

New Spirit Newsletter



St. Stephen Evangelical Lutheran Church New Kingstown, PA June-July 2016

We are a community of faith inspired and empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim boldly the Good News of God's loving, saving presence in the world.

I'm writing this article on the first *sunny* day in what feels like WEEKS! After days and days and days of cold, dreary, rainy weather, the sun is finally shining, and it is forecasted to stay for the rest of the week! For many of us, this is welcome news, and a sign that maybe, just maybe, summer is actually coming. Summer brings with it longer days, outside activities, weekend trips, and, often, a change of pace from the rest of the year. These are all good things, as Sabbath rest and recreation are good for the body, mind, and Spirit. If you find yourself traveling on the weekend, I encourage you to go to worship wherever you are, bring back a bulletin, and any good ideas that we can replicate! If you're spending more time outside, take a few moments to revel in God's creation and give thanks for the diversity of fauna and flora that are given to us for our use, enjoyment, and care. If you're spending time with family and friends, consider how their presence is a sign of God's love and care in your life; and then make a concentrated effort to reach out to someone who might be lonely or homebound, to share this same love and care with them.

While summer is certainly a time to change things up, and relax and recuperate from the busy school year, it is still a time to praise and worship our God, and serve others in God's name. Know that the ministries of St. Stephen will continue throughout the summer months, and we want and need your participation. Community Meals will happen on the third Saturday of June, July, and August. Summer Sunday School will be offered every week for people of all ages. Day Camp happens



in June, and Vacation Bible School takes place in July. There will be Fellowship and Service opportunities (many of which are listed in this newsletter). Please plan to be a part of our worship and work when you're in town, and, if you're going to be away, consider sending in your offering ahead of time or join Simply Giving (our automated giving service). Our ministries may look a little different during the summer months, but they are still vibrant, faith-filled, and important for our community.

Of special interest this summer is our July adult classes which will provide an overview of the Muslim faith. As you are well aware, recent civil wars in other countries have caused hundreds of thousands of refugees, many of whom are Muslim, to flee for their lives. Most news coverage of the "War on Terror" and the refugee crisis is filled with negative characterizations of Muslim people. Though devout Muslims have tried to counter the media with reminders that Islam is a religion of devotion to God and peace among neighbors, those voices are sometimes hard to hear. This study will teach us the basic tenets of Islam, help us take small steps toward better understanding our neighbors, and remind us of the stories and promises we hold in common as people of Abrahamic faith. It is my hope that this time of learning and conversation will open doors, minds, and hearts, by dispelling stereotypes and myths about our Muslim neighbors, so that we can work together to establish peace and understanding in our community. Please join us

In hope, *Pastor Caitlin*

Leadership Ledger

Council met on Monday, May 9th, 2016

The following actions were taken by Council
Council approved a Facility Use Request for June 25th

Additionally ...

Council discussed our progress on our goals. Specifically, we discussed our attendance goal. We are asking for your help to intentionally note those that are missing, especially those who haven't attended for 2 weeks or more. Council asks that you not only take note, but make an effort to reach out to them, let them know they are missed and/or send a note to Pastor Caitlin or drop it in her mailbox. And along those lines, rejoice and celebrate the return of those who have been missing, noting how good it is to see them.

As you know from last month, Tina and Gerald Gordon graciously agreed to chair the Apple Festival Committee again this year. Le and Rose will be assisting as co-coordinators but are seeking another person to serve as a third co-coordinator, specifically helping with marketing and recruitment for the Festival. This is a great opportunity to serve from the comfort of your own home. You will simply be contacting folks that have served in the past, or together with the AF Committee identify individuals who may be willing to serve in new ways for less than 10 functions. It includes items such as Baked Goods Sales, Apple Butter Sales, and the Basket Raffle to

name a few. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve. Contact Tina or Gerald, Le or Rose for additional information.

We decided to support the "Always Being Made New" Capital Campaign for the ELCA in conjunction with our annual Congregational meeting in November as we give thanks for the ministry God is doing in our congregation, and throughout the world. We will have a special offering on this day, host a guest preacher, and share stories of lives being changed through the work of our Church. Stay tuned for more information.

We also discussed the following committee related items:

Education Committee is planning exciting 2017 events that focus on celebration of the Reformation and our Lutheran heritage, with a 'soft' kickoff during Summer Sunday Church School

Le asks that those interested in additional Fellowship activities contact her regarding suggestions.

Worship & Music is still looking for Altar Guild volunteers for September and October. Please contact Maxine if you can pick up all or a portion of those months.

As always, you are encouraged to talk to Pastor Caitlin or any Council member about any of the items above or join us for any meeting. Note that in June, the meeting has been moved to June 7th at 7 p.m. You are always welcome!

Why St. Stephen? During Council discussions on attendance, we asked Tina and Gerald Gordon why they chose St. Stephen as their church home. Here are their comments:

They had church shopped for quite a while; attending on occasion.

Many were just too big. They wanted something smaller, but not too small.

We were welcoming

They were asked to come back

They attended an event and were invited to stay for food; "There is always plenty!"

Carly was a baby, Tina recalled offers to watch the baby so she and

Gordon could relax a bit

We are glad they have chosen to make St. Stephen their church home, and us, part of their extended family.

We wonder why you chose to make St. Stephen your church home. We encourage you to give this some thought...because we'll be asking!

And speaking of attendance ... Be sure to note those who usually sit around you that may be missing.

Pick up the phone, give them a call or drop them a note. Let them know they have been missed. If they have special needs during this time, please let Pastor Caitlin know.

When folks return after an absence,

even just missing a week, let them know they were missed and celebrate their return with a greeting such as "It is so good to see you."

And while certainly hospitality is one of our strengths, this article wouldn't be complete without reminding us to extend a gracious welcome and invitation to other events (e.g., Community Meals, Sunday School, or one of our upcoming Fellowship events) to new visitors. And as Tina reminds us above, offer to help with little ones both during Sunday service and events; a little effort may be a significant gift to parents and kids alike!

Summer Learning Opportunities



Summer is certainly a time for a change of pace, but that doesn't mean we need to stop learning or exploring faith! Join us as often as you can to learn more about these topics and items of interest in our world. We'll meet in Fellowship Hall.

June 12: Lutheran Trump Cards: Playing our Best Hands in the 21st Century

June 19: Listening to God

June 26: The Three Most Rebellious Things Jesus Did

July 3: Martin Luther's "Freedom of a Christian"

July 10: TBA

July 17: The Five Pillars of Islam

July 24: What does the Qu'ran Say about Jesus?

July 31: What does Islam Teach about Violence?

August topics still TBD. Have an idea or request?

Email pastor@ststephenlc.org



Sunday, July 10 through Thursday, July 14

5:30 p.m. Dinner, 6-8 p.m. VBS

The Educational Ministries Committee needs your help! Volunteers help the week go smoothly.

Do you like to cook? We can use your help in the kitchen.

Do you like to play? We can use your help with the games.

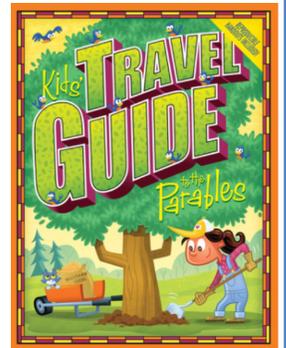
Do you like to sing? We can use your help teaching kids the songs.

Whether you are available for two hours a night or just two hours for the whole week, we can use you! Please see Cheryl Neidig, Laura Wills or Pastor Caitlin if you are interested in helping.

This summer, we will again be offering a youth Sunday School class for children age 3-grade 5. They'll be learning about the Parables of Jesus.

We are looking for volunteers to teach the youth class for a Sunday or two. We will provide for you ahead of time the lesson plan, copies of coloring/activity pages, and any craft supplies that you will need. Please contact Laura Wills at 728-1279 or laura.wills05@gmail.com to reserve your week!

Thank you! As Christians we have a responsibility as Christians to teach our children the Bible – and not just OUR children, but the children of our church! If we don't teach them, who will?



Summer Reading

Need something new to read this summer? Be sure to check out all the resources we have in the church library!

We have recently purchased The Annotated Luther series which features some of Luther's most essential writings. The written annotations are supplemented and enhanced by the use of maps, illustrations, timelines, art, and photos. These books are an essential reference tool for people at all levels of understanding who want to explore Luther and his writings with greater depth and clarity.



Stewardship



Stewardship and Proportional Giving

The Rev. Eric Hinds, Rector, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church. San Mateo, CA

Stewardship involves our response to God's blessings and is an important aspect of our faith. We are each stewards of a portion of God's creation and financial stewardship involves giving back a portion of our wealth to provide for God's work in the world. From ancient times, we have the notion of giving the first fruits of our labor - the first and best portion - to God.

Proportional Giving is a means for wrestling with the question "How much of my wealth should I contribute for the mission and ministry of the church in my annual pledge?" The traditional measure of giving to the Church is the tithe - a tenth of one's income. In ancient times the tithe was a significant commitment and it remains so today. The tithe is a measure of one's commitment to support the work of the Gospel in the world. One's giving is a tangible expression of one's faith. Few people can casually give away a tenth of their income, and most of us fall short of the standard of the tithe.

Proportional Giving recognizes that stewardship is a journey and that the tithe is a level to work towards. It provides a means for individuals and the entire congregation to steadily strengthen their giving in stewardship. Proportional Giving asks that we consider giving to the Church in proportion to our income. It begins with our current level of giving, and asks that we consider raising our pledge by one half a percent of our income each year.

For example, if one's current level of giving is a yearly pledge of \$2,000 based upon an income of \$100,000; then one is giving 2% of their yearly income to the parish. Proportional Giving asks that one increase their giving by ½ % of one's income. The household in this example would increase the

percent given from 2% to 2 ½%, which yields a pledge of \$2,500. The advantage of Proportional Giving is that every household is challenged to increase their giving in a way that is balanced and equitable. In Proportional Giving, stewardship is spread out over the entire wealth of the parish. Proportional Giving provides a method to steadily work towards the goal of tithing and to ensure the continued vitality of the Church.

Proportionate Giving. First the "Giving" Part

Giving is a by-product of faith. It is an outward expression of priorities and heart. If you put God first in your life, your wallet will be open to Him.

The miracle of stewardship is that the more you give, the more you receive. You won't always receive in kind, but what you receive is more precious than what you give, because God's gift to you is greater than your gifts to Him.

- **Give First fruits.** Give God the first portions of your income. By doing that you constantly remember God's ownership. (Prov. 3:9)
- **Give Proportionately.** Give in proportion to the income you receive, not a specific dollar amount. If you earn \$100, a tithe (10%) would be \$10. If you earn \$100,000, your proportionate gift would be \$10,000. God sees the \$10 gift just as important and meaningful as the \$10,000 gift. Proportionate giving challenges both the rich and the poor. (1 Cor. 16:2)
- **Give Sacrificially.** At times God asks you to give until you can truly feel the giving. Giving sacrificially usually includes one of the following: a rearrangement of priorities, a change in lifestyle, or a forfeiture of something valued. When you give sacrificially, you give your best. (2 Cor. 8: 2-3)
- **Give Regularly.** The Bible tells us to give "on the first day of every week." While money may be tight during some periods of time, for the most part, the failure to give is a spiritual problem. It is hard to imagine God accepting the excuses

Stewardship is looking for a person with video capabilities for a small project that should take a few hours at most. Contact Pastor Caitlin, Lela Ewell, or Marla Hansen if you can help. Thank you!

conjured up about not honoring Him with your treasures. (1 Cor. 16:2 and 2 Cor. 9:8)

- **Give Cheerfully.** Receiving is great, but the exhilaration is greater when you are able to give to another person. The Holy Spirit uses your giving to deepen your faith in Christ. (2 Cor. 9:7)
- **Give Quietly.** Your purpose should be to please God, not to be seen by others. (Matt. 6:1)
- **Tithe.** Tithing is the practice of honoring God with one tenth (10%) of your income. God is not concerned about the size of the gift, but the motive for it. (Gen. 28:10-22) Tithing is giving God a portion of your best, not your leftovers.

Adapted from *Becoming Money Wise* by Ronald J. Chewning. Copyright (c) 1998 by Concordia Publishing House.

Now, the "Proportionate" part

Proportionate giving involves two points:

1. That our level of giving needs to rise out of our level of income.
2. That giving out of thanks for God's blessings will involve sharing a portion of that income with others. This is proportionate giving.

A great deal is said today about tithing as the highest form of proportionate giving. The 10 percent tithe is held up as the standard for Christian stewards. And there are a great many advantages to endorsing such a standard.

- It is a biblical standard.
- It is related to income and not to a congregation's budget.
- It has "universality" about it, in that the concept is as old as the early Old Testament.

The fact is that no specific percentage adequately expresses our stewardship before God. It is in the qualities of thankfulness, love, and joy that the concept of proportionate giving has its foundation. We express these qualities in a practical manner. The system can be described very easily. Take your annual gross income and simply multiply it by the percentage that you want to share with God in your

material giving. Then divide that amount by the weeks in one year.

The amount you come up with seldom comes out to even dollar amounts, but that has the real value of moving away from the prison that puts gifts in round numbers without basing the giving on any systematic measure. A weekly gift of an odd amount, \$9.23, for example, will continually focus attention on the percentage and will be a constant affirmation of the person as a proportionate giver every time the check is written. The major advantages of proportionate giving are:

1. It puts the emphasis where it belongs on giving out of income.
2. It keeps us honest about our giving; honest about the real value of our gift in relation to what we have. The measure is not by pure dollar amounts, against what others with more can give, or against what others with less are able to give. The measure remains where it needs to be, yourself against yourself, what you give against what you have. It allows every person to stand on equal ground as a giver. The giver with modest income who gives 3 percent of that income can be affirmed in this giving along with the big giver who gives 3 percent of a much larger income. The dollar amounts will vary considerably, but each is sharing equally with God through the Church out of what God has provided.

Remember

Whatever percentage you may be able to consider, Proportionate Giving is the way:

- To be Christian in our giving;
- To be honest with ourselves
- To be faithful to God;
- To empower our ministry together.



El Salvador

HOW DO YOU GET NAMES OF PEOPLE TO INTERVIEW IN EL SALVADOR?

Don and I both read extensively about the country – books, newspaper articles, and numerous Salvadoran blogs and websites, as well as stay in touch with our friends there. These sources often lead to names of Salvadorans we would like to learn more about in an interview.

We always go with “a wish list” of specific names we would like to interview or a specific career (ex. a sugarcane worker). Sometimes our contacts get those persons we desire and other times they don’t. For example, this trip we had hoped to interview a “coyote” who hires himself out to take people to the border, and the new mayor of San Salvador. Neither of those two candidates panned out for us, but other names were offered who turned out to have incredible stories. More often than not the person we request agrees – in fact, is honored to be asked – to be part of our project.

This past February we interviewed more persons than ever before. Some interviews are arranged in advance, but the majority happen once we arrive by talking with friends (often over a meal) who believe in our project and offer up names of worthy candidates, set up interviews, and serve as translators for us. Having a period of available time helps make this possible. Being flexible is vital.

Before we interview anyone for our historical memory project, we explain to the storyteller that we are gathering stories from Salvadorans of all walks of life in order to weave together a tapestry of the country. We give examples of farmers, fishermen, artists, musicians, children, gang members, teachers, Supreme Court Justice. They are all part of the Salvadoran society; each story tells a portion of the reality in which people live. (We invite the person to speak freely but to make us aware of anything he or she does NOT want us to print and we will respect his wishes.)

As we sat with a friend on two separate days, he mentioned a housemate living with him in sanctuary for over a year since gang members threatened him at gunpoint and he is not safe to return home. We jumped at the chance to interview this young man. Another day, this friend mentioned a man who was recently released from 20 years in prison. A prisoner has been on our “wish list” for several years and his story was so compelling that we are eager to share it.

Another friend suggested we interview the Salvadoran head of the Red Cross who she knew personally. We never would have thought of that career, but what an interesting person and given all the natural disasters El Salvador experiences, this was a very enlightening interview.

We are grateful for the input of our friends and contacts who take such an interest in our story project by providing us with a wealth of subjects to interview!

OUR TRANSLATOR WITH FAMOUS ARTIST, FERNANDO LLORT (center), AT HIS HOME



UPCOMING TRIP TO EL SALVADOR

You've heard the "mission moments." You've read the newsletter articles. You've seen the bulletin boards; read the reports and facebook articles. Now YOU are invited to see El Salvador firsthand!

A trip is being organized to El Salvador from **April 7-16, 2017**. This is designed as an educational, informational, and cultural experience for mature persons . . . older teens and adults.

An experienced organization is coordinating all details including transportation, housing, meals, visitation sites, lectures, and speakers. You will learn how current aspects of the country ranging from social to economic to political issues affect its people. Delegation members will also spend at least one overnight in a poor rural community to learn the reality in which the Salvadorans live.

Each person who has been on this trip has the same reaction afterwards, "It was life-changing!"

Please contact Pastor Don Seiple as soon as possible if you are interested.

dseiple12@verizon.net 766-4806

OR Caroline Sheaffer Cjs12@comcast.net 243-9246

Worshipping in a campesino community in Calderitas



Summer Camp Opportunities

Under the Big Top: a Bible Day Camp sponsored by St. Stephen Lutheran Church in collaboration with Mechanicsburg Area Lutheran Churches

St Mark Lutheran Church will be an absolute circus in the summer of 2016 – and that’s a good thing! Children who have completed kindergarten through fifth grade as of June are invited to a day camp sponsored by Mechanicsburg area Lutheran churches and staffed by members of the Camp Nawakwa team. This year, we’ll spend a week under the big top, taking some cues from the clowns and monkeys as we learn to be imitators of Jesus. Our week of camp will kick off at 4:30pm on Sunday, June 19th with a potluck dinner and celebration for campers and their families. Our regular camp will run 8:45am-4:30pm from Monday June 20th through Friday June 24th. Childcare is available before camp beginning at 8am and after camp ending at 5:15pm. Our day will be filled with singing, crafts, indoor and outdoor recreation, large group worship, and small group Bible study focused on learning to trust in God’s promise as we feed, forgive, love, serve, and pray for our neighbors. Lunch will be provided daily. Cost per camper is \$125. (St. Stephen scholarships *are* available for \$65 to \$125, see the Youth/Camping

bulletin board in Fellowship or <http://www.ststephenlc.org/vbs-summer-camps> Hall for more information)

What: A week-long "Camp Nawakwa" experience, hosted in Mechanicsburg for convenience and lower cost

When: Monday June 20 - Friday June 24, 8:45am to 4:30pm

Where: St Mark Lutheran Church, 117 W Keller St Mechanicsburg

Who: Children who have completed kindergarten through fifth grade as of June

Cost: \$125 per camper, which includes all materials and daily lunch (Scholarships available)

Kick-off event: Sunday June 19, 4:30-6:30pm for campers and their families (potluck-style dinner and celebration)

Childcare available: Monday-Friday, Parents can drop off campers between 8 and 8:45am and pick them up between 4:30 and 5:15pm

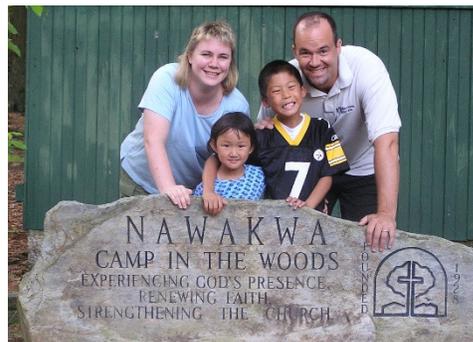


Your help is needed to make this Day Camp a success! Day Camp is a truly a collaborative effort of the Mechanicsburg area Lutheran churches...including us! St. Stephen is responsible for providing lunch on Wednesday, June 22 for the campers and camp staff. *We need 2-4 adults to purchase the food (reimbursements available), prepare it at St. Mark's on Wednesday, serve the meal, and clean up afterwards.* At least one of these adults needs to be a St. Stephen Approved Adult. The menu is already set (fish sticks and mac-n-cheese), so preparation is minimal. In exchange for helping share your gifts and serve our children, you'll get to witness their joy and gratitude for yourself! Please let Pastor Caitlin know if you can help in this way, or sign up on the "Plugged In" bulletin board. **THANK YOU** for helping us care for, and serve, our youngest disciples.



Family Camp at Camps Nawakwa and Kirchenwald

Families of all sorts of shapes and sizes have been coming to Nawakwa for over forty years! For two weeks each summer, family units move into Nawakwa's cabins and lodges and create a unique community indeed! Many adults spend the morning hours in Bible study with a pastor-in-residence while the kid-size campers are divided by age group to attend to all sorts of campy activities with the Nawakwa counseling staff. Afternoons feature a full schedule of swimming, crafts, hikes, bike rides, tournament games, book discussions, playground time, and championship napping. (You are free to participate in any or none of these choices.) Evenings always feature worship for the community and some sort of festivity. And, of course, mealtimes are always a big attraction. With plenty of lodging available at both sessions, this is just the year to give Family Camp a try. Check out the camping brochure for more information, or visit <https://www.lutherancamping.org/>



Social Ministry

Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits



St. Stephen's mission is to "be a community of faith, inspired and empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim boldly the Good News of God's loving, saving presence in the world."

In support of this mission, **our Social Ministry Team is coordinating the creation of Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief.** These kits will be delivered to men and women all around the world, often after they have lost *everything*. In the wake of an earthquake, or having fled from violence as their homes were

overtaken, these men and women clasp a towel from a faraway place, with a bar of soap, a toothbrush... and washing up, they know that they have not been forsaken by the world. The very simple gesture of giving a Personal Care Kit can give someone the encouragement to start anew, starting with a bath. We will help share God's grace and love by providing these simple comforts for brothers and sisters around the world.

To make this project possible, we will be collecting specific items throughout the summer months. We will assemble the kits during Rally Day and "God's Work. Our hands." celebrations on Sunday, September 11. The items are listed below, and on a display board in Fellowship Hall. You can place them in the marked box in Fellowship Hall.

- light-weight bath-size towels (between 20"×40" & 52"×27"), dark color recommended



- Bath-size bars of soap, in any brand, in original wrapping



- Adult-size toothbrushes (in original wrapping. Multi-packs are acceptable—we will divide them)



- Sturdy combs



Evangelism

During May's meeting, the Holy Spirit called our Evangelism Team beyond our walls and into our neighborhood! We picked up trash, talked with neighbors, and distributed cards with information about St Stephen. What a fun and spirited way to serve our community and get to know our neighbors.

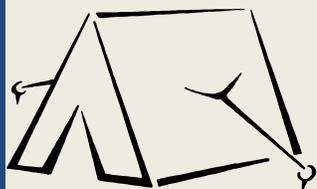


May Community Meal

56 plates-worth of baked chicken, macaroni and cheese, green beans, rolls, and dessert were shared with our guests this month. After the meal, we enjoyed beautiful piano music played by our very own Stephen Pastena. THANK YOU to all who helped make this meal possible, or added to the rich conversation by being present that night. The next two Community Meals are scheduled for Saturday June 19th and July 16th Especially during the summer months, when school lunches aren't available, these meals are a wonderful outreach to our community. We hope you will join us. Stay turned for information about **LAWN SIGNS** that you can use to help spread the word.



Calling all musicians! It's that time of year again! Over the summer months, we will feature the musical talents of the congregation. If you would like to offer up your gifts, please sign up on the bulletin board next to the sacristy. And if you need accompaniment, be sure to talk to Steve several weeks beforehand.



Blessing of Summer Campers and Counselors

During both services on Sunday June 12, we will bless the young people and families who are spending time at camp this summer, as well as Nick Schroder who will be serving as a counselor this year. We will pray for their safety, their growth in faith, and the lessons they will teach us upon their return. Cards will also be available for you to sign. These cards will then be mailed to our members while they are away at camp.



Healing Service on Sunday June 12 during both services In its ministry of healing, the church does not seek to replace the gifts of God that come through the scientific community, nor does it promise a cure. Rather, we offer and celebrate gifts such as these: God's presence with strength and comfort in time of suffering, God's promise of wholeness and peace, and God's love embodied in the community of faith. During worship on June 12, all who sense the need for God's healing in any aspect of their lives will be invited to receive a word of blessing and prayer, as well as the laying on of hands and anointing with oil.

We believe in what?

On most Sundays, we profess our faith together with the whole catholic church using the words of the Apostle's or Nicene Creed. This profession of faith takes place after the reading of scripture and sermon, *in response* to the Word of God we have heard, and the faith God's Word kindles within us. These creeds are ancient documents of the church, written to explicitly declare what it is we believe when we say that we are Christians, and to teach those preparing for baptism about the Christian faith.

This summer we are going to repeat last year's practice of professing our faith using excerpts from Luther's Small Catechism, instead of just the Creed. Several individual reflected that this practice increased their understanding and appreciation of these core tenets of our faith, and provided new things to contemplate and reflect upon, which deepened their faith. As you may know, Luther wrote the Small Catechism so that parents could teach their children about the faith in the home (Luther was disgusted when he visited churches in neighboring "Christian"

cities, and discovered that no one knew the basic tenets of our faith!) The Small Catechism includes explanations for each of the ten commandments, the three articles of the Apostle's Creed, each petition of the Lord's Prayer, the sacraments of baptism and holy communion, and the rite of confession. We will work through the explanations of the sacraments, confession, Apostle's Creed, and Lord's Prayer in June, July, and August.

Those who were raised in the Lutheran church likely studied (and maybe even memorized) the Small Catechism years ago, but, perhaps it's been a long time since you opened it. It is my hope that a return to its riches during these coming months will re-ignite our faith, reveal new truths about God, and speak to our daily lives. If you have any questions, or would like your own copy of Luther's Small Catechism, please let me know.

In hope, *Pastor Caitlin*



Fellowship



You heard it right! St. Stephen now has our very own Fellowship Committee!

Please contact Lela Ewell at 717.579.5406 or annamel@aol.com, (note that the email address has changed from what most of us have) if you have suggestions for events or any questions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, June 18th

The men at St. Stephen invite you to join in their monthly Fellowship Breakfast. They will be meeting at Middlesex Diner at 8:00am and ALL MEN are welcome. If you have additional question/suggestions, please contact Ira Ewell @ 717.713.8616. Everyone will be responsible for paying for their own meal + tip, but if there is a financial concern that would keep someone from being able to participate, please let Ira know.

Family Game Night: Friday, June 24th

The Fellowship Committee would like to start/see if there may be an interest in a family game night! The 1st of this series will be held on Friday, June 24th at 6:30pm. The structure hasn't been formulated, at this time, so it hasn't been decided how long the event will last – it's assumed that the participants can determine the duration of time! Snacks/Drinks will be provided. Bring your favorite Board or Card Game to share with whomever wants to play! Depending on the participation of this event, we can decide at that time if we would like to continue the event at all, or hold it on a monthly or quarterly basis. A sign-up sheet will be available on the Plugged-In Bulletin Board, to pre-determine interest and necessary snacks/drinks! See you then!!

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, July 16th

The men at St. Stephen invite you to join in their monthly Fellowship Breakfast. They will be meeting at Middlesex Diner at 8:00am and ALL MEN are welcome.

Tubing Down the Yellow Breeches: Saturday, July 23rd

A group of us will meet at Messiah College, at the creek, at 9:45 – for a

10 o'clock "take off", down the Yellow Breeches! This is a **Bring your own Tube** event, but if this is going to create difficulties, please let Lela Ewell (717.579.5406) know, ASAP. Since there is planning/coordination that will need to go into this event (participant pick-up at our end location), PLEASE sign up on the Plugged-In Bulletin Board! Depending on participation/interest, we might be able to plan a picnic at our end location.

Rain date – Saturday, July 30th

Donate a Cake: July 29th-July 30th

Our friends and community partners at New Kingstown Fire Company are asking if we can donate cakes for their Annual Festival. If you can bake a cake for donation, please contact Gerald Gordon for further information. Our Evangelism Committee will also be setting up a booth at the Festival, passing out balloons and information for St. Stephen



LAST CALL for Bars of Soap!

Sunday, July 24 is the last day to bring in individually wrapped bars of soap to support the "Youth Impact Project", an event that prepares students and families for the coming school year. You can drop off your



soap donation in the marked box on the stage in Fellowship Hall. **We currently have 66 bars...can we hit 150 by the end of July?** The New Kingstown churches are committed to a

total of 700 bars! THANK YOU for your support! More information: <http://www.youthimpactproject.com/>



4 J.A.M.

and Opportunity to work at a meal packing event on Friday June 3 at Messiah College. Our synod is packing 400,000 nutritionally complete meals that will help feed hungry Pennsylvanians in conjunction with this year's synod assembly which is themed "Justice and Mercy" (J.A.M.). In

addition to packing these meals, we will learn about hunger causes and advocacy throughout synod assembly. You can help in two ways:

Sign up to serve on June 3. *We currently have ten people signed up for this event...can you help us reach a total of 15??* You can sign up for a two hour work slot on the "Plugged In" bulletin board, or directly on our synod's webpage: <http://www.lss-elca.org/hunger-jam/> This is a great event to invite your neighbors or co-workers to, and there are jobs for people of all ages and abilities. Want to know more? Ask Pastor Caitlin, Roger or Lynne Immell or any of our high school youth (who participated two years ago) Together, we are feeding the hungry as we are fed by Christ.

Have you remembered St. Stephen in your will?

A will allows you to control your assets for the rest of your life and then help your family and your church. Without a will, all of your assets are turned over to the state. As you make plans for how your earthly assets will be distributed after you no longer have need for them, we encourage you to remember the work of St. Stephen Lutheran Church.



If you would like more information on writing a will, or how you can include St. Stephen in your planned giving, please see Pastor Caitlin or visit <http://www.elca.org/Resources/ELCA-Foundation>

Are you receiving our emails?

St Stephen currently has two email lists that we use to keep you up-to-date. One of these lists is our "General Mailing" list, which we use to send period updates about events and opportunities. These emails are usually titled "News from St. Stephen". The other list is our "Prayer Chain" list, which we use to send out prayer requests and prayers for members and friends of St. Stephen. These emails are usually titled "Pray for [Name]". If you would like to be added to either of these lists, or would like to check if your name is on them, please email Kevin (office@ststephenlc.org) or Pastor Caitlin (pastor@ststephenlc.org) These are very important resources, but they are only as good as the information we have! Thanks for your help.

June

BIRTHDAYS



Grant Foxx	1-Jun	Dante Sanders	17-Jun
Phyllis Harmon	2-Jun	Sherri Filipovich	18-Jun
Marissa McCormick	3-Jun	Vivian Boyer	19-Jun
Hope Farabelli	4-Jun	Harry Bucher	19-Jun
Beth Lengel	5-Jun	John Stover	19-Jun
Wendy Sanders	5-Jun	Josh Brown	19-Jun
Le Ewell	6-Jun	Carrie Lewis	20-Jun
Robert Hansen	7-Jun	Stacey Teitman	20-Jun
Wayne Lengel	7-Jun	Anthony Radle	21-Jun
Michael Weigel	7-Jun	Nicholas Schroeder	23-Jun
Gage Clelan	12-Jun	Barb Foxx	25-Jun
Paulette Krewson	16-Jun	Carol Clelland	28-Jun
William Wills	16-Jun	Jayden Brown	29-Jun
Jenna Gordon	17-Jun	Alan Gamble	29-Jun

July

Owen Hoke	1-Jul	Allison Schroeder	11-Jul	Louise Donivan	26-Jul
June Roberto	3-Jul	Joan Wiest	16-Jul	Michael Tracey	26-Jul
Scott Houser	5-Jul	Mike Krausse	18-Jul	Tori Bock	27-Jul
Dianne Wyland	5-Jul	Pat Lee	21-Jul	Emalyn Clelan	27-Jul
Brenda Sanchez	6-Jul	Scott Lewis	22-Jul	Sherry Wiest	27-Jul
Nathan Schwartz	7-Jul	Ester Phelps	23-Jul	Dawn Gamble	28-Jul
Jessica Hoke	9-Jul	Rebecca Rensel	23-Jul	Trisha Noonan	28-Jul
Bill Rowe	11-Jul	Camara Grimm	24-Jul		

ANNIVERSARIES

June

Larry & Laura Treaster	1-Jun	Keith & Melinda Bailey	15-Jun
Parker & Pat Lee	5-Jun	Ken & Deb Ochs	15-Jun
Christine & Jonathan Stallkamp	9-Jun	Michael & Leslie Menear	16-Jun
Roger & Lynne Immell	12-Jun	Jeffrey & Andrea Holtz	24-Jun
Don & Pat Seiple	12-Jun	Jesse & Laura Ramsey	27-Jun
Bill & Butch Rowe	14-Jun	Robert & Marla Hansen	28-Jun

July

Lynn & Sherry Rudacille	1-Jul
Richard & Phyllis Harmon	7-Jul
Derek & Amber Fabian	10-Jul

Lord, Hear our Prayers



If you would like to be added to the email prayer chain list (to receive notifications of prayer requests throughout the week), you can sign up with Mike Kulikauskas, or by emailing office@ststephenlc.org. At any time, you can send prayer requests to prayer@ststephenlc.org

John Teitman	Military & former pastor of St. Stephen
Lynette Clements	Very weak (Kathy Burson's mother) Keep On!
Dan Schillinger	Seizures (Sandy Granberg's Brother) Keep On!
Clara Schillinger	Alzheimer's (Sandy Granberg's Mother) Keep On!
Jacob Smith	Deployed to Afghanistan. Keep On!
Bob Lamp	Alzheimer's disease
Sharon Lamp	Caring for Bob Lamp
Hen Yohn	Health issues— Keep On!
Tom Toone	Friend of Rebecca Krausse. Prayers of thanks...cancer free! Now faces major back surgery Keep On!

Nancy Zullo	Please continue to pray for Nancy Zullo, her husband, Phil, and her son, Kent. Nancy continues to be in serious condition in the ICU. She still needs great assistance with breathing, and the doctors don't yet know if she sustained lasting neurological damage during last week's episode. We pray for healing, for peace, for patience, and for comfort for Nancy and her family.
Sharon Lamp	Please pray for our sister in Christ, Sharon Lamp, who is currently in the hospital with low sodium levels and general weakness. We pray for patience, for healing, and for wisdom.
Larry & Gail Phillippy	Please continue to hold Gail Phillippy, and her husband Larry, in your prayers. Gail is living with cancer in her bones, and currently experiencing another flare-up of intense pain. We pray for healing, for answers, for wisdom for her doctors, and for God's peace to surround and encourage Gail and her family.



Hospital Admissions

Please let the church office and/or Pastor Caitlin know when you or a loved one becomes a patient in the hospital or other health care facility. Federal HIPAA regulations do not permit health care providers to release personal information such as this without your expressed permission and none of the area health care facilities contact us about your admission. A phone call to either the church office (766-2168, during Office Hours) or to the Pastoral Care number (220-3239, at any time) will help the Pastor respond to you with care, prayer, and support.

Congratulations to our Graduates

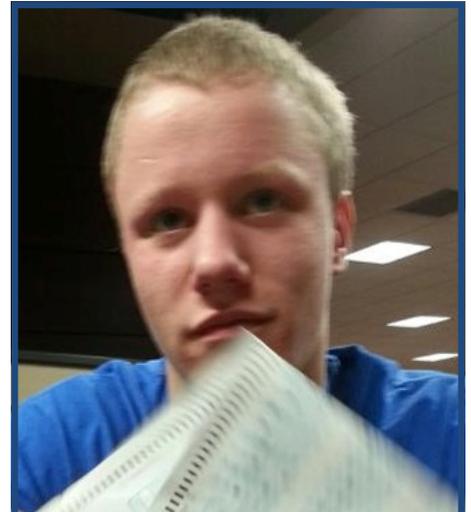
From High School....



After graduating from Cumberland Valley High School, **Nick Schroeder** plans to spend his summer working as a counselor at Camp Nawakwa. He leaves in mid-August for college at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh.



Josh Brown is graduating from Cumberland Valley High School



Jordan Brown is graduating from Cumberland Valley High School

From College...

Garrett A. Treaster graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Packaging Systems and Design from the Department of Sustainable Biomaterials within the College of Natural Resources and Environment at Virginia Tech. He also graduated from the VT Corps of Cadets with a minor in leadership studies. After completing his college graduation requirements, Garrett commissioned as a 2nd Lt. in the United States Air Force. He has been selected to enter the elite training program for Combat Rescue Officer. Garrett is scheduled to report for active duty this fall. His first duty station is Davis Monthan AFB in Tucson, Arizona.



Cami Grimm graduated from Penn State University with a degree in Accounting. She has secured a job with BDO Accounting Firm in McLean, Virginia and will be moving to the Greater DC Area to live and work. She starts her job September 1st. This summer she will be busy studying for her CPA and looking for a place to live.

Thank You



THANK YOU to our Sunday School teachers for their dedicated service to St. Stephen and their students. They follow the Gospel's call to teach and learn. Please be sure to thank them for

- their service!
- Tom Burson
- Pastor Caitlin
- Ja'net Grey
- Greg John
- Rebecca Krausse
- Mike Kulikauskas
- Cheryl Neidig
- Lloyd Sheaffer
- Laura Wills

Dear Saints of St. Stephen:

What a wonderful birthday celebration(s) I had this year! THANK YOU for helping me celebrate 30 with song on *two* Sundays, cards, cakes, and well-wishes. Your donations to Love Without Boundaries in my honor was a fantastic way to celebrate, too. It's a blessing to know that vulnerable children are getting a second (and third) chance at life in my name. Thank you, thank you, thank you for your generosity, thoughtfulness, and care. It was a joy to celebrate with you. Peace, *Pastor Caitlin*



Just a little



to say....

Thank you

Many thanks to our choir and chimes for all the beautiful melodies you have sung and rang unto the Lord! A special thank you to Maxine who leads the chimes and Stephen who directs the choir. The way you share your talents and gifts with our congregation, to the glory of God, is such a blessing. Our worship is richer and fuller because of your presence and gifts. THANK YOU!

Dear friends + family of St Stephen,
Thank you all for all the love and support you have given to me and my family in so many ways for over 30 years.
You have no idea how much it has meant to me, without God + St. Stephen Lutheran Church I don't know what would have happened to us.

Spring has finally arrived and we all are breathing a collective sigh of relief! Your gift of \$160.00 for baby food is most appreciated. Winter is beautiful, but takes on a different view when you are not in a warm house with plenty of food and family and a good working vehicle. The spring weather brings not only the promise of being outdoors, but of new life, the garden possibilities, and the warmth of the sun.

Steve has already plowed up the High Tunnel (green house) area for us and the front garden and I know our partners at Lamberton and Wilson Schools have begun their garden plans as well. Many people we see have spent the whole Winter season coughing and chronically sick. We are looking forward to stressing healthy eating (Eat Your Rainbow of colors) in the upcoming growing season and perhaps starting a walking group for women in the Memorial Park neighborhood. The men's and women's Alpha groups at the Farm stand are going strong as people explore their faith day by day.

In addition, we soon will start up another Supercupboard class partnering with Penn State Extension and the Salvation Army. Our food package continues to be valued at \$182 retail for each family that comes for groceries once a month. It costs us about \$20 to put that together (food costs only) so we can really stretch your donation. Each dollar counts and we ask you to continue to give throughout the summer when our giving is the lowest.

We have so much to be thankful for, don't we?

Joyfully,

Elaine
Elaine Livas
Founder and Executive Director

Dear Members of St. Stephen,

On behalf of the Board of St. Barnabas and the children we serve, I would like to thank you for your generous \$1300.00 gift for our summer camping program. We cannot thank you enough for all of your support. Your donation will be used to help fund our swimming program. We look forward to a continued relationship with St. Stephen. May God's blessings be with your congregation as you share God's love with your neighbors.

Linda Cummings, Corresponding Secretary

Thank you to all the volunteers and attendees at the annual Memorial Flag service; a time to humbly remember and honor our fallen warriors.
~Parker Lee

Worship Assistants for June

	June 5		June 12		June 19		June 26	
	8:00 am	10:45 am	8:00 am	10:45 am	8:00 am	10:45 am	8:00am	10:45am
Acolyte	David Herb	Randy Neidig	Sara Houser	Carly Gordon	David Herb	Hayden Krausse	David Herb	Jenna Gordon
Lector	Roger Immell	Stacy Schroeder	Crystal Houser	Bob Hansen	Beth Lengel	Julie Grove	Bonnie Baim	Ira Ewell
Cantor	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Assisting Minister	Sara Houser	Josiah Read	Beth Lengel	Seth Kurtz	Crystal Houser	Josiah Read	Lynne Immell	Josiah Read
Communion	Sue Rodgers	Carol Clelland	Ja 'Net Grey	Art Grove	Daryl Gochenauer	Tom Burson	Lloyd Sheaffer	Julie Grove
Ushers	Mary Zook* Lenny Zook Scott Houser Beverly Caley	Ken Clelland* Ira Ewell Josh Brown Greg John	Mary Zook* Lenny Zook Scott Houser Beverly Caley	Ken Clelland* Ira Ewell Josh Brown Greg John	Mary Zook* Lenny Zook Scott Houser Beverly Caley	Ken Clelland* Ira Ewell Josh Brown Greg John	Mary Zook* Lenny Zook Scott Houser Beverly Caley	Ken Clelland* Ira Ewell Josh Brown Greg John
Greeter	Dan Lebo	Frank & June Roberto	Bev Caley Sue Rodgers	Robert Hansen	Dean & Dolores Lebo	Ken & Carol Clelland	Alan & Dawn Gamble	
Altar Guild	Mary Zook							
Counters	Art & Julie Grove; Parker Lee							

Worship Assistants for July (Tentative)

	July 3		July 10		July 17		July 24			July 31										
Acolyte	8:00 am	David Herb	10:45 am	David Herb	8:00 am	Sara Houser	10:45 am	Jenna Gordon	8:00am	David Herb	10:45am	Randy Neidig	8:00am	David Herb	10:45am	Carly Gordon				
Lector		Larry Bouchat		Bob Hansen		Laura Wills		Julie Grove		Lloyd Sheaffer		Tina Gordon		Sue Rodgers		Lorraine Bock				
Cantor		N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		Art Grove				
Assisting Minister		Sara Houser		Josiah Read		Beth Lengel		Josiah Read		Crystal Houser		Josiah Read		Crystal Houser		Josiah Read				
Communion		Sue Rodgers		Carol Clelland		Ja 'Net Grey		Art Grove		Daryl Gochenaurer		Julie Grove		Laura Wills		Tom Burson				
Ushers		Dan Lebo* Laura Wills Wayne Lengel Bill Wills		Doug Tobin* Jordan Brown Bill Phelps Rebecca Krause		Dan Lebo* Laura Wills Wayne Lengel Bill Wills		Doug Tobin* Jordan Brown Bill Phelps Rebecca Krause		Dan Lebo* Laura Wills Wayne Lengel Bill Wills		Doug Tobin* Jordan Brown Bill Phelps Rebecca Krause		Dan Lebo* Laura Wills Wayne Lengel Bill Wills		Doug Tobin* Jordan Brown Bill Phelps Rebecca Krause				
Greeter		Daryl Gochenaurer Ja "net Grey		Frank & June Roberto		Mary & Leny Zook		Art & Julie Grove		Scott & Crystal Houser		Rebecca Krause & Sons		Keith & Melinda Bailey		Steve, Judy & Josiah Read		Grace Stoner		Pat & Parker Lee
Altar Guild	Cheryl & Korra Neidig											Sue Rodgers								
Counters	Rose Hlavac, Cheryl Neidig, Frank Roberto																			

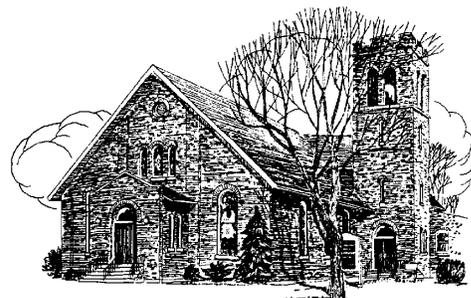
June 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 2:00p Stewardship Committee Meeting 6:00p Quilting 6:00p Fitness 4 Focus	2 9:00a Quilting	3 8:00a Meal Packing Event	4 9:00a Education Commit- tee Meeting 9:30a 4-H Creative Expressions Club
5 8:00a Worship 9:30a Sunday School 10:45a Worship 2:00p Dulcimer's practice	6 6:00p Boy Scouts	7 10:00a Chimes Rehearsal 6:00p Congregation 7:00p Council Meeting	8 6:00p Quilting 6:00p Fitness 4 Focus	9 9:00a Quilting	10 6:00p Eagle Court of Honor preparation	11 10:00a Eagle Court of Honor
12 8:00a Worship 9:30a Sunday School 10:45a Worship 4:00p Rejoicing Spirits All Saints Confirmation Camp	13 6:00p Boy Scouts All Saints Confirmation Camp	14 6:00p Chimes Rehearsal All Saints Confirmation Camp	15 6:00p Quilting 6:00p Fitness 4 Focus All Saints Confirmation Camp	16 9:00a Quilting All Saints Confirmation Camp	17 All Saints Confirmation Camp	18 8:00a Men's Breakfast @Middlesex Diner 5:00p Community Meal
19 8:00a Worship 9:30a Sunday School 10:45a Worship 5:00p Mechanicsburg Area Day Camp Kick off	20 6:00p Boy Scouts 7:00p Evangelism Committee Meeting Mechanicsburg Area Day	21 6:00p Chimes Rehearsal Mechanicsburg Area Day	22 6:00p Quilting 6:00p Fitness 4 Focus Mechanicsburg Area Day	23 9:00a Quilting Mechanicsburg Area Day	24 All Saints Confirmation Camp Mechanicsburg Area Day	25
26 8:00a Worship 9:30a Sunday School 10:45a Worship	27 6:00p Boy Scouts	28 9:00a Breakfast Club 6:00p Chimes Rehearsal	29 6:00p Quilting 6:00p Fitness 4 Focus	30 9:00a Quilting		

July 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 9:00a Education Committee Meeting
3 8:00a Worship 9:30a Sunday School 10:45a Worship 2:00p Dulcimer's practice	4 6:00p Boy Scouts OFFICE CLOSED — 4th of July	5 6:00p Chimes Rehears- al 6:00p Fitness 4 Focus	6 6:00p Quilting 6:00p Fitness 4 Focus	7 9:00a Quilting	8	9
10 8:00a Worship 9:30a Sunday School 10:45a Worship 4:00p Rejoicing Spirits 5:30p Vacation Bible School	11 5:30p Vacation Bible School 7:00p Congregation Council Meeting	12 5:30p Vacation Bible School 6:00p Chimes Rehears- al 6:00p Fitness 4 Focus	13 5:30p Vacation Bible School 6:00p Quilting 6:00p Fitness 4 Focus	14 9:00a Quilting 5:30p Vacation Bible School	15	16 8:00a Men's Breakfast @Middlesex Diner 5:00p Community Meal
17 8:00a Worship 9:30a Sunday School 10:45a Worship	18 6:00p Boy Scouts 7:00p Evangelism Committee Meeting	19 6:00p Chimes Rehears- al 6:00p Fitness 4 Focus 7:00p Worship & Mu- sic Committee Meeting	20 6:00p Quilting 6:00p Fitness 4 Focus	21 9:00a Quilting	22	23
24 8:00a Worship 9:30a Sunday School 10:45a Worship	25 6:00p Boy Scouts	26 9:00a Breakfast Club 6:00p Chimes Rehears- al 6:00p Fitness 4 Focus	27 6:00p Quilting 6:00p Fitness 4 Focus	28 9:00a Quilting	29	30
31 8:00a Worship 9:30a Sunday School 10:45a Worship						

St. Stephen Lutheran Church
P. O. Box 266
New Kingstown, PA 17072
Phone: 766-2168
www.StStephenLC.org
Return Services Requested



Worship Opportunities in June & July

June 5

*800am & 1045am Worship
930am: Sunday School*

July 3

*800am & 1045am Worship
930am: Sunday School*

June 12

*800am & 1045am Worship
930am: Sunday School
4:00pm Rejoicing Spirits*

July 10

*800am & 1045am Worship
930am: Sunday School
4:00pm Rejoicing Spirits*

June 19th

*800am & 1045am Worship
930am: Sunday School*

July 17

*800am & 1045am Worship
930am: Sunday School*

June 26

*800am & 1045am Worship
930am: Sunday School*

July 24

*800am & 1045am Worship
930am: Sunday School*

July 31

*800am & 1045am Worship
930am: Sunday School*

Pastor

Pastor Caitlin Glass
pastor@StStephenLC.org

Parish Office Manager

Kevin Stafford
office@StStephenLC.org

Youth & Family Ministries Director

youth@StStephenLC.org

Organist & Choir Director

Steve Pastena
music@StStephenLC.org

Custodian

Michael Wogan

Website

<http://www.StStephenLC.org>