



The Quill

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Williamsburg, Virginia

October 2017



Generosity and Gratitude

I wonder where the lepers went after Jesus healed them. You know this story from the 17th chapter of Luke. Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem, and to his death, when ten lepers called to him, shouting, "Have mercy on us!" Jesus' response was to heal them. One of them, seeing that he was cured, turned back. He knelt at Jesus' feet and said "thank you." Where did the other nine go, and what did they do?

For what or for whom do you express your gratitude? How do you do that? Our culture seems to reinforce desire for things we do not have. The barrage of advertising tells us that we need not only the improved version of what we already have, but also things we do not have.

Most of us in our congregation have everything we need. Scripture teaches us to be thankful for everything we have: *...as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ* [Ephesians 5:19-20].

Gratitude motivates us to give generously. Our hearts fill with thanksgiving for God's abundant grace given freely to us through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. When we give from our hearts it is not with thoughts to what we might receive in return, but because of what God has already done. Giving without expectation follows God's unconditional grace. *Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver* [2 Corinthians 9:7].

I encourage you to respond to God's generosity with your generosity. Your financial commitment to St. Stephen enables us to do ministry. What we do here at St. Stephen is an expression of our faith, from building relationships with each other and God in worship, in our learning together through faith formation, and in the care we offer one another. Not only do we give money to help those in need, we use money to pay our electric bills, to buy paper, to pay salaries – to enable ministry to happen. Your commitment to our congregational offering is important! Each gift is a gift of faith, of hope, and of love.

Although October 22 is our Stewardship emphasis, we respond, in one way or another, every day to God's generosity. For what or for who do you express your gratitude? How do you do that?

In Christ's amazing grace,
Pastor Cheryl Ann Griffin



**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN
LEARNING MORE ABOUT
ST. STEPHEN?**

Join **Pastor Griffin** on **Sunday, October 15**, and **Sunday, October 22**, at 10:00 AM downstairs in the College Room for more information about St. Stephen. We will learn more about being Lutheran, our VA Synod, and the ELCA. Discover the ministries with which our congregation is involved and meet others who are also curious about these things.



OCTOBER 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

1	Paul Kristiansen	Joe Philipoom
3	Emma Timberg	
8	Phil McKenna	Dorothy Hinders
12	Erik McKenna	
13	Katy Peterkin	
14	Stan York	
18	Greg Fitzpatrick	
24	Jennifer Voigt	
27	Sandy Peterkin	Jonathan Hallman
31	Sharon Powell	PJ McAteer

Others with October baptism anniversaries:

Meghan Osborn
Sara Osborn
Ann Booth Young

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

SMILING FACES AT GROVE



Thank you, thank you, thank you to all who bought shoes or donated money to buy shoes for the students in Grove!! 200 students now have new shoes for this school year! Look for the "happy smiles" pictures as they received their new shoes. Pictures should be on the monitors in the narthex in September.

Again, my heartfelt thanks for all your help.

Marilyn Johnson

Social Ministry Coordinating Committee



What's in a Name?

*“Leave of Absence” - “Time Off” - “Furlough” -
“Sabbatical”*

In my situation I believe sabbatical is the best fit. Sabbatical is derived from the word “Sabbath,” and refers to a human need to build periods of rest and rejuvenation into one's life. A sabbatical is simply a temporary leave from work, or in my case, a break from my volunteer ministry.

We moved here approximately seven years ago. I had been a Parish Nurse at my previous church, and offered to become the Parish Nurse at St. Stephen. It is a joy to be a part of this congregation, and to serve as your Parish Nurse. I want that joy to continue. This ministry is rewarding and satisfying.

However, at times it can become emotionally draining and time consuming. I typically spend 15-20 hours per week (days, evenings, and weekends) meeting with and providing for the needs of our members. Thus, I need an opportunity to rest personally, and regain the energy to pursue new ideas and goals for the Health Ministry.

I have decided to take some uninterrupted time for myself and family, with no deadlines or commitments, or “emergencies.” I'll do some things I have not had time to do previously.

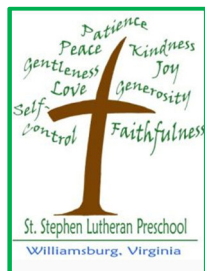
I am in hopes that a “Sabbatical” from October through December will provide me with an opportunity to re-energize, and reevaluate the future and direction of Parish Nursing and the Health Ministry.

Marcie Clark, Parish Nurse



Health Ministry

ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL



Our Preschool teachers and staff greeted new and returning children and parents the day after Labor Day. There were a lot of smiles as well as a few tears – from both children and parents. We distributed “Parent Survival Kits” as children were dropped off in the morning, reassuring parents that their children were indeed being cared for with much love.

We held our first St. Stephen Preschool Spirit Night at Chick-fil-A in the Monticello Marketplace on Thursday, September 17. A large and very supportive crowd turned out for dinner during the four hours we were there. Our Preschool received a percentage of the amount spent by parents, teachers, church members, and friends. Equally as important, parents got to meet other parents and members of St. Stephen. This is the first of many monthly events planned for our school. Look for information on our next gathering!

Be sure to stop by the Community Building during An Occasion for the Arts on **Saturday, October 7** or **Sunday, October 8**. Our Preschool students will be exhibiting some of their artwork at the show.

We are thankful for all of the support that St. Stephen has given to the Preschool – it’s been fun seeing yogurt containers, bags of split-peas, cream of tartar, rice, black beans, flour, etc. coming in to the school. Come by if you want to see how these items are used to teach our children.

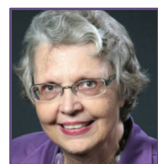
Sandy Peterkin, Administrator



ST. STEPHEN’S THEOLOGIAN-IN- RESIDENCE WEEKEND September 29-October 1, 2017 **Big Names Scheduled**

Working with St. Bede Roman Catholic Church: “The Reformation for Lutherans and Roman Catholics: Where We Were 500 Years Ago, Where We Are Today, Where We Are Going In The Future.”

Roman Catholic Presenter: Bishop Denis Madden, Auxiliary Bishop of Baltimore (R).



Lutheran Presenter: Dr. Kathryn Johnson, Director of Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (L).

Friday, September 29:

6:00 PM – Meal in the Kaplan Parish Hall of St. Bede. St. Bede will provide the main dish and drinks; St. Stephen folks will bring side dishes and dessert.

7:00 PM – Presentations and discussion.

Saturday, September 30:

9:30 AM – Coffee, juice, bagels, etc., in the St. Stephen Fellowship Hall.

10:00 AM – Presentations and discussion.

Sunday, October 1:

Dr. Johnson will be with us at each service and between services for an “in-house” Lutheran presentation and conversation.



MEN’S & WOMEN’S BREAKFASTS

➤ **October 3** – Women are invited to join together for breakfast the first **Tuesday** of this month.

➤ **October 5** – 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.



Music Notes from Karen

Greetings and thanks from your new music director!

I am thrilled to be here as part of this warm worshipping community. Many of you have introduced yourselves, and I hope many more will come and tell me hello in the weeks and months ahead. I love this worship space, the organ, and most especially the staff here at St. Stephen. And you have two very fine dedicated choirs serving each Sunday morning worship service.

As part of my “official” duties, I would be remiss if I did not mention that I am anxious to recruit more folks to join our ranks and be a part of our choir ministry. Did you know that singing has been scientifically proven to be good for your health? Singing gets more oxygen into the blood, increases the flow of feel good hormones and improves mental health.

We are already in preparations for our Festival Reformation Sunday morning worship, the Peninsula Conference Choral Worship Service to be held at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Yorktown **October 29** at 3:00 PM, as well as for our regular Sunday morning worship services. We practice hard but we also have devotional times, sharing cares and concerns of our community times, and choir party times!

