

# St. Stephanus Lutheran Church

Preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ for 132 Years

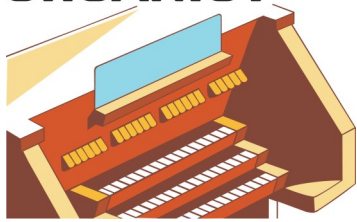
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with Jesus Christ and Each Other

April 30, 2023  
Fourth Sunday of Easter

## From the ORGANIST



**Johann Sebastian Bach** wrote the cantata *Was mir bebagt, ist nur die muntre Jagd* (tr: "The lively hunt is all my heart's desire", also known as the *Hunting Cantata* or the *Birthday Cantata* in 1713, in honor of the birthday of Duke Christian of Sachsen-Weissenfels. The Duke, an avid hunter. The ninth movement of the cantata is a soprano solo, "Sheep May Safely Graze," where the soloist explains that sheep may graze safely where there's a good shepherd who stays awake and where there's a good nobleman watching over a blissful nation. This sentiment also holds true today, on which we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday following the theme of today's Gospel reading. A setting of this piece will be played as our prelude today.

Today's postlude is the first of Bach's eight "little" Prelude and Fugues. Although the authorship of these pieces has been long debated, many scholars agree that they were in fact composed by Bach, just simplified for use as teaching pieces for his beginning students.

**Prelude:** Sheep May Safely Graze - BWV 208 - J.S. Bach, arr. for organ by E. Power Biggs

**Postlude:** Prelude and Fugue in C - BWV 553 - J.S. Bach

## Update from the Church Governance Committee

The goal of this committee is to identify structures that will foster our shared ministry at St. Stephanus. The committee has met a few times to discuss many things about this task. In order for St. Stephanus to move forward wisely, starting in May we will require your input. Stay tuned....

**The PPC met** and has decided to have the next Voter Meeting on Sunday May 21<sup>st</sup> after Service. General Church Business will be discussed.

## Prayer Requests

### Healing and Comfort

Ben Goodrich  
Karen Trudeau  
Joan Brown  
Joyce Adams  
Joann Johansen

### Blessings/Guidance

Concordia University  
International Association for  
Refugees

## Week Ahead

**SUNDAY, April 30**

11 AM ✙ Joint Worship  
After worship Lunch

**MONDAY, May 1**

**TUESDAY, May 2**

**WEDNESDAY, May 3**

6:30 PM Confirmation

**THURSDAY, May 4**

**FRIDAY, May 5**

**SATURDAY, May 6**

**SUNDAY, May 7**

9:30 AM ✙ Worship  
10:45 AM Sunday School & Bible Study  
Communion Service



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

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WORSHIP LEADER: Bruce Anderson

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:  
Clarice Anderson  
[saintstephanus@comcast.net](mailto:saintstephanus@comcast.net)

FACILITIES: Wayne Warnest

CUSTODIAN: 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](http://www.saintstephanus.org)  
under the "WORSHIP" tab.

Worship Service Stream at  
[www.saintstephanus.org](http://www.saintstephanus.org)

Submit prayer requests at  
<https://forms.gle/JLDCstJFWRbu25PT7>

### April Contributions (4 weeks)

- General Fund (for church expenses): \$24,909 = \$6,227/wk. (need \$7,550/wk.)
- Total Income (General fund & Restricted Funds): \$26,995 = \$6,749/wk.

### Contributions for 2023 (17 weeks)

- General fund (for church expenses): \$85,079 = \$5,005/wk. (need \$7,550/wk.)
- Total Income (General Fund & Restricted Funds): \$95,018 = \$5,595/wk.

Checking Account Balance (funds available to pay expenses): \$2,533

Funds in Restricted Accounts (31 accounts): \$52,320

Note: Current expenses are \$37,490 higher than income

Payroll is usually \$8,000+ (next payroll is May 15th)

## Upcoming Birthdays, Feasts & Commemoration

**April 30:** Lynne Heuton

**May 1:** Abigail Amare,

*St. Philip & St. James, Apostles*

**May 2:** Shiori Konda-Muhammad,

*Athanasius of Alexandria, Pastor & Confessor*

**May 3:**

**May 4:** Jim Siegel,

*Friedrich Wjyneken, Pastor & Missionary*

**May 5:** James Dahlke, Mana Goyton,

*Frederick the Wise, Christian Ruler*

**May 6:**

**May 7:** C. F. W. Walther, Theologian



### 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.

Click the logo for Online Giving:

