

# St. Stephanus Lutheran Church

Preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ for 133 Years

C • O • N • N • E • C • T • I • N • G



with Jesus Christ and Each Other

July 2, 2023  
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost



## *From the Organist*

"America the Beautiful" first appeared in print in the weekly journal *The Congregationalist* on July 4, 1895. The lyrics were written while on an 1893 summer lecture series at Colorado College in Colorado Springs. Looking at the view of the Rockies from Pikes Peak, its author, Katharine Lee Bates recalls, "It was then and there, as I was looking out over the sea-like expanse of fertile country spreading away so far under those ample skies, that the opening lines of the hymn floated into my mind. When we left Colorado Springs the four stanzas were penciled in my notebook, together with other memoranda, in verse and prose, of the trip." She goes on to describe how work absorbed her time, "the notebook was laid aside, and I do not remember paying heed to those verses until the second summer following, when I copied them out and sent them to *The Congregationalist*, where they first appeared in print July 4, 1895. The hymn attracted an unex-

pected amount of attention. It was almost at once set to music by Silas G. Pratt. Other tunes were written for the words and so many requests came to me, with still increasing frequency, that in 1904 I rewrote it, trying to make the phraseology more simple and direct."

While the poem was sung with a variety of tunes, it is now known, almost exclusively, to the melody of Ward's hymn-tune "Materna", originally written in 1888 for the hymn "O Mother Dear Jerusalem."

Happy Birthday, America!

### **Music in the Service:**

661: The Son of God Goes Forth to War

685: Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

623: Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

965: God Bless Our Native Land

**Prelude:** Faith of our Fathers - Chris J. Nobels

**Postlude:** Recessional on "Materna" - Douglas E. Wagner



**Today's Altar flowers are given by:** Lennea Lopez to Keith Rennerfeldt and Akbar Muhammad and family for your service to the church.

**On the third Sunday of each month,** our church collects your pocket change for “mites for missions”. These mites are important and go towards mission projects as well as provide aid to those seeking a Lutheran High School education, assisting seminary students with food/clothing, or help expand outreach to ethnic women and families to name just a few ways that your mites help the LWML reach the world. Thank you for your support.

### **Summer Storytime in Simon's Garden!**

Children are invited to join us on Sundays in Simon's Garden for Sunday School Storytime. All ages are welcome - content is geared towards 3-8 year olds. Have a story you love? A special interest you'd like to share with the kids? We'd love to have you join us! Sign-up to be a storytime guest reader by emailing Megan at [youth@saintstephanus.org](mailto:youth@saintstephanus.org)

### **Stay Connected!**

Have you found us on Facebook yet? During this season of being apart we're trying to engage members and congregational friends in prayer and conversation together through various Facebook posts. We invite you to join us: <https://www.facebook.com/SaintStephanusLCMS> .



### **July Food Distribution - Volunteers Needed (7/20)**

Some of our regular volunteers are on vacation for our July Food Distribution and we are in need of a few more hands. Would you join us? Shifts available from 3-6:30 pm. Contact Megan at [youth@saintstephanus.org](mailto:youth@saintstephanus.org) with questions or to sign-up! (Teens 12 - 18 and up are welcome to come without a parent but will need a signed permission form).

**Next Blood Drive: July 28th 12-6pm.** Sign-up here: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=ststephanus>



**American Red Cross** | Blood Services

## Prayer Requests

### Healing and Comfort

Karen Trudeau  
Rich Carter

### Blessings/Guidance

LINC

### Shut-ins

Clarence & Yoshiko Benson  
Lisa Bisping  
Ruth Bittner

## Week Ahead

### SUNDAY, July 2

9:30 AM ✝ Worship  
10:45 AM Bible Study  
10:45 AM Sunday School story time in the garden

### MONDAY, July 3

### TUESDAY, July 4

### Holiday

### WEDNESDAY, July 5

### THURSDAY, July 6

### FRIDAY, July 7

### SATURDAY, July 8

### SUNDAY, July 9

9:30 AM Worship  
10:45 AM Bible Study  
10:45 AM Sunday School story time in the garden  
✝ Communion Service



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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>

### June Contributions (4 weeks)

- General Fund (for church expenses): \$24,268 = \$6,067/wk. (need \$7,550/wk.)
- Restricted Funds (31): \$2,538 = \$634.50/wk.
- Total Income (General fund & Restricted Funds): \$26,806 = \$6,702/wk.

### Contributions for 2023 (26 weeks)

- General fund (for church expenses): \$144,739 = \$5,567/wk. (need \$7,550/wk.)
- Restricted Funds (31): \$15,435 = \$594/wk.
- Total Income (General Fund & Restricted Funds): \$160,174 = \$6,161/wk.

Checking Account Balance (funds available to pay expenses): \$9,505

Funds in Restricted Accounts (31 accounts): \$50,868

**Note:** Current Expenses: \$192,467

Current expenses are \$32,294 higher than total income for 2023

## Upcoming Birthdays, Feasts & Commemoration

July 2:

July 3:

July 4: Independence day

July 5: Mikhail Tripp

July 6: Suzanne Johnson, *Isaiah*

July 7: Pam Zimmerman

July 8: Bill Baker

July 9: Gordon Spielman



### 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:

