



The Quill

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Williamsburg, Virginia

October 2015



Fall is here! As I looked into the autumn sky, I was reminded of something I read about geese and their annual migration. Geese fly in a "V" formation. Scientists have discovered that as each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. (Some of you may know this. Others may have experienced a similar effect from riding behind a large truck.) By flying in this formation, the whole flock adds at least 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own. What a lesson this is for we who are in community!

I am reminded of St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. In Chapter 12, Paul writes about the variety of gifts that were given to us. We are all unique individuals. Then Paul crafts an interesting analogy. He asserts that we are all part of one body. *If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?* (Verse 17). In other words, it is important to the body that we have different gifts.

When a goose falls out of formation, be it from illness or wounding from a gun, two geese fall out of formation to follow and protect it. They stay with the ailing goose until it is either able to fly again, or until it is dead. The impact on those flying in their "V" formation is that their strength as a team is diminished. However, they remain on their journey.

St. Paul continues his analogy: *If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it* (26-27).

What the geese and St. Paul tell us is that as individuals, we matter! They also show that when we come together in community, we are more than we are alone. Shared work is easier. What is both implicit and inherent in these stories is the importance of the mission! Being the body of Christ in the world is what we as Christians are called to do. For St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Williamsburg, that mission begins with us.

When we are the best we can be individually, then we are prepared to be the best we can be together. There are many components to our wellbeing. Physical, emotional, spiritual are only a broad few. These are areas that are applicable to our community as well. How are you caring for yourself in each of these areas? How are you caring for our body of Christ at St. Stephen?

In God's amazing grace! **Pastor Cheryl Ann Griffin**



Make a Joyful Noise!

Just as another school year has begun, so has the music ministry at St. Stephen Lutheran Church. As a musician, there are many ways to be involved.

As a singer, there are two different choirs from which to choose. The 8:30 Choir rehearses before and after the service, and the 11:00 Choir rehearses on Wednesday

evenings. Both Choirs have a wide range of ability and experience, as well as ages. All are welcome to check us out at any point, whether for a brief, or more extended, period of time.

For instrumentalists, there are opportunities to share talents, especially when the Choirs are not in session over the summer. Instrumentalists have also been known to perform solos, and help supplement choir pieces.

At the end of last choir season, the Choirs collaborated for a special service in honor of Holy Trinity Sunday, which went very well, and was well received by those who attended it. Who knows, there may be more events such as these!

And, there are parties, times for the St. Stephen musicians to gather and have fun! What could be better than good food and drink, and conversation?!

Please join us for what promises to be a fulfilling and rewarding season!

Marty Barstow – Director of Music



Thoughts from the Parish Nurse...

The 7 Ups

1. Wake Up!!

Decide to have a good day

“This is the day the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.” Psalms 118:24

2. Dress Up!!

The best way to dress up is to put on a smile. A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks.

“The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” I Samuel 16:7

3. Shush Up!!

Say nice things and learn to listen. God gave us two ears and one mouth, so He must have meant for us to do twice as much listening as talking.

“He who guards his lips guards his soul.” Proverbs 13:3

4. Stand Up!!

For what you believe in. Stand for something or you will fall for anything.

“Let us not be weary in doing good; for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good...” Galatians 6:9-10

5. Look Up!!

To the Lord.

“I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me.” Philippians 4:13

6. Reach Up!!

For something higher.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge Him, and He will direct your path.” Proverbs 3:5-6

7. Lift Up!! Your Prayers.

“Do not worry about anything; instead pray about everything.” Philippians 4:6

Author unknown.

[7uphttp://www.letsload.com/The_7_Ups.html](http://www.letsload.com/The_7_Ups.html)

Marcie Clark – Parish Nurse



Council Notes

The council met on September 8

Amy Bergh led us in devotions, discussing Martin Luther's teaching that all work is precious in the eyes of God, and that we merely need to do our best and leave the rest to God

Liaison assignments were reviewed. Budgets are due to the finance committee by **October 1**.

The benefit of some community education and increased awareness about the detailed record keeping and tracking of donations was discussed.

Pastor Ballentine encouraged council members to consider attending the synod event "Finding Your Voice in Prayer," in Yorktown at St. Mark's on **October 18**.

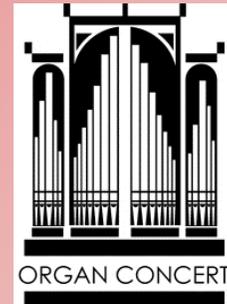
The refinance of the mortgage using the proceeds from the sale of 608 Jamestown Road is still in progress, proceeding as expected. The rate was locked before the recent Fed increase.

The Assignments:

	Committee	2015/16 Liaison
1	Campus Ministry	Terry Hinders
2	Endowment	Stan York
3	Evangelism	Emily Rossiter
4	Faith Formation Coordinating	Brad Leek
5	Finance	Russ White
6	Health Ministry	Emily Rossiter
7	Parish Life	Carol Weirs

8	Personnel	Dave Clark
9	Preschool	Sherry Phipps
10	Property	George Vonderheide
11	Social Ministries Coordinating	Cheryl Griffin
12	Stewardship	Keith Egloff
13	Worship & Music	Linda Laity Hite
14	Youth	Amy Bergh

Stan York, acting secretary



Candlelight Concert at Bruton Parish.

Our Music Director, **Marty Barstow** will present an organ recital on **Tuesday, October 6 at 8:00 PM**. There is no ticket charge, but an offering will be received. Parking is permitted on Duke of Gloucester Street during the concert.



Christians say the "Darndest Things!"

This is the name of an adult class that **Judy Cobb** will lead in October between the two services!

Have you ever heard, or said these?

- 1 "There but for the grace of God go I..."
2. "Put God back into the school!"

These are just two of the sayings we'll discuss during our time together. (What others would you add? "God never gives you more than you can handle?" "God needed another angel for his choir?" "If you have enough faith you will be healed?" Others?)

- When: October 4, 11, 18 (come to one, or all of the sessions.)
- Time: 9:45 -10:30ish (stay after the 8:30 service, come early for 11:00)
- Location: the College Room (downstairs, at the rear of the church building)

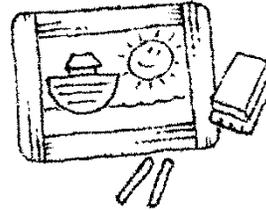


Dining out

Join us for a meal out!

Share a meal with friends from St. Stephen at Outback Steakhouse, 3026 Richmond Road, at **1:00 PM on Sunday, October 18.** Lunch menu includes steaks, chicken, ribs, chops, fish, soups, sandwiches and salads. If you are a member of AARP, show your card when paying for your meal and you will receive 15% discount.

Check out the special sounding lunch menu at www.outback.com/menu/lunch-menu. Make your reservations by signing the green sheet or calling **George or Linda Vonderheide (645-4059.)** We look forward to seeing you.



Preschool News

We had a wonderful time at "meet the teacher" week and the first week of school went well! We had visits from Granny's Critters and our own **Paul Reier** and his friend Smokey Bear.

This month we will focus on more fall fun . . . pumpkins, witches and ghosts will decorate our classrooms! We will be watching for signs of fall with the leaves turning beautiful colors and the air getting cooler!

We will have our annual trip to Pumpkinville the **week of October 12.** We will also have a visit from rangers from York River State Park on **October 28** for our Extended Day students. And firemen from the Williamsburg Fire Department will visit us during Fire Prevention Week.

Our annual Halloween Parade will happen on **Thursday and Friday, October 29 and 30.** We will march around the Church with the 3-year-olds and down Jamestown Road with the 4s and 5s.

Don't forget to take a peek at the beautiful works of art created by each student at the Occasion for the Arts on **October 3 and 4.**

Lauren McQuain – Preschool Director



New Addresses

New Phone Number:

Preston Burton
757-759-2750

Apartment Number Change Only

Donna May Hochstetler
119 Reserve Way, Apt. 302
Williamsburg, VA. 23185

FISH, INC. 

A FISH story!

“A tisket, a tasket.....” and now here is the rest of the story about the Church Kitchen Baskets. Baskets seem to accumulate in the pantry of our church kitchen and at this fall cleaning day about twenty baskets were recycled. FISH organization receives many items that do not qualify for the emergency services they provide, but nothing is ever thrown away. The little things for children accumulate and during the year this “angel” from our community comes to FISH and picks up the baskets and all these goodies and prepares beautiful gift baskets for a boy or girl, wrapped in colored cellophane and big bows. The baskets might include socks, stuffed animals, puzzles, barrettes, toy cars etc. These are given away to families with children that come for FISH services free at holidays throughout the year. Thank you to all who shared their extra baskets.

