

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

September 17, 2023
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



**From the
Organist**

Dietrich Buxtehude's chorale settings for keyboard are preserved mainly in manuscripts compiled by Johann Gottfried Walther, organist in Weimar and cousin of J.S. Bach. Although most of them require two manuals and pedal, a few do not, so besides being played on organ they were popular harpsichord pieces. In today's prelude, *Partita on Auf mein lieben Gott*, Buxtehude combines three genres, the dance suite, the variation set, and the chorale setting to produce an unusual hybrid form. This piece consists of four parts: *Allemande* (unnamed), *Double*, *Courante* (a 16th century court dance), *Sarabande* (a French dance style), and *Gigue*.

Music in the Service:

Prelude: Partita on Auf meinen lieben Gott - BUXwv 179 - Dietrich Buxtehude

Postlude: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty - setting by Kevin Hildebrand



Today's Altar flowers are given by: Jane and Doug Sell in honor of grandson Andrew's 17th birthday on the 25th.



Give your spouse the gift of a lifetime—you! Give you and your spouse the gift of a better communication by experiencing Lutheran Marriage Encounter together in the comfort of your own home! The next **VIRTUAL** (online) experience is scheduled **Nov. 3-5**. Apply now at GodLovesMarriage.org, or contact Randy & Jill Sigler at randjsigler@alloponone.com or

(402) 560-3475 for more information. **Pre-registration is required** to receive the materials you'll need for your experience via snail mail - don't miss out!



Voters meeting on Sunday, September 24th after service. You are invited to bring your favorite dish to share at the potluck where we will discuss general church business with a report from the Church Governance Committee
Vote to call Yohannes Ghebru to be the missionary pastor to the Eritrean Lutheran Church.

Mission Opportunity for St. Stephanus to call Missionary Pastor

The Eritrean Lutheran Church began as a home Bible study/fellowship group in the Twin Cities. When their group became too large to comfortably continue meeting in homes more than 20 years ago, Meazza Ogbazghi, a member of St. Stephanus, asked if St. Stephanus would allow space for their meetings within our church building. It grew from being a fellowship group into a worshipping community when a retired Lutheran Pastor from the Eritrean Lutheran Church (there is only one Lutheran church body in Eritrea) agreed to be their missionary Pastor. When the congregation looked into how they could officially be in fellowship with the LCMS, they learned it would require their pastor to attend some years of seminary classes. Due to his age and health issues, they did not want to place this burden upon him, but prayed that God would provide for them. For the past 5 years, our current Vicar, Yohannes Ghebru, has been attending seminary classes, working full time in the business world, and serving the Eritrean Lutheran Church. After his confirmation, God planted in his heart the desire to serve Him as a pastor but he did not then know the details of how and when. Growing up he saw others with bi-vocations, which meant they had full time work that provided income, but they also served the church on evenings and weekends. These experiences and the encouragement from others drew Yohannes into attending seminary classes with a wish that he might become a missionary pastor with a bi-vocation. For Yohannes to become an ordained Pastor in the LCMS, he must be called by an LCMS congregation. On Sunday, Sept. 11, Yohannes spoke both in our worship and at the Bible Listening hour. If you missed it, you can watch it here: [Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost](#) . At our voter's meeting on **Sept. 24**, we will be presented by the call committee on how we can support the Eritrean Lutheran Church by calling Yohannes Ghebru as a missionary Pastor. Please keep this in your prayers as we discern God's will. If you have further questions you may contact members of the call committee: Hanna Temme, Akbar Muhammad, Rich & Miriam Carter, or Emmy Treichel.



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.

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>



South Shore Trinity Lutheran (White Bear Lake) is holding their annual German dinner on Sunday October 8. Adults: \$15.00; Children 6-11: \$5.00; under 5 Free. Seating at 11:15 AM or 12:30 PM. Tickets must be purchased in Advance. **Deadline for tickets is Oct. 2.** If you would like more information, including a menu, check our bulletin board across from the restrooms/by the Fireside room.



Concordia Academy BEAMS Middle School Basketball

Registration is open for Concordia Academy's BEAMS Basketball program for girls and boys in Grades 5-8. This modified traveling program is designed to give students opportunities for athletic growth and competition that will complement... not replace...the sports offerings at their current schools. Practices start in October. Get details and register at www.concordiaacademy.com/beams.

Beacon Buddies 1st-4th Grade Soccer

Concordia Academy's Beacon Buddies soccer program is a six-week Saturday morning soccer camp starting in September. Girls and boys in grades 1-4 will learn basic soccer skills and techniques in a fun, supportive environment! To get more information or register, go to www.concordiaacademy.com/beaconbuddies.



Who: Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Join us for a morning of:

Food, fellowship, singing, a speaker, Bible study, convention re-cap, and LWML news at the:

What: LWML Capitol Conference Fall Rally

Where: Gathering Place Lutheran Ministries "lower fellowship hall" (there is an elevator)
3245 New Brighton Road, Arden Hills 55112
(2 miles N of hwy36 Fairview Ave exit, 3 blocks NW on New Brighton Road or
1 mile E of I35W County Rd D exit to Fairview Ave, then 3 blocks NW on New Brighton Road)

When: Saturday Oct 14, 2023

9:00am registration

9:30-11:30 program, lunch following

Registration \$10— program and lunch "A Taste of SE Asia"



Mission Impossible :

The Upside-Down Mission to the Lost in the Mountains of Southeast Asia.

Speaker: Pastor Yia Lor

We will be collecting:

****Gifts from the Heart:*** items for homeless/homeless shelters

Pantry items (boxed or canned non-perishable)/Blessing bags (can contain any items: socks, toiletries (toothbrush + paste, soap, shampoo, deodorant, lip balm, lotion), hand/body wipes, band-aids, Kleenex packets, hand/foot warmers, fruit snacks, protein/granola bars, bottle of water ...in a one-gallon resealable plastic bag)

***Offering** for District LWML

Plan to attend?—group representatives please notify Beth by **October 8th** with number from your groups-leave a voice message 651 631-8956 or email stpaulmetrozp@mnslwml.org



Sunday Oct. 1st and Oct. 8th have been designated as our Stewardship Sundays. On those dates we will take a moment to focus on all that God has provided through our membership at St. Stephanus. What are we grateful for and what is our response?

In the recent congregational survey we confirmed that members want St. Stephanus to remain vibrant and continue to do God's will. To do that we need you to

- be INVited
- be INterested
- be INformed
- be INvested
- be INTentional

We pray that we can count you IN as we look for ways to express our gratitude and move St. Stephanus forward.

Your Stewardship Committee
Lynne Heuton and Sue Kressin

Prayer Requests Healing and Comfort

Mary Bisping
Clarence Benson
Jan Uden
Ed Potter
Sarah Culbert
Karen Trudeau
Jack Rieth
Deb Holtz
Marian Harmening

Blessings/Guidance

Camp Omega
Concordia University

Shut-ins

Marian Harmening
Bob & Lois Holtz
Bev. Piepkorn

Week Ahead

SUNDAY, Sept. 17

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

MONDAY, Sept. 18

TUESDAY, Sept. 19

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 20

6:00 PM Confirmation

THURSDAY, Sept. 21

4:00 PM Food distribution

FRIDAY, Sept. 22

SATURDAY, Sept. 23

SUNDAY, Sept. 24

9:30 AM Traditional Worship
10:45 AM Potluck & Voter's meeting

✝ Communion Service



St. Stephanus
Lutheran Church, LCMS
739 Lafond Ave
St Paul, MN 55104

PHONE: (651) 228-1486

FAX: (651) 228-1487

WEB : www.saintstephanus.org

EMAIL: saintstephanus@comcast.net

PASTOR: Pastor Andrew Thompson
pastor@saintstephanus.org
Phone: (612) 208-7388

DCE (Youth & Families): Megan Hoffman
youth@saintstephanus.org

WORSHIP LEADER: Bruce Anderson
banderson@saintstephanus.org

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
Clarice Anderson
saintstephanus@comcast.net

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.

September Contributions (2 week)

- General Fund (for church expenses): \$11,218 (need \$5,609/wk.)
- Restricted Funds: \$3,809=\$1,905
- Total Income (General fund & Restricted Funds): \$15,027=\$7,514

Contributions for 2023 (37 weeks)

- General fund (for church expenses): \$207,328=\$5,603/wk. (need \$7,550/wk.)
- Restricted Funds: \$30,365=\$821/wk.
- Total Income (General Fund & Restricted Funds): \$237,693=\$6,424/wk.

Checking Account Balance (funds available to pay expenses): \$4,790

Funds in Restricted Accounts (31 accounts): \$54,908

Note: Current Expenses: \$267,096 Current expenses are \$29,403 higher than total income for 2023



SEPTEMBER
BIRTHDAYS

Upcoming Birthdays, Feasts & Commemoration

Sept. 17:

Sept. 18: Jan Brubak

Sept. 19:

Sept. 20:

Sept. 21: St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

Sept. 22: Jonah

Sept. 23: Jay Schlechte

Sept. 24: Avery Volker, Matt Rennerfeldt

Serving in today's worship

Lector: Lois Thur

Communion Assistants: Tricia Schmidt, Dale Trapp

Greeter: Tarrie Culbert, Walt Peterson

Cantor: