



The Quill

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Williamsburg, Virginia

March 2019



HOW MIGHT YOU GIVE TIME AND TALENT TO OUR MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND HEALING?

When God took on our human flesh in Jesus, Jesus brought healing into our physical illnesses and disabilities, our emotional distress, and our spiritual emptiness. We in our congregation provide a healing space, bringing that healing from Christ to those who are suffering from physical, emotional and spiritual maladies.

Marcie Clark, RN, has been our Parish Nurse for eight years, and what a difference she has made for our consciousness of how important health and healing is, as we minister to each other. A year ago, Diana Tiller-Dichtel, RN, joined Marcie as a Parish Nurse in our congregation. Now, Diana's presence is allowing Marcie to step back from being Parish Nurse. (No one should be "stuck" with a church job forever!) Marcie will continue to be part of our health ministry, on call for our team of visitors to those in need of healing.

Diana will take leadership of our Health Ministry in April. This gives us a great opportunity to ask how you might give your time and talent to our Health Ministry – as an Educator, Counselor, an Advocate, a Coordinator, or an Administrator. (Those are the areas of our health ministry in the Parish Nurse Position Description. If you'd like a copy, let us know and we'll e-mail you one!)

Would you like some ideas of how you can participate? How about these:

- Would you like to recruit and coordinate a schedule of folks to write monthly health articles for the *Quill* and/or the Sunday bulletin? Or maybe you'd like to be one of the team of writers?
- Would you like to coordinate drivers and those needing rides?
- Would you like to write cards offering hope and cheer to St. Stephen folks who are going through difficult times?
- Would you like to be the one to schedule our annual CPR training?
- Would you like to schedule medical folks in our congregation to offer our monthly blood pressure screening? (With our physicians, EMTs, nurses, there are plenty of folks who could help with this!)
- Would you like to gather ideas schedule speakers for various topics?
- Or would you like to plug in as a helper with any of these ministries?

What else can you think of? What are your ideas on health topics, programs, educational offerings that would be of interest and benefit our congregation?

Parish Nurse Diana Tiller-Dichtel
Pastor Cheryl Ann Griffin
Pastor Andy Ballentine



Wednesdays in Lent Nourishing Worship and Food!

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, March 6. Schedule of worship and fellowship:

- **7:00 AM** and **Noon:** Worship at St. Martin's Episcopal Church, featuring the invitation to observe Lent, ashes, and Holy Communion.
- **6:00 PM:** Pot luck meal in the St. Stephen Fellowship Hall.
- **7:00 PM:** Worship at St. Stephen, featuring the invitation to observe Lent, ashes, and Holy Communion.

Wednesday evenings in Lent: March 13, 20, 27, April 3, and 10, at St. Stephen:

- **6:00 PM:** soup and bread suppers. (*Sign up to bring homemade soup and/or bread, in the Gathering Space.*)
- **7:00 PM:** Holden Evening Prayer

MEN'S & WOMEN'S BREAKFASTS



- **March 5** – Women are invited to join together for breakfast the first **Tuesday** of this month.
- **March 7** – Men are invited to join together for breakfast the first **Thursday** of this month.

Both gatherings take place at **8:00 AM** at the Colonial Pancake House, at the corner of Page Street and Penniman Road, Williamsburg, VA. The get-togethers promote conversation and friendship in a casual setting.

WE NEED YOU!



For me, the health ministry is a living part of the church. It grows and shrinks, it flexes and bends. It changes as the congregation changes. It is needed to bridge the gap of knowing what to do when facing life's challenges. But it only

happens when people get involved.

We are a community and we help each other. This is very rewarding work and is not a huge commitment. The more people who help, the easier it becomes. How do we do that, you say?

- We coordinate rides for those who need rides, whether to an appointment, church or to exercise. We need someone to help make that connection.
- We stay in touch with people who are unable to get to church. We need someone to help send cards and remembrances to the shut-ins.
- We check in on new mothers and help when needed.
- We listen to what is being said in the congregation and make note if someone says: "I wish I knew where to get help with this or I wish they would give a talk on this." We need people to sit and talk about where help is needed and what is available.

Do any of these sound good to you? Do you like to do blood pressures? There are so many ways to help. Saint Mother Teresa says we pray that God will guide us to do whatever we are supposed to do, whatever we can. I pray that you will take a few minutes to listen and see if God is speaking to you. Do you feel God is speaking to you about the Health Ministry? My door is open. Let's talk.

Diana Tiller-Dichtel, Parish Nurse



STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. STEPHEN



The Stephen Ministry and Confidentiality

Confidentiality is critically important in the Stephen Ministry Program. It is a guiding principle to which Stephen Ministers are ethically bound. The Care Giver/Care Receiver relationship is founded on absolute trust. Each Stephen Minister is required by the program to ensure that all conversations between the Care Giver and the Care Receiver remain private. Even the identity of the Care Receiver is kept confidential by the program. Only the referral source knows who is paired with which Stephen Minister.

There is a Stephen Ministry Peer/Supervision Meeting that occurs regularly. Even there, confidentiality is maintained by not revealing names or specific circumstances which would identify the Care Receiver. All communications between the Care Givers and Care Receivers, all observations, impressions or records that Care Givers gather about their Care Receivers remain confidential. The only exception occurs when the Care Receiver gives permission to share them.

The Care Receiver needs to be able to trust the Stephen Minister with sharing his or her most painful issues and feelings. Often the Care Receiver may not want to reveal their feelings to friends or family but may do so with a Stephen Minister.

Confidentiality is also a learned skill that is practiced by Stephen Ministers during the 50-hour training course in the Stephen Minister Program. Maintaining confidentiality is an expression of the self-control that is mentioned as a "fruit of the spirit" in Galatians 5:22-23.

Volunteers to participate in the Stephen Ministry Program either as a Stephen Minister or as a Care Receiver are needed and wanted! (Care Receivers who are experiencing life changes or difficult circumstances, and wanting to receive services are volunteers too!) To inquire, you may contact either **Pastor Andy Ballantine** or **Pastor Cheryl Griffin**, or **Stephen Minister Leader Jane Wills**. Jane's email address is wilspwr@gmail.com and phone number is (703) 989-

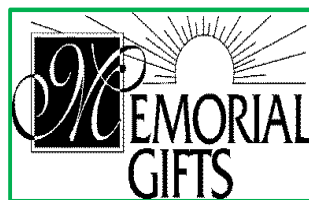
4118. Additionally you may come to the "Gathering Space" on the **third Sunday of each month between 9:45 and 10:45 AM** to speak with a Stephen Minister or the **Stephen Minister Leader Jane Wills**.

Cyndy Touhsaent, Stephen Minister

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

2	Paul Lawson	Rebecca Timberg
3	Sarah Harms	Janice Mayfield
4	Shelley Delehanty	Christine White
5	Dave Gamble	Reed Nester
6	Jennifer Martin	
7	Gary Chenault	
8	Janet Higgs	
9	John McCurry	Spencer Sipes
10	Marilyn Mallue	Rachel Vanlandingham
11	James Wiers	
12	Stan Hobday	Alexander Stauffer
	Rachael Wiers	
13	Preston Burton	
14	Susan Kauffman	Daniel Walker
16	Pam Buckley	Jeanne Garrison
17	Karen Einarsen	Pat Gamble
18	Hans Tiefel	
19	Ina Berkey	Erika Rinehimer
21	Jane deSolms	
22	Matthias Hallman	
24	Julian Jefferson	
26	Stew Fretz	
27	Bill Arnold	
28	Joyce Behlendorf	JR Griffin
	Erik McKenna	
	John Watson	
31	Margaret Krull	



Karen VanRosendale

Susan Britcher
Henry and Marilyn Mallue
Jim and Gayle Matyiko
Tom and Sandy Peterkin
Harvey and Doris Margulies

Thank You!



As we at COFM reflect on the ways God has blessed us in 2018, we give thanks for you. Your generous donation of \$1,000 to the Community of Faith Mission (COFM)

will enable COFM to continue its mission of providing emergency food and shelter to the most vulnerable in our community. We are doubly blessed by St. Stephen Lutheran Church through this donation and your active enthusiasm as a COFM Shelter Partner with Williamsburg United Methodist Church in December.

Without the compassion, kindness and hospitality of thousands of volunteers from our shelter hosts and partners, and generous donations such as yours, COFM would not succeed as the area's only emergency winter shelter program for men, women and families.

Homelessness is a community concern and we greatly appreciate your donation to help support our mission.

Sue Xander, Community of Faith Mission Board of Directors, Secretary



On behalf of From His Hands and the people we serve we would like to thank you for the generous donation of \$200. St. Stephen's dedication in serving those in need is a testament of Christ's love to

those who may not know Him.

From His Hands is 100% volunteers and your check will go directly to serving meals to those we serve residing in motels. In 2018 approximately 10,000 meals were served and this act of service could not have been made possible without donations and the wonderful volunteers of St. Stephen.

Kim Romberg, From His Hands Treasurer



FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

Typically, first or second grade is the age for First Communion Class. But there are exceptions! Ask yourselves the following questions: Does my child show interest in communion, and a curiosity as to what is it about? Does my child have the attention span to pay attention in class? (I will make learning fun!) With gaining understanding of this sacrament, will my child be respectful in receiving communion? Speak with **Pastor Griffin** if you have questions, or if you and your child plan to attend.

First Communion classes will be on Sundays following the second service. **We will meet for 45 minutes in the Fellowship Hall at 12:30 on February 24, March 10, March 24, and March 31.** (No class on March 3 or March 17.) Please bring a bagged lunch!! One adult from each family should attend with their child(ren).

First Communion will be on **April 7**, the Sunday before Palm Sunday.

Pastor Cheryl Ann Griffin



THE CHURCH MOUSE HEARS

. . . that **Carol Meyer** (third from left) had a major role in the Williamsburg Players' production of "Enchanted April." Set in the 1920s, the play follows four British women who think an extended vacation might help them resolve issues in their romantic lives.



NEW MEMBER PICTURES



Karen Arledge



Craig and Pam Little



John Gregoire and his wife Nancy



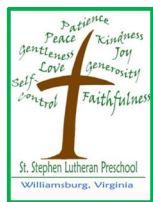
Ryan Lohrengel



Christine, Steve and Sharon Jacobs



Bob and Holly Newsome

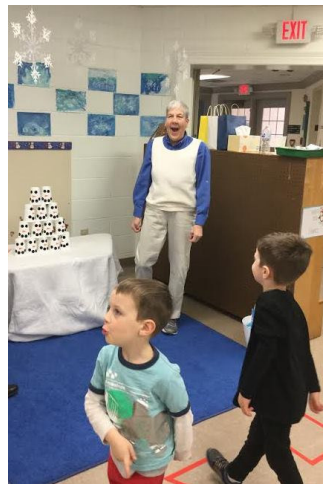


ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

Our Annual Winter Carnival was a smashing success! We had Preschool and Church families and extended families. Alumni of our Preschool also attended. Thanks so much to Sherry Phipps for her leadership on the Preschool Fundraising Committee, comprised of Preschool parents and members of our congregation. The committee, chaired by Kathy Skube, coordinated the games and activities and our congregation came and supervised them so that our parents could enjoy the afternoon with their children. More than 40 people helped to make this event the success that it was. Thank you!



Fun and Games at
the Winter Carnival



All are invited to join our Preschool as we sponsor a **Shrove Tuesday/Pancakes & PJs dinner on Tuesday, March 5**. We will serve pancakes with all sorts of wonderful toppings, sausage, orange juice, coffee and tea. Tickets are \$7.00; children aged 2 and under are free. Proceeds will go toward enhancing the programming in the Preschool.

We had a visit from the tooth fairy in February and enjoyed a STEAM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Art-Math) Father's night. The children and their fathers worked their way through various science stations.



We will hold our annual **Books & Breakfast event** with our parents on **Thursday, February 28 and Friday, March 1**. Children are encouraged to bring in a book that they are willing to donate and pick up a "new" book for them to take home. Parents read to their children and enjoy a breakfast treat. We will begin registration for our Summer Camp on those days, too.

Thank you for supporting our Preschool. Together, we are making such a difference in our children's lives.

Sandy Peterkin, Administrator



**VIRGINIA SYNOD
WOMEN'S
ORGANIZATION
RETREAT**

Save the date for the 2019 Virginia Synod Women's Organization Retreat! **Friday, August 2 to Saturday August 3**, the VWSO Retreat will be held at First Lutheran Church in Norfolk. The organization hopes that this location will allow women in our area who have never attended before be able to join them for this event. More information will be published as we get closer to August. If you are interested, talk with **Pastor Griffin**.

Pastor Cheryl Ann Griffin



MARCH BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

The significance of baptism, Luther teaches in the *Small Catechism*, is "that the old creature in us with all sins and evil desires is to be drowned and die through daily contrition and repentance, and on the other hand that daily a new person is to come forth and rise up to live before God in righteousness and purity forever."

Your baptismal anniversary is an opportunity to light a baptismal candle and to give some prayer time to reflecting on your experiences during the past year on your journey in faith!

Pastor Andy Ballentine

3	Marj Gottschalk-Trone
6	Larry Shoberg
9	Greta Zimbauer
17	Holly Newsome
18	Janice Mayfield
22	Joyce Behlendorf
31	Wesley Vanlandingham

Were you baptized in March, but your name isn't on the list above? Let us know!

PRAYERS



We give thanks for the ministry of Pastor Cheryl Griffin among us! February 2 was Pastor Griffin's fifth anniversary of arriving at St. Stephen.

We thank God for blessing Angie Groom with 91 years of life! Send her a card!

Join your prayers for healing with God's desires for John Allen, Joe Beene, Pat Gamble, Erika Geier, Michelle Ivey, Janice Svendsen, and Karl Zimbauer.

Pray the blessings of resurrection faith for Forrest Fenstermaker and family on the death of his sister, Alice Baum; and for Ernie Schwab and family on the death of his sister.

Pray God's blessings on the new ministry of Pastor Alex Witt with the people of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Norge.

Pray God's blessings on those in our community who have no permanent home and on those serving them through the Community of Faith Mission.

Pray for those unable to come to worship: Bill Arnold, Doris Bass, Preston and Birdie Burton, Gene and Martha Clements, Bob and Angie Groom, Elsie Hall, Stan Hobday, Mary Jamerson, Helen Lenox, Billie Jo Purse, Dick Reeves, Jessie Schmitthenner, Jo Schumacher, Jean Shivel, Joanne Shue, Jerry Trone, Corky Umberger, Ladonna Wiederholt.

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Jon Alt, Mary Ann Arnold, Philip Arnold, Jane Ayers, Bill Beck, Eliza Bicknell, Tom and Bea Black, Blume family, Lonnie C., Marla Canny, Elaine Cari, Alan Clem, Patti Clem, Michael Cline, Rosemarie Cristofolo, Robin Daniel, Steven Dressler, Paul Dwiggin, Tabitha Dyess, Diann Ehlers, Inge Felbier, Mary Fitzgerald, Ward and Betty Frazee, David Gade, Laurie Giner, Andrea Gonzalez-Flatin, Bill Gottschalk, Ellen Green, Virginia Lee Groves, JoAnn Hecker, Sharon Hegland, Emily Holdredge, Jim Howington, Rick Jackson, John Jacob, Sharon Janot, Jerome Johnson, Leesa Keene, Wendy Kent, Fran Kibler, Chris Kinney, Art Kirk, Barbara Knight, Rebecca Krueger, Terry Krull, Mary Alice Kuntz, Douglas Lankford, Mildred Lindblad, Jackie Lohr, Jackie Mereness, Heidi Morris, Dorothy Myers, Lenore Myers, Eric Nelson, Mary Newberg, Carmela Oliver, Sue Plevelich, Dino Polizois, Vivian Reaver, Katherine Reier, Jenny Rice, Shann Rufer, Marion Seidl, Inge Seiter, Luke Short, Shumacker family, Patricia Simpson, James Smith, Evelyn Spear, Jerry Spear, Jennifer St. Clair, Linda Thies, Cassie Wallace, Charley Underdahl, Donna Wood, Peggy Williams, Terry Wilson, Sandra Wimbush, Peggy Wright, Aaron Zabell, and Diane Zulawski



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<i>Interim Treasurer</i>	Jane deSolms	565-5646
<i>Financial Secretary</i>	Linda Vonderheide	645-4059
<i>Congregational Secretary</i>	Carol Wiers	564-0164

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email: All email addresses are:
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<i>Pastor</i>	Cheryl Ann Griffin	876-6371
	email	Pastorc@

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<i>Director of Music</i>	Karen Ives	MusicDir@
<i>Parish Nurses</i>	Marcie Clark	Parishnursemc@
	Diana Tiller-Dichtel	Parishnursedt@
<i>Preschool Lead Teacher</i>	Susan Ruane	Preschool@

Church Council:

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