



The Quill

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Williamsburg, Virginia

November 2014

Stained Glass Windows and Johann Sebastian Bach



A few weeks ago, it was brought to our attention during the 11:00 AM worship service that one of the lights contained in the dome above the altar was on the verge of falling down. During that time, my eyes wandered to the stained glass.

The use of stained glass windows in churches and monasteries dates back to the seventh century. It reached its height in the Middle Ages. During this time, they were primarily used for education, since most of the population was illiterate. Nowadays, stained glass windows are not generally used for these purposes, but they can still be found in many churches today.

Each stained glass window in the St. Stephen sanctuary features a person who was significant in the development of Christianity and/or the Lutheran church. The one that stood out the most to me, being a church musician, is the window that depicts Johann Sebastian Bach. Not only is Bach recognized as being one of the greatest musicians of all time, he is also one of the greatest Lutheran musicians of all time. In addition, a great deal of emphasis has always been placed on music in the Lutheran church. During Bach's lifetime, he was employed in the sacred world as a church musician, and as a court musician in the secular world. Here, he is in his clothing that he wore when he was a court musician, and he is standing with a harpsichord (a keyboard instrument, similar to the piano and organ).

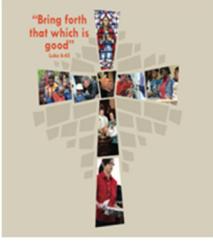
Although most of us in today's society do not rely on windows to help teach us various parts of biblical history, the use of them in sacred spaces adds beauty, and helps to continue a timeless tradition.

Marty Barstow



Thanksgiving Worship

Thanksgiving Worship for members of St. Stephen Lutheran Church and St. Martin Episcopal Church will happen in our worship space **Tuesday, November 25 at 7:00 PM.** Worshipers will have the opportunity to stand at their places and share thanksgivings and share the Lord's Supper.



The 1956 Society Halfway to Goal, Focused on St. Stephen's 60th Anniversary

The Endowment Fund Committee gives thanks for all of those who have joined The 1956 Society. The 1956 Society has 25 members and total estimated pledging to the Endowment Fund of over \$600,000, toward our goal of \$1.2 million by 2016.

The 1956 Society is made up of persons who have given or declared their intent to give to St. Stephen's Endowment Fund, including provisions in wills and trusts. Twenty-three charter members were recognized at a dinner held in the spring 2014.

St. Stephen Lutheran Church Bylaws state *"the Endowment Fund shall be used for*

- *outreach and ministry of the church;*
- *above the operating budget of the congregation; and*
- *not in replacement of regular congregational giving toward benevolence."*

If you wish to designate a specific purpose for an endowed gift, now or in the future, it's a good idea to consult with a member of the Endowment Fund Committee.

When you stop and think about it, expressing thanks now for a bequest that will be received at some point in the future, reminds us that the time will come when we may not be able to express gratitude to our benefactors. This is why The 1956 Society was created.

The Endowment Fund Committee invites anyone to become a member of The 1956 Society simply by completing the post card available in the pews. If you are already a member, you are welcome to report your intentions confidentially to the Endowment Financial Secretary, Lou Rossiter. You would know that future generations would benefit and be grateful for your legacy gift.

The Endowment Fund goal is \$1.2 million to be attained by 2016 to celebrate St Stephen's 60th Anniversary. Please join other members of The 1956 Society in helping to reach this goal of financial security for St. Stephen.

Questions or comments about the Endowment Fund, including the options you have for creating a legacy gift, may be directed to any member of the Endowment Committee.

Gerri Bass, Ingrid Brown, Gary Krull, Jan MacQuestion and Lou Rossiter



Come to Marty Barstow's Organ Recital At Bruton

When: **Thursday, November 13 at 8:00 PM**
 Where: Bruton Parish Episcopal Church
 What: St. Stephen Director of Music, Marty Barstow

The free Candlelight Concert program will consist of great classics, as well as settings of familiar hymn tunes.

All are warmly invited!



St. Stephen October Council Minutes

The Council met on October 21, 2014.

- Liaisons for Church Committees were assigned:
Campus Ministry- Terry Hinders; Evangelism-

Emily Rossiter; Faith Formation Coordinating- Brad Leek; Finance- Rob Radke; Health Ministry- Bob Hanny; Parish Life- Stan York; Personnel- Dave Clark; Preschool- Linda Hite; Property- Rob Radke; Social Ministries Coordinating- Pat Janot; Stewardship- Keith Egloff; Worship & Music- Cathy Bingman; and Youth- Amy Bergh.

- Since the sale of the 608 Jamestown Road property will be voted upon at the January 2015 Congregational Meeting, Council discussed forming a 608 Oversight Committee before the congregational meeting. Names of people for the committee were suggested. The committee would supervise the sale of the property and discuss issues including, but not limited to, needed repairs/improvements, possible sale price for the house, contacting Thrivent member who has a financial interest in the sale, and engaging a realtor.
- Council discussed and approved the serving of champagne in the gathering space after an upcoming wedding in the sanctuary. The policy of serving an alcoholic beverage at St. Stephen is handled on a case-by-case basis.
- **Pastor Ballentine** asked Council members to offer their thoughts about how the pastors should respond when they receive a request for a same-sex marriage. The pastors' practice at St. Stephen is not to officiate at weddings unless one of the two who are desiring marriage has either a worship life at, or a relationship, to our congregation. The consensus of Council members is to continue following that practice with all requests for weddings. Council members cited our St. Stephen Mission Statement: "To invite all to grow in celebration of God's grace through Word and sacrament, to love and sustain one another and to serve others in the community and in the world." Pastor Griffin reported that the ELCA and the Virginia Synod are working on resources and liturgies for same-sex marriages.

Keith T. Egloff, acting Secretary



Health Ministry

Some Fire Safety Thoughts



As cold weather approaches many of us move inside to warm ourselves in front of fireplaces. To celebrate the holidays, we light bright seasonal candle. What follows is an article that gives us pause. Thank you to **Dave Clark** for reminding us about fire safety.

When was the last time you worried about dying in a fire?

- To put things in perspective, during the 10 years of the Viet Nam war about 58,000 American soldiers died. That averages out to 5,800 per year. Remember all the turmoil of those years?
- Well, during those same 10 years, more than 12,000 Americans died each year in fires. However, nobody protested, marched, or got upset by over twice as many fire deaths each year. We just accepted them as a fact of life. In 2013, fires took the lives of 3,240 Americans.

Today, thanks to smoke detectors and an emphasis on fire prevention the number of annual fire deaths has been reduced significantly, but they still occur daily at over half the rate of Viet Nam.

- A large percentage of these fire deaths involve the elderly and the very young.

Most people who die in fires did not expect to do so then, but something happened, and they did.

- As I often say, there are three common causes of fires: men, women, and children.
- They either do something they should not, or they do not do something that they should, and a fire results.

Particularly as holidays and winter approach, be careful with candles and other open flames, combustibles too near fireplaces and heating devices, cooking, overloaded electrical outlets and drop cords, and flammable liquids. Always think safety!

One of the best things you can do to protect yourself and family is to install **smoke** and **CO detectors**. Remember to test them frequently, and change the batteries at least annually. **(Check yours today!)**

Fires grow and spread fast, and a room can flash over in total flames in only two minutes or so.

- Plastics which compose most of our home's contents are basically solidified gasoline and burn intensely producing thick dark highly toxic smoke.
- Modern building materials and methods result in rapid fire spread and can collapse in four minutes. Thus, you need to be alerted of and escape a fire very quickly.

Just as schools have periodic fire drills, it is a good idea to do the same at home.

- Have an escape plan, sleep with your bedroom door shut (to keep fire and smoke out and buy you time), stay low as you exit, have an agreed on outside meeting place, and call the fire department (from cell phone or neighbor's) after you have left the house.

Don't think a fire won't happen to you. Several years ago I surveyed a group of 120 retired college professors, administrators, and staff, and more than 90% of them had had to call the fire department for an actual fire (not for EMS) at least once in their lives.

Be prepared, and put the odds on your side.

David F. Clark

FISH, INC. 

Tuesdays at FISH!

Once again our congregation has the opportunity to volunteer to sort and size clothing at FISH. November Tuesdays are designated as St. Stephen Lutheran Tuesdays, to help during two shifts each week. **Morning times are 9:15 AM-12 noon and afternoon times are 1:00 AM to 3:00 PM.** Or you may stay all day and bring a bag lunch. Coffee is served. It is mostly seated work and a great opportunity to assist a wonderful community outlet for people in need. FISH furnishes clothing, some small housewares, food, and medical appointment transportation to those in emergency situations. As we assist in sizing and marking clothing, we have a good time getting better acquainted.

Please consider signing up on the chart in the Gathering Space. Questions? **Call 229-7504 and ask for Dianne Harris.**

The Mouse Hears



- Many of us "old folks" remember **Joel Neubauer** who was one of our LSAers and now the new pastor of St. Mark Lutheran Church in Yorktown. Congratulations! Congratulations also to **Chris Carr** who is now with Christ the King in suburban Richmond – serving with **Randy Lohr** – both LSAers. (Randy is also **Jack and Dianne Harris'** son-in-law.) **Laura Tancredi**, former LSAer, is at St. Paul's Lutheran in Ardmore, PA. Wow!
- One more wheelchair ramp thanks to **Harlan Schone's** Lutheran team: Bob Harman, Glenn Joppa, John McCurry, and John Moravetz.



- The choir party on a beautiful day saying welcome to **Marty Barstow!**



- Pastor Cheryl's first women's breakfast was a real success with 23 St. Stephen women enjoying each other's company at IHOP



- Nice seeing **Ingrid Brown's** picture in the October 15 *Virginia Gazette* as Symphonia President greeting new members.

- Sunday meals with the LSA have been so much fun this fall. Nice having such a large enthusiastic turnout.





Dining with Friends

Join us for a meal out!

A group of folks from St. Stephen will gather at the Opus 9 Steakhouse on **Saturday, November 15 at 12:00 noon** for what is sure to be a delicious lunch. Opus 9 is located in New Town Center at 5143 Main Street. The restaurant is continuing the Restaurant Month Special Lunch. The complete menu may be found at Opus9Steakhouse.com. Please join us by signing the Green Sheet or calling **Preston or Birdie Burton at 564-8846**.

New Addresses



JR and Cheryl Ann Griffin
3 Mile Course
Williamsburg VA 23185
345-0307

Sara A. Moretz
2808 Lubao Lane
Virginia Beach VA 23456-1608

Linda Reuben
115 Lafayette Boulevard, Apt B
Williamsburg VA 23188

Daniel and Holly Walker
Kaili, Alaina, Alyssa, Danielle
1616 Skiffes Creek Circle
Williamsburg VA 23185-6263



November Birthdays

- | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| 4 | Art Dorsey | Erika Geier |
| | Soni York | |
| 7 | Joe Buschek | |

- | | | |
|----|--------------------|-------------------|
| 8 | Paul Black | |
| 9 | Joyce Beene | |
| 10 | Helen Allen | Martin Bleck |
| | Bradley Cummings | |
| 11 | Steven Harms | |
| 14 | Elsie Hall | |
| 15 | Alaina Jones | Kaili Jones |
| | Karen VanRosendale | |
| 16 | Linda Reuben | Carol Wiers |
| 17 | Debi Austin | Stacey Cummings |
| | Nancy Rivolta | |
| 19 | Julie Pierce | |
| 21 | Jo Schumacher | |
| 23 | Marcie Clark | Travis Meermans |
| | Lucas York | |
| 24 | Stephanie Leek | Karen Nester |
| 25 | Marilyn Asprey | Benjamin Berry |
| | Sara Moretz | Susan Voigt |
| 26 | Diana Krieger | |
| 27 | Don Nelson | |
| 29 | Ursula Recktenwald | |
| 30 | Bob Hanny | Matthew Sandridge |



Prayers

Join your prayers for healing with God's desires for **Stacey Cummings, Marj Gottschalk-Trone, Bill Gibbs, Ursula Recktenwald, Regina Root, Rudy Stegmann, Marian Thies, Corky Umberger, and Shana Wilkins. Pray for those giving care to these loved ones.**

Pray for these who are physically unable to get to worship: **Dick Batman, Bob and Angie Groom, Elsie Hall, Willetta Heising, Mary Jamerson, Elma Johnson, Jean Kuhn, Helen Lenox, "Pete" and Kathy Peterson, Jo Schumacher, Jean Shivel, Dot Wright and Lois Wysong.**

As **Julie Berry** mourns the death of her mother, Patricia Wicker, and **Steve Harms** mourns the death of his mother, Eleanor Harms, pray for Julie, Steve and their families for the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through Jesus Christ.

Pray for those who receive food from our two teams working through From His Hands Ministry, serving the homeless living in local motels.

We give thanks to God for giving Chuck Hilbinger 90 years of life!

Pray God's blessings on the marriage of Mary Scanlan and Jeff Burgess who were married this month.

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Rita Adams, Robert Anderson, Bea Black, Foster Boardman, Lois Bomba, Joyce Bosworth, Paua Brudin, Lee Carlson, Nancy Carlson, Cathy Carr, Maureen Chandler, Ayrton Climo, Michael Compton, Rosemarie Cristofolo, Sylvia Croushore, Barbara Dahlke, Kathryn Dieter, Don and Renee Dino, Debbie, Effeny, Maxine Eittreim, Joe Eustace, Nick Finley, Bruce and Kay Flatin, Natalie Fulton, Terry Gallagher, Travis Gohsman, Bill Gottschalk, Jack Gottschalk, Carol Haecker, Gail Hart, Hal Harter, Gretchen Hill, Carol Horton, Robert Horvath, Richard Johnson, Pamela Jones, Fran Kibler, Theda Laubach, George Lair, Michael S., Mildred Lindblad, Stephanie Lockhart, Joe McCool, Kristin McGraw, Dick McGrew, Brittney McQuage, the Michael family, Heidi Morris, Laura Mraz, Barbara Mullins, the Nasra family, Wendy Post, Lavonne Prescott, Kate Ramoth, Emily Reubush, Lisa Rivolta, family of Christine Romig, Betty Schone, Wayne Shaw, Allie Skinkle, Linda Smalarz, Emily Smith, Nancy Spaniol, Evelyn Spear, Roger Spencer, William Thies, Jr., Jean VanDuyse, Annette Vosteen, Jessica W, Michael, and Gina, Nicki White, Curtis Wilkins, and Nicholas Wooton.



Letters to the Congregation

The Williamsburg Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad thanked us for our donation of \$100.

What a Lovely Celebration! 35th Anniversary of Pastor Andy Ballentine's Ordination





St. Stephen Lutheran Church
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www.saintstephenlutheran.net

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Congregational Officers:

<i>President</i>	Stan York	345-0073
<i>Vice President</i>	Emily Rossiter	345-6206
<i>Secretary</i>	Dave Clark	603-6346
<i>Treasurer</i>	Paul Kristiansen	220-2709
<i>Financial Secretary</i>	Linda Vonderheide	645-4059

Church Office: Phone: (757) **229-6688**
email: All email addresses are:
_____@saintstephenlutheran.net



Church Staff:

<i>Pastor</i>	Andy Ballentine	229-6742
	email	pastorab@
<i>Pastor</i>	Cheryl Ann Griffin	345-0307
	email	pastorcg@
<i>Parish Administrator</i>	Sandy Peterkin	office@
<i>Dir. Music/Organist</i>	Marty Barstow	MusicDir@
<i>Parish Nurse</i>	Marcie Clark	ParishNurse@
<i>Dir. Of Preschool</i>	Lauren McQuain	258-3759
	email	preschool@

Monday - Friday: 9:00 am - 12:00 noon

Church Council:

Amy Bergh	566 4557
Cathy Bingman	(515) 971-6915
Dave Clark	603-6346
Keith Egloff	229-7859
Bob Hanny	229-5080
Terry Hinders	221-0904
Linda Laity Hite	220-2776
Pat Janot	221-0289
Brad Leek	250-3473
Rob Radke	565-7993
Emily Rossiter	345-6206
Stan York	345-0073

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