

New Spirit Newsletter



St. Stephen Evangelical Lutheran Church New Kingstown, PA December/January 2017

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.



Luke 11: 9-10 - ⁹ "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

First of all, I want to thank everyone who came to the Congregational Dinner and meeting. Your presence was greatly appreciated by everyone else who made the time and effort to attend. The company was engaging and lively. Our guest clergy, Pastor Sharron Blezard, was a joy to serve with host for our services. She was able to enjoy the fellowship that St. Stephen does so very well. She also appreciated the video Rose made to share of our energetic mission statement in pictures and action throughout the past year. If anyone wants a review, it is up on the website. The food and hospitality was as always, plentiful, the kitchen staff, served and kept the plates filled and beverages flowing. Your efforts were greatly appreciated. Thanks to Rose, as Council President for a smooth chairing of the meeting, Kevin Stafford, our Administrative Assistant for coming in to be our scribe, and Matt Schroeder, our Treasurer for his presentation of the working budget. Kudos to everyone for our time and attention along with appropriate questioning regarding the use of St. Stephen's funds. Everyone is encouraged to view the full budget upon request that has a more comprehensive outline of our income and our expenditures. It is your right and responsibility to know where and how your generous donations/offerings are being used. It is important for you to know where your monies are being utilized. It is important to know how generous your giving is. It is important for you to know how much money you give away for the various mission works your support, not only our Synodical benevolence, but community be-

nevolence, world hunger programs, El Salvador and those related ministries, as well as many emergency appeals. It is important that each member understands St. Stephen is a special congregation of cheerful givers. So thank you to each one of you who generously support the work we are called to in Matthew 25: 34-40.

So now it is that time of the year. While children and young ones eagerly await the coming season of Christmas, I am anticipating the weeks of preparation for the quiet that occurs after the reign of frenzy of celebrating the commercial zeal of seasonal spending and disappointed loved ones who did not get the cherished most expensive gift on their lists. Once it has quieted down following Advent and Christmas, the warm glow of Epiphany will be seductive in the lessening of energy needed to get through the weeks prior to the season of Lent. We have number of lists that need updated – the Child Protection Policy Training; the updated training for lectors, acolytes (new and old), ushers, and assisting ministers. Each training should only last half an hour, and will serve the worshipping community even better. There is also a scheduled training/retreat day for the congregational council, and no, there are no excused absences.

The coming new year promises to bring different and exciting gifts to this congregation that reaches out into our communities in such generous varieties of ways. New leadership on council, new members to the congregation, new focus on the myriad of ministries that you do without question. Just as Jesus told the parable about the bridesmaids keeping their lamps filled with oil, so they could be found by the bridegroom, so I am praying you keep the Son's light glowing in the service you do for this community. Remember, everyone is invited to come as a visitor to the council meetings. Simply let the Council President or the Pastor know

Pastor's Pen (continued)

when you would like to attend. The invitation is open, just as the doors of the church are always open to those who seek knowledge and information about the work of the church. Everyone is also invited to step up to be chair persons and lead committees. Every committee needs willing hands and faithful hearts.

Blessings for Advent, a joyous Merry Christmas, a safe Happy New Year, and a reflective, soulful Epiphany.

Your sister servant in Christ,

Pastor Lewis

Leadership Ledger

Council met on Monday November 14, 2016

Our meeting this month focused on the upcoming Annual Congregational Meeting, November 20th.

- The final budget to be presented had been previously reviewed and minor modifications had been approved via an email vote.
- Council discussed Council membership for next year. Bill Rowe, Frank Roberto and Cheryl Neidig have completed their 3 year term. Unfortunately, due to other commitments Bill and Frank are unable to rerun for another term. Cheryl has graciously agreed to run for another 3 year term. Crystal and Sara Houser (Youth representative) have graciously agreed to serve as well. We are still need additional candidates. Julie Grove is prayerfully considering serving.

- Council decided to not pursue additional contributions at the annual meeting for the ELCA / Synod Always Being Made New Campaign. In lieu of that, additional information will be provided in the next newsletter (see next page) for families that wish to learn more and contribute directly to the campaign.

Finally, Council is also planning a retreat for the new year. In lieu of our regular January meeting, we will be meeting for a one day retreat on Saturday, January 14th at St. Paul's in Enola for a planning session

As always, you are encouraged to talk to Pastor Lewis or any Council member about any of the items above or join us for any meeting.

HUG is still alive! We will be having our annual Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 6 from 9:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. As always, please bring an ornament and either a covered dish or share. Freda will provide a sign-up sheet on the "plugged in" bulletin board. Stay tuned for more. Call Leslie or Freda for more information.



5-Reasons.....

.....[You Need To Attend A Lessons And Carols Service This Christmas](#)

The original Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols began in Cambridge, England, and has migrated all over the world.

By [Cheryl Magness](#)
December 19, 2014

Almost 20 years ago, my husband and I began a new family tradition that has continued to this day. On the morning of Christmas Eve, we gather the children and sit, pajama-clad, in the family room to listen to "[A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols](#)," broadcast

live from King's College in Cambridge, England. We are a family of musicians and my husband is a full-time church worker, so it's an opportunity for us to reflect on the Christ Child's birth without the pressure of thinking about what song is coming next in the service or who is going to help sing or play it.

We print out the downloadable service folder and follow along, listening to the readings, praying the prayers, and joining in on the congregational singing. Once the broadcast is over, our day kicks into high gear as we prepare for an evening of services in our own congregation. Sometimes that has meant a second Lessons and Carols liturgy in one day. But we

count that as blessing since, for my family, as for many of the world's Christians, Lessons and Carols is one of the most meaningful parts of our Christmas celebration. If you have [*never attended a Lessons and Carols service*](#), here are five reasons to do so this year, either at a local congregation (St. Stephen Lutheran on January 1, 2017), or thanks to the wonders of technology, on the other side of the ocean.

1) You Will Hear God's Word

Lessons and Carols is not a musical concert or play, but rather the story of God's plan for the salvation of mankind as revealed in His Word. That story begins with the Genesis account of the fall of Adam and Eve and concludes with the Word made flesh in the first chapter of John. Each reading is followed by one or more carols, allowing for further meditation on the text. You will leave a Lessons and Carols service veritably drenched in Biblical language.

2) You Will Sing, and Singing Is Good

People don't sing enough anymore. (Instead, they listen to mass-produced music and possibly sing along.) Not only do people not sing anymore, they don't sing together anymore. Why do we get chills those rare times when we are at a sporting event and everyone joins in the national anthem? It's not just the song, but the corporate nature of the singing. There are very few places these days where that sort of group singing happens. People sing at birthday parties, maybe on New Year's Eve if they can remember the words to "Auld Lang Syne," and they sing in church. A Lessons and Carols service is a unique opportunity to hear and sing songs that the larger culture mostly ignores.

3) You Will Unite with Christians Across Time and Space

You will be united across time and space, not just with those standing at your left and right, but with Christians around the world both today and in the past who have listened to the same readings and sung the same texts. I am reminded [*of one of my favorite hymns*](#), not a Christmas hymn but an evening hymn, by nineteenth-century hymnist John Ellerton: "The sun, that bids us rest, is waking Thy saints beneath the western skies, And hour by hour, as day is breaking, Fresh hymns of thankful praise arise" ("The Day Thou Gavest"). There was a time the sun never set on the British Empire. That time may be past, but the sun assuredly never sets on Christ's Church, since at any given moment someone, somewhere, is praying and singing to His name.

4) You Will Be Transported to Another World

You will be transported to a world removed from the one with which you contend on a daily basis. At this

time of year, instead of allowing Christians more time for religious observance, the culture ramps up a couple of notches, mercilessly piling on the activities and special events. Even in the church, sometimes there is less interest in creating an occasion for reverence and reflection than there is in throwing a party.

There is nothing wrong with parties. But the Incarnation is the most mind-blowing, awe-inspiring event in the history of the universe, and we Christians can sometimes be strangely casual about it. We've heard it all before, donchyaknow. The other-worldliness of Lessons and Carols is a great antidote to such casualness. It will plop you down in the middle of that long-ago field with the shepherds and remind you of what it means to be sore afraid before trumpeting [*the amazing news that*](#) you need fear not because the message is one that brings good tidings of great joy for all people.

