

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

August 20, 2023

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost



While returning home from study at the Gymnasium (academic high school) at Ansbach in 1524 because of the onset of a serious illness, Paul Eber (1511-69) was thrown from his steed and painfully towed for more than a mile, ultimately leaving him permanently disabled. Because of the illness and the frightening personal tragedy that followed, it should be no surprise that the theologian and hymnographer, considered by many to be second only to Luther among the Wittenberg bards, would

many years later put pen to paper and compose a hymn that speaks of great sorrows wrapped in endless days of anxious thought and helpless counsel and yet pays glad thanksgiving to the One whose grace abounds.

One anecdote from 1639 relates how this hymn, "When in the Hour of Deepest Need," was sung in Eilenburg, Germany, when Swedish forces threatened the town. It is said that the singing impressed the Swedish commander so much that he greatly reduced the payment he was demanding to keep the town safe.

Over the last ten years of Johann Sebastian Bach's life, he composed a set of chorale preludes which is known as the "Great Eighteen Chorale Preludes." During his last illness, after which he had lost his sight, Bach continued composing and also revised earlier works, with some assistance. He gave a revised version of the final piece in this collection in dictation, possibly to his son CPE Bach, close upon his death. This piece, published under the title "Vor deinen thron tret ich hiermit" after an alternate text "Before your throne I now appear", was left unfinished, but is also known as the "Deathbed Chorale." An earlier version of the piece, from which Bach based the revision, will serve as our prelude today. This earlier version was published after Bach's death as the final piece of the "Art of the Fugue".

Music in the Service:

901: Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

615: When in the Hour of Deepest Need

770: What a Friend We Have in Jesus

924: Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

Prelude: Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten - BWV 668a - J.S. Bach

Postlude: Triumphal March - George Hatton Loud



Today's Altar flowers are given by: Jan Uden in loving memory of her sister Judy and her husband, Bill. Their funeral will be Aug. 25. Flowers are also given by Jane Sell in memory of mother, Marion Wenzel, whose 96th birthday would have been Aug. 22.



Mid Year Contribution Statements - please note that mid-year contribution statements will be sent out during the first half of August. These statements will reflect contributions from January 1st through June 30, 2023. This is being done to allow you to review and identify any problems before year end. If you do not receive a statement or if there are issues with your statement please contact Lynne Heuton (lmheuton@gmail.com).

St. Stephanus Connections is a monthly newsletter created to celebrate and communicate what is happening within our church community. It is produced jointly by your Evangelism, Stewardship, and Parish Life Committees. If you are not receiving the newsletter please contact Lynne Heuton (lmheuton@gmail.com). We are working hard to keep members informed and welcome your feedback and suggestions regarding content.

Prayers for Worship

As we've been gathering together for Worship we've been collecting prayers through our YouTube comments to use in worship. We recognize that not everyone is logged in or likes to have the comment section up during worship. If there are prayers you'd like us to include that week we invite you to submit them using this form: <https://forms.gle/JLDCstJFWRbu25PT7>

Take Time for Ten Things

1. Take time to work—

It is the price of success.

2. Take time to think —

It is the source of power.

3. Take time to play—

It is the secret of youth.

4. Take time to read—

It is the foundation of knowledge.

5. Take time to worship—

It is the highway of reverence and washes the dust of earth from our eyes.

6. Take time to help and enjoy friends—

It is the source of happiness.

7. Take time to love —

It is the one sacrament of life.

8. Take time to dream—

It hitches the soul to the stars.

9. Take time to laugh—

It is the singing that helps with life's loads

10. Take time to plan—

It is the secret of being able to have time to take time for the first nine things.

Prayer Requests
Healing and Comfort

Jan Uden
 Ed Potter
 Marian Harmening
 Sarah Culbert
 Vonnie Karger
 Karen Trudeau
 Jack Rieth
 Deb Holtz

Blessings/Guidance

LINC
 Concordia Academy

Shut-ins

Lorraine & Karen Byland
 Ron & Mary Bisping
 Larry Clemmensen

Week Ahead
SUNDAY, Aug. 20

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

MONDAY, Aug. 21

TUESDAY, Aug. 22

WEDNESDAY, Aug. 23

5:30 PM Church Picnic @ Lake Josephine

THURSDAY, Aug. 24

FRIDAY, Aug. 25

SATURDAY, Aug. 26

SUNDAY, Aug. 27

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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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

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

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.

August Contributions (2 weeks)

- General Fund (for church expenses): \$22,769=\$11,385/week (need \$7,550/wk.)
- Restricted Funds (31): \$8,246=\$4,123
- Total Income (General fund & Restricted Funds): \$31,015=\$15,508

Contributions for 2023 (33 weeks)

- General fund (for church expenses): \$186,086 =\$5,639/wk. (need \$7,550/wk.)
- Restricted Funds (31): \$25,792 = \$782/wk.
- Total Income (General Fund & Restricted Funds): \$211,878 =\$6,421/wk.

Checking Account Balance (funds available to pay expenses): \$8,016

Funds in Restricted Accounts (31 accounts): \$51,795

Note: Current Expenses: \$241,320 Current expenses are \$29,442 higher than total income for 2023

August 15th payroll had been deducted from the checking account balance

**Upcoming Birthdays,
 Feasts & Commemoration**



Aug. 20: *Samuel*

Aug. 21:

Aug. 22: Janine Langemo, Lorraine Byland

Aug. 23:

Aug. 24: *St. Bartholomew, Apostle*

Aug. 25:

Aug. 26:

Aug. 27: Kathy Fox, Nancy Binning,
Monica, Mother of Augustine

Serving in today's worship

Lector: Dale Trapp

Communion Assistant: Megan Huff & Dale Trapp

Greeter: Jerry & Jackie Spiess