

St. Stephanus Lutheran Church

Preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ for 135 Years

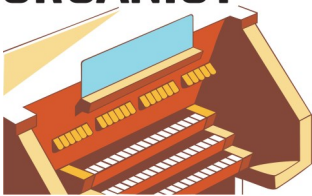
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with Jesus Christ and Each Other

August 10, 2025
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

From the
ORGANIST



"Why should Dr. Watts, or any hymn-maker, not only take precedence over the Holy Ghost, but also thrust Him entirely out of the church?" complained Anglican Minister William Romaine. The hymns

and spiritual songs of Isaac Watts (1674-1748) were controversial among his Calvinistic contemporaries, for the followers of John Calvin believed that only the Psalms or other portions of Scripture ought to be sung during worship. On the other hand, for Watts, hymns of "human composure" were vital to devotion, and Christians need to sing with un-

derstanding and express the joys and desires of their redeemed hearts.

To further those aims, Isaac Watts wrote *Hymns and Spiritual Songs, in Three Books*, first published in 1707. "Come, We that Love the Lord" appeared in the second book, hymns "compos'd on Divine Subjects," under the title, "Heavenly Joy on Earth."

The hymn became popular in the centuries that followed. Hundreds of variations appeared as editors heeded the advice of Watts to adapt his work to their audiences. After the Civil War, Baptist minister Robert Lowry adapted "Come, We that Love the Lord" for use in Sunday Schools, adding a chorus, as was common at the time in both popular and sacred songs. In this form, the hymn is well known in many American Protestant traditions. It was introduced to American Lutherans in the supplement *With One Voice*, published in 1995.

Music in the Service:

728: How Firm a Foundation

666: O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe

669: Come, We That Love the Lord

Prelude: Variations on "Foundation" - John Eggert

Offering: Jerusalem, My Happy Home - setting by Charles Callahan

Postlude: We're Marching to Zion - setting by Yasmin Nadiyah Phillip



Today's Altar flowers are given by: Meaza Ogbazghi in praise and thanksgiving for Adam's birthday and blessings for years to come. Also given by the Betts family in memory of Edward and Dorothy Betts. Their 80th wedding anniversary would have been on August 9th.

Saint Paul Outreach Center SPOC

Join us in August for Pickleball: August 15, and 22 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. To RSVP contact Rachel McGill crownblue5star@yahoo.com. Equipment is provided!

Upcoming Summer Opportunities:

Volunteers are needed! Come share in the fun, meeting community members and inviting them to upcoming fall programs!

Community Puppets In the Park (flexible date – one more time over the summer) – sign up in the narthex or talk to Katie Miller (props people and performers needed!). We had a great time at the car show performing for neighbors and car show attendees alike!

Prayer Requests

Healing/Peace

Joan Baker
Karen Trudeau
Elyse Krejce
Scott Goodrich
Mary Lou Thur

Blessings/Guidance

International Association
for Refugees

Shut-ins

Ruth Bittner
Kathy Fleischhacker

Week Ahead

SUNDAY, August 10

9:30 AM Worship
11:00 AM Sunday School & Bible Study

MONDAY, August 11

TUESDAY, August 12

WEDNESDAY, August 13

THURSDAY, August 14

FRIDAY, August 15

SATURDAY, August 16

Ed & Marlene Potter funeral

10:00 AM Visitation
11:00 AM Service
Lunch after service

SUNDAY, August 17

9:30 AM ✠ Worship
11:00 AM Sunday School
✠ Communion Service



St. Stephanus
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PASTOR: Yohannes Ghebru
yohannesg@yahoo.com
(651) 373-6796

August Contributions (1 week):

General Fund (for church expenses): \$7,255=\$7,255/week (need \$8,496/week)

Restricted Funds: \$1,200=\$1,200/week

Total Income (General Fund and Restricted Funds): \$8,455 =\$8,455/week

2025 Contributions (31 weeks)

General Fund (for church expenses): \$177,067 = \$5,712/week (need \$8,496/week)

Restricted Funds: \$24,661 = \$796/week

Total Income (General Fund and Restricted Funds): \$201,728 = \$6,507/week

Checking Account Balance (funds available to pay expenses): \$7,363

Restricted Funds: \$30,524

Funds in Sharing and Caring: \$406

Note: 2025 expenses: \$293,205

2025 expenses were \$91,477 higher than total income

Balance of funds from sale of Blair houses - \$217,723 (used \$115,551)

Loan-\$9,281 has been repaid

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

WORSHIP LEADER: Bruce Anderson
banderson@saintstephanus.org

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
Clarice Anderson
canderson@saintstephanus.org

CUSTODIAN: Admasu Mekonen
admasumekonen@comcast.net

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday to Friday 8 AM to 1 PM
Bulletin Deadline: 11 AM Wed

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.

Serving in today's worship

Lector: Sharon Savard

Communion Assistant:

Greeter: Matthew Culbert, Tarrie Culbert



Upcoming Birthdays,

Feasts & Commemoration

August 10: *Lawrence, Deacon & Martyr*

August 11:

August 12: *Atiyah Muhammad*

August 13: *Colleen Heck*

August 14:

August 15: *St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord*

August 16: *Isaac*

August 17: *Johann Gerhard, Theologian*