5) You Will Remember What Christmas Is All About

You will be reminded, as Linus reminded Charlie Brown, of "what Christmas is all about." At this time of year there is no shortage of "Christmas." It's everywhere, but the world's Christmas is not the Church's Christmas. Most of the "Christmas" songs you hear on the radio aren't Christmas songs at all, but celebrations of winter, family, love, giving, and peace on earth. All of those are certainly good things, but they aren't Christmas. Christmas is "Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing," and Lessons and Carols makes that abundantly clear.

Time is in short supply during the month of December. But the return on a Lessons and Carols service will far exceed the small amount of time you put into it. In Cambridge, [*some people line up days*](#) in advance in the hope of gaining admittance to the Festival of Lessons and Carols that started them all. Set aside time this Christmas season, and give yourself and your family a gift that will cost absolutely nothing but will immeasurably enrich your spirit throughout the year ahead.

*Cheryl Magness is a writer, musician, and homeschool mom. In addition to The Federalist, her work has appeared in Touchstone, American Thinker, On-Faith, and www.sisterdaughtermotherwife.com. You can find her on Twitter @CLMagness.



Always Being Made New

The Campaign for the ELCA is our opportunity to invest in the future of this church, deepen relationships and expand ministry opportunities that serve our neighbors in the United States and around the world. Visit www.elca.org/campaign-for-the-ELCA for more information.

ELCA Goals - Total campaign goal: \$198 million

Congregations

Renewing Congregations ... \$8 million
 ELCA New Congregations ... \$4 million
 Disability Ministries ... \$4 million

Leadership

ELCA Fund for Leaders ... \$15 million
 Youth and Young Adults ... \$4 million

Lower Susquehanna Synod Goals (est .2014)

Synod Ministries and New Initiatives - \$2.75 million
 and **ELCA Shared Ministries** - \$2.75 million as follows

Total campaign goal: \$5.5 million

Lutheran Camping Corporation - \$1 million

Bishop's Congregational Mission Fund - \$750,000
 Renewing Congregations & New Mission Starts

LSS Lutheran Disaster Relief - \$100,000

Synod Hunger Initiatives - \$500,000

Hunger and Poverty

ELCA World Hunger ... \$115 million
 ELCA Malaria Campaign ... \$15 million

Global Church

Global Ministries ... \$7 million
 International Women Leaders ... \$4 million
 Missionaries and Young Adults in Global Mission ... \$22 million

Seminarian Support - \$250,000

Youth and Young Adult Ministries - \$150,000

ELCA World Hunger - \$2 million

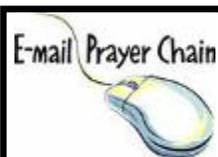
What we already give + 20%

ELCA Malaria Campaign - \$500,000

Additional ELCA Initiatives - \$250,000

ELCA Disability Ministry, International Leaders / Women,
 Missionaries & Young Adults in Global Missions,
 ELCA Fund for Leaders, Global Ministries

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

Bob Lamp	Alzheimer's disease
Hen Yohn	Health issues— Keep On!
Len Zook	Recovering from back surgery

It is with sadness that we announce the death of Lori Rae Wohler who died earlier this year. Lori is a graduate of Cumberland Valley High School and was an active member of the St. Stephen Youth Group. She was born April 4, 1961 and baptized April 21, 1973. Her father, Al, predeceased her and her mother, Loretta, lives in Maryland. Her sister, Cindy, provided much care and love as Huntington's Disease incapacitated Lori during the last ten years of her life. Her contagious smile, bright eyes, and can do attitude were traits that marked her bright personality. Notes of condolence can be sent to her sister Cindy Wohler at 242 Bayville Ave. Bayville, NY 11709. Lori's brother, Larry, lives in Vermont.

El Salvador

SOLAR CELL PROJECT UPDATE IN PUENTE AZUL – ½ way there!

Here it is 2016 and yes, it remains common for entire rural communities in El Salvador to be living without electricity OR water. Community is at the heart of Salvadoran living. It is a better use of time, funds, and efforts to help an entire community rather than one family.

Working closely together with a committee in that community regarding all decisions, an Indiana group began installing solar cells by phase in July, 2011, using the lottery system as to which homes would receive them first.

The original phase was for 81 families to receive panels as funds became available. They cost \$1500 per solar panel.

This past summer the group completed phase five of installing 13 panels. This brings the total to 42; the half-way point of their goal.

We are pleased to be able to continue supporting this noble project financially thanks to your donations to El Salvador. Two of our scholarship students live here. (As an aside, this community still has no water supply; yet, their leaders chose electricity as a priority over water.)



Education

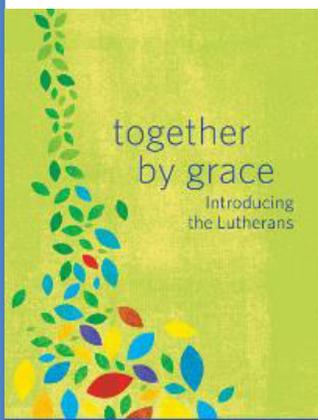
One Synod One Book Study

Tuesdays at 10 a.m.

Dec 6, Dec 13, Dec 20, Jan 10, Jan 17, Jan 24

Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.

Dec 1, Dec 8, Dec 15 and Jan 5, Jan 12, Jan 19



Edited by Kathryn A. Kleinhans

Courageous. Trailblazing. Diverse. Action-oriented. When people think of the various Christian churches, those words might not be ones they attach to the Lutherans—but they should be! Yes, we have roots in northern Europe, but Lutherans offer liberating insights into Christian faith, encompass a worldwide reach, and tell a story that goes back 500 years while pointing to the future.

This book takes us on a journey across this broad landscape of faith and time. Over two dozen gifted writers—scholars, pastors, leaders, activists—paint a colorful map for this journey. Newcomers will find intriguing entry points, and lifelong Lutherans will discover new dimensions. Whether it's a passion for a grace-filled theology, worship and music that lift spirits, or a deep concern for wholeness and justice, Lutherans are engaged in the world.

Join us for an in-depth look at the book on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Parlor.

Rejoicing Spirits

“Here I Am”

Isiah 6:1-8 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a very high and wonderful throne. His long robe filled the Temple. Seraph angels stood around him. Each angel had six wings. They used two wings to cover their faces, two wings to cover their bodies, and two wings to fly. The angels were calling to each other, “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord All-Powerful. His Glory fills the whole earth.” The sound was so loud that it caused the frame around the door to shake, and the Temple was filled with smoke.

I was frightened and said, “Oh, no! I will be destroyed. I am not pure enough to speak to God, and I live among people who are not pure enough to speak to him. But I have seen the King, the Lord All-Powerful.” There was a fire on the altar. One of the Seraph angels used a pair of tongs to take a hot coal from the fire. Then the angel flew to me with it in his hand. Then he touched my mouth with the hot coal and said, “When this hot coal touched your lips, your guilt was taken away, and your sins were erased.”

Then I heard the Lord’s voice, saying, “Who can I send? Who will go for us?” So I said, “Here I am. Send me!”

It was wonderful to worship with Sybil and her brother Mike again this month! After our reading, Pastor Lewis reviewed 10 pictures with us and we talked about all the places God is found, and sometimes, not where we expect him. Certainly God is with us in worship, but God was also with a father comforting his daughter in a shelter; families and friends were playing games; there were families in a shelter, grateful that someone thought of them and were able to provide a place for them to sleep; and a man, alone on a hill after what appears to be a long hike. God connects us all through love and relationship.

Isiah didn’t feel worthy to answer God’s call. And sometimes we don’t either. But God’s love and care is a part of all of us. God tells us “You are worthy.” Now, it is up to us to stand up and say “Here I am, send me!”

Please include our prayer requests with your prayers

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this month:

Pastor Lewis asked that God bless our lives with love, caring and kindness; and bless us to use those gifts to say “Here I am”

Pastor Lewis asked for comfort for Elizabeth who’s family cat passed away after 16 loving years together Rose prayed for guidance and opening doors for her son, Matt. She also prayed for her daughters, Niki and Kelsey.

Terri offered prayers of thanks to God for the harvest, there are so many to feed.

Sybil prayed for her brother Mike and for Patty, two of the many people who love her dearly.

We celebrated birthdays this month! Please keep our birthday rejoicers in your prayers:

Jane – 10/1

Terri – 10/4

Sybil – 11/16

David - 12/1

Judy – 12/2

Please consider supporting RS by volunteering your time or donating some fellowship food items for our service. Contact Becky Rensel at 766-6478 or becren2007@gmail.com if you are able to help. Food items needed include: chips, pretzels, cupcakes, cookies, yogurt (for our members with swallowing difficulties), or drinks.

Come Rejoice With Us!

December 11th

3:45 p.m. Pre-Worship Sing-Along

4 p.m. Service

St. Stephen Rejoicing Spirits Supports



Stewardship

As we close out 2016, let us review the 10 Stewardship Principles. The following principles provide a foundation for the life of a faithful and generous steward.

1. **Respond gratefully....** "...but they gave themselves first to the Lord." **2 Corinthians 8:5**
2. **Obey responsibly....** "...you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ." **2 Corinthians 9:13**
3. **Sacrifice proportionately...** "...gave according to their means, and even beyond their means." **2 Corinthians 8:3**
4. **Give willingly...** "For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave..." **2 Corinthians 8:3**
5. **Share abundantly...** "...and God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work." **2 Corinthians 9:9**
6. **Give proportionately...** "If the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have." **2 Corinthians 8:12**
7. **Commit intentionally...** "arrange in advance for this bountiful gift that you have promised." **2 Corinthians 9:5**
8. **Contribute regularly...** "On the first day of every week, each of you is to put aside and save whatever extra you earn." **1 Corinthians 16:2**
9. **Live genuinely...** "I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others." **2 Corinthians 8:8**
10. **Accept a challenge...** "the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully." **2 Corinthians 9:6**

Special Occasions



ANNIVERSARIES

Carol Scheffer	1-Dec	Garrett Treaster	20-Dec
Bill McCormick III	6-Dec	Nikolaus Lewis	22-Dec
Amber Fabian	9-Dec	Benjamin Burson III	23-Dec
Glenn Foxx	19-Dec	Peggy Weigel	23-Dec
Marcia Lamp	19-Dec	Kaitlyn Treaster	26-Dec
Jay Livingston	20-Dec	Barbara Gordy	27-Dec
Stephanie Sauve	20-Dec		

Matt & Stacy Schroeder	4-Dec
Randy & Cheryl Neidig	6-Dec
Lee & Ginny Buzilow	12-Dec
Frank & June Roberto	27-Dec

Olivia Hoke	3-Jan	Dennis Filipovich	16-Jan
Norman Stoner	4-Jan	Tina Gordon	18-Jan
Pat Seiple	5-Jan	Carol Shenk	19-Jan
Christine Stallkamp	7-Jan	Kenneth Wyland	19-Jan
Glenn Gross	8-Jan	Mason Haggerty	22-Jan
Jean Whitehead	9-Jan	Robert Lamp	22-Jan
Kenneth Wiest	9-Jan	Cory Sauve	22-Jan
Cheryl Neidig	10-Jan	Colt Clelan	25-Jan
Greg John	13-Jan	Marianne Stoner	28-Jan
Austin Michael Batcheler	14-Jan	James Grimm	29-Jan

Wayne & Beth Lengel	7-Jan
Richard & Patricia Lingle	19-Jan
Harold & Sandra Bower	21-Jan
Paul & Eugenia Monko	24-Jan

Worship Assistants for December

New Spirit December/January 8

	December 4		December 11		December 18		December 24		December 25	
	8:00 am	10:45 am	8:00 am	10:45 am	8:00 am	10:45 am	5:00pm	7:00/11:00pm	8:00 am	10:45 am
Acolyte	David Herb	Randy Neidig	Sara Houser	Carly Gordon	David Herb		David Herb		David Herb	Jenna Gordon
Lector	Bonnie Baim	Carol Clelland	Sue Rodgers	Tina Gordon	Laura Wills				Pat Seiple	Kathy Burson
Cantor	Beth Lengel	Art Grove	Paulette Krewson	Greg John	Lynne Immell	Kathy Burson			Beth Lengel	
Assisting Minister	Sara Houser	Julie Grove	Beth Lengel	Julie Grove	Crystal Houser	Julie Grove			Lynne Immell	Julie Grove
Communion	Sue Rodgers	Kathy Burson	Ja 'net Grey	Tom Burson	Daryl Gochenauer	Greg John			Lloyd Sheaffer	Carol Clelland
Ushers	Marty Baim Bonnie Bam Alan Gamble Glenn Gross	Doug Tobin Jordon Brown	Marty Baim Bonnie Bam Alan Gamble Glenn Gross	Doug Tobin Jordon Brown	Marty Baim Bonnie Bam Alan Gamble Glenn Gross	Doug Tobin Jordon Brown			Marty Baim Bonnie Bam Alan Gamble Glenn Gross	Doug Tobin Jordon Brown
Greeter	Dan Lebo	Frank & June Roberto	Bev Caley & Stephanie Sauve	Robert Hansen	Dolores Lebo	Ken & Carol Clelland				Earl & Lorraine Bock
Altar Guild	Maxine & John Montgomery		Sue Rodgers		Mary Zook		Cheryl & Korra Neidig		Cheryl & Korra Neidig	
Counters	Art & Julie Grove; Parker Lee									

December 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 9:00a Quilting 6:30p Book Study	2	3 9:30a 4-H Creative Expressions Club
4 8:00a Worship 9:30a Legacy Workshop 10:45a Worship 2:00p Dulcimer's practice	5 6:00p Boy Scouts	6 10:00a Bible Study 6:30p HUG Christmas Party	7 6:00p Quilting 6:00p Fitness 4 Focus 6:00p Chimes Rehearsal 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	8 9:00a Quilting 6:30p Book Study	9	10
11 8:00a Worship 9:30a Sunday School 10:45a Worship 4:00p Rejoicing Spirits	12 6:00p Boy Scouts 7:00p Congregation Council Meeting	13 10:00a Bible Study	14 6:00p Quilting 6:00p Fitness 4 Focus 6:00p Chimes Rehearsal 6:00p Stewardship Committee Meeting 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	15 9:00a Quilting 6:30p Book Study	16	17 8:00a Men's Breakfast 5:00p Community Meal
18 8:00a Worship 9:30a Sunday School 10:45a Worship	19 6:00p Boy Scouts 7:00p Evangelism Committee Meeting	20 10:00a Bible Study	21 6:00p Quilting 6:00p Fitness 4 Focus 6:00p Chimes Rehearsal 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	22 9:00a Quilting	23	24 5:00p Christmas Eve Svc 7:00p Christmas Eve Svc 11:00p Christmas Eve Svc
25 Christmas Day 9:30a Worship	26 6:00p Boy Scouts	27 9:00a The Breakfast Club 10:00a Bible Study	28 6:00p Quilting 6:00p Fitness 4 Focus 6:00p Chimes Rehearsal 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	29 9:00a Quilting	30	31

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



Interim Pastor: *Pastor Rochelle Lewis*
pastor@ststephenlc.org

Organist & Choir Director: *Steve Pastena*
music@StStephenLC.org

Parish Office Manager: *Kevin Stafford*
office@StStephenLC.org

Custodian: *Michael Wogan*

Don't forget the special Worship & Fellowship opportunities in December and January



December 24
5pm Christmas Eve Service
7pm Christmas Eve Service
11pm Christmas Eve Service

December 25
9:30am Christmas Service
The Rev. Stewart J. Hardy will be preaching



Men's Fellowship Breakfast
December 17 @ 9am
January 21 @ 9am

Community Meals
December 17 @ 5:00pm
January 21 @ 5pm



Houston, we have a Gathering! If you're already suffering from the winter blahs, you'll perk up when you start to think about the sultry summer weather in Houston that we'll be experiencing in the summer of 2018 at the next ELCA Youth Gathering! The Gathering will take place June 27-July 1, 2018, but our planning for the trip begins now! If you are an adult who is interested in attending the Gathering this year, there will be a special leadership meeting scheduled in January to start to organize our group. You do NOT need to have youth attending the Gathering to join us as an adult. Please contact Katie (or Pastor Lewis) asap to let her know of your interest so that she can inform you of the meeting date. Youth who are interested in attending the Gathering should also let Katie know of their interest and plan to attend an informational meeting with their parents on Sunday, February 26 at 12:30 at St Stephen Lutheran Church. If you have questions about the Gathering or have any interest in the trip at all, we'd love to see you there!



Hospital Admissions

Please let the church office and/or Pastor Lewis 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 (717-579-5209, at any time) will help the Pastor respond to you with care, prayer, and support.