

Our Stewardship of Talent

	January 5, 2020	January 12, 2020
Acolyte	David Herb	David Herb
Lector	Larry Bouchat	Beth Lengel
Cantor	Greg John	Kathy Burson
Assisting Minister	Tina Gordon	Julie Grove
Communion	Sue Rodgers	Ja 'net Gochenauer
Ushers	Dan Lebo* Laura Wills Bill Wills Wayne Lengel	Dan Lebo* Laura Wills Bill Wills Wayne Lengel
Greeters	Daryl and Ja 'net Gochenauer	Sherry Rudacille Sue Rodgers
Altar Guild	TBD	TBD
Counters	Julie Grove, Crystal Houser, Parker Lee	Tom Burson, Cheryl Neidig
Nursery	Cheryl Neidig, Rose Hlavac	Sue Rodgers

Remembering December 29th 2019

Our Stewardship of Time		Other Designated Offerings	
Sunday Worship	68	Bell Tower Repair	\$ 193.50
Sunday School	11+	El Salvador	\$ 170.00
Total	79+	Baby Food	\$ 124.00
Our Stewardship of Treasures		Flying J Ministry	\$ 25.00
		Youth Director Support	\$ 20.00
		Social Ministry	\$ 15.00
		Youth Ministry	\$ 5.00
		Total	\$ 552.50
		Grand Total	\$10,325.85
Traditional Giving	\$ 10,020.85		
Electronic Giving	\$ 305.00		
Tithes			
General	\$ 9,545.35		
Benevolence	\$ 168.00		
World Hunger	\$ 60.00		
Total Tithes	\$ 9,773.35		

The Week Ahead



The feast of Epiphany (“manifestation”) concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God’s glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God’s love to all people.

Sunday, January 5

9:00am Worship
10:30am Sunday Church School
2:00pm Dulcimers Practice
5:00pm Tapology

Monday, January 6

6:00pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, January 7

7:00pm Committees’ Common Meeting

Wednesday, January 8

10:00am Bible Study (Parlor)
7:00pm Choir Practice
7:00pm Bible Study (Wegman’s)

Thursday, January 9

6:00pm Senior Youth Meeting

Saturday, January 11

9:00am R3 Hosting

Stewardship Snippet

January 5, 2020

Isaiah 60:1 – Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

How about taping this verse to your bathroom mirror as a reminder of the very good news of Jesus that is for you and for all people? Start the day right by spending time with Jesus in prayer, study, and presence. Let the light of Christ guide

Prepare the Way



In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light to the nations. In the waters of baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God’s beloved children. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God’s healing.

Meditation and Readings for January 12

Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17

Sunday, January 12

9:00am Worship
10:30am Sunday Church School

you to greater stewardship of all aspects of your life.

Call to Action

R3 update: Next week begins our Into the Pews project, part of the R3 renewal process where we will discuss questions during part of the sermon time. Here are next week's questions on assets, gifts, and passions, so you can consider them in advance: If this congregation were to think about starting something new, what are the most useful things we already have to get started? What are the most important characteristics God appreciates about us as a congregation? If you could change or improve one thing about life in the local community before you died, what would you work on?

The Altar Guild is looking for volunteers for 2020. It takes about 1 1/2 hours per week to prepare the Altar for Worship Service. See Ja’net Gochenauer for more information and to sign up!

Lord, in Your mercy....

*Friend of Prudence Hessou....trying to recover
from addiction*

St. Stephen Disciples.

Bible Study resumes this Wednesday, January 8th at 10:00am and 7:00pm. and runs through February 19th. Pastor Matthew will continue the discussion from the book of Revelation.

Thanks to everyone who helped make our church beautiful with all the Christmas poinsettias. If you ordered one to take home, please check for the label with your name on the flower. They may be taken anytime after Christmas Eve. All the others will be delivered to the homebound in January.

Pastors, Deacons and Lay Ministers from the Newville area are providing faith formation series focusing on three areas: Bible, Church/Religion, Faith Formation

Choose which series interest you and join in our Faith Formation Continuing Education Offerings. We hope to provide current, engaging and interesting offerings to dig into the Bible, understanding what it means to be a church and finding ways to live out our Christian faith in our everyday lives.

ALL SESSIONS HELD AT:

Big Spring United Lutheran Church
101 Crossroad School Road
Newville, PA 17241
(717) 776-3109
bigspringunited@centurylink.net

See the tri-fold brochure (available at the Welcome Center) for more information and to sign up for a class!

The Educational Ministry Committee is happy to report the final accounting for our 2019 Stephen Boxes: As a result of your generosity throughout 2019, we will forward a check for \$804.00 to the Cumberland Valley School District to help defray the cost of school lunches for needy children across the district in the coming year."

The Middle School Sunday School Class is gearing up for the annual "Souper Sunday" canned soup collection drive for the New Hope Food Bank. As in previous years, we will be competing with our neighbors at Trinity UMC for the most soup **by weight**, donated. The contest starts on December 29th and runs through Super Bowl Sunday, February 2nd. Let's bring back the trophy! See Ja'net Gochenauer for more information!



Saint John Neumann

Perhaps because the United States got a later start in the history of the world, it has relatively few canonized saints, but their number is increasing.

John Neumann was born in what is now the Czech Republic. After studying in Prague, he came to New York at 25 and was ordained a priest. He did missionary work in New York until he was 29, when he joined the Redemptorists and became its first member to profess vows in the United States. He continued missionary work in Maryland, Virginia and Ohio, where he became popular with the Germans.

At 41, as bishop of Philadelphia, he organized the parochial school system into a diocesan one, increasing the number of pupils almost twentyfold within a short time.

Gifted with outstanding organizing ability, he drew into the city many teaching communities of sisters and the Christian Brothers. During his brief assignment as vice provincial for the Redemptorists, he placed them in the forefront of the parochial movement.

Well-known for his holiness and learning, spiritual writing and preaching, on October 13, 1963, John Neumann became the first American bishop to be beatified. Canonized in 1977, he is buried in St. Peter the Apostle Church in Philadelphia.

Reflection

Neumann took seriously our Lord's words, "Go and teach all nations." From Christ he received his instructions and the power to carry them out. For Christ does not give a mission without supplying the means to accomplish it. The Father's gift in Christ to John Neumann was his exceptional organizing ability, which he used to spread the Good News. Today the Church is in dire need of men and women to continue in our times the teaching of the Good News. The obstacles and inconveniences are real and costly. Yet when Christians approach Christ, he supplies the necessary talents to answer today's needs. The Spirit of Christ continues his work through the instrumentality of generous Christians.

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Please visit and like our **Facebook** page:

<https://www.facebook.com/StStephenLC.org>.

Here you'll find up-to-minute information, upcoming events and activities, and stories of encounters with Jesus changing people's lives.