslc/> and fill out the form for May 1 event.

To watch the Facebook livestream go to www.saintstephanus.org and look under "special events" to find the link. Participants may pose a question in the live feed. Recording of the event will be available afterward for viewing.



The family of Carol Hirt invites you to a Celebration of Life service here at St. Stephanus on May 15th. Visitation is from 10:30-11:00 AM with the service beginning at 11:00. There will be a Luncheon following the service. The family has asked if you come please wear blue or floral in memory of Carol. Please sign up on the "Book A Pew" site as seats are limited: <https://bookapew.com/app/mn/sslc/>

Prayer Requests

Healing and Comfort

Lois Bruss
Corine Goodrich

Blessings/Guidance

Paul & Kristin Humber
Concordia University

Shut-ins

Sharen Kappes

Week Ahead

SUNDAY, April 25

9:30 AM Worship In-Person and Online
11 AM Sunday School & Bible Study on Zoom

MONDAY, April 26

TUESDAY, April 27

WEDNESDAY, April 28

7:15 PM Youth Group on Zoom

THURSDAY, April 29

FRIDAY, April 30

SATURDAY, May 1

10:30 AM "For Such a Time as This"

SUNDAY, May 2

9:30 AM ✠ Worship In-Person and Online
11 AM Sunday School & Bible Study on Zoom

✠ Communion Service



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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.saintstephanus.org under the
"WORSHIP" tab.

Worship Service Stream at
www.saintstephanus.org

Click the logo for
Online Giving:



April 14-18 Contributions

General - \$10,456.00	20x5 - \$5.00
Caring & Sharing - \$50.00	Concordia Academy - \$10.00
Good Friday - \$250.00	Memorial - \$5,000
Missions - \$10.00	Technology Fund - \$450.00

Total - \$16,231.00 (\$7,250.00/week - \$31,400/month)

Upcoming Birthdays, Feasts & Commemoration

April 25: *St. Mark, Evangelist*

April 26: Michael Bauch

April 27:

April 28:

April 29:

April 30: Lynne Heuton

May 1: Abigail Amare,

St. Philip & St. James, Apostles

May 2: Shiori Konda-Muhammad,

Athanasius of Alexandria, Pastor & Confessor



April monthly group contact person:

Mark Lageson, Terry & Michelle Sistad, Cheryl Smith, Gordy & Janet Spielman, Andrew & Hanna Temme, Ana Thompson, Andrew & Lynn Thompson, Dale Trapp, Maye Ann Weckwerth, Becky Wehrmann, Brittany Willard, Courtney Willard, Jeremiah & Ruth Ann Willard, Trent Willard, David & Mickey Zinter, Greg Zinter

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.