Sometimes the long term commitment can be difficult, but perhaps you might be available for Advent/Christmas or the winter months or Lent/Easter time. Just talk to me about how you can plug into the music ministry – maybe you have a clarinet or trumpet or kazoo that you used to be quite good at, and just needs a little dusting off.

Martin Luther viewed music as a part of the creation redeemed by Christ. And because of this view of creation, Luther celebrated the importance of music of all styles and it's relation to the Word of God:

... next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world. It controls our thoughts, minds, hearts, and spirits.... Our dear fathers and prophets did not desire without

reason that music be always used in the churches. Hence, we have so many songs and psalms. This precious gift has been given to man alone that he might thereby remind himself that God has created man for the express purpose of praising and extolling God.

So let us “Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.” (Psalm 100: 1-2)

Karen Ives, Music Director



From the Music of Bach to the Reformation Symphony

The Virginia Symphony Orchestra will perform a concert of special interest to Lutherans on **Friday, November 3** at 8:00 PM at the Ferguson Center for the Arts in Newport News. The concert is titled “From the Music of Bach to the Reformation Symphony,” and includes:

- Bach – Cantata No. 80, *Ein feste Burg is unser Gott*, with four soloists and the Virginia Symphony Orchestra Chorus. Bach used the hymn of the same name by Martin Luther as its foundation.
- Bach – Keyboard Concerto No. 1 in D minor
- Back/Arr. Webern – Ricerare from *Musical Offering*
- Mendelssohn – Symphony No. 5 in D major. The *Reformation Symphony* was composed in 1830 in honor of the 300th anniversary of the Presentation of the Augsburg Confession. The fourth movement is based on *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*. At the very end of the coda, a powerful version of Martin Luther's chorale is played by the entire orchestra.

Tickets are available from the Virginia Symphony box office at (757) 892-6366, or their web site at www.virginiasymphony.org.



News from 1967

Lutherans Set Up Special Services Sunday Afternoon

The celebration of the 450th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation with 10 area Lutheran churches, representing three national Lutheran bodies – The Lutheran Church in America, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and The American Lutheran Church – will be observed Sunday with a service at 3 p. m. in Jefferson Davis Junior High School, 1439 Todds Lane, Hampton.

The Rev. John F. Byerly Jr., pastor of St. Stephen Lutheran Church of Williamsburg for the past seven years, and pastor for Lutheran students at the College of William and Mary, will speak.

The Rev. Robert B. Lineberger, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Hampton, is chairman of the joint Lutheran Reformation Committee.

There will be a procession of robed clergy and choirs. Banners from each congregation will be on display in the foyer, and reformation art from the Fisher Art Gallery. Washington, D. C. will be shown.

The offering will be sent to Lutheran World Relief.

The event being commemorated was the historic act of Martin Luther on Oct. 31, 1517, when he posted on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenburg, Germany his famous 95 Theses. There are 9,000,000 members of the Lutheran Churches in America.

(Thanks to **Diane Harris** for providing the newspaper clipping)



Karen Van Rosendale ksvanr@gmail.com

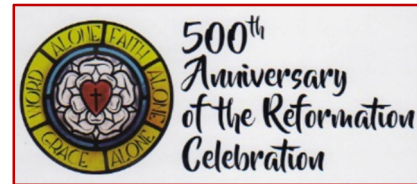
GREAT GODPARENTS FOR TANZANIA NEWS



Our four students in Tanzania, whose education we pay for, are also smiling! Thirty-three members of our congregation donated anywhere from \$25.00 to \$1,000.00 to support these four students, and a total of \$6,725.00 was raised. The matching gift brought the total to \$13,450.00. This will allow all four students to complete their education. Two of them will be going to vocational school soon so they may have a useful career. One will be repeating two grades in hopes of getting better scores, and one is going to finish high school and hopes to go to college as Roggy did – his high school grades have been very good. We have a good start for his college tuition. They thank you, and the SMCC thanks you for your generosity.

Marilyn Johnson

Social Ministry Coordinating Committee



St. Stephen – King of Glory – Our Saviour's

Our commemoration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation continues! St. Stephen, King of Glory and Our Saviour's Lutheran Churches – united in Christ and sharing our heritage of faith – are joining together to serve God's people.

Join us at King of Glory Lutheran Church, 4897 Longhill Road, Williamsburg, for part or all of the day on **Saturday, October 28**. This is our schedule of sharing for the day:

1:00-1:30 PM Prayer Service

1:30-3:30 PM Help pack 10,000 meals for Rise Against Hunger; or, write letters to emergency personnel and soldiers.

4:00-5:00 PM Prayer Service & Reformation Hymn Sing Together, all three churches will be delivering October's collection of food to FISH on **Friday, October 27**.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Martha Clements	Hank Mallue
	Bob Phipps	Tina Wolff
2	Kevin Drake	
3	Chuck Hilbinger	Heather Macdonald
	Sharon Powell	
4	Keith Egloff	Caitlin Leek
	Jaina Leek	
5	Brad Sipes	Ruby Umberger
	Ellie Bergh	
6	Ellen Bushman	Sandy Peterkin
7	Tom Berkey	Jon Toler
8	Roberta Sulouff	
9	Gene Clements	Jayne Lawson
10	Ilianna Ogborn	
11	Celie Collins	
13	Jane Gingerich	
16	Linda Laity Hite	Wilbur Peterson
	Alyssa Jones	
17	Joel Gillespie	Elizabeth Stein
18	Kara Meermans	
19	Martha Reier	
22	Barbara Morris	
25	Ginny Hilbinger	Kym Reubush
27	Joan Miller	
29	Neil Bailey	Corky Umberger
31	Pam Groman	



Nine Month Giving Statements

Nine Month Giving Statements (for the period of January through September) will be sent out the week of **October 16** using the email addresses on file at the church office. For the members who do not have e-mail addresses, their statements will be mailed. If you have questions, please contact **Linda Vonderheide** at (757) 645-4059 or email at gandl525@cox.net.

PRAYERS



Join your prayers for healing with God's desires for Sally Crocker, York Doerr, Gary Krull, John Moravetz, Ursula Murden, Paul Reier, Linda Reuben, and Dan Stimson.

Pray God's blessings of Easter hope for Ingrid Brown and her family on the death of her brother; for **Karen Nester** and family, on the death of her father; for **Ellen Bushman** and her family on the death of her sister, Mary; and to the family and friends of **Wilbur "Pete" Peterson**.

Pray for these who are unable to get to worship: Philip Arnold, Bob and Angie Groom, Elsie Hall, Stan Hobday, Donna May Hochstetler, Mary Jamerson, Helen Lenox, Betty Rickerson, Dick Reeves, Jo Schumacher, Jean Shivel, Joanne Shue, Rudy Stegmann, and Jerry Trone.

Pray God's blessings on

- **Matt Bosworth**, serving with the Army in Iraq, and on **Patrick Diehl**, serving with the Army in South Korea.
- **Michael** and **Sharon Powell** and **Chris** and **Kristen Stahl** as they await the birth of their babies.

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Peggy, Joyce, Nathalee Accomando, Tom and Bea Black, Blume family, Eliza Bucknell, Grady Calhoun, Elaine Cari, Marla Canny, Arlene Carruthers, Shirley Cocke, Rosemarie Cristofolo, Gail Coakley, Kathryn Dieter, Inge Felbier, Karen Felton, Mary Fitzgerald, Mertie Funkhouser, Bill Gottschalk, Char Grabowski, Jean Gray, Anthony Hargrave, Sara Jane Harlan, Sam and Ronny Hayes, Alan Hochstetler, Marian Hunt, Anne Johns, Fran Kibler, Tim Keaney, Art Kirk, Carl Kountze III, Dean Kreitzer, Mary Beth LaFave, Gaston Lambert, Frances Link, Mildred Lindblad, McGraw family, Bruce Milne, Louise Mitchell, Heidi Morris, Mary Newberg, Barb Pendleton, Lesa Peppers, Inge Petersen, Dino Polizois, Robert Pushaw, Pat Ramering, Paul Ratzow, Shann Rufer, Linda Smalarz, Sharon Smith, Evelyn Spear, Karl Spiker, Dave Splittorff, Bill Stewart, James Storm, Janelle Story, Pierrette Tipton, Kimberly Turner, Sue Weilmuenster, Scott Wimbish, and Micah Zabell.





FISH, INC.

Dear Friends of FISH,

On behalf of the many FISH volunteers, and those we serve, I wish to express our gratitude to you for your generous contribution to FISH (\$1,000.00). These funds will be used directly for work with our clients. We are proud of the fact that all of our dedicated volunteers serve without financial compensation, and that no client has ever been required to pay for services or goods received. Without that support, our works would not be possible.

Again, thank you very much. Your generosity will greatly assist FISH in providing emergency food and clothing to those in need within our community. You are certainly to be commended for your concerns for those less fortunate.

Sincerely,

Robert P. Phipps, Treasurer



15Years

WILLIAMSBURG AREA FAITH IN ACTION

Dear Rev. Ballentine and Rev. Griffin,

Some people make choices that change lives. Thank you all for being life changers! Thank you for choosing to support Williamsburg Area Faith In Action (WFIA) as we strive to help seniors remain healthy, happy, and independent. Your generous donation, in the amount of \$1,000.00, will change the lives of seniors throughout the Greater Williamsburg area today, tomorrow, and for years to come.

- *Because of your support, Belinda will receive transportation to her many doctor's appointments, in and out of town.*
- *Because of your support, Jim will enjoy the company of a friendly face (and loving pup) to ease the loneliness.*
- *Because of your support, Sandra will be able to get a break from her caregiving duties to enjoy lunch with a friend.*
- *Because of your support, seniors in our community are able to age in place, with dignity and grace!*

Your support allows us to coordinate these simple, yet critical services for Belinda, Jim, Sandra, and hundreds of others. We couldn't do it without YOU!

Ashleigh Washington, Executive Director



Dear Friends at St. Stephen,

Your prayers and encouragement meant so much to me during my surgery and recovery. I thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Trudy Arnold



from the Finance Committee

If you are over 70½ and have an IRA, you are required to take a yearly 'Required Minimum Distribution' (RMD) which is treated as regular income for tax purposes. You have the option of contributing part or all of your RMD to any tax exempt organization. This contribution is called a QCD or Qualified Charitable Distribution and must go directly from the financial institution that holds your IRA to the charity. You can count it as your RMD, you do not claim it as regular income, but you can not claim it as a charitable contribution on your tax return. If you give a QCD to St. Stephen you can designate it for current giving, the Building or Endowment funds, or for any special program which is important to you, such as Godparents for Tanzania, Homeless Ministry, Campus Ministry, Preschool, etc. If you have any questions contact **Linda Vonderheide** or **Jane deSolms**.

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Church in America**
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The Quill **www.saintstephenlutheran.net** **October 2017**

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President	Russ White	220-1023
Vice President	John McCurry	606-389-1082
Treasurer	Paul Kristiansen	220-2709
Financial Secretary	Linda Vonderheide	645-4059
Congregational Secretary	Carol Wiers	564-0164

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email: All email addresses are:
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	email	pastorcg@
Parish and Preschool Administrator	Sandy Peterkin	office@
Director of Music	Karen Ives	MusicDir@
Parish Nurse	Marcie Clark	ParishNurse@
	(on sabbatical)	

Church Council:

David Allen	645-8220
Alan Balma	206-1430
Amy Bergh	566-4557
Dave Gamble	564-7030
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Corey Knestruck	367-9904
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