Dianne Harris for FISH



United Lutheran Appeal

Rather than see the many missions of the Virginia Synod conduct separate fund raising efforts from the member congregations, the Synod conducts an annual United Lutheran Appeal (ULA). It is like the United Way, but for Lutherans.

St Stephen had its ULA appeal earlier this year. The members of the Social Ministry Committee are always amazed at the generosity of this congregation. St. Stephen sent nearly \$4,500 to the Synod, which is nearly 10 percent of total raised from all congregations. Thank you.

Your gifts and God’s grace help all nine of our vital missions: GraceInside (Virginia Prison Chaplain Service,) Roanoke College, National Lutheran Communities & Services, Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp, Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, Lutheran Family

Services of Virginia, Hungry Mother Lutheran Retreat Center, and Virginia Lutheran Homes.

Lou Rossiter for Social Ministry

The Church Mouse Hears



John McCurry adds finishing touches to the shed

The St. Stephen Housing Partnerships gang (**Bob Harman, Glenn Joppa, John McCurry, John Moravetz, and Harlan Schone**, with help from Patriot’s Colony stalwarts **Dave Lester and Glyndon Bruhl** finished yet another wheelchair ramp and a shed.

Nice seeing the picture of **Pat Janot** in the *Virginia Gazette* on September 12 being inducted the Herb Society.



It’s amazing how God is at work in our congregation! We made and filled 151 School Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Stay tuned – they will be tracked and we will know where our gifts are being used around the world! More than 50 students came to the between-the-services program to learn about how we are helping students here in Williamsburg/James City County and around the world. **Pastor Ballentine** said a special blessing on our children and their backpacks as we start a new school year.

“Caring Cooks” got off to a great start with a gathering of 17 at **Margaret Krull’s** home. Join the fun and joy of helping those at St. Stephen who need care. Call Margaret **(757 564 3310)** for further information.





Happy October Birthdays

- | | | |
|----|------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | Martha Clements | Hank Mallue |
| | Bob Phipps | |
| 2 | Kevin Drake | |
| 3 | Chuck Hilbinger | Heather MacDonald |
| 4 | Keith Egloff | Caitlin Leek |
| | Jaina Leek | |
| 5 | Brad Sipes | Ruby Umberger |
| | Ellie Bergh | |
| 6 | Ellen Bushman | Sandra Peterkin |
| 7 | Tom Berkey | Jon Toler |
| 9 | Gene Clements | |
| 10 | Ilianna Ogborn | |
| 13 | Jane Gingerich | |
| 16 | Linda Laity Hite | Wilbur Peterson |
| | Alyssa Jones | |
| 17 | Joel Gillespie | Elizabeth Stein |
| 18 | Kara Meermans | |
| 19 | Martha Reier | |
| 20 | Alex Spencer | |
| 22 | Barbara Morris | Lisa Odabasi-Alpino |
| 25 | Ginny Hilbinger | Kym Reubush |
| 27 | Joan Miller | |
| 29 | Neil Bailey | Corky Umberger |
| 30 | Werner Bieber | Raé Carlson |
| 31 | Pam Groman | |



Prayers

Join your prayers for healing with God's desires for **Ward Bourn, Mary Dickerson, Ed Hyland, Carole Meyer, Rosa Parks, Phyllis Spencer, John Rivolta, Regina Root, Marian Thies, Jerry Trone, and James Wiers.**

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

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Nathalee Accomando, Rita Adams, Robert Anderson, Joyce Blish, the Blume family, Lois Bomba, Roy Bouharb, Paula Bradin, Allan Bullman, Kallie Burgess, Grady Calhoun, Melinda Campbell, Ayrton Climo, Rosemarie Cristofolo, Sylvia Croushore, Kathryn Dieter, Ajo Egloff, Bruce and Kay Flatin, George, Anabelle Green, Sarah Grey, Bobbie Harris, Connie and Chris Harris, Ron Hayes, Alan Hochstetler, Marie Holland, Lynn Isenburg, Yvonne Jack, Julie Jindra, Fran Kibler, Eileen Kitchik, Jane Kristiansen, Theda Laubach, Tony Lee, Wendy Lee, Mildred Lindblad, Kristin McGraw, Dick McGrew, Anne Meyer, Thomas Mifflin, Julie Miller, Mark Miller, Tom Miller, Jo Moore, Heidi Morris, the Nasra family, Sharon Nickerson, Sharon O'Dell, Lavonne Prescott, Betty Price, Robert Pushaw, Vivian Reaver, Lisa Rivolta, Tim Salvatore, Richard Seaver, Jackie Seipp, Sharon, Georg Siegert, Judy Silvasy, Alex Skinkle, Julie Slye, Linda Smalarz, Sandy Sowers, Nancy Spaniol, Evelyn Spear, Janelle Story, Michele Thompson, Clarence Tolliver, Jean VanDuyse, Annette Vosteen, Margaret Wieser, Curtis Wilkins, Arthur Williams, Scott Wimbish, and Anna Zabdyr.



Memorial Gifts

For Nancy Rivolta

John and Helen Allen
 Arnie and Pat Janot
 Forrest and Ruth Fenstermaker



Letters to our Congregation

The Williamsburg Area Faith in Action sent us a letter thanking us for our \$1000 donation for their program. FISH thanked us for our continued support. The Williamsburg Volunteer Fire Department thanked us for our \$100 gift to their program.



Are you interested in learning more about St. Stephen Lutheran Church? Classes for inquirers will be held **Wednesday, October 21 and Wednesday October 28, 7:30 PM in Pastor Griffin's office**, right after Wednesday Word and Sacrament. Please join us for worship prior to our meeting! If you are interested in joining this inquirers group, please mark the green sheet. For those who would like to join our congregation: we will receive members **November 1**, All Saints Day, at both services. If you have questions, please speak with **Pastor Griffin**.



Theologian in Residence Coming Soon

United States Senator Christopher Coons (D-DE) will be our Theologian in Residence **Sunday, November 8**. Senator Coons, an active Presbyterian, is conscious of the connection between his faith and his government service. But, he says, political leaders have used religion to divide and alienate, driving wedges between voting

blocs for electoral gain. How can our religious faith inform our political views in a way that brings reconciliation? Senator Coons will lead us in discussion. Mark the date!



First Communion classes will be offered on **Sunday mornings, October 18 through November 15, 9:45 to 10:45 AM**. Parents and children will share five consecutive Sundays learning what God is doing in Holy Communion. Each child is different in their readiness, so there is no recommended age. Parents should be open to recognizing the Holy Spirit's leading your child to desire the Lord's Supper. If you have questions, please ask **Pastor Griffin**.

Kaboom - and a new Playground in Grove



The Social Ministry Committee thanks **Harlan Schone, John McCurry, and Lou Rossiter** for devoting Saturday, **September 19**, to building a new playground in the Grove Community. Work was also done by Harlan and John on Thursday.

More than 240 volunteers were tasked with assembling the playground in one day, which includes swings, slides, monkey bars, picnic tables, benches and covered shelters.

The lot, which is co-owned by Little Zion Baptist Church and Mount Gilead Baptist Church, had been the site of a Grove community playground for almost 60 years, but the equipment had seen better days.

Congregational Officers:

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

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



Church Council:

Amy Bergh	566-4557
Dave Clark	603-6346
Keith Egloff	229-7859
Terry Hinders	221-0904
Linda Laity Hite	220-2776
Brad Leek	250-3473
Sherry Phipps	810-4658
Emily Rossiter	345-6206
George Vonderheide	645-4059
Russ White	220-1023
Carol Wiers	564-0164
Stan York	345-0073

Church Staff:

Pastor	Andy Ballentine	229-6742
	email	pastorab@
Pastor	Cheryl Ann Griffin	876-6371
	email	pastorcg@
Parish Administrator	Sandy Peterkin	office@
Dir. Music/Organist	Martin Barstow	MusicDir@
Parish Nurse	Marcie Clark	ParishNurse@
Dir. Of Preschool	Lauren McQuain	258-3759
	email	preschool@

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

The Quill is published monthly by
 St. Stephen Lutheran Church
 612 Jamestown Road
 Williamsburg, VA 23185

Editors:

Anne Schone	ahschone@cox.net
Thord Einarsen	teinarsen@aol.com

Article deadline: Fifteenth of the month previous

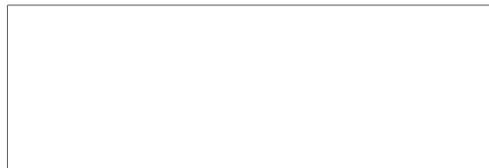
Mailing:

Pam Buckley

St. Stephen Lutheran Church
612 Jamestown Road
Williamsburg, VA 23185
www.saintstephenlutheran.net

Dated Material
Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization US Postage PAID Permit No. 34 Williamsburg



**Evangelical Lutheran
 Church in America**
 God's work. Our hands.